

МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ
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Кафедра англійської філології та міжкультурної комунікації

ENGLISH IN THE POLITICAL COMMUNICATION IN INDIA

Кваліфікаційна робота
освітнього рівня “магістр”
студентки 2 курсу магістратури,
спеціальності
“Сучасна англійська комунікація
та переклад і дві західноєвропейські мови”
галузь знань 03 – гуманітарні науки
спеціальність 035 «Філологія»
Стиранко Єлизавети Вікторівни

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«Допущено до захисту»

Протокол засідання кафедри англійської філології
та міжкультурної комунікації

Протокол № 8 від 18.04.2023

Завідувач кафедри _____ проф. Белова А.Д.

КИЇВ - 2023

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INTRODUCTION

In recent times, the study of English in India has become a critical topic of discussion and research. With the rise of globalization and the increased interaction of India with the international community, the English language has assumed a crucial role in the country's political and social landscape. English is now an essential means for communication, both within the country and with the rest of the world. Therefore, understanding the use of English in India, particularly in political discourse, is of paramount importance in contemporary times.

Political discourse in India is an interesting area of study, given the country's diverse culture, complex history, and dynamic political landscape. The use of language in politics has a significant impact on shaping public opinion, and English plays a vital role in this process. The Indian political scene is unique in that it incorporates a range of languages, including English, which is commonly used by political elites, bureaucrats, and intellectuals. Therefore, understanding the use of English in political discourse is critical in comprehending the socio-political and cultural fabric of India.

Several scholars have contributed to the study of political discourse and English in India. David Crystal, a renowned linguist, has extensively researched the use of English in India and its impact on the country's socio-political landscape. He has emphasized the role of English in fostering national unity and has also discussed the challenges of English language learning in India. Braj Kachru, another notable linguist, has studied the development of Indian English and has highlighted the unique features of the language, which distinguish it from standard English. He has also discussed the role of English in shaping the Indian identity and its importance in the country's political and economic spheres.

E. Shneider is a famous researcher who has examined the English language in various parts of the world, including India. He has written extensively on the

subject of World Englishes, including Indian English, making his famous linguistic model of postcolonial Englishes. Other scholars who researched the IE, namely its linguistic characteristics include P. Pennycook, Sailaja, E. Schneider etc.

Apart from these scholars, several Ukrainian linguists have also contributed to the study of English in India and its use in modern discourse. For instance, N. Vlasko has written about the modern syntax and grammar of IE, while O. Semenets was interested in the social processes and socio-linguistic profile of IE.

Given all these facts, what can be said is that the study of Indian English discourse and IE in general are being topical for the research in the thesis.

The *relevance* of the work is determined by the need for further study of the English language in India, namely its political side based on the Youth Parliament debates, linguistic and extralingual factors of its development and how English functions in the modern political discourse of India.

The *object* of research is the English language in political communication India.

The *subject* of the research consists in lexical, phonological, pragmatic and morphosyntactic features of language use by Indian politicians.

To achieve the set goal, it was necessary to implement the following *tasks*:

- close examination of theoretical material;
- exploration of the historical development and the specifics of use of IE in modern world;
- carrying out the description and examination of the political side of English in India;
- close research of the practical material, making a description of it on various levels of language use.

Main *methods* of research include induction, deduction, synthesis and analysis of the linguistic features of IE.

The main *novelty* of the research consists in the fact that an attempt was made to summarize and systematize data on the language production and specificities in the sphere, which wasn't researched yet, namely the sphere of Youth Parliament debates, held in India.

Materials of research include 8 videos of the Youth Parliament debates in India and other political videos used for Chapter 2 and 3 in order to describe the main tendencies of Indian English in politics.

The practical value of the research is attributed to the fact that it can provide a better understanding of the political communication in India, including the linguistic side of it. This can be useful for academics who are interested in Indian politics and language. This thesis can shed light on the role of language in politics, particularly in a country like India where English is often used as a lingua franca. It can help to explore how language affects political discourse, communication, and participation.

