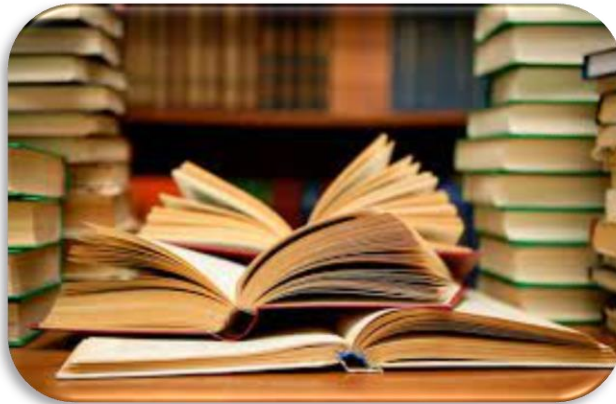


## Research Paper



## The Portrayal of Information Structure in Persian Spoken Genres

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Received: 09 May, 2023

Accepted: 19 June, 2023

### ABSTRACT

Insufficient scholarly inquiry exists regarding the function of genres and their pertinent discourse characteristics within the realm of Information Structure and its syntactic renderings in the Persian language. The present study, which is descriptive and corpus-based in nature, is designed to analyze three distinct genres of the Persian language – specifically, political discourse, scientific discourse, and everyday conversation. The study aims to investigate the Information Structure present in these genres, as expressed through four key syntactic devices: clefting, pseudo-clefting, passive voice, and preposing. In order to achieve the intended objective, one thousand distinct verbal expressions concerning each of the aforementioned genres were obtained from the multi-media database of the IRNA (Iranian News Agency) website and everyday dialogues amongst acquaintances and family members of the researchers, utilizing Lambrecht's theoretical framework for constructing the Information Structure. Following data collection, transcription was carried out and various syntactic devices were identified. Subsequently, descriptive statistics were utilized to analyze and understand the representation of these syntactic devices across different genre types. The findings indicated that there are distinct variations in the depiction of instruments across the three classifications of political discourse, scientific discourse, and commonplace discussions. This discovery may hold significance for scholars of linguistics and language theory.

**Keywords:** Information Structure, Clefting, Genres, Passive, Preposing, Pseudo-clefting, Syntactic devices

### تصویرسازی ساختار اطلاعات در ژانرهای گفتاری فارسی

تحقیقات علمی کافی در مورد کارکرد ژانرها و ویژگی‌های گفتارمندی مربوط به آنها در قلمرو ساختار اطلاعات و تفسیر نحوی آن در زبان فارسی وجود ندارد. پژوهش حاضر که ماهیت توصیفی و بیکر محور دارد، برای تحلیل سه ژانر متمایز زبان فارسی به‌ویژه گفتار سیاسی، گفتار علمی و گفتگوی روزمره طراحی شده است. هدف این مطالعه بررسی ساختار اطلاعات موجود در این ژانرها است که از طریق چهار ابزار نحوی کلیدی بیان می‌شود: شکاف، شبه شکاف، صدای منفعل و پیش‌فرض. به منظور دستیابی به هدف مورد نظر، هزار عبارت کلامی متمایز در مورد هر یک از ژانرهای مذکور از پایگاه چندرسانه‌ای سایت ایرنا (خبرگزاری ایران) و گفتگوهای روزمره بین آشنایان و اعضای خانواده محققین با استفاده از لامیرشت به دست آمد. چارچوب نظری برای ساختار اطلاعات پس از جمع‌آوری داده‌ها، رونویسی انجام شد و دستگاه‌های نحوی مختلفی شناسایی شدند. پس از آن، آمار توصیفی برای تجزیه و تحلیل و درک بازنمایی این ابزار نحوی در انواع مختلف ژانر مورد استفاده قرار گرفت. یافته‌ها حاکی از آن است که در سه طبقه‌بندی گفتار سیاسی، گفتار علمی و بحث‌های رایج، تفاوت‌های مشخصی در تصویرسازی ابزارها وجود دارد. این کشف ممکن است برای محققان زبان‌شناسی و نظریه زبان اهمیت داشته باشد.

