A Pragmatic Analysis of a Selected 
Presidential Funeral Eulogy

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Abstract
A eulogy, delivered at the crux of pain and happiness, is a transformative language tool that helps to maneuver expressions of grief into more useful emotions that will help those experiencing grief process it properly and appropriately allow it to run its course and accept its many stages. The word “eulogy” is derived from Greek word εὐλογία, which stands for “praise” signifies that it utilizes positive rhetoric in order to focus nostalgia on comforting memories. Eulogy is redemption of dark circumstances, and a persuasive language form which resounds with hope and a look toward a future changed. Eulogy is a persistent language, seeking through wreckage, trauma, and grief to find the thread of hope that will bring society through. Eulogy is composed of many distinctive types, and employs specific literary devices in order to achieve the objective of calming comfort and acceptance. The paper carries out a pragmatic analysis Eulogy used in well-known political figures' funerals.

This study aims at specifying the intended meaning in English eulogy through handling a pragmatic analysis of (eulogy) in the funeral of well-known political figures. It aims also at surveying the types and distribution of eulogia devices in praising speech with specifying the literary aspects that distinguish the meaning of eulogy in such speeches.

The study is limited to the pragmatic analysis of eulogy delivered at Reagan's funeral by President Bush in 2004.

Key words: Eulogy – Culture – Pragmatics - Speech acts

1. Eulogy is a speech or written tribute praising someone who had died, especially one composed for that person’s funeral. The most common and traditional perception of a eulogy is that of post-death rhetoric, memorializing a deceased loved one through the spoken word. In regard to the loss of a loved one, an oratory, or eulogy, is one of the pieces of the puzzle of rituals which are pieced together to form a full picture of closure and consolation. Scholars have noted that funeral eulogies carry a specific weight for the symbolic rituals of the ceremony.
2. Functions of Eulogy

Kent (1997: 15) indicates that eulogies hold three very distinct functions in regards to “funerary literature”:

1- A sociopolitical function of keeping up appearances;
2- A consolatory function whereby the dead are assimilated to those who preceded them and the living are comforted with visions of reunion;
3- A eulogizing function composed largely of laudation and praise.

Eulogies have poignant purpose in this setting such as affirming affection and bonding, as well as seeking “to celebrate, to commemorate, to honor, to dedicate, [and] to mourn” (Ochs, 1993 32). Employing these methods into the eulogy rhetoric renders praise for the deceased and concretes their standing in the community in which they lived prior to death (ibid: 31).

Essentially, a eulogist should seek to leave the bereaved with a sense of pride in knowing the deceased and a strong positive remembrance of that person. A fourth function, which Kent (1997:15) has not addressed, is one that is essential to explain and is also not directly related to the specific person or character of the deceased. A eulogy also functions to ease the tension and fear that is brought to the surface when the survivors of the deceased are presented with the reality of death. When death intersects the lives of a community or a family, they are often left stunned and equally aware of their own individual morality. Eulogies help to shift that focus back onto the positive attributes of the person and leave the bereaved with, like Kent explains, “visions of reunion” (ibid), as opposed to foreboding images of how they themselves will exit their mortal life. When surveying the functions of a eulogy, many scholars agree that the chief concern in an oratory deliverance is to console the audience, with the pairing functions treated as subordinate (Kunkell, 2015: 4). It has been recorded by both lay people and through scientific qualitative research comfort through words “has the potential to motivate substantial changes in the emotional states of distressed others and to result in significantly enhanced mental and physical health” (also defined comforting (or emotional support) as “the type of communicative behavior having the intended function Albrecht, 2012:60). Burleson of alleviating, moderating, or salving the distressed emotional states of others” (ibid: 64).

3. Post-Disaster Eulogy versus Personal Loss Eulogy

The most common eulogy is a post-disaster eulogy, which must be approached with much more consideration of audience. Examining the example of Mayor Giuliani’s address to New York City after the September 11th terror attacks, the functions of this type of eulogy are much more diverse, and can be labeled as a “rhetoric hybrid”
(Jamieson). In comparing, a **personal loss eulogy** with a post-disaster eulogy, there is a possible shift in audience. Typically, a eulogy for a single funeral is delivered to a group of loved ones in a ceremony, whereas a eulogy after a disaster is a public address. However, it is possible to deliver both types of eulogies in a public, or even global, forum, such as when a public official or well-known celebrity or leaders passes away. One major deviance between the two is that for the use of public post-disaster eulogies, the speaker may simultaneously be attempting more than simple comfort. A eulogist in those situations must be aware of the multiple audience types that may or may not be in the audience. For example, Mayor Giuliani gave a eulogy at Yankee Stadium after the World Trade Center was attacked, but was sure that the event was not seen as simply a memorial, since many of the audience members were still hopeful for more survivors, and that hope, in the essence of a true eulogy, should be preserved by the speaker (Kunkell, 2015: 2).

In addition to considering more audience types, a post-disaster eulogy also may employ a call to action, a way “to advance agendas in addition to memorializing the deceased” (ibid:4). In the case of Mayor Giuliani, his agenda was to keep the hopes for more survivors alive, to garner support for the first responders, to fundraise for disaster relief, and to “reknit the community” (ibid: 3).

This eulogy tactic can be witnessed for specific legislation movements, as well. President Obama utilized the call for action in a rhetoric hybrid during his eulogy following the Sandy Hook elementary school shootings in Newton, Connecticut in 2012. In his speech, Obama offers all of the aspects that required for a eulogy: and expression of condolences, a thanks to first responders and volunteers, hope for the future, and then ends with a call to action regarding gun safety (or lack thereof) in the United States.

*He says: I've been reflecting on this the last few days, and if we're honest with ourselves, the answer is no. We're not doing enough. And we will have to change. We can't tolerate this anymore. These tragedies must end. And to end them, we must change. … No single law — no set of laws can eliminate evil from the world, or prevent every senseless act of violence in our society. But that can't be an excuse for inaction. Surely, we can do better than this...In the coming weeks, I will use whatever power this office holds to engage my fellow citizens — from law enforcement to mental health professionals to parents and educators — in an effort aimed at preventing more tragedies like this. Because what choice do we have? We can't accept events like this as routine.* (Obama, 2012:3)
The call for action in this case is one that is clear, pointed, and draws on the emotion of the audience to show the importance of that change. Some may view this tactic as distasteful during a time of bereavement, but many also see it as the speakers way of “striking when the iron is hot” and using the moment of vulnerability to expose truth and gain support for an importance cause.