Structure of thesis. The thesis consists of an introduction, 3 chapters (one for the theoretical part and two for the practical one), conclusions and a list of references.

CHAPTER 1. THEORETICAL FOUNDATION OF RESEARCH

1. The place of English in India

Nowadays, the formation of new varieties of the English language, or, as they are called, New Englishes, is taking place in the world. Despite the vast differences between the local languages, the effects of English influence on them are similar in terms of structure and sociolinguistic processes. New Englishes are the new varieties of English that arise in the early stages of colonial and post-colonial historical development before they mature and separate into an independent form of language. The emergence of many "new varieties" of the English language led a linguist such as David Crystal to suggest that we may be "witnessing the emergence of the first signs of an English language family" [3].

India can certainly be considered as the multilingual country with over 900 million people speaking more than a hundred languages of the Indo-Aryan and the Dravidian family of languages, being two of the largest in the world. In India, languages of the Austro-Asiatic and Tibetan-Burmese language families are also spoken, although compared to the speakers of the two language families mentioned above, the number of speakers of them is much smaller. On the one hand, for countries that are former colonies of Great Britain, English is recognized as a global language, on the other hand, it is called "killer language" because it destroys the languages of the local population, changes and develops new dialects [23].

During the struggle for independence, encouraging the development and use of local languages and combating the languages of the empire were ways in which members of the national elite distinguished themselves from Western colonialists and defined their identity. After independence, however, the members of the elite needed to distinguish themselves from the common people of their countries. Fluency in English, French or any other Western languages served as this means. As a result, it became much easier for members of the elite to communicate with

Westerners and with each other than with people from their societies. B. Kachru notes that English currently performs both national and international functions, which are different and complement each other. English thus acquires a position of power and a "new elitism" [61]. English is currently used as the official language in India in different areas, such as law, public administration, secondary and higher education, tourism etc. Only about three percent of the population of India speaks English, this is the elite of the economic, professional, political and social life of India. This is especially true in South India, where English is the universal language, while Hindi fulfills this function in the North. Although only three percent of India's population speaks English, India is among the top four countries in the world with the largest number of English speakers. English has allowed it to maintain its important position among other developing countries in the world. In some parts of India, English is preferred over Hindi as the lingua franca [61]. According to S. Huntington, there are currently two opposite trends in non-Western societies. On the one hand, English is increasingly being used at the university level to enable graduates to play effectively in the global race for capital and buyers [51][38]. On the other hand, social and political pressures are forcing the use of local languages more and more. Arabic is replacing French in North Africa, Urdu is taking the place of English as the language of government and education in Pakistan, and vernacular media is replacing English in India. This development was foreseen by the Indian Education Commission in 1948 when it was stated that "the use of English ... divides the people into two nations, the few who rule and the many who are ruled, who cannot speak the foreign language, and these two nations do not understand each other"[7].

At present, outside the narrow elite of Indian society using English-language documentation, English does not play the role of a lingua franca. In addition, Indian English is becoming more and more individualized: it is being, so to say,

"indified", or rather localized, as differences arise between English used by native-speakers and different local languages.

All things considered, what can be said is that English is soaking into Indian culture just as the other local languages were soaked into it before and clearly defines its strong and firm position in Indian society.

1.1 Historical background of English in India according to Schneider's dynamic model

Dynamic models of postcolonial Englishes development are being created with the attempt to explain how English language use changes over time in postcolonial contexts. These models are based on the idea that postcolonial Englishes (to which Indian English is included, being the variety emerged due to the colonial influence of Britain) are not static or fixed but are constantly evolving as a result of various factors.

One well-known model is the Kachruvian Three Circle Model, developed by linguist Braj Kachru [15]. The model identifies three concentric circles of English use around the world. The Inner Circle includes countries like the UK, US, and Australia where English is the primary language. The Outer Circle includes countries like India, Nigeria, and Singapore where English is used as a second language. The Expanding Circle includes countries where English is taught as a foreign language, such as Japan, China, and Russia.

Other scientists who contributed to the study of the development of postcolonial English include P. Trudgill and K. Tirumalesh [10][35].