واژگان کلیدی: ساختار اطلاعات، شکاف، ژانرها، منفعل، گزاره، شبه شکاف، ابزار

## INTRODUCTION

Information structure has been a significant topic that has been examined in diverse linguistic paradigms. Research endeavors concerning this subject matter have provided empirical evidence that several devices can adeptly represent the Information Structure across diverse levels of language, ranging from phonemic to lexical, syntactical, and even macro units. At the phonetic level, communicators have the ability to underline certain pieces of information in their message as novel by means of employing various tools including pauses and pitch. They can subsequently deliver it to their intended audience in the manner they deem appropriate. Furthermore, language users employ distinctive syntactic structures that alter the default sentence structure, in conjunction with phonetic devices, to achieve this objective.

Lambrecht (1996) posits that Information Structure refers to an essential component of sentence grammar that involves pairing conceptual representations of states of affairs in the form of propositions with lexico-grammatical structures, which are constructed based on the interlocutors' mental states. These structures are utilized by the interlocutors to convey information effectively in specific discourse contexts (p. 5). Additionally, it should be noted that Information Structure is syntactically represented differently across languages, as speakers must segment their speech into discrete information units. It is imperative for him to deliver his message through a succession of presentations. Notwithstanding, he possesses the liberty to determine the manner in which he intends to articulate the information. According to Brown, Brown, Brown, Gillian, and Yule (1983), Halliday (1967) argues that an individual possesses the liberty to determine the commencement and termination of each unit of information, as well as its internal organization.

Halliday (1985) partitioned a clause into two distinct parts, namely the theme and the rheme. The identification of the theme and rheme can be attributed to Halliday (1985:39), who posits that the former pertains to the constituent that occupies the initial position of the clause, whereas the latter encompasses the remaining elements that elaborate on the theme. The two concepts of given and new information are inclined towards the addressee, i.e., the receiver of information. Specifically, the addressee's prior knowledge and expectations constitute given information while the unanticipated aspects of the information form the new information. According to Brown et al. (1983), the term "new information" refers to information that the speaker or addresser perceives as unknown to the listener or addressee. Conversely, "given information" is defined as the information that the speaker or addresser believes the listener already possesses, whether through previous mentions or its presence in the current discourse context.

The author contends that the speaker or writer employs the thematic approach by initiating their sentence with established subject matter or information and subsequently introducing novel insights regarding the matter in the thematic component. Consequently, a common syntactic strategy in discourse is to present prior information first, followed by new information. This approach prioritizes established knowledge and enhances coherence within the discourse. In numerous instances, the aforementioned order is altered through the utilization of syntactic means in order to place increased emphasis on a specific structure. The aforementioned grammatical devices; namely, clefting, pseudo-clefting, passive, and preposing, are exemplified in the ensuing sentences.

**The city was eradicated by the Mongols.**

The Mongol onslaught resulted in the ruin of the urban center. The active voice in writing is often preferred in non-academic contexts, but in academic writing, the passive voice may be employed in order to place emphasis on the action or object in question rather than the doer of the action.

**Yesterday, Davood shattered a glass utilizing a stone.**

Yesterday, the glass was broken by Davood utilizing a stone. It is the case that the use of the cleft construction can enhance the clarity and precision of a sentence.

There are a few different ways that this text could be rewritten in an academic style, depending on the context in which it is being used. However, one possible version is: Several approaches may be employed to rephrase the given text in a more academic tone. This could involve adjusting the diction, syntax, and structure of the sentences to adhere to the conventions of scholarly discourse. For instance, the writer may choose to use more formal language, eliminate contractions, and insert hedging phrases to qualify their claims. Alternatively, they might reorganize the ideas in a logical and coherent manner, using transitional words and phrases to link the different sections of the text. Ultimately, the goal of such revisions would be to enhance the clarity, precision, and credibility of the writing, thereby making it more appropriate for academic contexts. David was identified as the individual responsible for the act of shattering the glass with a stone, which occurred yesterday. It has come to be known that Ali has lost his book.