Orators who employ a call to action in a eulogy are acting and speaking in response to the Lazarus theory of appraisal, which states that “the experience of emotion is a complex set of reactions that engages both our minds and our bodies” and that “Crucially, then, emotional distress that results from unalterable circumstances may best be alleviated through an alteration of its antececedent cognitive appraisals” (Kunkell, 2015: 5).

Lazarus posed that there are two ways in which to cope:

1- problem-based coping

2- emotion-based coping

The later addresses and adjusts for the problem causing the emotional distress, and managing the subsequent distress of that cause, respectively. Moreover, coping with a problem may involve changing reality, whereas coping with emotions may require a change in perception. Overlaying this ideal to President Obama’s Sandy Hook eulogy allows one to see and understand how he employs this mechanism. Obama uses problem-based coping by refusing to accept mass shooting, especially those that jeopardize the safety of innocent children, as a societal norm. He calls for legislators to make changes to gun laws, and promises to use his executive powers to do all he can to alter the face of gun violence against the innocent. In order to cope himself, and to guide the nation in coping with the tragedy at Sandy Hook, President Obama offers condolences, shares hurt, and focusing on those who were inspiring and courageous in a time of trauma and peril (Obama, 2012:5).

4. Mechanisms of Eulogy

One of the principle mechanisms of eulogy that puts forth a propelling motion toward closure and comfort is that it is, for the eulogist, a journaling expression which can be a first step in dealing with emotional distress. James Pennebaker (1993:239) delved into this with a study that pinpointed a direct correlation between writing about emotions and successful coping. Not only do eulogists “come to more functional understandings of their situations when they express their feelings about distressful events”(ibid), but also that “constructing a coherent narrative from a chaotic and troubling event makes it more accessible, more understandable, and less foreign” (ibid).

Essentially, the act of writing a eulogy is an organization method to grief that aides in compartmentalization, which leads to clearer
cognitive processes and more fluid and organic coping. This understanding is then imparted onto the audience and, in the best situation, helps those others cope, as well.

5. Objectives of Eulogy
The strategy of eulogia states that the objectives are to organize and publicly disclose emotions, aide in coping, and the departed is lauded. As such, an analysis of those objectives reveals certain frequencies of literary devices, mechanisms, along with semantic and syntactical trends through the different types of eulogies. By combining Pennebaker’s (ibid) urge to self-disclose and Lazarus’ theories of coping cognitively and emotionally, one can assess the potential success rate of a piece of eulogia. The analysis will hinge on a number of criteria including:
1- Establishment of credibility to eulogize; 2- Praise for the deceased; 3- Self-disclosure of emotion; 4- Prescriptions for problem-focused coping in the form of suggested actions; 5- Promotion of emotion-focused coping forms of positive reappraisal; 6- Affirmation of vivid past relationships and continued interactive bonds with the deceased (Kunkell, 2015: 7-8)

6. Pragmatics
Verschueren (1999: 2) defines pragmatics as "a general cognitive, social and cultural perspective on linguistic phenomena in relation to their usage in forms of behavior". O'Grady et al (1996: 305) state that pragmatics investigates the meaning that the speaker intends to communicate by using a particular utterance in a particular context which is understood by the addressee. To Lyons (1981: 164), pragmatics is considered as the study of utterance meaning. Cruse (2006: 3) suggests that an important part of language in use is what people are actually doing with language when they speak; whether they are informing, criticizing, lamenting and so on.
Pragmatics is the study of the relationships between linguistic forms and the users of those forms because it wants us to make sense of people and what they have in mind (Yule. 1996:3). Regarding Trask (1999: 224), pragmatics "studies the ways in which meaning is derived from the interaction of utterances with contexts in which they are used". For Widdowson (1996:130), pragmatics is the study of what people mean by language when they use it in the normal context of social life.

7. Speech Acts
Ayeomoni (2005:7) mentions that ‘The Speech Acts theory and indeed the whole of pragmatic theory is essentially concerned with how interlocutors (speakers and listeners) understand one another in spite of the possibility of their saying what they do not mean, and meaning what they do not say’. Crystal (1992: 362) defines speech act
as "a communicative activity defined with reference to the intentions of a speaker while speaking and the effects achieved on a listener". A wide range of speech acts has been proposed, such as directives e.g. commanding; commissives e.g. promising, and expressives e.g. lamenting. Speech act is "the action or intent that a speaker accomplishes when using language in context, the meaning of which is inferred by hearers" (Fromkin et al, 2007: 560). It is considered as one of the basic ingredients of pragmatics for a long time.

According to Austin (1962), the theory falls into three classes: locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. A locutionary act is defined by Austin (1962: 35) as "the utterance of certain noises, the utterances of certain words and construction, and the utterances are with certain ‘meaning’ in the favorite philosophical sense and a certain ‘reference’ ". Thus, locutionary act is the statement made or uttered. The illocutionary act is regarded as the core of the Speech Acts theory which refers to the social act performed by the speaker while the perlocutionary act is the effect of the speaker's utterance on the hearer, this could be intended or unintended. Searle (1969) classifies illocutionary acts into five types:

**7.1 Directives**

The speaker expects a response from the listener in one way or another. For example, the speaker may make a question, request, order, invitation, advice and begging so they are easy to identify by the presence of a question mark. They express what the speaker wants (Yule, 1996:54) and (Al-Dulaimi, 2010:22).

**7.2 Commissives**

Commissives are those speech acts that are used by the speakers in order to commit themselves to a future action. They express what the speaker intends to do. (Yule, 1996:54) and (Meyer, 2009:50). Such acts are also referred to as intended acts. They are performed through a relatively small class of verbs like (offer, promise, swear, volunteer, vow, plan, bet and oppose).

