

# Speech Acts and their Constructive Roles in Trump's Argumentation

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**Abstract:** *Speech acts perform a central role in fulfilling the argumentative objectives in the argumentative discourse. This is so because of its contribution in forming the argumentative structure of the discourse. This motivates the current study to investigate the role of speech acts and their constructive roles in the American President's, Trump, argumentative speech in Saudi Arabia 2017 in his attempt to satisfy his argumentative objectives. The study adopts the Pragma-dialectic approach of argumentation (Van Eemeren and Grootendorst, 1983 and Van Ree, 2009) and speech act theory (Searle, 1969; Vanderveken, 1989 and Harnish, 1994) as its model for analyzing the collected data. Some conclusions have been arrived at validating the hypotheses of the study.*

**Keywords:** *speech acts, argumentation, Trump, Prag-dialectic, Opening*

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## 1. Introduction

In general people do not use argumentation for the sake of discussing or debating an issue, but because they pursue a goal whose fulfillment requires an interaction with other people and to convince them to accept a particular standpoint (Palmieri, 2014: 13). In this regard, Al-Ebadi (2012: 2) points out that communication among interlocutors, is influenced by such elements as their attitudes, ideas, and social status. In the same vein, Al-Duleimi and Al-Ebadi, (2016: 63). show that managing the mind of others is the main task of text. Argumentative discussions often involve performances of illocutionary acts which are unquestionably not actually part of the argumentation, but which nevertheless contribute to the resolution of the dispute (Van Eemeren and Grootendorst, 1983: 95). Such marriage between argumentation and speech acts (henceforth SAs) activates the current study to answer the following questions: What are Trump's argumentative intents or standpoints? Which SAs does Trump employ in his argumentative discourse to fulfill his argumentative intents? What constructive roles (henceforth CRs) do Trump's argumentative SAs perform? What are the most frequently utilized SAs? What is the most frequently supported argumentative intent in Trump's argumentation? As such, this work aims to find out the SAs used by Trump in his argumentative speech, to pinpoint the distribution of these SAs through the stages of the critical discussion, to figure out the CRs of Trump's argumentative SAs and to state the most frequently used SAs as well as standpoints. It hypothesizes that, first, the SAs of pledge, promise, assertion and question are Trump's effective argumentative ones to satisfy his argumentative objectives. Second, the CRs of the standard critical discussion are obeyed to achieve his argumentative objectives. Third, SA of assertion is the most frequently deployed one in Trump's argumentative discourse. Fourth, the standpoints of "outstretching hands of cooperation and trust with the Islamic world and America's goal is initiation a coalition of nation against extremists" represent the main focus of Trump via advancing arguments and establishing results.

## 2. Argumentation

Van Eemeren (1996: 1) defines 'argumentation' as a practical activity with the aim of enlarging the addressee's acceptance or minimizing his acceptance about controversial points by giving acceptable justification for such a position. Thus, as Besnard and Hunter (2008: 1) point out, argumentation stands as one of the important shapes of human cognition and life.

Argumentative discourse involves different genres among which political speech like Trump's speech in this study. It is viewed as a process which aims to persuade targets to accept a particular point which serves both

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interlocutors. It is considered as a monological interaction where only one interlocutor speaks while the other does not (Ibid.: 9-13). In order to fulfill the process of persuasion, the addresser can use different ways, strategies and other types of linguistic means aimed at making himself acceptable to the addressees. As such, the main goals beyond the process of political argumentation is to win the discussion, to show the power, to make good pronouncements which serve the public aims, to persuade persons to do something for the sake of the addresser or to play addressees' feelings and emotions (Ibid: 115). Accordingly, the activities of this process are not random or unexpected ones. Rather, it is probable to find bases which allow the observer to define it and find out its conventions (Ibid.).