E. Schneider is known for his dynamic model of World Englishes, which emphasizes the ongoing evolution of English in postcolonial contexts. The model created by him is also known as the Dynamic Model of Postcolonial Englishes. This model attempts to explain the development of English varieties in former British colonies and the factors that influence their emergence and evolution.

Schneider's model has been influential in the study of Postcolonial Englishes and has helped to explain the diversity of English varieties around the world and provides a useful framework for understanding the complex and dynamic nature of Indian English, and its evolution over time. It highlights the important role that local languages and cultures have played in shaping the development of this distinctive variety of English. This model and the historical development of English in India will be closely discussed in the next subchapters.

1.1.1 Schneider's dynamic model

The dynamic model of postcolonial English proposed by Edgar W. Schneider is a well-respected theory in the field of sociolinguistics. The model suggests that the English language spoken in former colonies has developed its own unique characteristics and diverged from its standard variety due to historical, social, and cultural factors.

Many linguists and sociolinguists have discussed and debated Schneider's model, but it is generally accepted as a useful framework for understanding the linguistic variation and change that occurs in postcolonial English-speaking societies [4][21]. The model has been supported by various empirical studies that have demonstrated the existence of distinct postcolonial English varieties with specific linguistic features.

In general, the model of postcolonial Englishes by Schneider is guided by the following principles:

- closeness of the contact determines the levels of the bilingualism and multilingualism in the community;
- the structural effect of the contact between languages depends on various socio-historical factors;
- there are many changes which can be achieved due to the contact (like code-switching, for example);

- the language evolution and the appearance of the varieties is regarded as the selection by the speakers, so to say, the suitable variant for their communication out of many possibilities emerged;
- the acceptance of features is strongly determined by the various factors, such as demography, social relationship, similarities/differences between codes etc.[12]

The dynamic model outlines 5 stages (phases), which can be easily applicable to the situation with English in India:

- foundation stage (the stage when the language is brought to the country through the colonization process. In India it encompasses early 17th -late 18th century time frame, when there has been the first contacts of Indians with their future colonizers);
- exonormative stabilization stage (the local population starts to learn English as a second language and the language is being used as the government communication means. In India this occurred in the mid-18th century until the mid-19th century, when there was the firm establishment of British colonial rule and was used to create a class of Indian intermediaries, loyal to the British);
- nativization stage (the local population starts to use English as a means of communication among themselves. They begin to develop their own norms and rules for using English, based on their own linguistic and cultural backgrounds. Indian English has started to diverge fully in the late 19th - early 20th century at times of nationalistic uprising, firmly establishing its role as a second language for many educated Indians).
- endonormative stabilization stage (At this stage, the local variety of English becomes more established and standardized, but sticking to the local norms and demands. In India this stage underwent in the first half - second half of

the 20th century. Besides that, this stage was marked by the local demand of the qualified professionals fluent in English and echoes of this era are present noaways);

- differentiation phase (This is the final stage, where different varieties of English emerge within the postcolonial context. Hinglish, Standard IE, Boxwalla English, Butler English etc. has been developed as sub-varieties of the Indian English variety in the mid 20th century and this phase did not cease to develop till now).

To sum up, Schneider's model emphasizes the dynamic nature of postcolonial Englishes, and highlights the importance of understanding the historical and social context in which these varieties of English have developed. It also recognizes the role of colonialism in shaping the development of the Indian variant of English, and the ongoing influence of English as a global language.

1.1.2 Foundation phase: English is brought to India

The first known contacts between English people and India occurred in the late 16th century when English traders began to visit the Indian subcontinent in search of valuable spices and textiles.

The history of the English language in India dates back to the 1600s - 1770s (or in some sources - early 1800s)[17], when the East India Company arose and the first English missionaries appeared on the Hindustan peninsula. This is when the foundation phase of English in India begins.

The Hindus of that time were already quite tolerant of the ideas of Christianity, because Portuguese missionaries periodically visited India from the end of the 15th century - that is, over 150 years.