**7.3 Declaratives**

AL-Dulaimi (2010: 2) states that declaratives speech depends on elaborate extra-linguistic institution. These acts alter the world such as declaring, informing, etc. Searle (1969:22) states that declarative speech acts are statements that bring about a change in condition or status to an object by virtue of the statement itself. Such as, a statement declaring war or a statement that someone is fired. At the time the speaker utters the words, a change in the listener's world is happened. Immediately the prelocutionary effect is felt on the listener. The class includes betting, declaring, resigning, passing a sentence, answering, appointing, nominating, applying, etc. These speech acts
are considered uncommon. Therefore, the frequency of using these speech acts is very low.

7.4 Expressives
Searle (1976: 12) argues that the illocutionary point of this class is to express the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about a state of affairs specified in the propositional content. The paradigms of expressive verbs are "lament", "deplore", "mourn"," apologize", "welcome", "thank" and so on. Such acts express the psychological states and can reflect different feelings such as sadness, happiness, love, hate and pain (Lyons, 1981: 142). Meyer (2009: 50) states that expressive means that the speaker expresses his attitudes.

7.5 Represantatives/ Assertives
According to Searle, a Representative speech act is used to commit the speaker to the truth of an expressed proposition (Al-Dulaimi, 2010:22). It represents the speaker’s belief of something that can be under evaluation to be considered as true or false. A sentence is considered a Representative speech act only when the writer expresses his belief explicitly (Searle, 1976: 10). Representative speech acts are called assertive too because they reflect the speaker’s as well as the narrative belief. It is this kind of speech act that resembles Austin’s constative utterance. The speaker asserts a proposition that represent a condition or a state of affairs that in principle could be true or false. They are statements of fact, getting the viewer to form or attend a belief. Here, the speaker’s words reveal his beliefs about external world. English verbs that function as explicit assertive include: report, predict, inform, accuse, testify, confess, state, swear, criticize, complain, etc... Verbs that express assertive speech acts differ from one another by strength of the assertion.

Figure (1) Adopted model
8. Research Methodology
The eulogy of Bush lamenting the death of Ronald Reagan, former president of the United States was downloaded from the internet and analyzed based on Speech Acts theory of Austin (1962) and Searle (1969) classification of illocutionary speech acts.

9. Speech act Analysis
Utterance 1
Locution: We lost Ronald Reagan only days ago, but we have missed him for a long time.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: declarative (stating)
ii. Indirect: assertive (confirming)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 2
Locution: We have missed his kindly presence, that reassuring voice and the happy ending we had wished for him.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
ii. Indirect: expressive (deploring)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow
Utterance 3
Locution: It has been ten years since he said his own farewell; yet it is still very sad and hard to let him go.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (deploring)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 4
Locution: Ronald Reagan belongs to the ages now, but we preferred it when he belonged to us.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (deploring)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 5
Locution: In a life of good fortune, he valued above all the gracious gift of his wife, Nancy.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: declarative (declaring)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (appreciating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 6
Locution: During his career, Ronald Reagan passed through a thousand crowded places; but there was only one person, he said, who could make him lonely by just leaving the room.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (appreciating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 7
Locution: America honors you, Nancy, for the loyalty and love you gave this man on a wonderful journey, and to that journey's end.
Illocutionary:i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (thanking)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 8
Locution: Today, our whole nation grieves with you and your family.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (deploring)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 9
Locution: When the sun sets tonight off the coast of California, and we lay to rest our 40th President, a great American story will close.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: declarative (declaring)
   ii. Indirect: commissive (planning)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 10
Locution: The second son of Nell and Jack Reagan first knew the world as a place of open plains, quiet streets, gas-lit rooms, and carriages drawn by horse.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 11
Locution: If you could go back to the Dixon, Illinois of 1922, you'd find a boy of 11 reading adventure stories at the public library, or running with his brother, Neil, along Rock River, and coming home to a little house on Hennepin Avenue.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 12
Locution: That town was the kind of place you remember where you prayed side by side with your neighbors, and if things were going wrong for them, you prayed for them, and knew they'd pray for you if things went wrong for you.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 13
Locution: The Reagan family would see its share of hardship, struggle and uncertainty.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 14
Locution: And out of that circumstance came a young man of steadiness, calm, and a cheerful confidence that life would bring good things.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 15
Locution: The qualities all of us have seen in Ronald Reagan were first spotted 70 and 80 years ago.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 16
Locution: As a lifeguard in Lowell Park, he was the protector keeping an eye out for trouble.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 17
Locution: As a sports announcer on the radio, he was the friendly voice that made you see the game as he did.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 18
Locution: As an actor, he was the handsome, all-American, good guy, which, in his case, required knowing his lines -- and being himself.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 19
Locution: Along the way, certain convictions were formed and fixed in the man.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 20
Locution: Ronald Reagan believed that everything happened for a reason, and that we should strive to know and do the will of God.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 21
Locution: He believed that the gentleman always does the kindest thing. He believed that people were basically good, and had the right to be free.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 22
Locution: He believed that bigotry and prejudice were the worst things a person could be guilty of.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 23
Locution: He believed in the Golden Rule and in the power of prayer.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 24
Locution: He believed that America was not just a place in the world, but the hope of the world.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 25
Locution: And he believed in taking a break now and then, because, as he said, there's nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 26
Locution: Ronald Reagan spent decades in the film industry and in politics, fields known, on occasion, to change a man.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 27
Locution: But not this man. From Dixon to Des Moines, to Hollywood to Sacramento, to Washington, D.C., all who met him remembered the same sincere, honest, upright fellow.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 28
Locution: Ronald Reagan's deepest beliefs never had much to do with fashion or convenience.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 29
Locution: His convictions were always politely stated, affably argued, and as firm and straight as the columns of this cathedral.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 30
Locution: There came a point in Ronald Reagan's film career when people started seeing a future beyond the movies.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 31
Locution: The actor, Robert Cummings, recalled one occasion. "I was sitting around the set with all these people and we were listening to Ronnie, quite absorbed.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 32
Locution: I said, 'Ron, have you ever considered someday becoming President?'
Illocutionary: i. Direct: directive (asking)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 33
Locution: He said, 'President of what?'
Illocutionary: i. Direct: directive (asking)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 34
Locution: 'President of the United States,' I said.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 35
Locution: And he said, 'What's the matter, don't you like my acting either?'' (Laughter)
Illocutionary: i. Direct: directive (asking)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: smiling

