The Analysis of Robinson Crusoe in Terms of Halliday's Modality

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Abstract--- *The study analyzes modality markers with its values that are introduced by M.A.C. Halliday, as a part of the Systemic-Functional Grammar Approach. Modality types (modalization and modulation) are linguistically applied to a number of categories, namely obligation, permission, prohibition, necessity, possibility and ability. This study aims to show how modality is used in practice to express ideas about certainty and uncertainty. Moreover, the modality values are used to show how the writer strongly presents his attitudes to the readers to express certainty or uncertainty. The data of the study is D. Defoe's novel, Robinson Crusoe. The analysis results indicate that modality is lexico-grammaticalized in literary narratives in a variety of modes of which the modalization expressions are of high frequency, especially probability that is highly utilized. Plus, the writer utilizes the median value with a high proportion among the other types to reveal the objectivity and credibility in presenting his propositions/ proposals to his readers.*

Keywords--- *Modality, Its Types, Modality Value.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Modality is important for language because the writer/speaker expresses authority and attempts to exert power over the readers/ listeners. That is, it is a linguistic category whose meaning deals with the status of the proposition. It codes the writer/speaker's attitude toward the proposition. It proves his/ her affinity with what he/she writes or says. Hence, modality is a basic topic in the study of meaning, it is regarded as one of the most significant features of human language, (i. e.), it conveys information about objects and events. Accordingly, the term 'modality' covers a widely range of semantic perspective (R. Hickey, 2009, 1). S. Eggins and D.Slade (1997:98) simply state modality as it enacts a number of various choices in which a performer is able to "temper" or "qualify" his/her messages to the addressees.

Robinson Crusoe, written by D. Defoe, is regarded as the first novel in the England history. It is considered to be the beginning of realistic fiction.In his novel, Defoe utilizes modality markers to specify his readers' interpretations about its events. He not only shows his attitudes to his readers but also gives them the chance to accept or refuse his propositions/ proposals. There is a similarity between the novelist and the protagonist, Robinson Crusoe, especially his viewpoints of life. In other words, Defoe's opinions of life is conveyed on Crusoe's tongue. As a result, this novel, specifically most of the first chapter, is chosen to be the study data.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Various studies tackled modality from different aspects. Modality as a part of SFL was also studied by many linguistic researchers. Some of these studies can be briefly mentioned as follows:

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RuijuanYe (2010) analyzed Barack Obama's Victory Speech from the Interpersonal Meta function for certain reasons. Firstly, the study assisted readers to understand and to evaluate Obama's speech, especially its suitability to give some guidance for them and to make better speeches. The findings unraveled that positive declarative clauses utilized to convince the audiences with positive facts. Secondly, the frequent uses of modal verbal operators with high modal commitment reflected the addresser's determination and authority. Finally, the frequent uses of "we" and "we"-"you"-"we" pattern made a dialogic style.

Moses Olusanya Ayoola's study (2013) aimed to analyze eight different advertisements of two political parties during the general election within the boundaries of Halliday's theory to unravel the interpersonal meanings in them for showing how the language was used by the politicians for expressing their view points through advertisements. The analysis results showed that there was no correspondence between the interpersonal meaning of a structure and its lexicogrammar analysis "as the political advertisers use various mood types to interact, negotiate, establish and maintain good relations with and as well change the behaviour of the readers."

The interpersonal meta function was also studied by D.Ardiansah's study (2015) to show how the modality system, with its types, utilized in students' hortatory exposition texts at one of Ciamis' universities. The data was analyzed according to Halliady and Matthiessen's framework (2004). The results revealed that all clauses having modality showed the author's interpersonal meta function with various linguistic values in the texts.

Other study was given by Zhai Ruiand Liu Jingxia(2018) who focused on systemic analysis of modality type, value and orientation in terms of Halliday's Systemic-functional Grammar. The research data was taken from micro-blogging official platforms from 1.20 to 2.20 of 2017, specifically 20 pieces of news discourse were chosen to be analyzed. The findings proved that finite modal adjunct were widely used by reporters reflecting modality type and the median value was utilized more than the other values by them. From the modality orientation perspective, the speaker/ writer used implicit objective orientation revealing both " objectiveness of the news discourse and get rid of writers' responsibilities."