**The book belonging to Ali has been reported as missing or misplaced.**

Preposing is the act of placing a word or phrase at the beginning of a sentence for emphasis or clarity.

Each of the syntactic devices utilized in Information Structure possesses a distinct purpose. Undoubtedly, there exist variances in the nature of discourse and its particular genre in relation to this matter. The utilization of a grammatical construct, such as the passive voice, within the genre of political discourse in the Persian language may exhibit distinctive characteristics when compared to its usage within the sphere of academic scientific discourse. The aforementioned is unquestionably subject to the influence exerted by the aims and objectives of the speakers.

The present study undertook a consideration of the foregoing information and addressed the following research inquiry: Representation of Information Structure in Persian Spoken:

**RQ.** *How is information structure represented through syntactic devices in three Persian spoken genres-- political, scientific, and daily conversation?*

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Numerous seminal works exist that furnish essential contextual knowledge pertaining to Information Structure, through diverse theoretical frameworks. One of the most frequently referenced literature on the topic of Information Structure, which is widely recognized and extensively researched from diverse theoretical viewpoints, is Lambrecht's seminal work published in 1994. This particular publication introduced a crucial differentiation between the cognitive aspects of information units as opposed to the relational attributes of Information Structure categories in transmitting the information. The pivotal works of Chafe (1976) and Krifka (2008), in addition to the handbook contributions of Büring (2007) and Gundel and Fretheim (2004), provide cogent summaries on the topic of Information Structure,



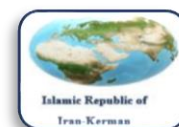
including its cognitive role and fundamental classifications, as well as its impact on the configuration of linguistic expressions. Halliday's (1967) seminal work is of significant historical importance in the field of linguistics, as it marked the introduction of the term Information Structure. Two noteworthy monographs addressing the linguistic construction of sentences and their correlation to Information Structure, context, and the intellectual state of speakers are Erteschik-Shir (2007) and Dik (1997). The former delves into contemporary research on the topic, while the latter presents a classic summary from a communication-based, functionalist standpoint. The online Oxford Handbook of Information Structure, authored by Féry and Ishihara in 2014, presents the most exhaustive and thorough exposition of Information Structure available at present.

The theoretical framework introduced by Gabelentz and Loebe in 1843 pertained to the delineation and assessment of the psychological subject and predicate, wherein the Aristotelian dichotomy was employed within the confines of the transitory psychological situations of the conversational participants. The authors were the pioneers in recognizing the interdependence between Information Structure and discourse context. This claim is exemplified through Paul's utilization of the question-answer mechanism to exhibit diverse arrangements of subject and predicate. The proliferation of Gestalt psychology during the turn of the 20th century, which placed significant emphasis on the perceptual binary between figure and ground, prompted a heightened curiosity in the realm of Information Structure. The notion that human individuals possess the ability to comprehend objects that are given prominence solely through their association with their surrounding context is inherently associated with the psychological theory of subjects and predicates. The transition from psychology to linguistics was a critical and intentional step taken by linguists associated with the Prague School, in particular Mathesius (1883).

The use of psychological and philosophical categories enabled these scholars to explain phenomena related to variations in word order and prosody. The conventional subject–predicate distinction underwent replacement by the theme and rheme division, subsequently evolving into topic and comment, or topic and focus, in academic discourse. The concepts pertaining to Information Structure originating from Prague were distributed within the linguistic community at large, primarily through the efforts of Halliday (1967) who adapted and enhanced the theme-rheme partition concept. In his perspective, the concept of Information Structure, as introduced by Halliday, is an independent element of grammar that operates in conjunction with both syntax and semantics through intricate means. Since the onset of the 1970s, the concept of Information Structure has been imbued with significant heft in numerous grammatical frameworks and has been the subject of frequent study in descriptive linguistics.