Utterance 36
Locution: The clarity and intensity of Ronald Reagan's convictions led to speaking engagements around the country, and a new following he did not seek or expect.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 37
Locution: He often began his speeches by saying, "I'm going to talk about controversial things."
Illocutionary: i. Direct: commissive (planning)
ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 38
Locution: And then he spoke of communist rulers as slave masters, of a government in Washington that had far overstepped its proper limits, of a time for choosing that was drawing near.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 39
Locution: In the space of a few years, he took ideas and principles that were mainly found in journals and books, and turned them into a broad, hopeful movement ready to govern.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 40
Locution: As soon as Ronald Reagan became California's governor, observers saw a star in the West -- tanned, well-tailored, in command, and on his way.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 41
Locution: In the 1960s, his friend, Bill Buckley, wrote, "Reagan is indisputably a part of America, and he may become a part of American history."
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 42
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 43
Locution: He came out ahead of some very good men, including one from Plains, and one from Houston.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 44
Locution: What followed was one of the decisive decades of the century, as the convictions that shaped the President began to shape the times.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)  
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 45
Locution: He came to office with great hopes for America, and more than hopes -- like the President he had revered and once saw in person, Franklin Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan matched an optimistic temperament with bold, persistent action.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)  
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 46
Locution: President Reagan was optimistic about the great promise of economic reform, and he acted to restore the reward and spirit of enterprise.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)  
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 47
Locution: He was optimistic that a strong America could advance the peace, and he acted to build the strength that mission required.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)  
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 48
Locution: He was optimistic that liberty would thrive wherever it was planted, and he acted to defend liberty wherever it was threatened.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)  
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 49
Locution: And Ronald Reagan believed in the power of truth in the conduct of world affairs.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)  
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 50
Locution: When he saw evil camped across the horizon, he called that evil by its name.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 51
Locution: There were no doubters in the prisons and gulags, where dissidents spread the news, tapping to each other in code what the American President had dared to say.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 52
Locution: There were no doubters in the shipyards and churches and secret labor meetings, where brave men and women began to hear the creaking and rumbling of a collapsing empire.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 53
Locution: And there were no doubters among those who swung hammers at the hated wall as the first and hardest blow had been struck by President Ronald Reagan.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 54
Locution: The ideology he opposed throughout his political life insisted that history was moved by impersonal ties and unalterable fates.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 55
Locution: Ronald Reagan believed instead in the courage and triumph of free men. And we believe it, all the more, because we saw that courage in him.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 56
Locution: As he showed what a President should be, he also showed us what a man should be.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective
Utterance 57
Locution: Ronald Reagan carried himself, even in the most powerful office, with a decency and attention to small kindnesses that also defined a good life.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
  ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 58
Locution: He was a courtly, gentle and considerate man, never known to slight or embarrass others.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
  ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 59
Locution: Many people across the country cherish letters he wrote in his own hand -- to family members on important occasions; to old friends dealing with sickness and loss; to strangers with questions about his days in Hollywood.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
  ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 60
Locution: A boy once wrote to him requesting federal assistance to help clean up his bedroom. (Laughter)
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
  ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: smiling

Utterance 61
Locution: The President replied that, "unfortunately, funds are dangerously low." (Laughter)
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
  ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: smiling

Utterance 62
Locution: He continued, "I'm sure your mother was fully justified in proclaiming your room a disaster. Therefore, you are in an excellent position to launch another volunteer program in our nation. Congratulations." (Laughter)
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
  ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)
Expected Perlocutionary Effect: smiling

Utterance 63
Locution: Sure, our 40th President wore his title lightly, and it fit like a white Stetson.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 64
Locution: In the end, through his belief in our country and his love for our country, he became an enduring symbol of our country.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 65
Locution: We think of his steady stride, that tilt of a head and snap of a salute, the big-screen smile, and the glint in his Irish eyes when a story came to mind.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 66
Locution: We think of a man advancing in years with the sweetness and sincerity of a Scout saying the Pledge.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 67
Locution: We think of that grave expression that sometimes came over his face, the seriousness of a man angered by injustice -- and frightened by nothing.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 68
Locution: We know, as he always said, that America's best days are ahead of us, but with Ronald Reagan's passing, some very fine days are behind us, and that is worth our tears.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: expressive (deploring)
   ii. Indirect: assertive (stating)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 69
Locution: Americans saw death approach Ronald Reagan twice, in a moment of violence, and then in the years of departing light.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: declarative (declaring)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (deploring)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 70
Locution: He met both with courage and grace.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 71
Locution: In these trials, he showed how a man so enchanted by life can be at peace with life's end.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (stating)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 72
Locution: And where does that strength come from?
Illocutionary: i. Direct: directive (asking)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 73
Locution: Where is that courage learned?
Illocutionary: i. Direct: directive (asking)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 74
Locution: It is the faith of a boy who read the Bible with his mom.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 75
Locution: It is the faith of a man lying in an operating room, who prayed for the one who shot him before he prayed for himself.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: reflective

Utterance 76
Locution: It is the faith of a man with a fearful illness, who waited on the Lord to call him home. Illocutionary: i. Direct: assertive (describing)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (praising)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow

Utterance 77
Locution: Now, death has done all that death can do.
Illocutionary: i. Direct: declarative (declaring)
   ii. Indirect: expressive (deploring)

Expected Perlocutionary Effect: sorrow
Utterance 78
Locution: and as Ronald Wilson Reagan goes his way, we are left with the joyful hope he shared. **Illocutionary:**  
   i. **Direct:** expressive (deploring)  
   ii. **Indirect:** assertive (concluding)  
**Expected Perlocutionary Effect:** hopefulness

