"Animal Farm" by George Orwell "Speech Act" Detection and Alienation Motif Symbol Operator Corpus Analysis Discussion

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Abstract. The article "Animal Farm" by George Orwell "Speech Act" Detection and Alienation Motif Symbol Operator Corpus Analysis Discussion is a practical presentation of the parallel interaction between Language and Society. Speech/Social Acts (according to Searle) Classification Operator and Alienation Motif Symbol Corpus Analysis Operator have been exploited. The test sample, chapter 1 of the novel "Animal Farm" (pages 4-10) by George Orwell 1944, is being analysed! Null hypothesis: Declarations dominate in the novel "Animal Farm" by George Orwell 1944 and Null hypothesis Alienation is the background of the novel "Animal Farm" by George Orwell 1944 are being tested. Marx’s classification of alienation from the product of labour, alienation from the activity of labour, alienation from humanity and society corpus analysis operator have been tested and presented.

Keywords. speech acts, Animal Farm, Orwell, alienation, Searle, Marx, corpus analysis

A. Introduction

According to Manouchakia, M.: 2017 "Pragmatical" comment:

Speech-act theory, most notably attributed to John Searle, is designed to help us understand how people accomplish things with their words. (Manouchakia, 2017: 7)

"It is an act that the speaker performs when s/he makes an utterance" Manouchakia: 2017 explains and continues with language and society notion emphasizing the contribution of/to the Pragmatics:

Although the speech act theory still maintains its significant contribution to Pragmatics, the focus has drastically shifted from the analysis of speech to that of non-explicit meaning – giving further emphasis to the interconnected relationship between Psychology and linguistics. (7)

Due to the speech analysis requirements corpus analysis is a must! What follows is a parallel corpus analysis one focusing on speech act classification and the other on alienation motif symbolism enabled with the aid of Marx’s classification of alienation described and classified in "Comment on James Mill" Economic and Philosophical Manuscript of 1844.

B. Research Model

(1) Speech Acts (according to Searle) Classification Operator

According to Searle, there are "5 types of speech acts": 1 Declarations 2 Assertives 3 Expressives 4 Directives 5 Commissives:
(1) **Declarations** - The speaker declares something that has the potential to bring about a change in the world.
  'I now declare you husband and wife.'
  'You're fired!'

(2) **Assertives** - The speaker asserts an idea, opinion, or suggestion. The speaker presents 'facts' of the world, such as statements and claims.
  'Paris is the capital of France.'
  'I watched a great documentary last night.'

(3) **Expressives** - The speaker states something about their psychological attitudes and their attitudes towards a situation. This could be an apology, a welcome, or an expression of gratitude.
  'I'm so sorry about yesterday.'
  'I really appreciate your help.'

(4) **Directives** - The speaker intends to get the listener to do something. This could be by giving an order, offering advice, or making a request.
  'Pass me the salt please.'
  'You should not drink that!'

(5) **Commissives** - The speaker commits to doing something in the future. This could be making a promise, a plan, a vow, or a bet.
  'I'll see you at 6 tomorrow'
  'I do!'

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5 types of speech acts (according to Searle) classification:
1 Declarations
2 Assertives
3 Expressives
4 Directives
5 Commissives

is going to be used! The test sample, chapter 1 of the novel *Animal Farm* (pages 4-10) by George Orwell 1944, is to be analysed!

The null hypothesis is:
Declarations dominate in the novel *Animal Farm* by George Orwell 1944!

(2) **Alienation Motif Corpus Analysis Operator**
The null hypothesis is:
Alienation is the background of the novel *Animal Farm* by George Orwell 1944!

Marx discusses four aspects of the alienation of labour, as it takes place in capitalist society: one is alienation from the product of labour; another is alienation from the activity of labour; a third is alienation from humanity; and a fourth is alienation from others, from society. iii

The corpus analysis operator scheme based on Marx’s classification includes the following:
(1) alienation from the product of labour corpus analysis operator
(2) alienation from the activity of labour corpus analysis operator
(3) alienation from humanity corpus analysis operator
alienation from others, from society corpus analysis operator  

N.B. Due to the content of the novel alienation from [...] humanity parameter has been modified into alienation from the human race corpus analysis operator.