### **Information Structure Frameworks**

Chafe (1976) established a framework that systematically organized various notions previously discussed, representing a pioneering contribution to the field. The body of work produced by the individual in question has resulted in the emergence of several distinct approaches that espouse the belief that Information Structure must be interconnected with both the communicative and psychological facets of language users. This remains true regardless of whether Information Structure is deemed a fundamental component of syntax or a communicative, pragmatic occurrence with an effect on grammar. Noteworthy examples of scholars who have contributed to this discourse include Lambrecht, Aghaei, Hadian, and Rezaei. In accordance with scholarly convention, the following citation presents the year, volume, issue number, and page range of the referenced text: (2021), Vol. 9, Issue 39, pp. The academic



way of writing demands a more formal and structured text. The following text can be rewritten in an academic way as follows: The range of values from 45 to 56 can be described as a set of consecutive integers. In mathematical notation, this set can be represented as  $\{45, 46, 47, \dots, 54, 55, 56\}$ . The values in this set maintain their numerical order, and the difference between each adjacent pair of values is 1. This set of consecutive integers is an example of an arithmetic sequence, with a common difference of 1 and a starting value of 45. Additionally, this set can be visualized as an interval on the number line, starting from 45 and ending at 56, inclusively. This interval is a closed interval, as it includes its endpoints in the set.

According to scholarly sources (Vallduví, 1992; Van Valin Jr, 2005), 1994 marks a significant year in the field under discussion. Significant advancements in this particular area of investigation include Vallduví's (1992) adoption of file change semantics to investigate information-structural phenomena, in which knowledge is perceived as a series of file cards that are triggered and de-triggered. Additionally, Lambrecht's (1994) deliberate inclusion of Information Structure within the Stalnakerian model of communication represents an important contribution.

An additional avenue of inquiry was formulated within the generative paradigm, particularly advanced by Jackendoff (1972). The primary objective of this study is to identify a comprehensive approach for incorporating Information Structure into grammatical analysis, particularly pertaining to the representation of categories such as topic and focus. The aim is to ensure that a wide range of grammatical structures, which are influenced or triggered by Information Structure, can be explained in the most economical manner. The representation of information-structural categories as grammatical features has been widely employed as a means to achieve the desired aim. Specifically, the F-feature for focus was originally introduced by Jackendoff (1983) and has been commonly utilized to initiate word order permutations, as well as determine sentence stress assignment and similar linguistic phenomena. Subsequent advancements in the study of syntax entail the hypothesis of exclusive hierarchical roles for both topic and focus, as formulated by Rizzi (1997), and the usage of optimality-theoretical explanations to elucidate the relationship between the feature of focus and the structure of a given sentence, as presented by Büring (2006). In contemporary times, notable endeavors have been undertaken to systematize the correlation between discourse structure and Information Structure, as postulated by Roberts (2012). The fundamental concept posits that discourse progresses via an array of implied inquiries presently under scrutiny. The Information Structure establishes a connection between the spoken statements and the fundamental queries that underlie them, thereby unveiling the structure of the discourse.

Halliday (1967) introduced the concept of Information Structure in a structured analysis of contextual factors and prosodic elements, thereby establishing a foundational perspective on the topic. The accent patterns observed in English language sentences are a result of intricate interplay between two levels of information structure, namely, given-new (also referred to as information focus) and theme-rheme.

In his framework, Lambrecht (1994) integrated both formal and functional methodologies in the analysis of grammar. The author presented a comprehensive analysis of the subject matter and emphasis, in addition to the cognitive representation of discourse referents, and their impact on linguistic speech structure. The author drew a distinction between the referential and cognitive characteristics, as well as the essential interrelated quality of subject matter and emphasis.



Samko (2016) conducted a dissertation with the objective of investigating the correlation between the form and function of VP-initial word arrangements in English, based on the Minimalist model of syntax. This analysis is constructed through meticulous scrutiny of recurring patterns that are manifested across numerous inversions in diverse contexts. The proposed methodology yields multiple significant revelations concerning the correlation between syntax and pragmatics. The overarching thesis that emerges, as a result, is one that affirms the capacity of syntax to draw upon not only explicit but also implicit references to the discourse context.