Utterance 79
Locution: And In his last years, he saw through a glass darkly.  
**Illocutionary:**  
   i. **Direct:** expressive (sympathizing)  
   ii. **Indirect:** assertive (stating)  
**Expected Perlocutionary Effect:** sorrow

Utterance 80
Locution: Now he sees his Savior face to face.  
**Illocutionary:**  
   i. **Direct:** declarative (declaring)  
   ii. **Indirect:** assertive (concluding)  
**Expected Perlocutionary Effect:** hopefulness

Utterance 81
Locution: And we look to that fine day when we will see him again, all weariness gone, clear of mind, strong and sure, and smiling again, and the sorrow of his parting gone forever.  
**Illocutionary:**  
   i. **Direct:** assertive (asserting)  
   ii. **Indirect:** directive (wish)  
**Expected Perlocutionary Effect:** hopefulness

Utterance 82
Locution: May God bless Ronald Reagan, and the country he loved  
**Illocutionary:**  
   i. **Direct:** directive (request)  
   ii. **Indirect:** commissive (praying)  
**Expected Perlocutionary Effect:** hopefulness

10. Interpretation of the analysis:
   The analysis carried out above was classified according to Searle's (1969) and Austin's (1962) models of analysis. Table No. (1) illustrated the five categories mentioned in Searle’s classification:

**Table No. (1) Frequencies of occurrence of speech acts according Searle's (1969) model:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Directives</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Commisives</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Assertives</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.268%</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.829%</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.658%</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>27.439%</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>61.585%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As shown in the above table only 7, 3, 6 out of 164 direct and indirect speech acts function as directives, commissives and declaratives making respectively 4.268%, 1.829 and 3.658 frequency of occurrence. This low frequency can be understood only when the relationship between the nature of the text the functions of directives, commissives and declaratives are explained. In fact the text under
study is a eulogy delivered by the president of the USA, Bush, in the funeral ceremony of late president Ronald Reagan in June 2004. As a matter of fact a eulogy text reflects the life story, achievements and good characteristics of the deceased. It is an emotive narration about the deceased. No or very low instructions or orders and even advices can be given to the audience. Thus, there is a very low space for such kinds of speech acts in eulogy. Directive speech acts seems to appear in a form of questions which do not need any answer by the side of the audience. Yet, such questions function as assertion in order to state certain propositions to the hearers. While the least percentage goes to commissives because they convey the addresser's intention (Verschueren: 1999:132) and are related to the future. There are only three commissive speech acts in the text under study since the one who delivered the eulogy speech is not intended to do anything in the future other than giving an emotional description about the deceased in the present time. Examining declarative speech acts and recognizing the relationship between the communicative message of the text under study and the function of declaration, it is found that this low frequency dues to the purpose for which the speech was delivered. It is about the eulogy speech which includes announcement of the death of a previous well-known president and actor at the same time. But, its main function is not the announcement of the death other than lamenting the deceased.

The fair frequency of occurrence goes to expressives which shows 45 out of 164 speech acts and percentage of 27.439% since expressives are used to express the psychological states of the addresser and the discourse under study can be addressed as (sorrow showing) as most of expressive speech acts in this texts are used to express sorrow. This proves that there is a fair correspondence between the communicative nature of the discourse under study and expressive category of the speech acts.

One of the strategies of a eulogy text is to describe and state the deceased's life, work achievements and some of his personal characteristics. Consequently, Bush mourns the death of Reagan using performative /assertive speech acts by transmitting information via the words he uses in the context. Since "assertive" indicates the present and past, it can be used as self- explanatory or evaluation. The majority of the eulogy speech acts are representative as Bush uses 101 assertive speech acts, the highest frequency of occurrence among the other categories which is 61.585%.

Table No. (2) Frequencies of occurrence of expressive speech acts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expressive (45)</th>
<th>Praise</th>
<th>Deplore</th>
<th>Appreciate</th>
<th>Thank</th>
<th>Sympathy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>73.33</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>17.77</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>2.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>17.77</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4.44</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The illocutionary aim of expressive is to express the psychological state of some affairs. Through using the expressive, the speaker has to express his psychological state about some affairs such as when he curses, praises, confesses or congratulates, appreciates, deplores or thanks the addressee. (33) examples of illocutionary acts are used for the purpose of ‘praising’ which make the frequency of 73.33%. Bush praises Reagan through stating and describing Reagan's speech and characteristics as in utterance No. 27 and 45. By examining the relationship between the type of text under study and the praising illocutionary purpose of the expressive category, one can understand the high frequency of concurrence of this kind of purposes. Since a eulogy entails retelling memories that are shared between the speaker and the deceased, it can include good memories, impressions, and experiences which are in one way or another implying a meaning of praise.

The second level percentage of the illocutionary purpose of expressive categories is ‘deploring’. Highlighting the relation between the communicative purpose of the text as well as the occasions in which such text is supposed to be delivered; one can conclude that such speech is delivered in a sad occasion (death-funeral ceremony). In spite of the overall nature of such circumstances of sorrow, yet such kind of occasions are affected by culture. In some cultures there is no place for anything but grief, yet, in other cultures, people appeared in the ceremony try to recall the good memories and experiences of the deceased in such a way that they give comfort and inspiration.

The other three purposes are appreciate, thank and sympathy which make (2, 1 and 1) out of (45) expressive speech acts and show the frequency of occurrence of (4.44, 2.22 and 2.22 respectively). As a matter of fact, such illocutionary acts have nothing to do with such texts as the occasion does not require such forces.

Table No. (3) Frequencies of Occurrence of Assertive Speech Acts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assertive (101)</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Describe</th>
<th>Conclude</th>
<th>Confirm</th>
<th>Assert</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>74.25%</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21.78%</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.98%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assertive speech acts are known as representative speech acts since they reflect the speaker’s and the narrative belief. According to Searle, the purpose of assertive class is that the speaker wants to make the listener believe the truth he/she said. The speaker asserts a proposition that represents a condition or a state of affairs that in principle could be true or false. In such kind of speech acts reveals the speaker's belief about external world. English verbs that function as explicit assertive include: report, predict, inform, accuse, testify, confess, state, swear, criticize, complain, etc. (Searle, 1985: 39).
These various verbs differ from one another by force or strength of the assertion.

Concluding, confirming and asserting show the lowest percentage of frequency of occurrence in the text as they make (2, 1 and 1) corresponding to (1.98%, 0.99% and 0.99% respectively). Utterances No.78 and 80 are good examples of concluding assertive speech acts. Bush gives a conclusion to what their status will be after the death of Reagan while in utterance No. 81, he asserts his conclusion in a direct way yet indirectly he expresses his wishes to meet him again in the other world. In utterance (1), Bush declares directly the death of Reagan and at the same time confirms his death indirectly. The rest of assertive speech acts are divided between descriptive and stative.

The fair number and occurrence percentage go to the descriptive assertive speech acts which is (22, 21.78%) due to the nature of the text under study. It is naturally to find a fair number of descriptive speech acts as one of the purposes of eulogia texts is to describe the career, personal characteristics of the deceased person. As examples, you can refer to utterances No. 2, 17, and 18.

The highest number of usage as well as the highest frequency of occurrence of assertive acts is that which shows an affair of (stating). They are (75) which make a frequency of occurrence of (74.25%).

Most assertive speech acts in the text under study is a factual statement. Here, Bush gives information about Reagan's life. So, he has performed assertive speech act by transmitting information via the words he uses in the context. Thus, via assertive, the speaker wishes to give a piece of information that usually corrects the reader’s knowledge and expectations of the word. Assertive Speech acts are also known as representative speech acts because they reflect the speaker’s belief. As a matter of example, you can refer to various utterances analyzed above.

Table No. (4) Frequencies of occurrence of Direct and Indirect Illocutionary Speech Acts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Directive</th>
<th>Commissive</th>
<th>Declarative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
<td>Direct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7.317%</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.012%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table No. (5) Frequencies of occurrence of Expressive and Assertive Speech Acts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Expressive</th>
<th>Assertive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Direct</td>
<td>Indirect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3.658%</td>
<td>51.219%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

John R. Searle (1969: 60) characterized indirect speech acts by the fact that there is no direct link between their linguistic form and illocutionary meaning. In indirect speech acts, the form differs from
the function. An indirect speech act, says Searle, is the one that is performed “by means of another”. Usually, in these cases, the indirect speech act carries meaning in the utterance, but the intended force in the speech act has a secondary meaning as well. As Searle (1975) stated, when a speaker utters a sentence, he does not only mean what he says, but he also means something more. He (1969: 61) states in his theory of speech acts that the speaker communicates the non-literal as well as the literal meaning to the hearer. He puts emphasis on the hearer. Yule (1996:54-55) clarifies that a direct speech act is used whenever there is direct relationship between structure and function of the utterance and that indirect speech act is used whenever there is an indirect relationship between structure and function. The implicit meaning of an utterance can be concluded from its literal meaning. But according to the relevance theory, the process of interpretation of indirect speech acts does not differ from the process of interpretation of direct speech acts. To choose between a direct and indirect speech act, the speaker should take into consideration the following factors:

1- Social distance between the speaker and the hearer.
2- The power of the hearer over the speaker.
3- The degree to which a certain face-threatening act is rated an imposition in a specific culture.

Sociolinguistic research concludes that educated people use indirect speech acts more than direct ones. Indirect speech acts can serve different communicative intentions according to the speaker. Thus, a sentence having the syntactic form of a question may express various illocutionary forces such as suggestion, request, reproach, order, invitation, etc. It is impossible to reach a high level of linguistic competence without understanding the nature of indirect speech acts and knowing typical indirect speech acts of a particular language. Searle (1976:12) introduces, in his theory of speech acts, the notion of an indirect speech act. In indirect speech acts, the speaker conveys to the hearer more than he actually says depending on their mutual background information, together with the general powers of rationality and inference on the part of the hearer. Yet, direct speech acts is manifested whenever there is a direct relation between a structure and a function.

Going back to analyze the findings of table No. (4), the five categories of speech acts according to Searle’s (1969) model are used concerning (in)directness.

The frequencies of occurrence of speech acts which are categorized as direct directive (6–7.317%), indirect directive (1 – 0.012%), direct commissive (1 – 0.012%), indirect commissive (2 – 2439%), direct declarative (6 – 7.317%) and indirect declarative (0-0%) in table No. (4) are very low. Hence, neglecting these occurrences...
does not affect the results of the analysis. The reason behind the low percentage is that the expressive assertive nature of the discourse under study does not correspond with the communicative message of these kinds of speech acts.

On the other hand, The table shows that assertive direct and indirect illocutionary acts label high percentage of occurrence as the frequency of occurrence of direct assertive speech acts is (66 - 80.487%) and (37 - 45.121%) for the indirect assertive speech acts while the frequency of expressive indirect speech acts is (42- 51.219%). As a matter of fact, the high frequency of expressives and assertives can be due to the politician’s strategy for adding credibility to their speeches, and in that way, swaying public opinion to serve the politician’s interest; conversely, establishing the relation between the use/lack of these illocutionary acts and the politician’s commitment to actions can be a method for exposing the politician’s lack of credibility and accountability.

Table No. (5) Frequencies of Occurrence of Expected Perlocutionary Effects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expected Perlocutionary Effects</th>
<th>Reflecting</th>
<th>Smiling</th>
<th>Hopefulness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>No.</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>78.048 %</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12.195 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The neglected field in speech acts theory – perlocutionary act. Through the analysis of the nature of language, its importance and the characteristics of it can be seen. It is the bringing about of effects on the audience by means of uttering the sentences, such effects being special to the circumstances of utterance. Two kinds of perlocutionary acts can be distinguished: the purpose of speaker and the factual effect. When the purpose of the speaker consists with the effect, this is not only the communication, but also the interaction. i.e. successful perlocutionary act. Otherwise, it is only an interaction, not a communication. Examples of such acts are: scare, anger, sorrow, smile, hope, happiness, joy, scream, laugh, etc. The text under study shows four expected perlocutionary acts: reflecting, sorrow, smiling and hopefulness. Table (5) shows the frequencies of occurrence as: (64 -87.048%), (10 – 12.195%), (5 - 6.079%) and (3 – 3.658%) respectively. It is obvious that ‘reflecting’ perlocutionary acts have the highest percentage of occurrence since listeners throughout the period of the speech show their ability to reflect their feelings from body cues (non-verbal) as well as verbal messages. In other words, the listeners show the ability to identify their feelings both from the words and the non-verbal cues, for example body language, tone of voice, etc. This high percentage of reflective response appears due to the speaker's
authority on the listeners (the president who has the highest authority delivered his speech) as well as the situation itself (funeral ceremony) which requires an atmosphere of inspiring, praying, sorrow apart from any unacceptable noises or responses.

11. Conclusions

According to the analysis made above, the following conclusions could be recognized:
1- In analyzing the frequencies of occurrence of the illocutionary speech acts, Searle (1969) speech acts model was followed basing on the communicative nature of the text under study. Since the selected discourse is a ‘eulogy’, it is expressive assertive by nature. The results show that the highest frequency of occurrence is that of ‘assertives’ which make (101 - 61.585%) followed by ‘expressive’ (45 - 27.439%). Other occurrences are of low frequency: directives (7- 4.268%), comissives (3 - 1.829%) and declaratives (6 - 3.658%). Consequently, they show no significant representation in the results since messages conveyed by such acts do not usually meet the nature of eulogies and hence the selected text.

2- Due to the expressive nature of the discourse under study, expressive acts are categorized as praise, deplore, appreciate, thank and sympathy having frequencies of occurrence: (33 - 73.33%), (8 - 17.77%), (2- 4.44%), (1 - 2.22%) and (1 - 2.22%) respectively. Praising acts have the highest frequency since the selected discourse is one of eulogy delivered at the funeral ceremony of President Ronald Reagan. The addresser, President Bush mourns his death praising his character and his great role in upgrading America and its people.

3- The selected discourse is rich of ‘assertive’ speech acts showing the highest frequency of occurrence as stated above. These acts are categorized as: ‘state’ with frequency of occurrence (75 - 74.25%), ‘describe’ (22 - 21.78%), ‘conclude’ (2 - 1.98%), ‘confirm’ (1 - 0.99%) and ‘assert’ (1 - 0.99%). State assertive acts are highly performed since the text under study is a factual statement. Descriptive assertive acts show a fair number of occurrence percentage. This is because the main purpose of eulogy is to describe the characteristics of the deceased person.

4- The frequencies of occurrence of the direct speech acts (except ‘assertives’) according to Searle (1969), namely, directive, commissive, declaration, and expressive are very low. They are (6-7.317%), (1 - 0.012%), (6 - 7.317%) and (3 - 3.658%) respectively. Furthermore, no difference is identified when a comparison is conducted between direct and indirect representations of the above mentioned speech acts (except
The frequencies of occurrence of indirect speech acts are: “directives” (1 – 0.012%), “commissives” (2 – 2.439%) and “declaratives” (0 -0%).

5- The frequencies of occurrence of the indirect speech acts (except ‘expressives’ and ‘assertives’) show no significant percentages. The frequencies of occurrence are: ‘indirect directives’ (1- 0.012%), ‘indirect commissives’ (2 – 2.439%) and indirect declaratives’ (0 – 0%). The discourse under study is mainly categorized as ‘expressive assertive’ as mentioned before, where the politician’s strategy is to add credibility to their speeches expressing and asserting public opinions to serve the politician’s interest. This can be a reasonable justification for the high frequencies of occurrence of ‘indirect expressives’ (42 - 51.219%), ‘direct assertives’ (66 – 80.487%) and ‘indirect assertives’ (37 – 45.121%).

Austin’s (1962) defines “perlocutionary” act as the effect on hearers of locutionary acts and illocutionary acts stating the important role in the message conveyed. Analyzing the selected discourse reveals the frequencies of four types of expected perlocutionary acts, namely, ‘reflecting’ (64 - 78.048%), ‘sorrow’ (10 - 12.195%), ‘smiling’ (5 – 6.079%) and ‘hopefulness’ (3 – 3.658%). The results indicate that ‘reflecting’ acts have the highest frequency due to factors where the addressee has authority on the listeners requiring psychological emotions that they may reflect through body gestures and non-verbal acts. The analysis also show low frequencies of occurrence of other categories reflecting non-verbal acts as sorrow, hopefulness and smile which are part of the communicative nature of the discourse under study.

6-Through the analysis of the President’s speech, readers are better equipped in the application of Speech Acts theory to speeches. Hence, further study on pragma-stylistics is recommended in strong terms for all forms of political discourses, especially, through the linguistic framework of Speech Acts theory.

Bibliography


Appendix
June 11, 2004

President Bush's Eulogy at Funeral Service for President Reagan

Eulogy at National Funeral Service for Former President Ronald Wilson Reagan

The National Cathedral
Washington, D.C.

We lost Ronald Reagan only days ago, but we have missed him for a long time. We have missed his kindly presence, that reassuring voice, and the happy ending we had wished for him. It has been ten years since he said his own farewell; yet it is still very sad and hard to let him go. Ronald Reagan belongs to the ages now, but we preferred it when he belonged to us.

In a life of good fortune, he valued above all the gracious gift of his wife, Nancy. During his career, Ronald Reagan passed through a thousand crowded places; but there was only one person, he said, who could make him lonely by just leaving the room.

America honors you, Nancy, for the loyalty and love you gave this man on a wonderful journey, and to that journey's end. Today, our whole nation grieves with you and your family.

When the sun sets tonight off the coast of California, and we lay to rest our 40th President, a great American story will close. The second son of Nell and Jack Reagan first knew the world as a place of open plains, quiet streets, gas-lit rooms, and carriages drawn by horse. If you could go back to the Dixon, Illinois of 1922, you'd find a boy of 11 reading adventure stories at the public library, or running with his brother, Neil, along Rock River, and coming home to a little house on Hennepin Avenue. That town was the kind of place you remember where you prayed side by side with your neighbors, and if things were going wrong for them, you prayed for them, and knew they'd pray for you if things went wrong for you.