N.B. Humanity is the human race  


C) Corpus Analysis
(1) Speech Acts (according to Searle) Classification Operator

Declarations - The speaker declares something that has the potential to bring about a change in the world.\textsuperscript{iv}

Comrades, you have heard already about the strange dream that I had last night. But I will come to the dream later. \[I have something else to say first\] (Orwell, 1944: 6)

Expressives - The speaker states something about their psychological attitudes and their attitudes towards a situation. This could be an apology, a welcome, or an expression of gratitude.\textsuperscript{v}

I do not think, comrades, that I shall be with you for many months longer, and before I die, I feel it my duty to pass on to you such wisdom as I have acquired. I have had a long life, I have had much time for thought as I lay alone in my stall, and I think I may say that I understand the nature of life on this earth as well as any animal now living. (6)

Declarations - The speaker declares something that has the potential to bring about a change in the world.\textsuperscript{vi}

It is about this that \[I wish to speak\] to you. Now, comrades, what is the nature of this life of ours? (6)

Directives - The speaker intends to get the listener to do something. This could be by giving an order, offering advice, or making a request.\textsuperscript{vii}

Let us face it: (6)

Expressives - The speaker states something about their psychological attitudes and their attitudes towards a situation. This could be an apology, a welcome, or an expression of gratitude.\textsuperscript{viii}

[our lives are miserable, laborious, and short] We are born, we are given just so much food as will keep the breath in our bodies, and those of us who are capable of it are forced to work to the last atom of our strength; and the very instant that our usefulness has come to an end we are slaughtered with hideous cruelty. No animal in England knows the meaning of happiness or leisure after he is a year old. No animal in England is free. The life (6) of an animal is misery and slavery; that is the plain truth. But is this simply part of the order of nature? Is it because this land of ours is so poor that it cannot afford a decent life to those who dwell upon it? (7)
Directives - The speaker intends to get the listener to do something. This could be by giving an order, offering advice, or making a request.\textsuperscript{x}

\textbf{No,} comrades, \textit{a thousand times no!} (7)

Assertives - The speaker asserts an idea, opinion, or suggestion. The speaker presents 'facts' of the world, such as statements and claims.\textsuperscript{y}

The soil of England is \textit{fertile,} its climate is \textit{good,} it is \textit{capable} of affording food in abundance to an enormously greater number of animals than now inhabit it. This single farm of ours would support a dozen horses, twenty cows, hundreds of sheep — and all of them living in a comfort and a dignity that are now almost beyond our imagining. (7)

Declarations - The speaker declares something that has the potential to bring about a change in the world.\textsuperscript{xi}

Why then do we \textbf{continue in this miserable condition?} Because nearly the whole of the produce of our labour is stolen from us by human beings. There, comrades, is \textit{the answer to all our problems.} It is summed up in a single word — \textit{Man.} (7)

Expressives - The speaker states something about their psychological attitudes and their attitudes towards a situation. This could be an apology, a welcome, or an expression of gratitude.\textsuperscript{xii}

\textit{Man is the only real enemy} we have. Remove Man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished for ever. \textit{Man} is the only creature that consumes without producing. He \textit{does not give milk,} he \textit{does not lay eggs,} he is \textit{too weak to pull the plough,} he \textit{cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits.} Yet he \textit{is lord of all the animals.} He \textit{sets them to work,} he \textit{gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving,} and the rest he \textit{keeps for himself.} Our labour tills the soil, our \textit{dung fertilises it,} and yet there is \textit{not one of us that owns more than his bare skin.} You cows that I see before me, how many thousands of gallons of milk have you given during this last year? And what has happened to that milk which should have been breeding up sturdy calves? \textit{Every drop of it has gone down the throats of our enemies.} And you hens, how many eggs have you laid in this last year, and how many of those eggs ever hatched into chickens? \textit{The rest have all gone to market to bring in money for Jones and his men.}

And you, \textbf{Clever,} where are those four foals you bore, who should have been the support and pleasure of your old age? \textit{Each was sold at a year old} — you will never see one of them again. \textit{In return for your four confinements and all your labour in the fields,} what have you ever had except your bare rations and a stall? And even the miserable lives we lead are not allowed to reach their natural span. \textit{For myself I do not grumble,} for I am one of the lucky ones. I am twelve years old and have had over four hundred children. Such is the \textit{natural life of a pig.} But no animal escapes the cruel knife in the end. \textit{You young porkers who are sitting in front of me, every one of you will scream your lives out at the block within a year.} \textbf{To that horror we all must come — cows, pigs, hens, sheep, everyone.} Even the horses and the dogs have no better fate. \textit{You, Boxer, the very day that those great muscles of yours lose their power, Jones will sell you to the knacker, who will cut your throat and boil you down for the foxhounds.} As for the dogs, when they \textit{grow old and toothless,} Jones ties a \textit{brick round their necks and drowns them in the nearest pond.} (7-8)
Declarations - The speaker declares something that has the potential to bring about a change in the world.\(^{\text{xiii}}\)