Banon and Martin (2019) undertook an investigation employing event-related potentials to explore the function of prediction in Information Structure processing, as well as to evaluate the allocation of Focus - a representation of information that is either novel or salient to the discourse. The investigation focused on exploring the role of prediction in assigning focus in a design that involved the manipulation of phonological features of nouns under focus along with their preceding articles.

In her scholarly work titled "Syntax-Information Structure Interactions in the Sentential, Verbal and Nominal Peripheries" published in 2020, Jiménez-Fernández examines the relationship between Information Structure and syntax. The author delves into the formal aspects of linguistic study to provide a theoretical basis for understanding the distribution of language phenomena such as topic preposing and focus fronting in various languages, with particular attention to English and Spanish. The author delves into the complexities of linguistic structures, specifically the concurrence of syntax and semantics, to explore the variations in the licensure of topics and foci across varying contextual scenarios. Issues such as word order are intricately examined within the discourse. The author elucidates the varying linguistic behaviors in relation to discourse-oriented operations, hereby positing them as the primary focus of analysis.

## METHOD

### Design of the Study

This study is of a qualitative nature, and its methodology can be classified as being corpus-based, utilizing a descriptive-comparative design. The present design is intended for the purpose of naturalistic observation, wherein little information is available concerning a particular phenomenon. In such instances, descriptive or exploratory studies are employed to systematically monitor, depict, and elucidate diverse elements pertaining to the phenomenon. This study employs a descriptive approach to compare the utilization of four distinct syntactic devices pertaining to Information Structure - namely, clefting, pseudo-clefting, passive and preposing - across three distinct genres of spoken the Persian language: political speech, scientific speech, and everyday conversations.

### Corpus of the Study

Within the scope of this investigation, the collections of written materials pertaining to scientific and political genres were obtained from the multimedia repository of the Iranian News Agency (IRNA) website. In order to capture colloquial or vernacular language, the researchers made use of daily conversations by recording and transcribing the everyday discourse of their family and friends.

### **Model of the Study**

The present study applied Lambrecht's (1986, 1994) theoretical framework for representing the Information Structure. As per the aforementioned conceptual framework, Information Structure analysis concerns itself with examining the strategies employed by a speaker in order to systematize a sentence in a manner that enables the communication of novel information in the context of presupposed knowledge. The notion held is that varied languages possess distinct morphological, syntactical, and phonetic elements that serve to convey Information Structure.

### **Instruments**

In order to collect data on the genre of daily conversation, two distinct voice recording instruments were utilized, namely a Samsung MP4 player and an Iphone XS mobile phone. In order to address the research inquiry, descriptive statistics were utilized. A chi-square analysis was employed to examine whether there existed a statistically significant dissimilarity among the frequency distributions of individual syntactic structures within all three genres that were subjected to scrutiny.

### **Procedures**

#### **Data Collection Procedures**

For the purpose of the research, a total of three spoken genres were extracted from two sources mentioned above, resulting in 3000 utterances in the data collection process. In the investigation of the political discourse genre, a sample size of 1,000 spoken statements was subjected to a random selection from the public addresses of four Iranian political dignitaries who were denizens of the Persian language, displaying an average age range of 50-70 years. For the scholarly discourse, a sample comprising 1000 statements was extracted at random from the academic speeches delivered by four native Iranian scholars, ranging in age from 40 to 60 years and including both genders. It should be emphasized that the selected lectures were limited to those that were published between 2015 and 2020 in order to control for potential confounding factors related to language usage variations over time. In relation to informal discourse, the researcher obtained consent from their acquaintances and relatives to document their routine discussions. As a consequence, 1000 instances of vocalized expressions were arbitrarily chosen and formally transcribed. In order to ensure that the findings of the research would be accurately reflective of the designated population, certain variables including age, gender, language, culture, and prior experience were meticulously monitored and regulated.

