



AN INVESTIGATION OF LINGUISTIC VARIATIONS IN PAKISTANI ENGLISH FICTION WRITING: A MULTIDIMENSIONAL CORPUS-BASED STUDY

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Abstract

The study at hand aims to examine how Pakistani English novelists employ diverse linguistic features to distinguish Pakistani English as a unique variety. This research adopts a multidimensional analysis of Pakistani English novels authored by different novelists to investigate linguistic variations among them and discern the features that characterize the language used in novels. To this end, a corpus containing six Pakistani English novels has been meticulously compiled, encompassing a total of 439,367 words. The data has been subjected to a quantitative exploratory approach, and thorough tagging and analysis have been conducted using MAT tagger based on Biber's multidimensional model for studying linguistic variation. Five textual dimensions have been scrutinized by employing calculated z-scores. It is essential to recognize that the study's scope is confined to six English novels written by diverse Pakistani authors, thus excluding other genres of Pakistani fiction writings. Consequently, while the findings offer valuable insights into linguistic variations, they may not represent the entire spectrum of Pakistani English literature. The results of the analysis reveal intriguing patterns across the dimensions. The discourse displays informationally dense characteristics in Dimension 1 (D1), signifying a wealth of content and data. Dimension 2 (D2) reflects a narrative nature in the language, suggesting a storytelling quality. Conversely, Dimension 3 (D3) highlights explicit features, emphasizing clarity and directness in expression. Dimension 4 (D4) indicates a less overt expression of persuasion, implying that the novels employ subtler means to influence readers. Lastly, Dimension 5 (D5) reveals a non-abstract form of text type, suggesting a focus on concrete and tangible elements. In conclusion, the research categorizes Pakistani novel writing as "General Narrative Exposition." This insight not only aids in the stylistic analysis of Pakistani English writers' works but also holds the potential to develop linguistic profiles of individual authors. By understanding the distinct narrative styles and linguistic preferences of Pakistani English novelists, this research contributes to the broader study of Pakistani English literature and its unique linguistic characteristics.

Keywords: *Corpus Analysis, Dimensions Categorization, Linguistic Features, Multidimensional Model, Pakistani Novels.*

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1. Introduction

“Linguistic features examined by writing, researchers fall into three large constructs: lexical, syntactic, and cohesion” (McNamara et al., 2010, p. 27 (1), 57-86). On the lexical level, the examination encompasses density, complexity, and formality of lexical features. Syntactic features are specifically relevant to sentence structure. Cohesion, on the other hand, pertains to the ways in which language elements are interconnected to convey meaning. These particular linguistic features are crucial for identifying discourse structures, including claims, arguments, thesis statements, rhetorical moves, and more. It is essential to note that their usage varies according to the specific types of text, with distinct variations observable in each text type. On the other hand, according to Neumann, (2014), “variation can be regarded as an intrinsic characteristic of language and is a problem relevant to all linguistic levels” (p. 1). These variations can be analyzed at different levels, including register variation, lexico-grammatical variation, stylistic variation, patterns of linguistic variations, and genre variation. In the current study, the Fiction Genre of Pakistani English Novels has been analyzed through multidimensional analysis to describe the linguistic characterization. This purpose has been adopted after a thorough study of previous research.

Previous studies are considered essential, as they provide insight into the areas of research that have already been explored. For instance, Abbas, Mahmood, and Asghar (2020) implemented Biber's multidimensional analysis to study register variations in Pakistani written English. Additionally, Abdulaziz, Mahmood, and Asghar (2018) conducted a study on variations in learner's argumentative essays using multidimensional analysis. Ahmad and Mahmood (2015) carried out a comparative study on explicit features of Pakistani press reportage in contrast to British press reportage. Moreover, Azhar, Khalid, and Mahmood (2014) examined gender representation in Pakistan English Fiction (PEF) and British English Fiction (BEF) through corpus-based analysis. Mehmood et al. (2013) analysed gender representation in PEF and BEF by analysing adjectives and adverbs using corpus-based methodology.

Considering the implications and limitations of these previous studies, the current research adopts a corpus-based multidimensional analysis to explore co-occurring linguistic features across Pakistani English novels. The study follows an exploratory quantitative approach and develops a corpus of Pakistani English novels authored by six different writers. For data analysis, the study employs MAT software proposed by Nini (2019), based on Biber's (1988) multidimensional analysis. Statistical techniques like

normalization, z-scores, and dimension scores are applied to analyze the data. Based on the results, the study provides a linguistic description of the dimensions of the text types.

The purpose of the current study is to investigate the linguistic features present in Pakistani English Fiction novels. These features are classified according to dimensions, offering insights into the linguistic characteristics that contribute to the classification of data into specific genres. This clear purpose has defined the research boundaries.

The significance of this research lies in its potential for stylistic analysis of Pakistani English writers' works, providing a deeper understanding of their narrative styles. Additionally, this research holds promise in developing linguistic profiles of individual authors through the obtained results.

By taking these significant points into consideration, the current study aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To investigate the variations in linguistic features within the genre of Pakistani fiction novels.
- To identify the essential role of linguistic features in characterizing the category of text type across different dimensions.

2. Literature review

2.1. Theoretical Background

According to Boampong, (2005), “Besides American Capitalism and technological progress in the 20th century, British colonialism was undoubtedly the main cause for the spread of English throughout the world” (p. 15). This colonial influence inspired nations such as Pakistan, resulting in the growth and appearance of English in numerous parts of their society such as culture, politics, commerce, and education. English has been the official language of Pakistan since its independence in 1947, and it is widely used in government offices, educational institutions, and judicial procedures. Consequently, Pakistan finds itself in the category of countries where English is learned as a second language (ESL) according to Kachru's (1976) three-circle model, placing it in the Outer Circle.

Even though English is not the native language of Pakistan, it is an official language. Over time, its consistent use has given rise to distinctive characteristics that differentiate Pakistani English as a distinct linguistic variant among all other varieties of the English language globally. Despite its uniqueness, Pakistani English is largely unknown on a worldwide scale. Pakistani academics, including Sajid Ahmad, Shakir, Batool, and Shah, have worked to establish Pakistani English as a separate variation to the globe. However, in order to strengthen this thesis, it is necessary to investigate linguistic elements inside Pakistani English books in order to illustrate its distinctiveness and similarities with other standard Englishes on a literary platform.

Several research on Pakistani English literature have been undertaken, utilizing both corpus-based and multidimensional analysis to observe various stylistic and linguistic traits utilized by Pakistani writers. Individual traits such as modal verbs (Mahmood, Batool, Shah, & Parveen, 2013), adjectives (Mahmood, Mahmmod, & Nawaz, 2014), and adjectives and verbs (Mahmood, Parveen, Shah, & Batool, 2013) have been explored in corpus-based analysis. Lexical changes (Sarfranz, 2021), lexical compounding (Ahmad & Ali, 2014), and the usage of "he is" and "she is" in Pakistani and British Fictional English (Azhar, Khalid, & Mehmood, 2014) are also investigated.

In multidimensional analysis, studies have focused on different register variations in Pakistani writings, such as discourse style in Pakistan fiction (Ali & Ahmad, 2017), comparative study on learner's argumentative essays (Abdulaziz, Mahmood, & Azher, 2018), register variation across Pakistan academic writing (Azher & Mehmood, 2016), book blurbs (Qasim, Shakir, & Qasim, 2017), and academic journals of Pakistan (Rashid, Mahmood, & Ahmad, 2017).

Although these studies examined Pakistani English in a variety of genres and contrasted it with other regional writing, it is important to note that none of them expressly took Pakistani novels into account for undertaking a multidimensional study. Prior research frequently examined just one or two linguistic aspects of Pakistani novels and mostly employed multidimensional analysis to make comparisons with other literary works. Given this knowledge vacuum, the current study uses multidimensional analysis to look at linguistic variance in Pakistani English Fictional Novels in an effort to fill it.

2.2. Past studies

2.2.1. Foreign Articles

A corpus-based analysis on the modal verbs, a comparative study of Pakistan and British fiction conducted by Mahmood, Batool, Shah and Parveen, S. (2013). The study was conducted to carry out a comparative analysis of corpus-driven stylistic variation of modal verbs among both Pakistan and British fiction. For this research, 2 million words were collected on fiction, one million for each. Data was tagged with the help of CLAW POS, and the C7 tag set and analysis was done with the help of Antconc software. The data contains both qualitative and quantitative approaches. The research concluded that British modal verbs showed a state of depression, modernity in technology, loneliness and lack of love. On the other hand, Pakistani model verbs indicate diversion in society and social classes and moral deterioration of the society. This research not only studies the modal verbs but also the structure of the culture and society of two different regions. This research has only fictions, not many registers or varieties of language which are its limitations:

Corpus based research on Bapsi Sidhwa's (a Pakistani writer) fictions to find the use of adjectives and its effect in her work. The study is administered by Mahmood,

Mahmmmod and Nawaz, (2014). The origin of this research is USA and the research made on quantitative data included 4 Novels. The analysis has been done through Antconc software. The study illustrates the substantial number of adjectives used in Sidhwa's writing. Some critics also generalize that female writers also use exaggeration and overstatements in their writings and this study also agrees with such statements and endorses sexism. This study is limited to only four novels and is focused on adjectives used by Sidhwa in her writings whether it can study more novels and other linguistic features like modal verbs, hyperbole, to analyze the discourse style of the writer.

Less future studies have been conducted in foreign regarding the MD and corpus-based analysis.

2.3. Pakistan Articles

A corpus-based study on Pakistani and British fictions has been proposed by Mahmood, Parveen, Shah and Batool (2013). The basic intention of this study was to find variations in use of adjectives and verbs and bring forth the representation of "men" and "women" in fictions of both countries. For this purpose, 2 Million words data on PEF and BEF is collected and a qualitative analysis made with the help of Antconc software which concluded that Pakistani novels depicted narrow minded mentality towards women and their role in society is drawn from the negative perspective. On the other hand, British fiction showed moderate and focused on equal rights should be given to both genders and bring the role of women in society in a positive sense for the development of the society. This study did not explore all features used in fictional data which reflects less authentic results.

Sarfraz (2021) proposed a corpus-based study on lexical variation in the Pakistani novel "Twilight in Delhi" written by Ahmad Ali. The purpose of the study on that novel was to investigate language variation in writing due to the code switching of Urdu and English by the writer. It also investigated how language varies from culture to culture, region to region and role of this switching in producing an independent variety of English of Pakistan. For this purpose, a mixed approach of quantitative and qualitative data had been used and data processed through the Antconc software. The results of the study showed that Code switching of Urdu and English language used more frequently in that novel. The writer used the term borrowing which means getting some Urdu words into English but the name of the word remains the same like words Kabab, Pulao, Begam etc. All these words are Urdu words but the writer borrowed them and used them in the same way in his novel which made an impact on a new language variety which is called Pakistani English variety. This study has been conducted only on one novel of Pakistani writers which does not clearly provide an authentic result that this kind of switching done by all Pakistani writers and on the basis of only one novel analysis we cannot conclude that due to only switching in one Novel Pakistan has its own distinctive variety of English

language. The study should be conducted in a broader way so more linguistic features could be explored and conclusion could be done on those results.

Impact of Urduised English on Pakistan English Fiction investigated by Ahmad and Ali (2014) on lexical compounding. The purpose of this research was to study the impact of Urdu novels on English fiction novels and how cultural lexical items of Urdu impacted certain English features. For this a corpus-based study conducted with the help of Antconc software on 1 million words with mixed approach of qualitative and quantitative data. Results of study illustrated that there are a number of Urdu words used in English writing in its pure Urdu form. According to the researcher, this kind of compounding of words used to show the rich culture of Pakistan in its pure form for others to understand and lead to the objective that Pakistan has its own variety of words which is distinguished from other English language varieties which give Pakistan English a distinctive place in world Englishes. This research is a magnificent piece to understand the variation in Pakistani writings but it has the limitation of just using one genre to study the switching impact of Urdu language on English. If this study was made on a vast range of data, it could provide further conclusion on language features of Pakistani writings.

Azhar, Khalid, and Mehmood (2014) made a comparative corpus-based analysis about how the words “he is” and “she is” used in PEF and BEF. The purpose of this study is to make comparative stylistic analysis of gender presentation in terms of status and attitude in PEF and BEF. For this purpose, data of 1 million words collected from both fictions- the Pakistan and British fictions. It was a quantitative data and analysis on this done with the help of Antconc software. Research concluded that in Pakistani fiction women are significantly shown to be emotional, rational towards life, less empowered, inferior, and ordinary, tense, struggling, anxious, screaming and crying as compared to the men. Men are shown to be much more powerful, fearless, strong, and less emotional as compared to British English fiction. This study only conducted on fictional data of both regions, not on all genres of language in which gender representation could be mentioned.