This study is similar to the previous studies in that it follows Halliday's SFL framework, specifically the modality system with its types. On the contrary, the study differs from the previous ones in that it deals with modality and its value only. Additionally, the data analysis is the Robinson Crusoe, which is a novel writtenbyD. Defoe, to show the significant role of the interpersonal metafunction in the literary work.

III.   DEFINITION OF MODALITY

Modality is related to what the speaker is saying, specifically his/her judgement of probabilities or obligations by using modal terms(M. A. K. Halliday, 1994,75).M.A.K. Halliday and C. M.I.M Matthiessen(2004:143) affirm that the term ' modality ' reveals "the speaker's judgement, or request of the judgement of the listener, on the status of what is being said". Accordingly, modality covers the meaning area lying between 'yes' and 'no',i.e., between positive and negative poles to express a semantic meaning of uncertainty. This relies on the underlying function of the clause (ibid, 618).

3.1Modality Types

The systemic functional grammar in linguistics , that is introduced by M. A.C. Halliday, focuses on three major metafunctions of language on the basis of one's ecology and society(ibid, 29). These are as follows:

1. The ideational metafunction concentrates on experience and logical relations represented by the transitivity system. It presents the clause as a representation.
2. The interpersonal metafunction shows the social relations through the mood and modality system. The clause here stands for an exchange.
3. The textual meta function forms a relevance context throughout coherence and cohesion. It indicates the clause as a message (ibid , 61).

The major concern of this study is the interpersonal meta function that is deemed as the best way of informational communication. This meta function differentiates between a proposition and a proposal. A proposition means "something that can be argued, but argued in a particular way. When we exchange information we are arguing about whether something is or is not. Information is something that can be affirmed or denied"(S. Eggins, 2004, 172). Then she adds that "with proposals we are arguing about whether something happens or doesn't happen. Such arguments cannot be affirmed or denied in the way information can be, but responses can be acted out: through acceptance or rejection, either non-verbal or verbal" (ibid, 176).

Modality is one of certain grammatical and lexical features used to construe interpersonal meanings. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004:147) recognizes two types of modality: modalization and modulation. Modalization identifies the writer's assessment of the states of knowledge which is expressed by the use of probability (how sure?) and usuality (how often?). Modulation shows the writer's assessment of one's commitment to action. This is represented by the inclination (how willing?) and obligation (how obliged?).Each type can be expressed in various ways. Both probability and usuality have a number of ways to be expressed:either by a finite modal operator in the verbal group ,by a modal Adjunct of probability or usuality, or by both of them.Furthermore, both obligation and inclination consist of two ways to be expressed: either of a finite modal operator, an expansion of the Predicator representing eithertypically by a passive verb or typically by an adjective.

3.2 Modality Value

Halliday and Matthiessen(2004:620) consider that values of modality are related to the judgment of model. In other words, it conveys how the modal meaning is strongly expressed about a certain proposition/proposal. It illustrates the degree of model meaning to create the interpersonal meta function. Modality value is classified into: high, median and low.

IV. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

4.1 Data Collection

The data collection of the study isD. Defoe's novel, Robinson Crusoe.This novel, specifically most of the first chapter, is chosen to be thestudy data to be analyzed in terms of Halliday's modality.