#### **Data Analysis Procedures**

This study pursued an investigation of the portrayal of syntactic structures within the context of Information Structure, namely... In the present study, three distinct genres were analyzed: specifically, clefting, pseudo-clefting, passive, and proposing. The identification of syntactic devices was the initial step, followed by a comprehensive count of the most frequently employed syntactic structures of Information Structure in each respective genre. The data consisted of 1000 utterances per genre, and the observed frequencies ultimately served as the basis for interpretation. The approach employed in this investigation adheres to established methodologies conventionally used in academic research.



## RESULTS

The results obtained from the analysis of the data are reported in the Tables below.

**Table 1**

*Representation of Different Syntactic Structures in Political Texts*

	<b>Proposed Structures</b>	<b>Passives</b>	<b>Cleft Sentences</b>	<b>Pseudo-clefts</b>
<b>Frequency/Percentage</b>	68	103	73	126

In Table 1, in the political genre of spoken Persian, the highest number of syntactic devices belong to pseudo-clefts ( $f = 126$ ), with passives occupying the second rank ( $f = 103$ , followed by cleft sentences ( $f = 73$ ) and proposed structures ( $f = 68$ ).

**Table 2**

*Representation of Different Syntactic Structures in Scientific Texts*

	<b>Proposed Structures</b>	<b>Passives</b>	<b>Cleft Sentences</b>	<b>Pseudo-clefts</b>
<b>Frequency/Percentage</b>	76	116	29	85

In the scientific corpus, passive structures received the highest frequency ( $f = 116$ ), and the second highest frequency was that of pseudo-clefts ( $f = 85$ ). Proposed structures stood in the third position ( $f = 76$ ), and cleft sentences had the lowest frequency ( $f = 29$ ).

**Table 3**

*Representation of Different Syntactic Structures in Daily Conversations*

	<b>Proposed Structures</b>	<b>Passives</b>	<b>Cleft Sentences</b>	<b>Pseudo-clefts</b>
<b>Frequency/Percentage</b>	109	34	21	69

Here, a large number of proposed structures ( $f = 109$ ) are seen, while the frequencies for passives ( $f = 34$ ) and cleft sentences ( $f = 21$ ) were distinctively lower. Pseudo-cleft sentences in this corpus were found to receive the frequency of 69.

Comparisons among the three spoken Persian genres and among the different types of syntactic devices are provided below.

### Differences in the Representation of Syntactic Structure in the Corpora

What follows is an attempt to make comparisons among the three different genres, and among the four different structures in each genre. Table 4 below shows the representation of preposing, passives, clefting, and pseudo-clefting for the three genres of political, scientific, and daily-conversation spoken Persian, and Table 5 presents the results of chi-square for independence, examining whether the differences among the three genres were considerable enough to reach statistical significance.

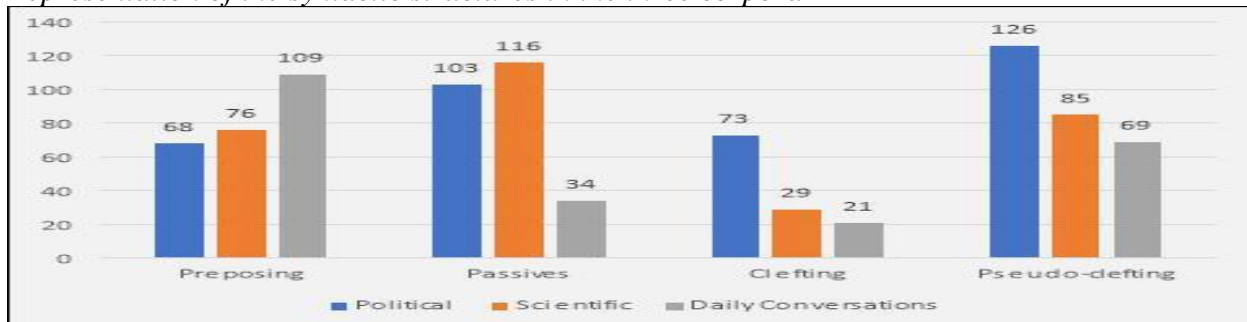


**Table 4***Representation of Different Syntactic Structures in Political, Scientific, and Daily Conversation Texts*

	Preposed Structures	Passives	Cleft Sentences	Pseudo-clefts
<b>Political Genre</b>	68	103	73	126
<b>Scientific Genre</b>	76	116	29	85
<b>Daily Conversations</b>	109	34	21	69