On the behalf, political argumentation can be considered as institutionalized one but there are no specific regulations to control its practice. We can consider any individual activity that talks about politics as a form of political argumentative activity and in this way it is problem-free since these examples comply with the principles of the logic of the dialogue. What instigates problems to arise are the cases that do not comply with the rules that govern the dialogue practiced (Houtlosser and Eemeren, 2009:116).

### **3. Pragma-dialects**

Among the recent orientations of studying argumentation is Pragma-dialectic approach by Eemeren and Grootendorst (1984). The aim of this approach is to produce an analytic overview of the points of critical discussion in an attempt of re-establishing an argumentative discourse. Here, argumentation consists of two arguers: protagonist and antagonist. The first arguer presents and defends his standpoints whereas the second one is the recipient and evaluator of those standpoints (Van Eemeren&Grootendorst, 2004:59). Both try to resolve a difference of ideas about the expressed standpoints or try to persuade each other to accept them for the protagonist or to prove its unacceptability on the part of the antagonist (Ibid.).

There are four stages through which the process of resolving the difference of opinion about the expressed standpoints is passed. These include confrontation, opening, argumentation and concluding (Van Ree, 2009:47). The first stage consists of the points of discussions that are disputed by the arguers and their shapes. The second stage aims to find out the common ground arguers share. In third stage, the protagonist cites his arguments to support his standpoints in his attempt to overcome the antagonist's doubts or to refute his critical reactions. The result of the discussion which are concerned with the resolution of the difference of ideas are shown in the last stage (Ibid., 2009: 62). Regarding the data of this study, it articulates this approach to be adopted since it is believed that Trump's argumentation passes through the stages of critical discussion to fulfill his argumentative objectives<sup>2</sup>.

### **4. Speech Acts and Argumentation**

It is argued that each stage has its own purposes and functions (Van Eemeren and Grootendorst, 2004: 96). Throughout these stages, SAs have a vital role to accomplish the final objectives of the critical discussion through their contribution to the resolution of the dispute (Van Eemeren and Grootendorst, 1983: 95). Put differently, the use of SAs are related to the specific and subsidiary purposes of the stage of the resolution process in which it is performed (Van Eemeren and Grootendorst, 2004: 96).

In this regard, SAs can be defined pragmatically as a various moves that are made in the different stages of critical discussion in order to arrive to the stage of the resolution of difference opinion (Ibid.: 62) as in this study. The distribution of these SAs over the different stages of the resolution process is described in the model of a critical discussion. In the model, it is indicated, for each stage of the discussion which representative SAs play a specific CR in that stage of the discussion.

### **5. Model of Analysis**

This section intends to develop a model of analyzing the data under scrutiny through the aforementioned discussion of argumentation, critical discussion and SAs. The model aims to analyze the data in an attempt to find out the SAs and their CRs in resolving the points of difference of different stages in the data in question.

#### **5.1 Argumentative Stages and their Constructive Roles**

##### **5.1.1 Confrontation stage**

This stage has the CR of presenting the points of view that are discussed by the debaters and their shapes (Van Ree, 2009: 62). The debaters may agree or refuse the points of view. In addition, they may introduce definitions, amplifications and so on.

##### **5.1.2 Opening Stage**

The second stage has the task of finding out the common ground arguers share. Their aim here is to ensure that their substantive and procedural argument is sufficiently broad to conduct a fruitful discussion (Van Ree, 2009: 62).

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<sup>2</sup> Trump is the protagonist whereas Islamic leaders are the antagonists.

As such, the arguers may express their acceptance of the challenge to defend a standpoint or decide to start a discussion.

### **5.1.3 Argumentation Stage**

This stage involves advancing the arguments that the protagonist cites to support his points of view in his trying to overcome the antagonist's doubts or to disprove his critical reactions.

### **5.1.4 Concluding Stage**

Finally, the CR of the fourth stage is revealing the results of the arguments that concerning the decision of the difference of opinion. The decision can have the form of upholding or withdraw a point of view, establishing the result, agree or disagree, requesting a usage declarative or introducing definition, specification, amplification and so on.