And it is the Portuguese who should be thanked for the fertile ground for Protestantism, because it was they who laid the foundations of Indian Christianity as a widespread religion. And even if it is taken into account that Christianity

existed in India long before the era of geographical discoveries, it was the Portuguese missionaries who made it one of the most widespread Abrahamic religions in India. English missionaries received an excellent springboard for action in India. As a result of active missionary activity, English in India was considered the language of the religious community. It is noteworthy that until the beginning of the 19th century, Bibles imported to India were in English. The Bible was first translated into Bengali in 1809, and into Hindi even later, in 1835 [57]. Literate religious people were forced to learn English in order to understand the principles of their faith. And the literate were predominantly wealthy people.

At that time, English was not a widely spoken language in India and was very limited to religion and several other spheres of use. In the early 1600s, India was a diverse land with numerous kingdoms and states, each with its own culture and traditions. At that time, India was under the control of the Mughal Empire, which spoke Persian as its official language. However, the English East India Company had established its presence in India and was gradually expanding its influence. The English traders and officials who came to India communicated with the local people using a mixture of Portuguese, Arabic, and Persian, along with some local Indian dialects [27].

According to the scientists, English was mainly used as a lingua franca between the British and Indian merchants, and the language did not have any significant impact on the local population. The English, at that time, were regarded with curiosity and interest by some Indians, who saw them as exotic foreigners with new goods and ideas, but sometimes the disregard of the English towards the local traditions and customs had led to cultural clashes [53].

English traders, at first, imported mainly textiles, spices, and precious stones from India, while exporting English woolen cloth and metals. However, over time, the British began to establish more control over Indian industries, such as textiles, and

gradually expanded their influence in the region and lead to the stabilization phase of English in the society of India.

1.1.3 Exonormative stabilization phase: English as language of administration, education and legislation

The history of English in India during the exonormative stabilization phase refers to a period of time when English was firmly established as a language of power and prestige in India. This phase lasted from the mid-18th century until the mid-19th century, during the period of British colonial rule in India.

At the time, learning English became an honor by the educated Indians. The turnover of trade between Britain and India grew constantly, so knowing the language became profitable. The trade involved big money and exposure to British goods, which were considered chic among the Indians. Knowing English and owning land, one could make a fortune trading with the British. And even though a few succeeded, the English language aroused more and more interest even among illiterate people. Also in large port cities, the process of learning the language went faster, because English ships sailed quite often [13].

By the 1840s, there were already bilingual English-speakers in India, who were required, according to T.B. Macaulay, in order to "... be interpreters between us and the millions whom we govern - a class of persons, Indians in blood and color, but English in taste, in opinion, in morals and in intellect" [16].

English became the official and academic language of India in the early 20th century and the language of administration, law, education, and commerce in India. At that time top positions were taken by the British, so the document flow in the power structures was carried out mainly in English. English has firmly rooted in India and has become a means of presenting directives, instructions and administration. It was also used as a means of communication among the diverse

linguistic and cultural communities within India, who often used it as a second language.

One of the key features of this phase was the process of exonormative stabilization, which involved the development of a standard variety of English that was tailored to Indian linguistic and cultural norms. This was achieved through the efforts of Indian scholars and linguists who worked to adapt English grammar, syntax, and vocabulary to better suit the needs of Indian speakers [42].

One notable example of this is the development of Indian English, which is a distinct variety of English that incorporates Indian idioms, syntax, and vocabulary. Indian English is now widely used in India, and is recognized as an important aspect of Indian linguistic and cultural identity [39].

Despite its importance, English was also a source of controversy during this period. Many Indian nationalists saw it as a symbol of British colonialism and sought to promote the use of indigenous languages and cultures. However, English remained a dominant force in India until the mid-20th century, when the country gained independence and began to pursue policies of linguistic and cultural pluralism. And that is when the history of English in India is moving to the nativization stage.

1.1.4 Nativization stage: English starts to diverge from British English

The process of nativization, also known as indigenization is related to adoption and adaptation of foreign ideas, practices, and cultures to fit the local context. In India this process was going on in the late 19th -early 20th century. During the nativization stage in India, English played a significant role as it was introduced to the country by the British during colonial times.