**Table 5***Chi-square Results for Comparing the Representation of Syntactic Structures in Political, Scientific, and Daily Conversation Texts*

	Value	df	Asymptotic(2-sided)	Significance
<b>Pearson Chi-Square</b>	88.788	6	.000	
<b>Likelihood Ratio</b>	86.862	6	.000	
<b>Linear-by-Linear Association</b>	24.389	1	.000	
<b>N of Valid Cases</b>	909			

**Figure 1***Representation of the syntactic structures in the three corpora*

As mentioned above, the bar graph also shows that the four syntactic structures of preposing, passives, clefting, and pseudo-clefting were not evenly distributed in the three genres of political, scientific, and daily conversations: preposing occurred most frequently in daily conversations, passives in scientific texts, and clefting and pseudo-clefts in political texts. To compare the three genres in a pair-wise fashion in this regard, three more chi-squares were run, the results of which are merged and presented in Table 6.

**Table 6***Chi-square Results for Comparing the Representation of Syntactic Structures in Each Pair of Texts*

	Pearson Chi-Square Value	df	Asymptotic Significance(2-sided)
<b>Political-Scientific</b>	22.304	3	.000
<b>Political-Daily Conversations</b>	61.737	3	.000
<b>Scientific-Daily Conversations</b>	44.587	3	.000



As it can be observed in first row of Table 6, political and scientific genres of spoken Persian differed significantly in terms of the distribution of the four syntactic structures under examination ( $p < .05$ ). The same results were obtained for the comparison of political and daily-Representation of Information Structure in Persian Spoken conversation genres ( $p < .05$ ) and also for the pair of scientific and daily-conversations genres ( $p < .05$ ).

In Table 7 below, each syntactic device is compared in a pair-wise fashion across different genres.

**Table 7**

*Chi-square Results for Comparing the Frequencies of Different Syntactic Structures in Each Pair of Texts*

Syntactic Devices	Compared Pairs	Chi-square	df	Sig. (2-tailed)
<b>Preposed Structures</b>	Political-Scientific	.444	1	.505
	Political-Daily Conversations	9.497	1	.002
	Scientific-Daily Conversations	5.886	1	.015
<b>Passives</b>	Political-Scientific	.772	1	.380
	Political-Daily Conversations	34.752	1	.000
	Scientific-Daily Conversations	44.827	1	.000
<b>Cleft Structures</b>	Political-Scientific	18.980	1	.000
	Political-Daily Conversations	28.776	1	.000
	Scientific-Daily Conversations	1.280	1	.258
<b>Pseudo-clefts</b>	Political-Scientific	7.967	1	.005
	Political-Daily Conversations	16.662	1	.000
	Scientific-Daily Conversations	1.662	1	.197

The results presented in Table 7 made it clear that for preposed structures, the difference between political and scientific texts was not statistically significant ( $p = .505 > .05$ ), but the difference between political texts and daily conversations reached statistical significance ( $p = .002 < .05$ ), and so did the difference between scientific texts and daily conversations ( $p = .015 < .05$ ).

Concerning passives, there was no significant difference between political and scientific texts ( $p > .05$ ), but the difference between political texts and daily conversations was of statistical significance, and so was the difference between scientific texts and daily conversations ( $p < .05$ ). Concerning cleft sentences, however, political texts and scientific texts differed significantly, and the same result was also obtained for the political-daily conversations comparison, yet the difference between scientific texts and daily conversations failed to be statistically significant. Finally, in relation to pseudo-clefts, political texts and scientific texts were significantly different. Political texts, in this regard, were also significantly different from daily conversations. Nonetheless, the difference between scientific texts and daily conversations was not of statistical significance.