## **5.2 Speech Acts in Critical Discussion**

As it has been argued earlier (See 4.), SAs are used to achieve the intended CRs through the different stages of the critical arguments in order to resolve the difference of point of view. For Van Eemeren and Grootendorst (1983: 104) and Van Ree (2009: 62) the five types of Searle's taxonomy including assertives, commissives, directives, expressives and declaratives, can be used to perform certain CRs through the different stages of the critical discussion.

In this section, some SAs, accompanied with its own felicity conditions (henceforth FCs) drawn from Searle (1969:66-7), and Searle and Vanderveken (1985:189-216), are surveyed. They are expected to be available in the data under scrutiny.

### **5.2.1 Assertion**

Assertion is one of Searle's assertives (Searle, 1969: 66). By assertive, the arguer affirms a proposition, commits himself to agree of the proposition or guarantee the truth of the proposition or express judgment on its proposition. To force the speaker to form something that is called assertion. Accurately speaking, the following FCs are adjusted by Searle (1969:66) for the SA of assertion:

1- *Propositional*: Any proposition.

2- *Preparatory*: the speaker has evidence for the fact of the proposition. It is not clear to both S and H that H knows the proposition.

3- *Sincerity*: the speaker believes the proposition.

4- *Essential*: the speaker's utterance considers as a commitment to the effect that the proposition represents an actual state of affairs.

### **5.2.2 Pledge**

Pledge, as a commissive SA, is a speaker-directed act. The speaker commits himself to a particular future event that is binding regardless of circumstances that may happen. The person who makes a pledge should be responsible for the outcomes and results of his/her action (Recan, 2015: 22-23).

#### **1. Cooperative Conditions (CCs)**

(i) S and H are able to use and understand what is communicated by a given utterance.

(ii) A must be directed towards a specific addressee (s).

#### **2. Propositional Content Conditions (PCCs)**

(i) S expresses the proposition that P in the utterance of T.

(ii) The P expressed must predicate a future A of the S.

#### **3. Preparatory Conditions (PCs)**

(i) A must be beneficial for H and S must know that this is the case.

(ii) A must not be done in the normal course of events.

(iii) A must be done publically.

(iiii) S confirms his/her commitment by an oath or any other confirmation particle to strengthen the degree of commitment of what s/he says.

#### **4. Sincerity Conditions (SCs)**

(i) S intends to do A.

- (ii) The S must believe that his/her A is possible.
- (iii) The S must not be forced to do his/ her A.

**5. Essential Conditions (ECs)**

- (i) S intends that the utterance of T will place him under an obligation to do A.

**6. Ethical Conditions (EtCs)**

- (i) A must be ethically good.
- (ii) A must not be broken.

**5.2.3 Promise**

Promise stands as one of Searle's expressives. Here, the speaker indicates his feelings to the other interlocutors. In other words, it expresses the speaker's commitment to do something (Arnovick, 1994: 127). Searle (1969:62-3) proposes FCs below:

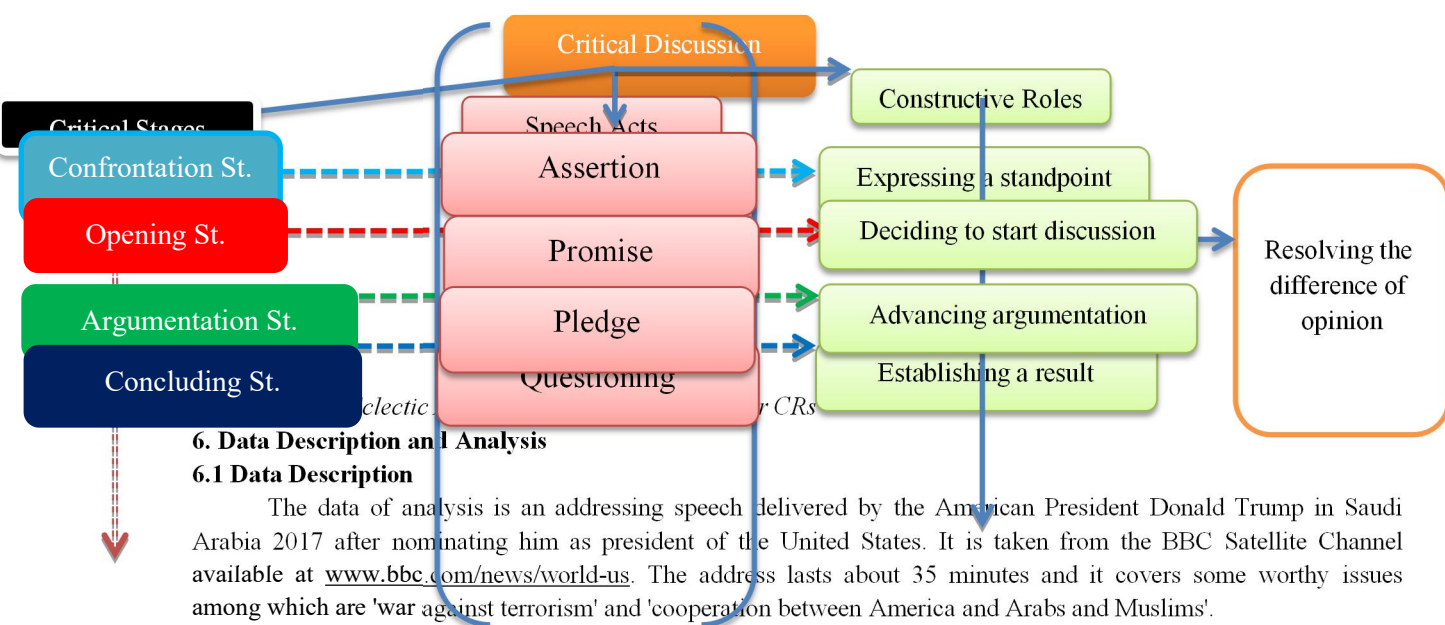
- 1-Propositional: future act A of the speaker.
- 2-Preparatory: a-the receiver would prefer the speaker's doing A to his not doing A, and the speaker thinks the receiver would prefer the speaker's doing A to his not doing Act. It is not obvious to both the speaker and the receiver that the speaker will do A in the normal course of events.
- 3-Sincerity: the speaker intends to do the A.
- 4-Essential: it counts as the undertaking of a commitment to do the A.

**5.2.4 Question**

Another type of SAs, according to Searle (1969: 66) is directives among which is question. It is an attempt by the addresser to get the addressee to answer, i.e., to perform a SA. Broadly speaking, interrogatives are the default constructions of questions. They refer to the direct illocutionary force of this type of acts (Harnish, 1994:4). The SA of question has the following FCs, as indicated by Searle (1969:66):

- 1- Propositional: Any proposition or propositional function.
- 2- Preparatory: a- the receiver does not know the apply.b- It is not obvious to both the addresser and the receiver that the addressee will provide the information that time without being asked.
- 3- Sincerity: the addresser wants this information.
- 4- Essential: the addresser's utterance counts as an attempt to elicit this information from the receiver.

Figure (1) below summarizes the developed model for analyzing the data under scrutiny.



**6. Data Description and Analysis**

**6.1 Data Description**

The data of analysis is an addressing speech delivered by the American President Donald Trump in Saudi Arabia 2017 after nominating him as president of the United States. It is taken from the BBC Satellite Channel available at [www.bbc.com/news/world-us](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us). The address lasts about 35 minutes and it covers some worthy issues among which are 'war against terrorism' and 'cooperation between America and Arabs and Muslims'.

**6.2 Data Analysis**

**6.2.1 Method of Analysis**

The data are analyzed according to the models developed in (5) and figure (1) above in order to reveal its argumentative SAs and their CRs.

### 6.2.2 Overall Analysis

According to the model developed in Section (5 above), the analysis reveals that Trump's address consists of only three stages of the critical discussion: confrontation, argumentation and concluding. Each performs certain CRs. As far as the confrontation stage is concerned, it has the CR of presenting standpoints. It is the only role because it is one-way argumentation; only one active interactant, the President Trump. These standpoints are:

1. Strengthening America's old friendships with Islamic world,  
*"I pledged to strengthen America's oldest friendships, and to build new partnerships in pursuit of peace."*
2. Building new friendships with other Islamic countries,  
*"I pledged to strengthen America's oldest friendships, and to build new partnerships in pursuit of peace."*
3. Outstretching hands of cooperation and trust with the Islamic world,  
*"I also promised that America will not seek to impose our way of life on others, but to outstretch our hands in the spirit of cooperation and trust."*
4. America's vision is one of peace, security and prosperity in the world,  
*"our vision is one of peace, security, and prosperity—in this region, and in the world."*
5. America's goal is initiation a coalition of nation against extremists,  
*"our goal is a coalition of nations who share the aim of stamping out extremism and providing our children a hopeful future that does honor to God."*
6. Extremists threaten the international peace, security, prosperity and future. (implicit standpoint).

Concerning the third stage, argumentation stage, contains a set of arguments supporting the various standpoints that are presented in the confrontation stage. In this regard, the analysis shows that Trump advances two arguments to support the first standpoint, one argument to maintain the second standpoint, thirteen arguments supporting the third standpoint, four arguments maintaining the fourth standpoint, thirteen arguments supporting the fifth standpoint and finally nine times supporting the sixth standpoint.

Finally, the fourth stage comes to establish the results of the process of argumentation as a whole.

In addition, the analysis, following the developed model, reveals that some SAs are utilized to carry out these stages and their CRs. Put it differently, the SAs of promise, pledge and assertion are used in the confrontation stage to perform the CR of presenting standpoints. In the argumentation stage, Trump employs the SA of assertion to fulfill the CR of advancing arguments. In this regard, this SA supports the different standpoints that are triggered in the confrontation stage. Ultimately, in the concluding stage, the SAs of assertion and question are employed to achieve the CR of establishing results of Trump's argumentation.

### 6.2.2 Illustrative Pragmatic Analysis

Based on the model developed (See 5 & fig. 1), some representative examples are given here.

#### Confrontation Stage

##### Text (1)

*"I pledged to strengthen America's oldest friendships, and to build new partnerships in pursuit of peace."*

This text is a commissive SA, namely pledge according to its FCs (See 5.2.2). Phrased another way, Trump pledges to do the act of strengthening America's relationships with Islamic countries. Such a pledge represents a kind of benefit for both the Americans and Islamic countries. It is supposed that Trump, as American President, intends to do this future act. Regarding the CR of this SA, it performs the CR of presenting the standpoint of strengthen America's oldest friendship "*strengthening America's old friendships with Islamic world*" (See 6.2.1).

##### Text (2)

*"I also promised that America will not seek to impose our way of life on others, but to outstretch our hands in the spirit of cooperation and trust."*

According to the model, this text represents another commissive SA, namely, promise. Following its FCs (See 5.2.3), it is a future act of not interfering in the way other countries choose to live. The addressees prefer this issue. It seems that Trump believes his audience. In addition, both are not sure about the fulfillment of this promise in the normal events and finally it seems that Trump intends to achieve this promise. As far as the CR is concerned, this SA presents the standpoint of "*outstretching hands of cooperation and trust with the Islamic world*" (See 6.2.1 and Appendix 1). It seems one of the ways maintaining his audience trust in America's policy of neutrality.

##### Text (3)

*"Our vision is one of peace, security and prosperity in this region and in the world"*

The text above, based on the model, is the SA of assertion. In terms of its FCs (See 5.2.1), it is a proposition for which the addresser has evidence that will be introduced in the argumentation stage (See Texts 20-23 Appendix 1). It is not obvious that the addressees know Trump's proposition about America's vision in this era. For Trump, it appears that he believes his vision about the world. As far as the CR is concerned, this SA advances the standpoint of "*America's vision is one of peace, security and prosper in the world*" with the aim to be accepted later (See 6.2.1). The other example of this SA and its CR in the confrontation stage is (4) (Appendix 1).

#### **Argumentative Stage**

##### **Text (4)**

*"... in just a few months, we have created almost a million new jobs, added over 3 million trillion..."*

Based on the developed model, the text above is an assertive one, namely, assertion. In the light of its FCs (See 5.2.1), it is a proposition of the American government's achievements. It represents evidence of these achievements. On its face, Trump seems to believe the proposition. Concerning the CR of this SA in the current stage, it advances the argument of supporting Trump's standpoint of "*America's vision is one of peace, security and prosperity in the world*" (See 6.2.1) in the confrontation stage. Put it differently, creating jobs is an aspect of prosperity in the world. Other examples of such SA and its CR are 5, 6, 7 and 23 (Appendix 1).

##### **Text (5)**

*"...we signed historic agreements with the Kingdom that will invest almost \$400 billion in our two countries and create many thousands of jobs in America and Saudi Arabia."*

Supported by the developed model, the text is an assertion SA. Following its FCs (See 5.2.1), it is a proposition of committing agreements with other countries. Besides, it is evidence per se. As far as the CR is concerned, this SA advances evidence of Trump's standpoint of "*outstretching hands of cooperation and trust with the Islamic world*" in the confrontation stage (See 6.2.1). The addresser exhibits such agreements between America and Islamic countries as a type of cooperation. Other examples of this SA and its CR in the confrontation stage are 6, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 (Appendix 1).

##### **Text (6)**

*"We have also started discussions with many of the countries present today on strengthening partnerships, and forming new ones, to advance security and stability across the Middle East and beyond."*

In terms of SAs, it represents an assertion according its FCs (See 5.2.1). It is the proposition of initiating discussions of cooperation with other countries. It is evidence driven by the addresser. Regarding its CR, this SA performs the role of advancing an argument maintaining the standpoint "*building new friendships with other Islamic countries*" (See 6.2.1). The addresser, Trump, talks about discussions with some Islamic leaders that have not commit agreements with America as an example of cooperation with the world. Another example of this SA and its CR in Trump's argumentation is 7 (Appendix 1).

##### **Text (7)**

*"America has suffered repeated barbaric attacks – from the atrocities of September 11th to the devastation of the Boston Bombing, to the horrible killings in San Bernardino and Orlando."*

Reinforced by the developed model, this text is an assertion. According to its FCs (See 5.2.1), it is a proposition of America's sufferings from terrorists' attacks. As the previous cases in the argumentation stage, the text stands as evidence supporting a standpoint. Concerning its CRs, this SA advances an evidence of Trump's standpoint of "*extremists threat the international peace, security, prosperity and future*" (See 6.2.1) in the confrontation stage. The American President advances an argument about terrorists' danger against the world. To be more clarified, one of the terrorists' attacks is these barbaric ones against United States. Additional examples of assertions supporting this standpoint are 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 (Appendix 1).

##### **Text (8)**

*"Jordanian pilots are crucial partners against ISIS in Syria and Iraq. "*

The text above, following the developed model, is an assertive SA, namely assertion. In terms of its FCs (See 5.2.1), it is a proposition showing America's allies in fighting terrorists. It is another example supporting the addresser's standpoints. As far as the CR is concerned, this SA advances the standpoint of "*America's goal is initiation a coalition of nation against extremists*" (See 6.2.1). Here, the speaker supports his standpoint by revealing the cooperation with Islamic countries such as the Jordanian pilots' role through fighting terrorists. Other examples of this SA and its CR in the confrontation stage are 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23 (Appendix 1).