English became the language of administration, education, and commerce in India, and its usage was widespread among the British rulers and the Indian elite. However, as Indians began to acquire education and gain exposure to English, they started to adapt and modify the language to suit their needs and cultural context.

This process of adapting English to Indian languages and culture is known as "Indian English.", which then became a distinct variety with its peculiar grammar, lexics, syntax etc.

During this time, Indian English began to diverge from British English in a number of ways. One of the most notable differences was in pronunciation. Indian English speakers tended to pronounce certain sounds differently from their British counterparts, often based on the sounds of their native languages. For example, many Indians pronounced the "th" sound as "d" or "t," and the "v" sound as "w." [11].

Another difference was in vocabulary. Indian English began to incorporate words and phrases from Indian languages, as well as borrowings from other languages like Arabic and Persian. This led to the development of a rich and diverse vocabulary that was unique to Indian English

Grammar was also affected by nativization. Indian English began to develop its own grammar rules, which sometimes differed from those of British English. For example, Indian English speakers often misused "do" as an auxiliary verb, even when it wasn't necessary, as in "Do you have any questions?" instead of "Have you any questions?" [27].

Finally, Indian English developed its own idioms and expressions, which reflected the unique culture and customs of India. These expressions were often a blend of English and local languages, and they helped to give Indian English its distinctive character [39, p 25-30].

In fact, there is no single individual or group of individuals who can be credited with codifying Indian English. Rather, it is a product of the natural evolution of English in India. This stage is famous for the emergence of Indian English literature, the nativization stage in India also saw the emergence of a group

of Indian writers who wrote in English, such as R.K. Narayan, Mulk Raj Anand, and Raja Rao, whom, so to say, we can call the codifiers of IE [5].

However, such a position of English in local society has raised concern among some members of Indian nationalist intelligentsia and led to the rise of nationalistic movement in the 1920s. There was some anti-English sentiment voiced, although the movement itself used English as a medium of communication [1]. That is why we can see that the role of English in India was undeniable and the language itself was impossible to erase.

To sum up, the nativization stage played a significant role in the development of Indian English as a distinct variety of English. As India continues to evolve and change, it is likely that Indian English will continue to develop and diverge from its British roots.

1.1.5 Endonormative stabilization phase: local demand for English-speaking Indians

In the first half - second half of the 20th century, Indian English underwent a process of endonormative stabilization, when it was accepted as a legitimate variety of English in its own right. This was partly due to the Indian independence movement, which emphasized the importance of Indian languages and cultures.

In the 1920s, largely due to the efforts of Mahatma Gandhi, a struggle for freedom began in the country - both territorial and linguistic [13]. After gaining independence in 1947, the territory was formally freed from the influence of the British Empire, but almost 200 years under the rule of the British were not in vain.

Even after India's independence, many nationalists, seeing the good prospects in this language, the language of Western values etc., wanted English to remain the official language, or at least one of the official ones. Even just to shift the status of English it took 15 years of bureaucratic work. The main reason is that the linguistic diversity in India was too great to choose a single state language

immediately after independence. A lot of work was required to prepare the population and power structures for the promotion of Hindi as the main official. Such changes in the political life of India lead to different cultural clashes and subsequently to the introduction of "Three language formula" in education (the learners were supposed to learn the regional language + Hindi + English at school) [32].

But over time, the importance of English in India has not decreased, and even increased with the development of the Internet, globalization and overall dynamicity of modern society. No wonder, that all these changes required the qualified professionals in India, which had a good command of English. India had and still has a growing demand for English-speaking professionals due to the country's increasing integration into the global economy and the rise of the IT and services sectors.

English is widely spoken and used as the language of business, education, and government in India, and proficiency in the language is considered a key skill for career advancement. The demand for English language training and education is high, with many language schools and institutes offering courses to help individuals improve their English skills.