## DISCUSSION

The present investigation endeavored to provide a response to the specified research query by means of scrutinizing the aforementioned corpora utilizing Lambrecht's (1986, 1994) framework of Information



Structure. The underlying justification for utilizing this particular model stems from its ability to account for the distinct ways that various devices convey Information Structure, such as referential form, morphological marking, prosody, and syntactic devices. Moreover, the model recognizes that the manner in which syntactic devices are employed can be influenced by both the type and genre of the language in question. This may involve either the discretionary reordering of constituents or the utilization of other linguistic devices.

The movement of constituents that are marked for their information-structural properties to specific positions within the clause is deemed a mandatory requirement. The present findings reveal that distinct components of Information Structures, namely passive structure, cleft structure, and preposing, are associated with divergent functions. The concepts of focus, presupposition, and topic form fundamental elements of linguistic discourse analysis, which delves into the study of language use and its functions in communicative contexts. The obtained outcomes have substantiated the aforementioned assumptions upon which the analytical model was established, thereby signifying the significance of syntactic mechanisms, including... The utilization of certain syntactic devices in Information Structure, such as clefting, pseudo-clefting, passive and preposing, is contingent upon the particular language genre. This suggests that the applicability of the model and its entities extends beyond the English language, encompassing other languages such as Persian. The present investigation is distinguished by its originality, as indicated by this discovery. The present observation aligns with the outcome of Modaresi's (2007) examination of Iranian Information Structure by utilizing the identical theoretical structure. Modaresi demonstrated that particular syntactic compositions may represent the Information Structure of a sentence. The present study substantiates the overarching conclusion proposed by Jiménez-Fernández (2020) in her work titled "Syntax-Information Structure Interactions in the Sentential, Verbal and Nominal Peripheries", which posits a correlation between Information Structure and syntactic sentence organization.

It is noteworthy to indicate that a plethora of studies have been carried out on Information Structure events and categories in the Persian language, however, the majority of these studies have solely scrutinized one or two syntactical characteristics. Rasekhi (2018) presented a comprehensive syntactic examination of elliptical structures in Persian, highlighting the interplay between feature bundles that authorize ellipsis and Information Structure. Rezai and Hooshmand (2012) conducted a scholarly investigation on the Information Structure present in interrogative sentences, drawing from theoretical principles of Role and Reference Grammar (RRG). Shafiei's (2014) empirical inquiry delved into postposed constituents in Persian, with the aim of ascertaining the fundamental Information Structure paradigm underlying such constructions. One of the notable shortcomings in several research studies is the limited sample size, which has led to definitive conclusions being drawn. Additionally, a meticulous examination of syntactic structures and their corresponding rhetorical implications regarding the representation of Information Structure in Persian spoken genres is still lacking. Indeed, a majority of studies, such as Modaresi (2007), have documented the existence of diverse syntactic structures for conveying Information Structure. However, these studies did not undertake a comprehensive examination of the distinctions between these mechanisms in relation to the portrayal of Information Structure. The present study's results exhibit heightened reliability and generalizability in relation to other comparative studies.



## CONCLUSION

The current investigation aimed to furnish not only a statistical representation concerning the aforementioned variances but also to proffer elucidations for them. The findings of this investigation indicate that conducting an analysis of the syntactic discrepancies present in the three investigated genres is a valuable approach that can be associated with the linguistic principle of Information Structure. By scrutinizing the ways in which information is packaged, researchers can acquire a deeper understanding of the rationale behind the preference for specific grammatical constructions within a particular context. The ultimate objective of the investigation was to elucidate and decipher the apparent variances among the trio of genres through the lens of their respective favored syntactic structures.

The implications derived from the study serve diverse constituencies, namely: 1) linguists whose focus resides in Persian language and linguistics, as well as those engaged in the examination of Persian Information Structure through a comparative lens; 2) education experts concerned with analyzing Persian spoken discourse to enhance language learning and teaching, alongside language theoreticians who specialize in models of natural language and seek to identify Information Structure universals.

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