Is it not crystal clear, then, comrades, that all the evils of this life of ours spring from the tyranny of human beings?\(^{\text{(8)}}\)

Commissives - The speaker commits to doing something in the future. This could be making a promise, a plan, a vow, or a bet.\(^{\text{xiv}}\)

Only get rid of Man, and the produce of our labour would be our own. Almost overnight we could become rich and free. What then must we do? Why, work night and day, body and soul, for the overthrow of the human race! That is my message to you, comrades: Rebellion! I do not know when that Rebellion will come, it might be in a week or in a hundred years, but I know, as surely as I see this straw beneath my feet, that sooner or later justice will be done. Fix your eyes on that, comrades, throughout the short remainder of your lives! And above all, pass on this message of mine to those who come after you, so that future generations shall carry on the struggle until it is victorious. And remember, comrades, your resolution must never falter. No argument must lead you astray. Never listen when they tell you [...](8)

Expressives - The speaker states something about their psychological attitudes and their attitudes towards a situation. This could be an apology, a welcome, or an expression of gratitude.\(^{\text{xv}}\)

[...] Man and the animals have a common interest, that the prosperity of the one is the prosperity of the others. It is all lies. Man serves the interests of no creature except himself. And among us animals let there be perfect unity, perfect comradeship in the struggle. All men are enemies. All animals are comrades.\(^{\text{(9)}}\)

Commissives - The speaker commits to doing something in the future. This could be making a promise, a plan, a vow, or a bet.\(^{\text{xvi}}\)

“Comrades,” he said, “here is a point that must be settled. The wild creatures, such as rats and rabbits — are they our friends or our Ringsshallvanish from our noses. And the harness from our back, Bit and spur shallrustforever. Cruel whips no more shall crack. Riches more than mind can picture, Wheat and barley, oats and hay, Clover, beans, and mangel-wurzels Shall be ours upon that day. Bright will shine the fields of England, Purer shall its waters be, Sweeter yet shall blow its breezes. On the day that sets us free.\(^{\text{(9)}}\)

Expressives - The speaker states something about their psychological attitudes and their attitudes towards a situation. This could be an apology, a welcome, or an expression of gratitude.\(^{\text{xvii}}\)

I have little more to say. I merely repeat, remember always your duty of enmity towards Man and all his ways. Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy. Whatever goes upon
four legs, or has wings, is a friend. And remember also that in fighting against Man, we must not come to resemble him. Even when you have conquered him, do not adopt his vices. No animal must ever live in a house, or sleep in a bed, or wear clothes, or drink alcohol, or smoke tobacco, or touch money, or engage in trade. All the habits of Man are evil. And, above all, no animal must ever tyrannise over his own kind. Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers. No animal must ever kill any other animal. All animals are equal. (9-10)

Declarations - The speaker declares something that has the potential to bring about a change in the world. 

And now, comrades, I will tell you about my dream of last night. I cannot describe that dream to you. It was a dream of the earth as it will be when Man has vanished. But it reminded me of something that I had long forgotten. Many years ago, when I was a little pig, my mother and the other sows used to sing an old song of which they knew only the tune and the first three words. I had known that tune in my infancy, but it had long since passed out of my mind. Last night, however, it came back to me in my dream. And what is more, the words of the song also came back – words, I am certain, which were sung by the animals of long ago and have been lost to memory for generations. I will sing you that song now, comrades. I am old and my voice is hoarse, but when I have taught you the tune, you can sing it better for yourselves. It is called ‘Beasts of England’. (10)

Commissives - The speaker commits to doing something in the future. This could be making a promise, a plan, a vow, or a bet.

Beasts of England, beasts of Ireland, Beasts of every land and clime, Hearken to my joyful tidings Of the golden future time. Soon or late the day is coming, Tyrant Man shall be o’erthrown,

And the fruitful fields of England
Shall be trod by beasts alone,
Rings shall vanish from our noses,
And the harness from our back,
Bit and spur shall rust forever,
Cruel whips no more shall crack.
Riches more than mind can picture, Wheat and barley, oats and hay, Clover, beans, and mangel-wurzels

Shall be ours upon that day.
Bright will shine the fields of England, Purer shall its waters be,
Sweeter yet shall blow its breezes
On the day that sets us free.
For that day we all must labour. (10-11)

(2) Alienation Motif Corpus Analysis Operator

The null hypothesis is:

Alienation is the background of the novel Animal Farm by George Orwell 1944!
Marx (1844) discusses four aspects of the alienation of labour, as it takes place in capitalist society: one is alienation from the product of labour; another is alienation from the activity of labour; a third is alienation from [...] humanity; and a fourth is alienation from others, from society. (Marx: 1844 in Horowitz, A.: 2011)

The corpus analysis operator scheme based on Marx’s classification includes the following:

1. alienation from [the product of labour] corpus analysis operator

   (A) Is it because this land of ours is so poor that it cannot afford a decent life to those who dwell upon it? (7)

   (B) The soil of England is fertile, its climate is good, it is capable of affording food in abundance to an enormously greater number of animals than now inhabit it. This single farm of ours would support a dozen horses, twenty cows, hundreds of sheep — and all of them living in a comfort and a dignity that are now almost beyond our imagining. (7)

   (C) Because nearly the whole of the produce of our labour is stolen from us by human beings. (7)

   (D) Our lives are miserable, laborious, and short. We are born, we are given just so much food as will keep the breath in our bodies, and those of us who are capable of it are forced to work to the last atom of our strength; and the very instant that our usefulness has come to an end we are slaughtered with hideous cruelty. No animal in England knows the meaning of happiness or leisure after he is a year old. No animal in England is free. The life (6) of an animal is misery and slavery: that is the plain truth. But is this simply part of the order of nature? (7)

   (B) Only get rid of Man, and the produce of our labour would be our own.* (produce of labour)

   (C) Our Rings shall vanish from our noses,
   And the harness from our back,
   Bit and spur shall rust forever,
   Cruel whips no more shall crack.
   (Riches more than mind can picture,
   Wheat and barley, oats and hay,
   Clover, beans, and mangel-wurzels)** (produce of labour)
Shall be ours upon that day. Bright will **shine the fields** of England, [.] On the day that sets us free. (9)

(D)

Soon or late the day is coming,
Tyrant Man shall be o’erthrown,
And the **fruitful fields** of England
Shall be trod by beasts alone.

Rings shall vanish from our noses,
And the **harness** from our back,
**Cruel whips** no more shall crack
Riches more than mind can picture,
**Wheat and barley, oats and hay, C lover, beans, and mangel-wurzels**
Shall be ours upon that day.

**Bright will shine the fields** of England,
[.] Sweeter yet shall blow its breezes
On the day that sets us free.
For that day we **all must labour**. (10-11)

(3) alienation from humanity

N.B. *Humanity* is the human race

https://www.vocabulary.com/dictionary/humanity

(A) Now, comrades, **what is the nature of this life of ours** (6)

(B) Why then do we continue in this miserable condition? There, comrades, is the answer to all our **problems**. It is summed up in a single word — **Man**. (7)

(C) For myself I do not grumble, for I am **one of the lucky ones**. I am twelve years old and have had over four hundred children. Such is the natural life of a pig. But **no animal escapes** the cruel knife in the end. You young porkers who are sitting in front of me, every one of you will scream your lives out at the block within a year. **To that horror we all must come** — cows, pigs, hens, sheep, everyone. **Even the horses and the dogs have no better fate**. You, Boxer, the very day that those great muscles of yours lose their power, **Jones will sell you to the knacker**, who will cut your throat and boil you down for the foxhounds. As for the dogs, when they grow old and toothless, **Jones ties a brick round their necks and drowns them in the nearest pond**. (7-8)

(D)
Only get rid of Man, and the produce of our labour would be our own. Almost overnight we could become rich and free. What then must we do? Why, work night and day, body and soul, for the overthrow of the human race! That is my message to you, comrades: Rebellion! I do not know when that Rebellion will come, it might be in a week or in a hundred years, but I know, as surely as I see this straw beneath my feet, that sooner or later justice will be done. Fix your eyes on that, comrades, throughout the short remainder of your lives! And above all, pass on this message of mine to those who come after you, so that future generations shall carry on the struggle until it is victorious. And remember, comrades, your resolution must never falter. No argument must lead you astray. Never listen when they tell you.

(E)

Man and the animals have a common interest, that the prosperity of the one is the prosperity of the others. It is all lies. Man serves the interests of no creature except himself. And among us animals let there be perfect unity, perfect comradeship in the struggle. All men are enemies. All animals are comrades.

(F)

I have little more to say. I merely repeat, remember always your duty of enmity towards Man and all his ways. Whatever goes upon two legs is an enemy. Whatever goes upon four legs, or has wings, is a friend. And remember also that in fighting against Man, we must not come to resemble him. Even when you have conquered him, do not adopt his vices. No animal must ever live in a house, or sleep in a bed, or wear clothes, or drink alcohol, or smoke tobacco, or touch money, or engage in trade. All the habits of Man are evil. And, above all, no animal must ever tyrannise over his own kind. Weak or strong, clever or simple, we are all brothers. No animal must ever kill any other animal. All animals are equal.

(G)

And now, comrades, I will tell you about my dream of last night. I cannot describe that dream to you. It was a dream of the earth as it will be when Man has vanished. But it reminded me of something that I had long forgotten. Many years ago, when I was a little pig, my mother and the other sows used to sing an old song of which they knew only the tune and the first three words. I had known that tune in my infancy, but it had long since passed out of my mind. Last night, however, it came back to me in my dream. And what is more, the words of the song also came back-words, I am certain, which were sung by the animals of long ago and have been lost to memory for generations. I will sing you that song now, comrades. I am old and my voice is hoarse, but when I have taught you the tune, you can sing it better for yourselves. It is called ‘Beasts of England’.

Alienation from others, from society.

There, comrades, is the answer to all our problems. It is summed up in a single word — Man.
(B) Man is the only real enemy we have. Remove Man from the scene, and the root cause of hunger and overwork is abolished for ever. Man is the only creature that consumes without producing. He does not give milk, he does not lay eggs, *(produce)* he is too weak to pull the plough, he cannot run fast enough to catch rabbits. Yet he is lord of all the animals. He sets them to work, he gives back to them the bare minimum that will prevent them from starving, and the rest he keeps for himself. (7)

(C) Is it not crystal clear, then, comrades, that all the evils of this life of ours spring from the tyranny of human beings? (8)

D) Results & Discussion

In the selected sample (Chapter 1, novel Animal Farm by George Orwell 1944: 4-12) there are:

5 Declarations 31%
1 Assertive 6%
5 Expressives 31%
2 Directives 13%
3 Commissives 19%

The null hypothesis is partially confirmed! Directives do dominate! However, in the same amount as expressives!

31% directives: 31 expressives
Figure 1: Speech Acts Classification of the novel Animal Farm by George Orwell 1944 (test sample p. 4-12)

Results of the alienation motif symbol speech act classification of the novel Animal Farm by George Orwell 1944 (test sample p. 4-12) analysis are the following:

1. alienation from the product of labour = 4 speech acts = 22%
2. alienation from the activity of labour = 4 speech acts = 22%
3. alienation from humanity = 7 speech acts = 39%
4. alienation from others, from society = 3 speech acts = 17%
Total = 18 speech acts
N.B. 2 speech acts fit into two categories e.g. alienation from activity & product of labour
16+2=18 speech acts
Figure 2: Alienation Motif Symbol Marx´s Speech Act Classification of the novel Animal Farm by George Orwell 1944 (test sample p. 4-12)

Conclusions

I
In the selected sample (Chapter 1, novel Animal Farm by George Orwell 1944: 4-12) there are:
5 Declarations 31%
1 Assertive 6%
5 Expressives 31%
2 Directives 13%
3 Commissives 19%

The null hypothesis is partially being confirmed! Directives do dominate! However, in the same amount as expressives!
31% directives: 31 expressives

II
The null hypothesis is totally confirmed! Alienation is the motif of the book Animal Farm!

1 alienation from the product of labour = 4 speech acts = 22%
2 alienation from the activity of labour = 4 speech acts = 22%
3 alienation from humanity = 7 speech acts = 39%
4 alienation from others, from society = 3 speech acts = 17%
Alienation from humanity = 7 speech acts = 39% dominates among the other types of alienations i.e. animals are alienated from humans!

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell was published in 1945 [sic! \(^{xii}\)] and provides social commentary on the political events […], especially the Russian Revolution. […] events are symbolic of something else (characters of sb else) and are used to convey a message beyond the surface-level events of the book. \(^{xiii}\)

**Declaration of conflicting interest:**

N. B. The novel "Animal Farm" by George Orwell has been widespread since 1944, exposed to the public which includes a corpora analysis of the language used by the characters in the novel!

**References**


[8] google.com/search?q=Animal+Farm+by+George+Orwell+1944&oq=Animal+Farm+by+George+Orwell+1944&aqs=chrome..69i57j33i10i160.2611.9.2023
Orwell wrote the book between November 1943 and February 1944, when the United Kingdom was in its wartime alliance with the Soviet Union against Nazi Germany, and the British intelligentsia held Stalin in high esteem, a phenomenon Orwell hated.