However, some scientists raise concerns about the fact that the English language is leading to the greater social differentiation than it was before [11]. On the one hand, English is often seen as a symbol of social prestige and economic success in India, and the ability to speak English fluently is often seen as a marker of social status. This can lead to social discrimination against those who do not speak English well or who do not have access to English-language education. On the other hand, the teaching of English can also promote social mobility and economic opportunity, particularly for individuals from marginalized communities who may not have access to other forms of education or job opportunities. English-

language skills can be a valuable asset in many industries and can help individuals break out of poverty and improve their social status [59]. That is why the socio-related situation with English in India is getting complex in some way.

Summarizing everything, speaking about the endonormative stabilization phase of English in India is an important process that reflects the growing demand for English-speaking Indians in a globalized world. It is a complex process that involves adapting English to local Indian norms and customs, that reflects the changing linguistic and social landscape of the country.

1.1.6 Towards a differentiation phase: IE, Hinglish, Babu English, Butler English, Boxwalla English etc.

As it was previously stated, the differentiation phase according to Schneider's model, is the phase when language acquires new varieties in itself, creating new dialects and varieties. Same phase of development can be observed if we are speaking about Indian English, which has been divided into several functional varieties through ages of existence.

In general, the Indian version of the English language during this phase (it was ongoing in the mid 20th century) got divided into dialects, the most important of which are: *Standard Indian English* - used in the federal media of India; *Hinglish* - a dialect spoken mainly by people whose mother tongue is Hindi. They are almost the same with minor differences [34].

Hinglish is a common language variant of English in India, the accepted national standard of this language in India. David Crystal suggested that about 350 million people speak this language [22]. Hinglish is a combination of Hindi and English. It is more commonly heard in the speech of today's student youth, many educated Indians, Indian professionals working in the field of information technology or outsourcing, and merchants. Hinglish dominates in cinema, television, music and entertainment channels, advertising, the media, and is also

the language of a hybrid culture of a certain class of ethnic Indians living or born outside of India [33].

Since spoken Indian English is most subject to territorial and social variation, let us consider in more detail its functional varieties, which are, so to say, a product of the differentiation phase of development (also called sub-varieties, B. Kachru's term)[15].

B. Kachru identifies such sub-varieties of Indian English as *Baboo English*, *Butler English*, *Boxwallah English*, which are a legacy of the colonial past of India, but at present they are also used, but in somewhat different functions. Some researchers, for example, R. Mehrotra, call these sub-varieties pidginized forms, which actually performed and continue to perform the function of a lingua franca when communicating between foreigners and the local population in strictly limited areas of life [4][30].

Initially, a sub-variety of *Baboo English* was the English speech of Indian officials and translators with an English, albeit second-rate education. The word *baboo*, originally *babu* (derived from the Bengali language, meaning "gentleman"), was the name given to a written English-speaking employee of the East India Company. The basis of this sub-variety can be considered English, common in Bengal in the 19th century.

Currently, *Baboo English* is a special colloquial language with which the local population communicates with English speakers, as well as with other visiting foreigners in southern India and Nepal. Interestingly, over time, the spelling of the word itself changed in accordance with the rules of English spelling and pronunciation. *Baboo English* is characterized by distinctive pronunciation, a significant amount of slang words and expressions, and grammar that differs from standard British English. Also, when defining the term *Baboo English* in dictionaries, there is a dismissive attitude to this form of speech, its formality,

stylistic embellishment, excessive politeness, indirect expression of thought, that is why some researchers call it an ornate version of English.

The sub-variety *Boxwallah English* was originally distributed in South Asia. Small goods traders, boxwallahs, who traveled all over the country and communicated with both the local population and the settlers used Boxwallah English (commercial English). The term boxwallah comes from the English word *box*, which means a box where the goods were and the Arabic word *wallah*, a servant for special assignments, and originally referred to the street vendors of Delhi and other northern cities of India during the colonial period, which lasted from 1865 to 1948 [20]. At the same time, in terms of social status, businessmen were opposed to civil servants (baboo), who also knew English, but had better education. Thus, comparing Babu English and Boxwalla English, one can imagine them being located on a scale showing different degrees of correctness and prestige of the English used by Indians.