#### **Concluding Stage**

##### **Text (9)**

*"Will we let it destroy the most holy sites on earth?"*

Depending on the developed model, this text stands as a directive SA, namely question according to its FCs (See 5.2.4). It is a proposition of seeking confirmation from the addressees. In addition, the addresser aims at either confirmation or rejection of his 'yes-no' question. As far as its CR, it is used to establish a result of Trump's argumentation (See 6.2.1). Here, Trump attempts to seek his audience's acceptance of his advanced standpoint in the confrontation stage initiating coalition against terrorism. Other examples of such a SA and its CR are 24, 25, 26 and 27 (Appendix 1).

#### Text (10)

*"New jobs and industries that will lift up millions of people."*

According to the developed model, this text is an assertive one, namely, assertion depending on its FCs (See 5.2.1). It is a proposition of the hoped achievements of accepting his standpoint that are advanced in the confrontation stage "America's vision is one of peace, security and prosperity in the world". As far as the CR is concerned, this SA establishes the result of efficiency of acceptance of Trump's advanced standpoints in the confrontation stage (See 6.2.1). Other examples of this SA and its CR are 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 in Appendix 1.

#### Conclusions

Based on the findings of the data analysis, the conclusions below have been reached:

1. As far as of Trump's discussion, it involves three argumentative stages: confrontation, argumentation and concluding. No use of opening stage has been observed.
2. Only four SAs are utilized by Trump to fulfill his argumentative objectives. These include pledge, assertion, promise and question. More clearly, the SAs of assertion, pledge and promise are used in the confrontation stage; that of assertion is the only one invested in the argumentation stage whereas those of assertion and question are utilized in the concluding stage. This conclusion validates the first hypothesis.
3. As regards the CRs, in the confrontation stage, the SAs of assertion, pledge and promise are used to present standpoints. In the argumentation stage, the SA of assertion is employed to advance argumentations supporting the standpoints presented in the confrontation stage. Finally, in the concluding stage, the SAs of assertion and question are utilized to fulfill the CR of establishing results. This conclusion validates the second hypothesis.
4. The most frequently used SA is assertion. It is utilized 29 times; 2 times in the confrontation stage, 18 in the argumentation stage and 9 in the concluding stage.
5. Trump's main focus are the standpoints of 'outstretching hands of cooperation and trust with the Islamic world; America's goal is initiation a coalition of nation against extremists; and extremists threat the international peace, security, prosperity and future'. They received the high number of supporting arguments.

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### Appendix 1: the Analyzed Data

No.	Example	Stage	Speech Act	Constructive Role	Standpoint Presented/ Supported
1.	I pledged to strengthen America’s oldest friendships, and to build new partnerships in pursuit of peace.	Confrontation	Pledge	Presenting a standpoint	1 & 2
2.	I also promised that America will not seek to impose our way of life on others, but to outstretch our hands in the spirit of cooperation and trust.	=	Promise	=	3
3.	Our vision is one of peace, security, and prosperity—in this region, and in the world.	=	assertion	=	4
4.	Our goal is a coalition of nations who share the aim of stamping out extremism and providing our children a hopeful future that does honor to God.	=	=	=	5 & 6
5.	in just a few months, we have created almost a million new jobs,...	Argumentation	=	Advancing argument	4 & 6
6.	...we signed historic agreements with the Kingdom that will invest almost \$400 billion in our two countries and create many thousands of jobs in America and Saudi Arabia.	=	=	=	1, 3, 4 & 6
7.	We have also started discussions with many of the countries present today on strengthening partnerships, and forming new ones, to advance security and stability across the Middle East and beyond.	=	=	=	1, 2 & 4
8.	Later today, we will make history again with the opening of a new Global Center for Combating Extremist Ideology – located right here, in this central part of the Islamic World.	=	=	=	3, 5 & 6
9.	America has suffered repeated barbaric attacks – from the atrocities of September 11th to the devastation of the Boston Bombing, to the horrible killings in San Bernardino and Orlando.	=	=	=	5 & 6
10.	The nations of Europe have also endured unspeakable horror. So too have the nations of Africa and even South America. India, Russia, China and Australia have been victims.	=	=	=	5 & 6
11.	But, in sheer numbers, the deadliest toll has been exacted on the innocent people of Arab, Muslim and Middle Eastern nations. They have borne the brunt of the killings and the worst of the destruction in this wave of fanatical violence.	=	=	=	6
12.	Jordanian pilots are crucial partners against ISIS in Syria and Iraq.	=	=	=	3, 5 & 6



13.	Saudi Arabia and a regional coalition have taken strong action against Houthi militants in Yemen.	=	=	=	3 & 6
14.	The Lebanese Army is hunting ISIS operatives who try to infiltrate their territory.	=	=	=	3 & 6
15.	Emirati troops are supporting our Afghan partners.	=	=	=	3 & 6
16.	In Mosul, American troops are supporting Kurds, Sunnis and Shias fighting together for their homeland.	=	=	=	3 & 6
17.	Qatar, which hosts the U.S. Central Command, is a crucial strategic partner.	=	=	=	3 & 5
18.	Our longstanding partnership with Kuwait and Bahrain continue to enhance security in the region.	=	=	=	3 & 5
19.	And courageous Afghan soldiers are making tremendous sacrifices in the fight against the Taliban, and others, in the fight for their country.	=	=	=	3 & 5
20.	I am proud to announce that the nations here today will be signing an agreement to prevent the financing of terrorism, called the Terrorist Financing Targeting Center – co-chaired by the United States and Saudi Arabia, and joined by every member of the Gulf Cooperation Council. It is another historic step in a day that will be long remembered.	=	=	=	3 & 5
21.	I also applaud the Gulf Cooperation Council for blocking funders from using their countries as a financial base for terror, and designating Hezbollah as a terrorist organization last year. Saudi Arabia also joined us this week in placing sanctions on one of the most senior leaders of Hezbollah.	=	=	=	3 & 5
22.	I also applaud Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon for their role in hosting refugees. The surge of migrants and refugees leaving the Middle East depletes the human capital needed to build stable societies and economies. Instead of depriving this region of so much human potential, Middle Eastern countries can give young people hope for a brighter future in their home nations and regions.	=	=	=	3 & 5
23.	In that spirit, after concluding my visit in Riyadh, I will travel to Jerusalem and Bethlehem, and then to the Vatican – visiting many of the holiest places in the three Abrahamic Faiths. If these three faiths can join together in cooperation, then peace in this world is possible – including peace between Israelis and Palestinians. I will be meeting with both Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.	=	=	=	4 & 5
24.	Will we be indifferent in the presence of evil?	Concluding	Question	Establishing result	4, 5 & 6
25.	Will we protect our citizens from its violent ideology?	=	=	=	6
26.	Will we let its venom spread through our societies?	=	=	=	6
27.	Will we let it destroy the most holy sites on earth?	=	=	=	6
28.	If we do not confront this deadly terror, we know what the future will bring—more suffering and despair. But if we act—if we leave this magnificent room unified and determined to do what it takes to destroy the terror that threatens the world—then there is no limit to the great future our citizens will have.	=	Assertion	=	6
29.	The birthplace of civilization is waiting to begin a new renaissance. Just imagine what tomorrow could bring.	=	=	=	3 & 4

30.	Glorious wonders of science, art, medicine and commerce to inspire humankind.	=	=	=	3 & 4
31.	Great cities built on the ruins of shattered towns.	=	=	=	3 & 4
32.	New jobs and industries that will lift up millions of people.	=	=	=	3 & 4
33.	Parents who no longer worry for their children, families who no longer mourn for their loved ones,	=	=	=	6
34.	and the faithful who finally worship without fear.	=	=	=	6
35.	These are the blessings of prosperity and peace.	=	=	=	4
36.	These are the desires that burn with a righteous flame in every human heart. And these are the just demands of our beloved peoples.	=	=	=	6