The Reagan family would see its share of hardship, struggle and uncertainty. And out of that circumstance came a young man of steadiness, calm, and a cheerful confidence that life would bring good things. The qualities all of us have seen in Ronald Reagan were first spotted 70 and 80 years ago. As a lifeguard in Lowell Park, he was the protector keeping an eye out for trouble. As a sports announcer on the radio, he was the friendly voice that made you see the game as he did. As an actor, he was the handsome, all-American, good guy, which, in his case, required knowing his lines -- and being himself.

Along the way, certain convictions were formed and fixed in the man. Ronald Reagan believed that everything happened for a reason, and that we should strive to know and do the will of God. He believed that the gentleman always does the kindest thing. He believed that people
were basically good, and had the right to be free. He believed that bigotry and prejudice were the worst things a person could be guilty of. He believed in the Golden Rule and in the power of prayer. He believed that America was not just a place in the world, but the hope of the world.

And he believed in taking a break now and then, because, as he said, there's nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse.

Ronald Reagan spent decades in the film industry and in politics, fields known, on occasion, to change a man. But not this man. From Dixon to Des Moines, to Hollywood to Sacramento, to Washington, D.C., all who met him remembered the same sincere, honest, upright fellow. Ronald Reagan's deepest beliefs never had much to do with fashion or convenience. His convictions were always politely stated, affably argued, and as firm and straight as the columns of this cathedral.

There came a point in Ronald Reagan's film career when people started seeing a future beyond the movies. The actor, Robert Cummings, recalled one occasion. "I was sitting around the set with all these people and we were listening to Ronnie, quite absorbed. I said, 'Ron, have you ever considered someday becoming President?' He said, 'President of what?' 'President of the United States,' I said. And he said, 'What's the matter, don't you like my acting either?'" (Laughter.)

The clarity and intensity of Ronald Reagan's convictions led to speaking engagements around the country, and a new following he did not seek or expect. He often began his speeches by saying, "I'm going to talk about controversial things." And then he spoke of communist rulers as slavemasters, of a government in Washington that had far overstepped its proper limits, of a time for choosing that was drawing near. In the space of a few years, he took ideas and principles that were mainly found in journals and books, and turned them into a broad, hopeful movement ready to govern.

As soon as Ronald Reagan became California's governor, observers saw a star in the West -- tanned, well-tailored, in command, and on his way. In the 1960s, his friend, Bill Buckley, wrote, "Reagan is indisputably a part of America, and he may become a part of American history."

Ronald Reagan's moment arrived in 1980. He came out ahead of some very good men, including one from Plains, and one from Houston. What followed was one of the decisive decades of the century, as the convictions that shaped the President began to shape the times. He came to office with great hopes for America, and more than hopes -- like the President he had revered and once saw in person, Franklin
Roosevelt, Ronald Reagan matched an optimistic temperament with bold, persistent action. President Reagan was optimistic about the great promise of economic reform, and he acted to restore the reward and spirit of enterprise. He was optimistic that a strong America could advance the peace, and he acted to build the strength that mission required. He was optimistic that liberty would thrive wherever it was planted, and he acted to defend liberty wherever it was threatened. And Ronald Reagan believed in the power of truth in the conduct of world affairs. When he saw evil camped across the horizon, he called that evil by its name. There were no doubters in the prisons and gulags, where dissidents spread the news, tapping to each other in code what the American President had dared to say. There were no doubters in the shipyards and churches and secret labor meetings, where brave men and women began to hear the creaking and rumbling of a collapsing empire. And there were no doubters among those who swung hammers at the hated wall as the first and hardest blow had been struck by President Ronald Reagan.

The ideology he opposed throughout his political life insisted that history was moved by impersonal ties and unalterable fates. Ronald Reagan believed instead in the courage and triumph of free men. And we believe it, all the more, because we saw that courage in him. As he showed what a President should be, he also showed us what a man should be. Ronald Reagan carried himself, even in the most powerful office, with a decency and attention to small kindnesses that also defined a good life. He was a courtly, gentle and considerate man, never known to slight or embarrass others. Many people across the country cherish letters he wrote in his own hand -- to family members on important occasions; to old friends dealing with sickness and loss; to strangers with questions about his days in Hollywood. A boy once wrote to him requesting federal assistance to help clean up his bedroom. (Laughter.) The President replied that, "unfortunately, funds are dangerously low." (Laughter.) He continued, "I'm sure your mother was fully justified in proclaiming your room a disaster. Therefore, you are in an excellent position to launch another volunteer program in our nation. Congratulations." (Laughter.)

Sure, our 40th President wore his title lightly, and it fit like a white Stetson. In the end, through his belief in our country and his love for our country, he became an enduring symbol of our country. We think of his steady stride, that tilt of a head and snap of a salute, the big-screen smile, and the glint in his Irish eyes when a story came to mind. We think of a man advancing in years with the sweetness and sincerity of a Scout saying the Pledge. We think of that grave expression that sometimes came over his face, the seriousness of a man angered by
injustice -- and frightened by nothing. We know, as he always said, that America's best days are ahead of us, but with Ronald Reagan's passing, some very fine days are behind us, and that is worth our tears. Americans saw death approach Ronald Reagan twice, in a moment of violence, and then in the years of departing light. He met both with courage and grace. In these trials, he showed how a man so enchanted by life can be at peace with life's end.

And where does that strength come from? Where is that courage learned? It is the faith of a boy who read the Bible with his mom. It is the faith of a man lying in an operating room, who prayed for the one who shot him before he prayed for himself. It is the faith of a man with a fearful illness, who waited on the Lord to call him home.

Now, death has done all that death can do. And as Ronald Wilson Reagan goes his way, we are left with the joyful hope he shared. In his last years, he saw through a glass darkly. Now he sees his Savior face to face.

And we look to that fine day when we will see him again, all weariness gone, clear of mind, strong and sure, and smiling again, and the sorrow of his parting gone forever. May God bless Ronald Reagan, and the country he loved.

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