Boxwallah English, which originated during the period of colonialism, is now used when communicating with foreigners who come to the resorts of India, is especially popular among souvenir sellers near hotels and has a number of features such as use of the negative *no* instead of *not*, as well as the absence of auxiliary verbs to form the negative form of sentences etc.

Butler English, another name for Bearer English or Kitchen English, broken English, originally served for communication between the butler and the white master, which arose during the period of colonialism in the province of Madras, and, according to the observations of B. Kachru, functions as a contact variety of spoken Indian English to the present day in most cities of South Asia, where there are foreigners [8]. Initially, the basis for kitchen English was a specially simplified speech of the English themselves. The British deliberately simplified their speech, showing condescension, so that the locals could more easily and quickly

understand their masters. In many Indian cities as a rudimentary or marginal pidgin, kitchen English still performs the function of communication between the local population and foreigners in South Asia [9]. Its main features include fixed word order (subject-verb-object) the absence of auxiliary verbs, prepositions, excessive use of -ing forms, Dravidian influence on the phonetics, use of jargon (*family* used instead of *wife*) etc.

To represent the functional varieties of Indian English, a scale can be given that is an axis of normativity, as well as prestige, where a gradation can be traced. Written Baboo English and spoken Butler English are at opposite ends of an axis representing the lectal levels of Indian English.

In general, the high degree of socio-territorial diversification of the Indian English language is explained, firstly, by its long history, secondly, by the high degree of stratification of society that is still observed, thirdly, by the great diversity of languages in India, and fourthly, the lack of access to quality education in English, and fifthly, the variety of areas of application of the English language in India.

1.2 Sociolinguistic profile of English in India

India is a diverse country with more than 1.3 billion people, and English is one of the many languages spoken in the country, having a special status in the Indian society. The sociolinguistic profile of English in India is multiplex, and varies depending on various factors such as social class, education, region, and occupation.

In the context of India, sociolinguistics plays an important role in understanding the linguistic diversity of the country, as well as the social and cultural factors that shape language use and attitudes. In general, the sociolinguistic situation in this country in relation to English and other languages being present can be considered as a non-conflicting one [54]. English exists alongside the other

languages, having become a native one or the second language for a number of people and being introduced during colonial times. Today, English is the second most widely spoken language in India, after Hindi. It is estimated that there are around 125 million English speakers in India, making it the largest English-speaking country in the world after the United States [30, p.14].

The English language is being used in a number of spheres, ranging from school and university education to politics and business. Therefore, its role is undeniable in this country.

Among the main factors which contributed to the firm establishment of English in India the following ones are included: colonial legacy (India was a British colony for over 200 years, and English therefore was the language of the title nation); education (the best universities in India, including the Indian Institutes of Technology and Indian Institutes of Management, teach most of their courses in English. Many students also tend to go to USA and UK on exchange programs); globalization (English didn't cease to be an international language, being really important in communication with different companies abroad and no wonder, that many Indian companies, which operate on global scale, use it to keep their business afloat); social mobility (the colonial legacy and the globalization processes has instilled the thought in the Indian minds that English is the language of privilege and will give you better career opportunities); multilingualism (India is well-known for its linguistic diversity, many languages spoken there belong to different families and might be unintelligible by the speakers of other language and English plays a role of lingua franca in this case).

However, English in India is not uniformly spoken or understood. According to scientific studies, there are significant differences in English proficiency and usage across different regions, social classes, and age groups. For instance, urban, educated Indians generally have a higher level of English proficiency than rural or

less-educated Indians. Additionally, the use of English as a marker of status can be a source of social tension and exclusion, as those who do not speak English proficiently may be perceived as inferior or less educated [44].

Generally speaking, the study of the English language situation in India and its sociolinguistic implications is an important area of research that can shed light on the complex relationship between language and society in one of the world's most diverse countries.

1.2.1 Geography and demography

The geography of English in India is complex and multifaceted. As it was stated in previous chapters, English was introduced to India during the British colonial period and has since become an official language of India, co-existing with many other regional languages.