Multidimensional study on registers variation on Pakistan written English has been conducted by Abbas, Mahmood and Asghar (2020). The purpose of their study was to focus on how different registers variation is used in Pakistan writing which uses English as non-native writers. The article was published by PAKISTAN JOURNAL OF SOCIETY, EDUCATION AND LANGUAGE containing 2.1 million words and conducted the analysis with the help of Biber model and Tagger. The study concluded that the data used for analysis has different language varieties than other English language users. The features used by Pakistani writers highly depends upon the situation and capability of the writer who is using those registers. The limitation of this study is that it considered only 29 registers of written not spoken which should be explored as well as written data.

A multidimensional study on discourse style in Pakistani English fiction investigated by Ali and Ahmad (2017). The data of fiction originated from Pakistan that comprises 91 novels and 277 short stories for this research analysis. Goal of this research is to identify new discourse styles in Pakistani fictions through the multidimensional analysis model developed by Biber. It used a quantitative approach for that research. This study analyses in three dimensions by labelling data with different features in different dimensions. In these dimensions, Pakistani Fiction in English has been found to be exhibiting more tilt towards descriptive, abstract and dialogic discourse production in nature, which reflects the particular style of Pakistani writers in depicting non-native culture and indigenous norms of Pakistan. The conclusion of that research showed that Pakistani fictions used more descriptive, abstract and dialogue discourse in writing. This data has the limitation of using two different genres of English literature, which are novels and prose. This study should be further explored by analysing different genres.

The comparative study on learner's argumentative essays conducted by Abdulaziz, Mahmood and Azher (2018), which is a multidimensional analysis to find linguistic variations among the English learners of Pakistan, learners which use English as second language (SL), Native language (NL) and English as foreign language. This study has been conducted by the Government College University, Faisalabad, Pakistan. The data which has been chosen for the analysis contains around 0.7 million words and analysis was done with the help of Biber model and tagger. The quantitative approach was used in this research. Results of study showed that the Language used by the Pakistan learners was less argumentative in comparison with other learners and Pakistan learners have to do much work on writing skills in this regard. Limitation of this study is that it only uses the register of essay writing which is argumentative essays and does not explore all the categories of essays in comparison.

Azher and Mehmood (2016) proposed a multidimensional study on register variation across the academic writing of Pakistan. The purpose of study was to focus on the 67 linguistic features used in Pakistan writing by using the Biber model of multi dimension. For analysis 8.385000 million words were collected and a quantitative approach used on it. Data tagged by Biber tagger. Research concluded that academic writing is highly informational, non-narrative, least explicit, lack of overt persuasion which shows non-argumentative style, impersonal and detached style. This research was conducted only on academic writing of Pakistan which is in the form of writing.

Tremendous researche has been made on literature genres, essays, academic writing, registers etc. There is very limited research conducted on the new textual dimension, such as book blurbs. A multidimensional analysis by Qasim, Shakir and Qasim (2017). investigated on this textual dimension called "Book Blurbs". The purpose of this study was to explore linguistic feature variations across book blurb registers; how

linguistic features co-occur patterns used in that register Biber's multidimensional tagger model was used to analyze 0.4 million words for this purpose. WordSmith Tools was used to generate the corpus, which was then quantitatively analyzed. In this evaluation, researchers divided the analysed data into different dimensions and named the dimensions according to their categories. D1 has all positive features of co-occurrence of adjective, D2 has all positive features of noun, D2 explored that there is a high use of interactional exposition, D3 showed highly informational features. D4 stated that complex clauses are used to convey a personal stance of judgment. Research concluded that Pakistan Book Blurbs used a distinctive linguistic structure than other registers. This research only analysed Book Blurbs to study register variants in Pakistan writing.

A multidimensional analysis proposed by Rashid, Mahmood and Ahmad (2017) on Pakistan journal articles. The study's goal was to examine the various linguistic variances and co-occurrence patterns found in various Pakistani academic journal sections. For this, Biber's multidimensional model is used, data analysed and tagged by Biber's tagger. This research has used both qualitative and quantitative approaches. However, the qualitative approach is dominant. Research concluded that Pakistani academic journals are informational, impersonal, non-narrative, elaborated, explicit, and non-persuasive. This research was conducted only on journal sections of Pakistan.

3. Methodology

3.1. Development of the Corpus

The corpus for this study consists of six Pakistani English Fictional Novels obtained through online sources. These Novels were originally stored in PDF format, demanding manual processing to convert them to notepad files. The corpus has 439,368 words in total, with each novel providing varied word counts, as shown in Table 1 along with their relative percentages.

Table 1 Word Count Contribution of Each Novel in the Corpus with Percentage

Names of Novels	Raw Frequencies of Novels	Percentage of Novels
Cracking India By Bapsi Sidhwa	83148	18.92%
In Other Rooms, Other Wonders by Mueenuddin Daniyal	74040	16.85%
My feudal lord by Tehmina Durrani	116305	26.47%
Salt and Saffron by Kamila Shamsie	67583	15.38%
Season of the Rainbirds by Nadeem Aslam	56499	12.86%

The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid	41792	9.51%
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3.2. Multidimensional Analysis Tagger

The Multidimensional Analysis Tagger (MAT) is computer software that replicates Biber's (1998) Multidimensional Model. It is used to investigate diverse text categories, providing an in-depth examination of the text's linguistic properties. MAT examines data across Biber's model's six dimensions and finds the closest matching text type within the data. The MAT software created by Nini (replicating Biber's 1998 approach) was used to analyse and tag the corpus for this study.

3.3. Procedure of Corpus Analysis

The corpus analysis is done by using Nini's (2014) MAT software, which replicates Biber's original model from 1998. This software generates scores for five dimensions and 60 characteristics, with seven features omitted because dimension six is not analysed.

3.4. Discussion

Important terms to consider in results

3.5. Zscore

It is calculated using normalized data scores. It contains the values of all relevant variables, as well as underuse and overuse features. Zscore values are used to compute dimensions.

3.5.1. Interesting Variables

Nini modal only considers features with a value of 0.2 or higher to be standard interesting variables. Biber, on the other hand, deems the standard interesting variables with a value of 0.3 or higher. Only important variables according to Nini's criterion are collected in tables (which are provided in the dimension discussion), and other variable values are removed. These intriguing factors are both positive and negative, which is important in categorizing the dimensions.

3.5.2. Dimensions Score Calculation

Dimensions score is determined using zscore. It is determined by taking the sum of all feature values that are less than or equal to 2. Each dimension has unique characteristics, which are listed below in the finding's discussion in the interesting variables table.

3.6. Overuse features

In zscores, characteristics with a value of 2 or greater are considered positive. Nini only considers these characteristics to be overused since they occur in data more frequently than the other intriguing variables.

3.7. Underuse features

In zscores, features with a frequency of 2 or greater in the negative. These characteristics are classified as underuse because they occur in the data less frequently than the other important variables.

3.8. Results of Dimensions

All dimensions are analysed through the MAT software (2014), provided the following results:

4. Dimension 1

4.1. Labeling of the Novels

Labeling of Novels given below in **Table 2**:

Table 2 Novels Labelling

N1	Cracking India by Bapsi Sidhwa
N2	In Other Rooms, Other Wonders by Mueenuddin Daniyal
N3	My feudal lord by Tehmina Durrani
N4	Salt and Saffron by Kamila Shamsie
N5	Season of the Rainbirds by Nadeem Aslam
N6	The Reluctant Fundamentalist by Mohsin Hamid

Labelling of Novels

4.1.1. Interesting Variables Values of Dimension 1 From Zscore

Interesting variables values of Dimension 1 are given in **Table 3** below:

Table 3 Interesting variables values of Dimension 1

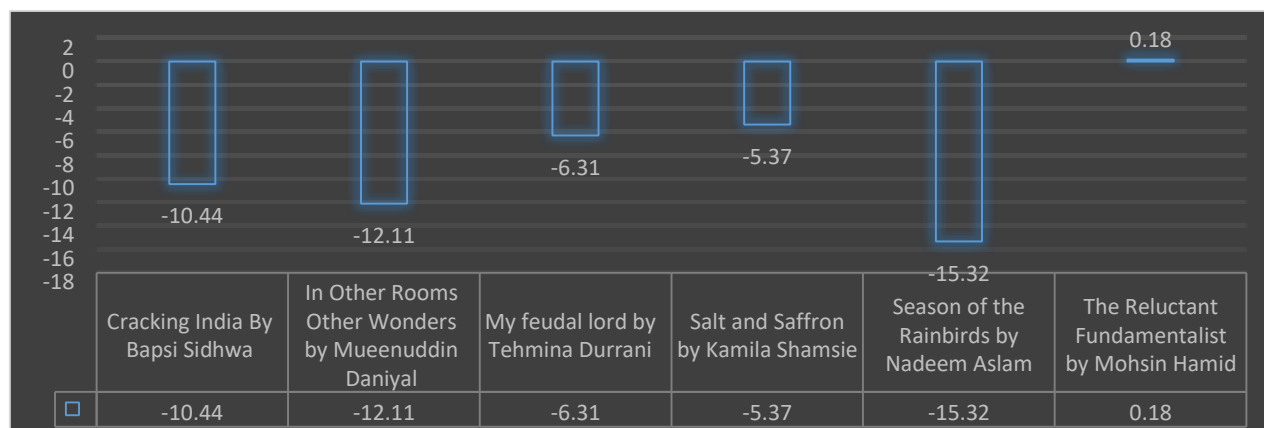
Features	Abbreviation	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6
AMP	Amplifiers	-0.73	-0.58	-0.23	-0.65	-0.81	-0.54
ANDC	Independent clause coordination	0.77	0.88	0.31	0.46		1.52
AWL	Average word length	-0.25	-0.65		-0.77	-0.45	-0.55
CAUS	Causative adverbial subordinators	-0.47	-0.35	-0.24	0.29	-0.35	
DEMP	Demonstrative pronouns	-0.6	-0.42	-0.25		-0.6	
DPAR	Discourse particles	-0.39	-0.26	-0.35	-0.3	-0.39	-0.35
DWNT	Downtoners			0.38		-0.38	0.5
EMPH	Emphatics	-0.74	-0.67	-0.55		-0.86	
EX	<i>Existential there</i>	-0.28	-0.78	-0.5	-0.22		-0.5
FPP1	First person pronouns	0.53	-0.37	1.54	0.69	-0.49	1.93

HDG	Hedges	-0.38	-0.23	-0.38		-0.38	-0.23
INPR	Indefinite pronouns	-0.55	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.45	-0.25
JJ	Attributive adjectives			-0.6	-0.29		-0.65
NN	Total other nouns	3.35	2.87	0.74	3.4	4.01	0.33
PIN	Total prepositional phrases	-0.97	-0.88	-0.45	-1.39	-1.01	-0.26
PIT	Pronoun it	-0.31	-0.31	-0.49		-0.35	0.38
POMD	Possibility modals	-0.63	-0.86			-1.06	-0.2
SPP2	Second person pronouns					-0.25	0.43
TTR	Type-token ratio	1.13	1.57	1.62	0.89	0.27	0.8
VPRT	Present tense	0.5	-1.35	-1.8	-0.99	-1.14	-1.22
XX0	Analytic negation	-0.89	-0.89		-0.69	-1.07	
[BEMA]	Be as main verb	-1.55	-1.95	-1.07	-1.32	-1.77	-0.8
[CONT]	Contractions	-0.73	-0.73	-0.43	-0.73	-0.73	-0.73
[PRIV]	Private verbs	-0.39	-0.37			-0.71	
[PROD]	Pro-verb do	-0.63	-0.46	-0.54	-0.46	-0.57	-0.4
[SERE]	Sentence relatives	0.25	2.75	0.75	1		1.75
[SPIN]	Split infinitives						
[STPR]	Stranded preposition			-0.33		-0.3	
[THATD]	Subordinator that deletion		-0.2	-0.24	0.51	-0.27	0.34
[WHCL]	WH-clauses	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.8
[WHQU]	Direct WH-questions	1.33		1.83	1.5		0.67

4.1.2. Interesting Variables: Dimension 1

Dimension 1 results have been given in the form of a graph which provides the score values of all novels.

Graph 1



4.1.3. Graph Representation: Dimension 1

Dimension 1 has an impressive information density, with an overall score of -8.23, showing an intense fondness for the "Broadcasts" category. The predominant traits in this dimension are similar to those found in broadcast media, indicating a great amount of information in the analysed fictional texts. These ratings highlight the wealth of information indicating the availability of concise information such as characters, locations, and objects. It also provides the insight that the information is well maintained and organised having both cohesion and coherence in itself. This data signifies that the information in the novels is highly engaging to its reader.

The key overused features, NN (Total other nouns) and SERE (sentence relative), contribute significantly to this increased information density by supplementing the story with descriptive and contextual information. Notably, no underused features in this dimension have been detected. Overuse features and their zscore values are given below:

4.1.4. Overuse Features According to Dimensions and Novels

NN (Total other Nouns)

All nouns are tagged and count as "NN" in Nini's Model. Table 4 has given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 4

Novels	Raw Frequencies	Overuse Zscore	values	from
N1	27469	3.35		
N2	24586	2.87		
N3	24124	0.74		
N4	25424	3.4		
N5	22189	4.01		
N6	8423	0.33		

4.1.5. Raw Frequency with Zscore: NN Feature

Nouns appear together 132,215 times in the corpus. Among the writers, Nadeem Aslam has the highest rating of 4.01, suggesting that he uses nouns more frequently in his work than the others. Kamila Shamsie comes in second with a value of 3.4 in N4, demonstrating her extensive usage of nouns in her writings. Bapsi Sidhwa ranks third in N1 with a score of 3.35, exhibiting her preference for using nouns in her writing. Mueenddin Daniyal receives the fourth highest rating of 2.87 in N2, indicating his frequent use of nouns in his works of fiction.

These various frequencies of nouns, show how different are Pakistan English Fictional authors in their own linguistic choices to describe a phenomenon. This could be due to their thematic focus, lexical and narrative preferences. Exploring the nuance usage ability of authors enhances the understanding of their unique linguistic style and technique and their contribution in Pakistani English Fictional writing.

4.2. SERE (Sentence relatives)

Whenever a punctuation mark is followed by word “Which”, it is tagged and counted as sentence relative in data. **Table 5** has given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 5

Novels	Raw Frequency	Overuse values from Zscore
N1	19	0.25
N2	107	2.75
N3	50	0.75
N4	39	1
N5	06	Not considered as interesting variable
N6	38	1.75

4.3. Raw Frequency with Zscore: SERE Feature

Total 259 times this feature has co-occur in the whole corpora. Notably, this characteristic is only overused in one novel, "In other rooms, other wonders" by Mueenuddin Daniyal, with a frequency of 107 times and an intriguing variable value of 2.75. As a result, it can be deduced that this linguistic peculiarity acts as a distinguishing feature of Mueenuddin Daniyal's writing style.

The remarkable presence of the line "In other rooms, other wonders" in Mueenuddin Daniyal's novel may have significant consequences for the novel's narrative structure, thematic aspects, or character development. Researchers can get significant insights into an author's personal writing choices by identifying and examining such distinguishing elements, therefore adding to a thorough understanding of linguistic variances prevalent in Pakistani English Fictional Novels.

5. Dimension 2

5.1. Interesting Variables of D2 from Zscore

Interesting variables values of Dimension 2 are given in **Table 6** below:

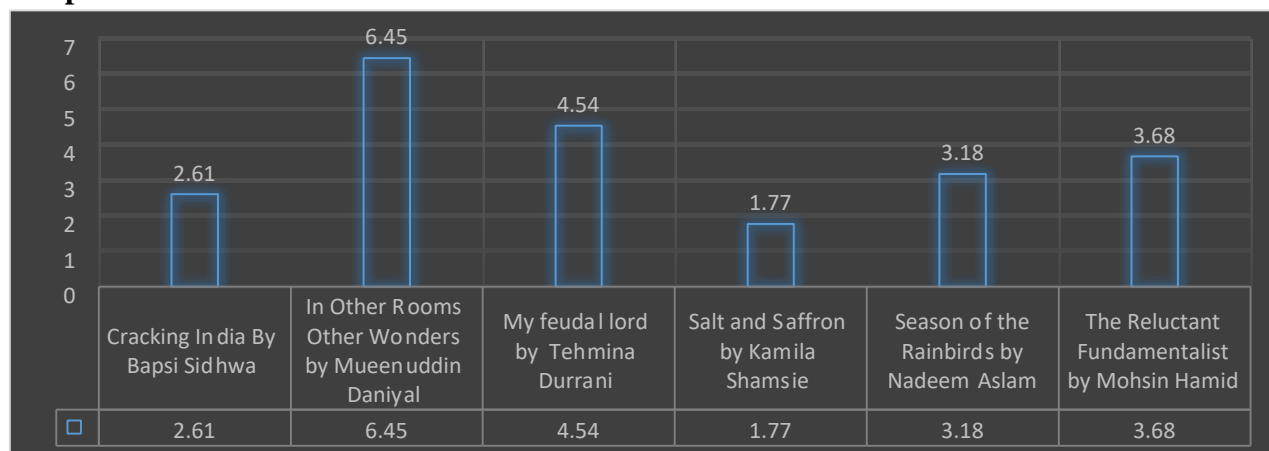
Table 6

Features	Abbreviation	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6
SYNE	Synthetic negation					-0.31	
TPP3	Third person pronoun	1.06	1.72	1.16	0.37	0.78	0.21
VBD	Past tense	-0.6	1.16	2.01	1.11	1.21	1.32
[PEAS]	Perfect aspect	-0.77		0.4	-0.48		0.6
[PRESP]	Present participial clauses	2.76	3.82	0.82	0.24	1	0.94
[PUBV]	Public verbs	0.22			0.41	0.44	0.61

5.2. Interesting Variables: Dimension 2

Dimension 2 results have been given in the form of a graph which provides the scores of all novels.

Graph 2



5.3. Graph Representation: Dimension 2

Dimension 2 features a major narrative exposition, emphasizing the fascinating storytelling and narrating quality seen in Pakistani fiction. This dimension, with an overall score of 3.7, strongly matches with the characteristics of the "General Fiction" genre, as the traits discovered within it are commonly used in this genre. Within this dimension, the usage of PRESP and VBD stands out as notable elements, leading to the peculiar narrative style noticed in Pakistani Fictional texts. In this dimension, however, no underuse features have been detected.

The high score of 3.7 emphasizes the importance of narrative components and storytelling in Pakistani English Fictional Novels. The predominance of PRESP and VBD emphasizes the frequency of present and past tense verb forms, boosting the narrative's vividness and fluidity. The proximity of this dimension to the "General Fiction" genre implies a unified and compelling narrative structure that captivates readers and immerses them in the story's universe.

5.4. Overuse features

5.4.1. PRESP (Present participial clauses)

When the punctuation mark is followed by a present participle verb form, followed by a preposition, determiner, WH pronoun, WH possessive pronoun, any WH word, any pronoun, or any adverb. **Table 7** is given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 7

Novels	Raw Frequency	Overuse Zscore	values	from
N1	523	2.76		
N2	654	3.82		
N3	276	0.82		
N4	122	0.24		
N5	183	1		
N6	113	0.94		

5.4.2. Raw Frequency with Zscore: PRESP Feature

The present participial clause appears 1871 times in the corpus. N1 and N2 had the highest level of overuse for this linguistic trait, scoring 3.82 and 2.76, accordingly. This demonstrates how Bapsi Sidhwa and Mueenuddin Daniyal are distinguished from other writers by their frequent usage of the present participial clause in their works of fiction.

5.5. VBD (Past Tense)

Table 8 has given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 8

Novels	Raw Frequency	Overuse Zscore	values	from
N1	1996	-0.6		
N2	6558	1.16		
N3	11801	2.01		
N4	6221	1.11		
N5	5273	1.21		
N6	3518	1.32		

5.5.1. Raw Frequency with Zscore: VBD Feature

In examined novels, the past tense was used 35,367 times. However, it is worth noting that only Tehmina Durrani used this characteristic excessively in her narrative. While all other authors employ the past tense in their work, they do not have a considerably greater co-occurrence frequency of this trait than Tehmina Durrani.

Tehmina Durrani's distinctive stylistic choice to overuse the past tense in her work distinguishes her writing from that of other authors in the corpus. Her purposeful and frequent use of the past tense may serve a variety of literary aims, such as heightening the sensation of nostalgia, establishing historical background, or establishing a distinct narrative voice.

6. Dimension 3

6.1. Interesting Variables of D3 from Zscore

List of interesting variables of dimension 3 is given below in **Table 9**.

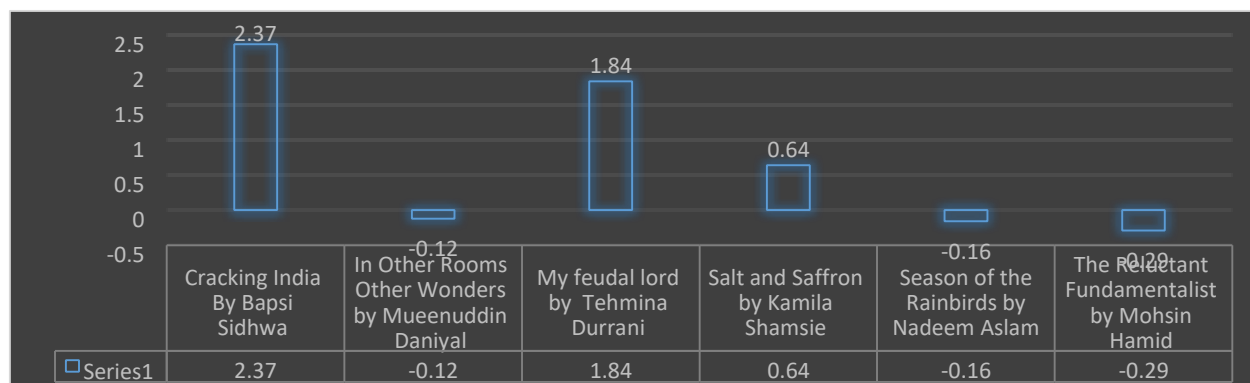
Table 9

Features	Abbreviation	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6
CONC	Concessive adverbial subordinators	-0.25	0.25		0.75	0.25	1.25
NOMZ	Nominalizations	-0.85	-0.85	-0.28	-0.83	-0.97	-0.29
PHC	Phrasal coordination	2.89	0.85	1.44	0.48	0.48	0.56
PLACE	Place adverbials	0.62	0.82		0.32	1.18	0.32
PRED	Predicative adjectives	0.27	-0.23	1.31		-0.27	1.92
RB	Total adverbs	-1.89	-1.77	-1.89	-1.7	-2.28	-1.38
TIME	Time adverbials	-0.57	-0.34		-0.34		0.26
TSUB	That relative clauses on subject position	0.75	1.13	0.88	1	0.88	1.75
[PIRE]	Pied-piping relative clauses	-0.36	-0.27	-0.27	-0.27		0.55
[WHOBJ]	WH relative clauses on object position	-0.76	-0.76	-0.65	-0.53	-0.59	-0.76
[WHSUB]	WH relative clauses on subject position	-0.75	-0.65	-0.35	-0.2	-0.35	-0.6

6.2. Interesting Variables: Dimension 3

Dimension 3 results have been given in the form of a graph which provides the scores of all novels.

Graph 3



6.3. Graph Representation: Dimension 3

Dimension 3 is explicitness in expression, emphasizing clarity and directness in fictional texts. The overall score of this dimension is 0.71 indicates its proximity to the “Prepared speeches” because of the features similarities. It has one overuse feature “PHC” and also has one underuse feature “RB” low co-occurrence frequency of adverbs in novels.

6.4. Overuse Feature

6.4.1. PHC (Phrasal Coordination)

This tag has been assigned for any that is preceded and followed by the same tag, and when that tag is either an adverb tag or an adjective tag or a verb tag or a noun tag. **Table 10** is given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 10

Novels	Raw Frequency	Overuse Zscore	values	from
N1	1024	2.89		
N2	493	0.85		
N3	852	1.44		
N4	369	0.48		
N5	323	0.48		
N6	213	0.56		

6.4.2. Raw Frequency with Zscore: PHC Feature

The feature "PHC" (Phrasal coordination) appears 3301 times in the corpus. Notably, among all writers, Bapsi Sidhwa has the highest score of 2.89 for overusing this specific element in her fictional writing. Phrasal coordination is a combination or two or more phrases with extensive use of conjunctions like “and, but, or, etc.”

6.5. Underuse Feature

6.5.1. RB (Total Adverbs)

Table 11 has given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 11

Novels	Raw Frequency	Underuse values from zscore
N1	2975	-1.89
N2	2997	-1.77
N3	3761	-1.89
N4	3007	-1.7
N5	1750	-2.28
N6	1811	-1.38

6.5.2. Raw Frequency with Zscore: RB Feature

The total number of occurrences of adverbs in the corpus of novels is 16,301. Notably, Nadeem Aslam is the only author with a rating of -2.28, suggesting that he utilizes adverbs less frequently than the other novelists. In terms of how frequently adverbs co-occur in his writings, this distinguishes him from his contemporaries.

Nadeem Aslam's distinct style choice to exclude adverbs reveals a purposeful writing preference that favors brief and direct exposition. He may establish a more striking and straightforward writing style by utilizing adverbs sparingly. The restricted frequency with which this trait appears in his writings improves the clarity and concentration of his narrative, perhaps adding depth and accuracy to the themes delivered in his fictional text.

7. Dimension 4

7.1. Interesting Variables of D4 from Zscore

Interesting variables of Dimension 4 are given below in **Table 12**.

Table 12

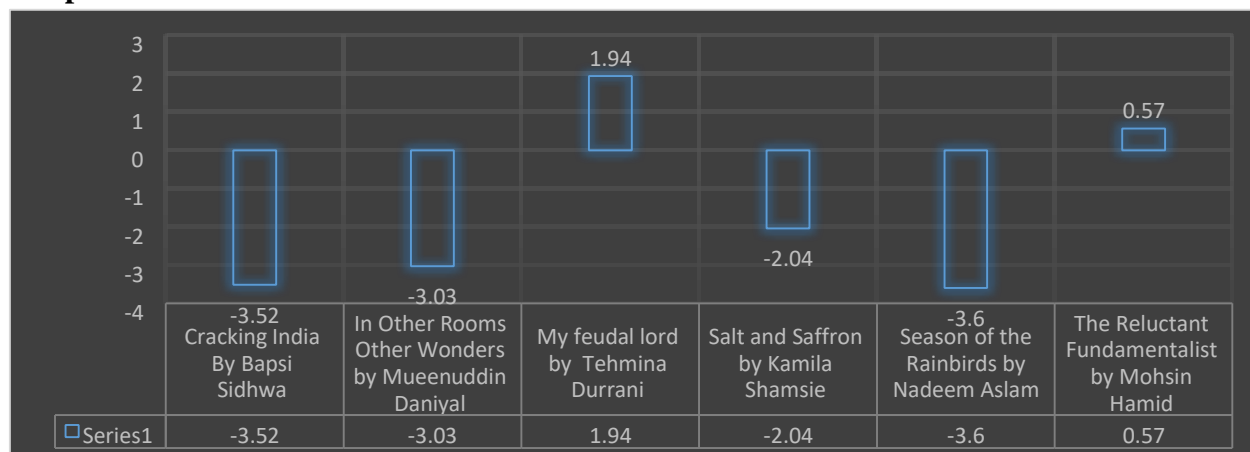
Features	Abbreviation	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6
COND	Conditional adverbial subordinators		-0.36			-0.68	-0.32
NEMD	Necessity modals	-0.52	-0.48	-0.33	-0.33	-0.48	-0.24
PRMD	Predictive modals	-0.76	-0.31	0.48	-0.52	-0.71	
TO	Infinitives	-0.68	-0.68	1.41		-0.39	0.77
[SPAUI]	Split auxiliaries	-1.48	-1.52	-0.88	-1.24	-1.4	-0.52
[SUAV]	Suasive verbs		0.32	1.35			0.74

7.2. Interesting Variables: Dimension 4

As no interesting variable has the value of 2 or above. So, it has been concluded that no overuse or underuse feature of this dimension has been used by any novelist in their writing.

Dimension 4 results have been given in the form of a graph which provides the scores of all novels.

Graph 4



7.3. Graph Representation: Dimension 4

Dimension 4 has the nature of less overt expression of persuasion due to the overall score of this dimension is -1.61 and it is close to the genre of “Press Reportage” because of its features. It has no underuse and overuse features as no interesting variable has the value of above 2 in +ve or -ve.

8. Dimension 5

8.1. Interesting Variables of D5 from Zscores

Dimensions 5 interesting variables list is provided in **Table 13** below.

Table 13

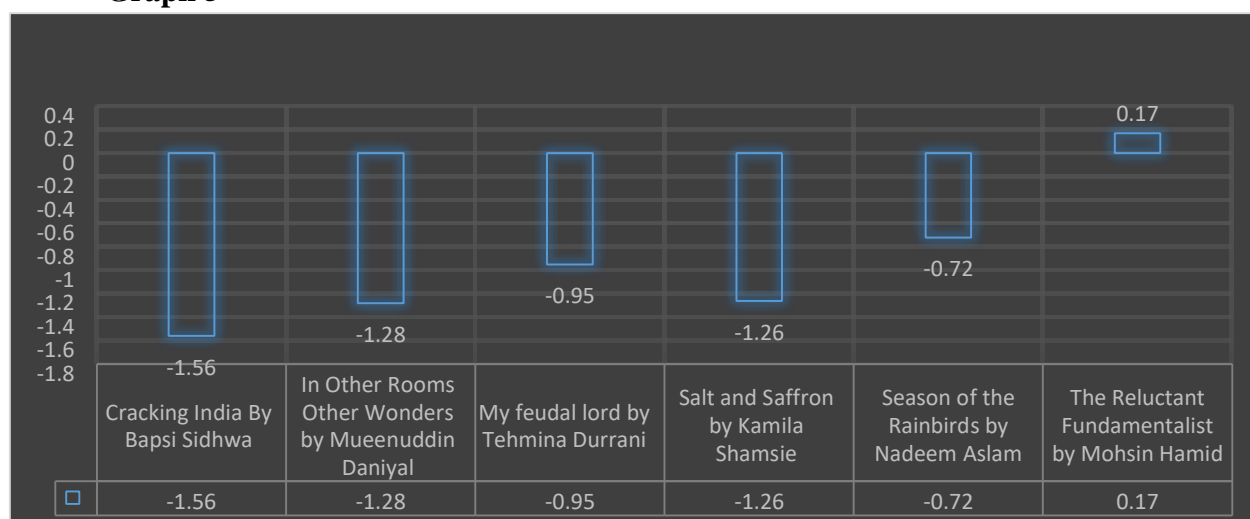
Features	Abbreviation	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6
CONJ	Conjuncts	-0.5	-0.31		-0.25	-0.44	0.94
OSUB	Other adverbial subordinators				0.27		
[BYPA]	By-passives		-0.46	0.31	-0.38		0.23
[PASS]	Agentless passives	-0.62	-0.92	-0.21	-0.76	-0.2	-0.29
[PASTP]	Past participial clauses	3.25	2.75	1.75	1	1.5	1.5

[WZPAST]	Past participial WHIZ deletion relatives	-0.35	-0.23	-0.55	-0.52	-0.26	-0.48
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8.2. Interesting Variables: Dimension 5

Dimension 5 results have been given in the form of a graph which provides the scores of all novels.

Graph 5



8.3. Graph Representation: Dimension 5

Dimension 5 uses a non-abstract language style, reflecting a significant emphasis on physical and tangible aspects that may be observed or experienced directly. This dimension's total score is lower, at -0.93, matching its traits closely with those frequently seen in the "Broadcast" category. This implies that writing in this dimension is comparable to language employed in broadcast circumstances, emphasizing clarity and fast comprehension.

The existence of the overused characteristic "PASTP" inside this dimension suggests a preference for past participles over other dimensions. Past participles can provide a dynamic element to the story and perhaps create a more interesting reading experience by contributing to a feeling of action done in the past.

8.4. Overuse Feature

8.4.1. PASTP (Past Participial Clauses)

This tag is assigned when the particular pattern is followed: a punctuation mark followed by a past participle form of the verb followed by a preposition or an adverb.

Table 14 has given below which contains the raw Frequency and Zscore values of each novel.

Table 14

Novels	Raw Frequency	Overuse Zscore	values	from
N1	127	3.25		
N2	101	2.75		
N3	98	1.75		
N4	40	1		
N5	51	1.5		
N6	29	1.5		

8.4.2. Raw Frequency with Zscore: PASTP Feature

The feature "PASTP" was utilised 446 times across analysed fictional works. However, only two writers have overused this quality in their writings: Bapsi Sidhwa in N1 with a rating of 3.25 and Mueenuddin Daniyal in N2 with a value of 2.75. This usage implies that "PASTP" appears far more frequently in their text patterns as compared to other writers' literature.

The overuse of "PASTP" shows that both Bapsi Sidhwa and Mueenuddin Daniyal may utilize past participles in their tails more frequently. Past participles can be used to describe finished activities or events that occurred prior to the present point in the text. These two writers' frequent use of past participles may contribute to a feeling of dynamic narrative, showing events and activities in a vivid and compelling manner.

9. Overall Dimensions Results

All dimensions scores according to the novels have been presented below in graph:

Graph 6



9.1. All 5 Dimension Scores

The graph presents the overall scores of all dimensions. Individual results of dimensions have been discussed, revealing that:

Dimension 1 is characterized as "Informationally dense" with a lower score of -8.23.

Dimension 2 is categorized as "Narrative" with a score of 3.7.

Dimension 3 represents an "Explicit nature" with a score of 0.71.

Dimension 4 exhibits "Less overt expression of persuasion" with a lower score of -1.61.

Dimension 5 is defined as "Non-abstract" with a score of -0.93.

The analysis determines that this data corresponds well with the "General Narrative Exposition" type after analysing the text and comparing it to all 8 text categories offered by Biber (1988). It implies Pakistani Fictional Novelists use traditional novel-writing techniques, according to the patterns generally associated with the "General Narrative Exposition" text type.

The study's findings emphasize the specific language traits and stylistic choices used by Pakistani Fictional Novelists, demonstrating their capacity to produce gripping narratives while adhering to established literary rules. The identification of distinct linguistic characteristics and text kinds can lead to a fuller knowledge of Pakistani English Fictional Novels, improving the analysis of these literary works and offering significant insights into Pakistan's larger literary environment.

Co-occurrence pattern of their features given below in **Table 16**.

Table 16: Underuse and Overuse Co-occurring Features

Novels	Overuse Features	Underuse Features
N1	NN PHC [PASTP] [PRESP]	
N2	NN [PASTP] [PRESP] [SERE]	
N3	VBD	
N4	NN	
N5	NN	RB
N6	No Feature	No Feature

9.2. Overall Overuse and Underuse Features

In N1, Bapsi Sidhwa employs four characteristics that appear frequently in her work. Similarly, Mueenuddin Daniyal uses four traits with a greater co-occurrence frequency in N2. Tehmina Durrani's writing in N3 focuses on a single attribute with a high probability of co-occurrence. Similarly, Kamila Shamsie incorporates one characteristic with a high co-occurrence rate in her work in N4. Nadeem Aslam includes one characteristic with a high co-occurrence rate and one with a low co-occurrence rate in N5.

In N6, however, Moshin Hamid's writing shows no co-occurrence patterns whatsoever, distinguishing it from the other writers in the corpora.

The different use of these aspects in their respective works demonstrates each novelist's own writing skills and preferences, adding to the complexity and diversity of Pakistani English Fiction Novels. These findings emphasize the significance of investigating linguistic differences and co-occurrence patterns in order to better grasp the distinctiveness of each author's creative expression.

10. Conclusion

The study's findings led to the conclusion that these distinguishing characteristics not only make each writer's work unique, but also contribute to the development of a genre peculiar to their writing. The fascinating variables, overuse, and underuse aspects all play a vital part in classifying the work into a different genre, namely "General Narrative Exposition," based on the features employed by the writers. So, the features of language do play their role in categorizing the text genre.

Despite the fact that Pakistani English evolved as a result of British colonization, the writers display a conventional writing style appropriate for English fiction. While there may be differences in terminology or lexical choices, their story follows the guidelines of "General Narrative Exposition." This shows that Pakistani English Fiction writers have a distinct and consistent storytelling style as a standard storytelling possess.

The outcomes of this study's research and analysis imply that the findings may be used for stylistic analysis of Pakistani English Fiction writers, providing for a better comprehension of their narrative strategies and distinct linguistic profiles. This research sheds light on Pakistan's unique literary scene by providing significant insights into the individuality and depth of Pakistani English Fiction.

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