4.2 Data Analysis

Item No.	Clause(-s)	P. No	Modality Expr.	Category of Modality	Its value	Its Interpretation
1.	by the **usual** corruption of …; and so my companions **always**….	2	usual (modal adjunct)	usuality	Median	It refers to the narrator's attitude towards the status of English society at his time. This is the writer's viewpoint of the frequency of "corruption of words in England" (modalization).
			always (modal adjunct)	usuality	High	It is the usual name of the narrator called by his companions(modalization
2.	but I **would** be satisfied with….	3	Would (finite	probability	median	This clause suggests a certainty to be a sailor.
			modal operator)			The presented clause is a proposition (modalization).
3.	my native country, where I **might** be well ….	3	might (finite modal operator)	probability	median	Again, it is the probability of leaving his father's house.He will raise his fortune and have a luxury life (modalization).
4.	that mine was the middle state, or what **might be** called ….	4	might (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	Crusoe exposes his opinion of probability towards "the upper station of low life" (modalization).
5.	He told me I **might** judge of ….	4	might (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	The clause identifies his father's attitude about his social state(modalization).
6.	He bade me observe it, and I **should always** find that the calamities of life were shared …	4	should always (The finite modal operator and modal adjunct)	obligation usuality	Median High	"should always" modalizes the clause exhibited as information. In this clause the finite modal operator and modal adjunct "should always" express Crusoe's opinion of the frequency of " the calamities of life". (modalization).
7.	that I was under no necessity of seeking my bread; that he **would** do ….	5-6	would (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	The modal operator modalizes the clause stating certainty which is part of probability (modalization).
8.	it **must** be my mere fate or fault that **must** hinder it; and that he **should** have nothing to answer for, having thus discharged his duty in warning me against measures which he knew **would** be to my hurt; in a word, that as he **would** do very kind things for me if I **would** stay and settle at home as he directed, so he **would not** have so much…	6	must (modal finite operator) must (modal finite operator) Should (modal finite operator) would (modal finite operator) would /would (modal finite operators) would not (modal finite operator and polarity)	Obligation obligation obligation probability probability probability probability	High High Median Median Median Median Median	The modal finite operator modalizes the clause. This indicates probability of his fate or fault(modalization). Obligation is stated in this clause by the modal finite operator "must" (modalization). Obligation is utilized to express the speaker's viewpoint to persuade his father going to the sea (modulation). "would" modalizes the clause expressing certainty which is a part of probability (modalization). Probability is realized in two clause ,(i.e.), "he would do very kind things for me if I would stay and settle at home as". These clauses reflect Robinson's father warning (modalization). By the finite modal operator "would" and the polarity "no", certainty, that is a part of probability, is stated. They both express the certainty of no one helping him in his troubles if he neglects his father's advice (modalization).
9.	he had used the same earnest persuasions to keep him from going into the Low Country wars, but **could not** prevail,….	6	could not (modal finite operator and polarity)	probability	Low	The certainty that it is a part of probability is shown by themodal finite operator and polarity to prove his father's failure to persuade his other son to stay at home (modalization).

10.	and though he said he **would not** cease to pray for me, yet he **would** venture to say to me, that if I did take this foolish step, God **would not** bless me, and I **should** have leisure hereafter to reflect upon having neglected his counsel when there **might** be none to assist in my recovery.	6	would not (modal finite operator and polarity) would (modal finite operator)	probability Probability	Median Median	The modal finite operator and polarity(would not)modalize the clause to refer to certainty which belongs to probability (modalization). This modal operator states certainty, too. It is a part of probability to express his father's counsel(modalization). Probability, specifically certainty as its
11.	I was sincerely affected with this discourse, and, indeed, who **could** be otherwise?	7	Could (modal finite operator)	probability	Low	Probability is described by the modal finite operator "could". Actually, this operator expresses certainty after his father's discourse (modalization).
12.	that my thoughts were soentirely bent upon seeing the world that I **should** never settle to anything with, ….	7	should (modal finite operator)	obligation	Median	The modal finite operator and the modal adjunct modalize the clause presenting an information. "should" reveals the narrator's obligation.This clause expresses modulation type.
13.	that I **was sure** if I did I **should** never serve out my time, but I **should certainly** run away from my master before my time was out, and go to sea; and if she **would** speak to my father to let me go one voyage abroad, if I came home again, and did not like it, I **would** go no more; and I **would** promise, by a double diligence, to recover the time that I had lost.	7-8	Sure (predicator by an adjective) should (modal finite operator) should certainly (modal finite operator and modal adjunct) would (modal finite operator) would (modal finite operator) would (modal finite operator)	Probability Obligation Obligation Probability probability probability probability	High Median Median High Median Median Median	Probability is stated by an adjective "sure" expressing certainty as part of it. This clause expresses the narrator's opinion in case of staying in England and obeying his father's advice (madalization). The clause "I should never serve out …" is modalized by the finite modal operator. The narrator shows the impossibility of staying in England (modulation). The modal finite operator and the modal adjunct aregiven in this clause. The former affirms obligation (modulation) whereas the latter gives the meaning of certainty, a part of probability (modalization). Again, the clause shows the narrator's viewpoint of staying in England by force. Certainty, as a part of probability, is shown in this clause by the modal finite operator "would" (modalization). The modal finite operator modalizes the clause stating certainty, a part of probability, of his promise to his mother(modalization). 'Would' refers to the probability since the narrator talks about his promise to his father (modalization).

14.	That boy **mightbe** happy if he **would** stay at home; but if he goes abroad, he **will** be the most miserable wretch that ever was born: I **can** give no consent to it.	8	might (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	Probability is reflected by the modal finite operator in this clause as an information. It clarifies his father's attitude of his son's desire (modalization).
			would (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	The modal finite operator modalizes the clause .It also illustrates his father's attitude of his son's leaving home (modalization).
			will (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	The clause is modalized by "will". This modal expresses the certainty, which is a type of probability, of being " the most miserable wretch "(modalization).
			can (modal finite operator)	probability	Low	The clause ": I can give no …" is also modalized by the finite modal operator "can" which indicates certainty, as a part of probability. This clause expresses the writer's refusal of his leaving (modalization).
15.	that it **should** cost me nothing for my passage, I consulted neither father nor mother any more, nor so much as sent them word of it; but leaving them to hear of it as they **might**, ….	9	should (modal finite operator)	obligation	Median	The clause is modulated by the modal finite operator stating certainty which is a part of probability. It is an information of his leaving to the sea (modulation).
			might (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	Certainty is explained in this clause by the modal finite operator. As it mentioned above, it is a part of probability. Again, it presents an information(modalization).
16.	I expected every wave **would** have swallowed us up, and that every time the ship fell down, as I thought it did, in the trough or hollow of the sea, we **should** never rise more; in this agony of mind, I made many vows and resolutions that if it **would** please God to spare my life in this one voyage, if ever I got once my foot upon dry land again, I **would** go directly home to my father, and never set it into a ship again while I lived; that I **would** take his advice, …	10	would (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	The modal finite operator modalizes the clause expressing probability. It exposes the narrator's attitude of the status of the sea and ship (modalization).
			should (modal finite operator)	Obligation	Median	Obligation is shown in this clause by the modal finite operator 'should ' (modulation).
			would (modal finite clause)	probability	Median	The clause is modalized by the modal finite clause referring to probability. It reflects the narrator's viewpoint in case of his surviving from the storm (modalization).
			would (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	Certainty is shown with "would" in this clause. It is an information given by the narrator to reveal his decision after what he had seen in the sea. According to Halliday, certainty is regarded as a part of probability (modalization).
			would (modal finite operator)	Probability	Median	The clause is modalized by 'would '. It states that there is no expected frequency of going to sea, again (modalization). The modal finite operator modalizes the clause explaining an information. The narrator will follow his father's advice in the future. Certainty as a division of probability is illustrated in this clause (modalization).
			would (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	

17.	and I resolved that I **would like** a true repeting prodigal, …	11	would like (modal finite operator)	inclination	Median	In this clause, "would like" modulates revealing the speaker's desire to go home where his father lives (modulation).
18.	Come, let us make a bowl of punch, and we**'ll** forget all that;…	12	will (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	Certainty, a type of probability, is shown in this clause. It explains the probability of what they faced in the previous night (modalization).
19.	Here we were **obliged to** come to an anchor, and here we lay,…	13	obliged to (predicator by a passive verb)	obligation	High	The clause is modulated by "obliged to". It states the narrator's attitude of coming "to an anchor" because of the strong storm (modulation).
20.	We had not, however, rid here so long but we **should have** tided it ….	13	should (modal finite operator)	obligation	Median	Obligation is expressed by the modal finite operator. This is the narrator's proposal of the sea status (modulation).
21.	., yet as he went in and out of his cabin by me, I **could** hear him softly to himself say, several times, "Lord be merciful to us! we**shall** be all lost! …	14	Could (modal finite operator)	probability	Low	Certainty is stated in this clause by "could" which modalizes it. The narrator conveys his opinion of what he had heard. Certainty is a type of probability (modalization).
			Shall (modal finite operator)	probability	Median	Probability is reflected in this clause by the modal finite operator. The captain's viewpoint is seen of the sea status in this clause (modalization).
22	yet as he went in and out of his cabin by me, I **could** hear him softly ….	14	could (modal finite operator)	probability	low	Probability is stated in this clause showing what the narrator heard from his master about the status of the ship as (modalization).
23	and that this **would** be nothing like the first;	14	would (modal finite operator)	Probability	Median	Certainty is affirmed in this clause on the tongue of the narrator about the comparison between the first and the second storms as a proposition (modalization).
24	if he did not the ship **would** founder, he consented	15	would (modal finite operator)	Probability	Median	Again, probability which includes certainty as its part, is stated here to survive the crews and the ship (modalization).
25	they were **obliged to** cut that away also	15	obliged to (predicator by a passive verb)	Obligation	High	Still the narrator illustrates the necessity to cutaway the main-mast of the ship for safety as a proposal (modulation).
26	that I **can** by no words describe it.	16	can (modal finite operator)	Probability	Low	The modal operator is used to show the status of the narrator during the storm (modalization).
27	who, not able to ride out the storm were **obliged to** slip and run away to sea, and **would** come near us, ….	17	obliged to (predicator by a passive verb) would (modal finite operator)	Obligation Probability	High Median	'obliged to' is used to show the necessity of how to ride out the storm as a proposal(modulation). The modal operator gives the meaning of certainty as a part of probability (modalization).
28	he**would** make it good to their master…	18	would (modal finite operator)	Probability	Median	Probability is stated in this clause conveying the narrator's opinion of the boat (modalization).
29	we **should** come	19	should (modal finite operator)	Obligation	Median	The modal operator states the obligation in this clause. It is the narrator's proposal (modulation).

4.3 The Findings and Discussion

The results of the analysis demonstrated that totally 58modal auxiliaries and model adjuncts were employed by

the writer whose work had been used as the data corpus in terms of Halliday's modality types with its values, from among which 42 of them were concerned with modalization, a part of modality, and 16 of them were concerned with modulation, a division of modality, as shown in Table (1). The fact is that modalization and modulation of modalities are not used at an equal rate in literary texts.

Table 1: The Percentages of Modalizations and Modulations with Their Values

Types of Modality	Modalization				Modulation			Proportion Of Modality Types %
	total	Its values			total	Its values		
		high	med.	low		high	med.	
Probability	39	1	31	6	-	-	-	67 %
Usuality	3	2	1	0	-	-	-	5%
Obligation	-	-	-	-	15	5	10	26%
Inclination	-	-	-	-	1	0	1	2%
Total	42				16			100%

Actually, the novelist uses the modal finite operators more than the modal adjuncts and the predicators (either by passive verbs or adjectives) to express modality in the sense of Halliday's viewpoint. Modality values, which are judged by the modal itself, are shown in this study. The writer uses various values of certainty and uncertainty to reveal the truth propositions/ proposals. In the modalization type, the median value of probability occupies the first rank whereas the second place is occupied by the high value to express certainty. The low value occupies the third place according to the table above. The latter value weakens the possibility of proposition/proposals. In the other hand, the modulation type only has the high and the median values.

As a result of what is mentioned above, it can be concluded that the novelist's ideology of employing modality types with its values in the literary narratives is mostly of the probability kind, (i.e.), the narrator is not certain of the consequences of the proposition and does not want to make himself committed to what he writes.

V.   CONCLUSION

This study concentrates on how D. Defoe creates the interpersonal meta function, a significance way of informational communication, with the reader in terms of Halliday's modality system, especially its types with its values in this literary work. This is achieved by the use of modal finite verbs, which are frequently used, the modal adjuncts and the predicators. Throughout these markers, the interpersonal meaning is formed for exchanging an idea. According to the analysis, the study is concluded as follows:

1.   The modality system specifies the reader/ listener's interpretation on the basis of the model meaning which makes the interpersonal function of language among the reader/ listener.

2.   Modalization type of modality indicates how the validity of information is. It scores a high proportion in this study analysis. Probability, which is defined as how the reader likely accepts the writer's proposition, is utilized frequently, (i ,e.), 67%.Usuality is regarded as a persuasive way that makes the reader to accept the novelist's propositions. It makes the reader understand and interpret his propositions easily. This leads to accept them. In the other hand, the writer has the power to persuade his readers about the information truth. It recurs 5% among the other types.

3. Modulation type is concerned with a matter of confidence that the novelist creates in his literary work. It is used less than the former type in the data analysis. Obligation scores 26% to commit the reader to accept certain proposals (i,e) his presentation of his attitudes is not for arguments. Inclination is rarely utilized, it identifies willingness, wish and determination about the proposals.

4. Modality values indicates to what the degree of strength that the novelist uses to express his attitudes (propositions/proposals) to his readers so as to form the interpersonal function of language. The median value occupies the first place in the study to ensure both the objectivity and credibility of the event .The novelist gives an authority to the speaker by the use of modal finite verb, the finite adjunct and the predicator.

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