Speaking about the demographic and geographical specifics of English in India, it is widely spoken and understood in urban areas throughout the country, especially in major cities such as Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Chennai, and Kolkata. However, the level of proficiency in English can vary from region to region, depending on factors such as education, socioeconomic status, and exposure to the language [60]. Some scientists state that English proficiency is also seen as a key factor in upward social mobility [9].

In general, English is more commonly spoken and used as the primary language of communication in cities and among educated urban populations. Mostly, the speakers of English, or, to be precise, Indian English are found among the educated middle and upper classes [36]. In rural areas and among less-educated populations, local languages and dialects are more prevalent.

However, English proficiency varies greatly across the country, with some states and regions having a higher concentration of English speakers than others. For example, the southern states of India, such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and

Kerala, have higher rates of English proficiency than the northern states [31]. This can be explained by the following facts: the south of India has faced longer colonial period than the northern part; the education system of the South is better than the northern one (according to several sources, most top universities of India are located in its southern part and use English as a medium of communication and instruction); cultural factors, such as the general perception of English as a good means for a career lift (the southern states are being more more engaged in tourism and therefore jobs with the knowledge of English are in demand there); the linguistic diversity (the northern part of India has a greater diversity of languages compared to the South, which may make it more challenging for people in the North to learn English as a second language).

In fact, it is difficult to pinpoint a specific region in India where English is the most popular and widely spoken, as its usage and proficiency vary widely throughout the country due to the fact that the IE is a dynamic and evolving variety, shaped by a complex set of social, cultural, and historical factors.

1.2.2 Status and domains of use

English is one of the *official* languages of India and is widely used for various purposes, having a special status in India. It is one of the official languages of the Indian government, along with Hindi and 21 other regional languages.

The Indian Constitution recognizes English as a language of communication between the central government and the states. Under the Official Languages Act of 1963, Hindi and English are both *official* languages for the Indian government. The Act mandates that English be used for official purposes, such as parliamentary proceedings, court proceedings, and in the higher judiciary.

Speaking about the general linguistic situation in India, Hindi, one of the two official languages alongside English, is the most widely spoken language in this country. About 40% of all Indians are native speakers of Hindi. Also there are 22

languages, which have the status of "*scheduled* languages for inclusion in the constitution". The *classical* languages of India are Tamil, Sanskrit, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam. There isn't any language with a status of a national language in India, according to the constitution [40].

Here are some of the domains of use of English in India:

- *education* (English is widely used as a medium of instruction in schools and universities across India, especially in higher education. It has been a part of the "Three language formula, which was mentioned in previous chapters);
- *business* (English is the language of commerce and is used for communication in the business world. It is often used for official correspondence, negotiations, and meetings. Although several legislative acts were issued in order to lesser the status of English in India and promotion of the full-scale transition to Hindi and due to rapid industrialization and multinational influence in the economy, English continues to be a popular and influential means of communication in business);
- *media* (English is extensively used in the Indian media, including print, television, and online media. Many newspapers, magazines, and news channels publish their content in English. Among the most famous English newspapers are *The Indian Express*, *Times of India*, *Hindustan News*);
- *government* (as it was said, English is one of the official languages of the Indian government and is used for official purposes such as documentation, legislation, and communication with foreign governments. However in 2014 there was a bill issued by the PM Narendra Modi to promote Hindi or at least a mixed English-Hindi communication in governmental settings [41].Despite this, English didn't cease to be popular in government);

- *science and technology* (English is the language of science and technology, and is widely used in research papers, conferences, and academic publications. Moreover, English proficiency is considered an important skill for Indian students and researchers who want to pursue higher studies or research opportunities abroad. In recent years, there has been a growing emphasis on promoting science education in Indian languages as well, to make scientific knowledge more accessible to a wider audience, but in any case, English continues to be still dominant) [37].

In general, English plays an important role in India as a language of communication, particularly in the areas of education, business, and government. Its status is likely to continue to evolve as the country does not stop modernizing and developing.

1.2.3 Cultural aspects, Indian English literature

English is widely spoken in India and needless to say that it plays an important role in Indian society. