

See Your Own Bubble:

Developing Critical Thinking Skills in EFL Learners

Mike Phillips and Nick Scott

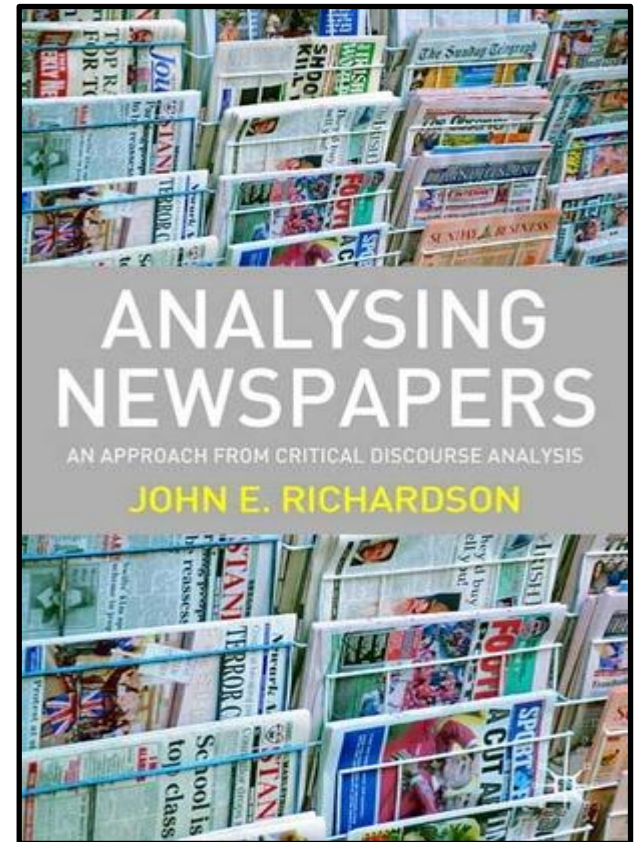


Types of Modality

Modal verbs: should, could, would, must, might

Negation: may not, could not, should not, will not, must not

Adverbs: possibly, probably, certainly



Richardson (2007: 63-4)

#1: Ambiguous Modal Claim

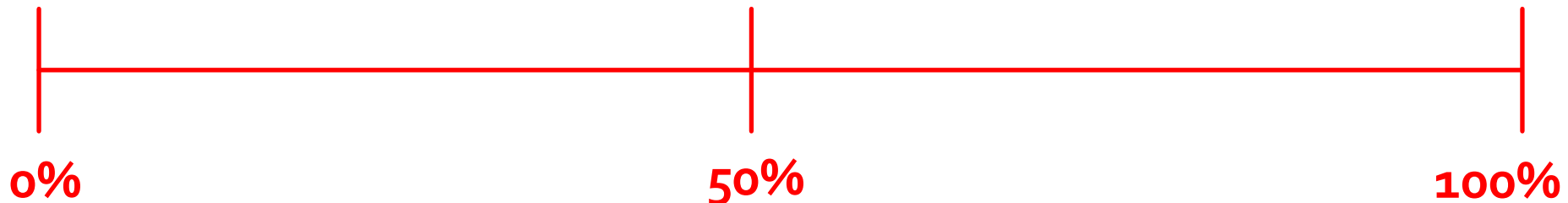
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The Daily Mail
25 February 2005

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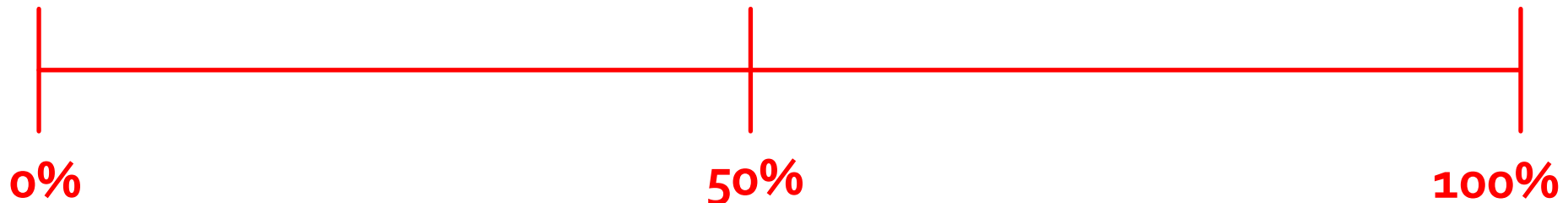
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#2: Categorical Assertion

Iraq could within a few months build, with little risk of detection, missiles capable of hitting Israel and key targets in Saudi Arabia.

British intelligence report
September 2002



#2: Categorical Assertion

September 25, 2002 3G

WAR ON

BRITS 45mins FROM DOOM

The Sun
25 September
2002

*Evening
Standard* →
24 September
2002

Dossier reveals Saddam is ready to launch chemical war strikes

By Charles Reisa, Political Editor

SADDAM HUSSEIN'S armoury of chemical weapons is on standby for use within 45 minutes, the Government's dossier on Iraq revealed today.

He is developing missiles that could reach British military bases in Cyprus, as well as Israel and Nato members Greece and Turkey.

The Iraqi leader has also been secretly trying to buy uranium from Africa for use in nuclear weapons. These are the

key charges in a 180-page "dossier of death" published by the Government today. In an introduction, Tony Blair says the evidence leaves Britain and the international community no choice but to act. The Prime Minister delivered the same message to MPs, including a large and contentious Labour army, assembled for an emergency Commons debate.

Mr Blair was heckled by his own side when he said Saddam had used chemical weapons in the Iraq-Iraq war in which a million people died. One backbencher shouted: "And we were supporting him!" But he was told "hear him" from both sides of a packed chamber when he said: "Read the chapter on Saddam and human rights ... I defy anyone to say that the Iraqi and Saddamist dictator should be allowed any possibility of getting his hands on chemical, biological or nuclear weapons of mass destruction."

Mr Blair told MPs that the ousting of Saddam would be "a wonderful thing" for the people of Iraq, for the region and

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Saddam: "working to buy uranium from Africa"

Article Analysis: “Muslim Europe”

Britain and the rest of the European Union are ignoring a demographic time bomb: a recent rush into the EU by migrants, including millions of Muslims, will change the continent beyond recognition over the next two decades, and almost no policy-makers are talking about it.

The numbers are startling. Only 3.2 per cent of Spain's population was foreign-born in 1998. In 2007 it was 13.4 per cent. Europe's Muslim population has more than doubled in the past 30 years and will have doubled again by 2015. In Brussels, the top seven baby boys' names recently were Mohamed, Adam, Rayan, Ayoub, Mehdi, Amine and Hamza.

- Daily Telegraph, 8th August 2009

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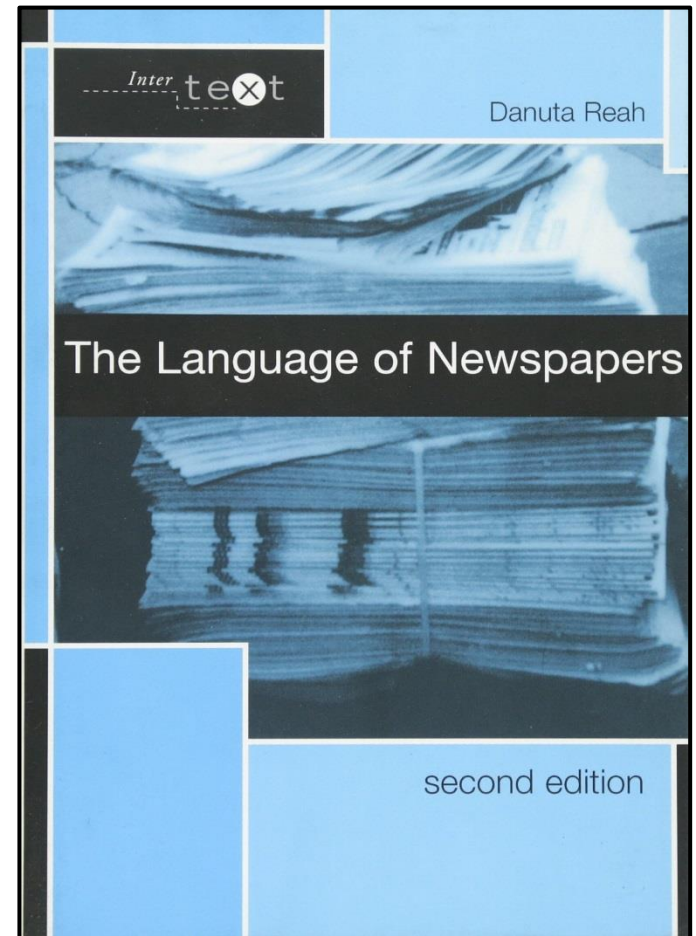
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Presupposition

Presuppose (v): to suppose or assume beforehand; take for granted in advance.

See Reah (2002: 106) for more information.



Presupposition: An Example

**“Have you stopped
beating your wife?”**

How would you answer?

Types of Presupposition

Change of State Verbs:

stop, begin, continue

Definite and Possessive Articles:

the --, his/her/their --

Wh- questions:

who, what, where, when, why

Nouns and adjectives

#1: Change of State Verbs

Do you think military attack is the best way of ending Iraqi belligerence?

Interview
BBC Newsnight, 2003

#2: Definite Articles

The challenge facing the modern world...

Fairclough (2000: 27)

#3: Wh- questions

Who is responsible for the poor state of the National Health Service?

Richardson (2007: 64)

#4: Nouns and Adjectives

Britain's asylum system takes new
hammering

Daily Express
25 February 2005

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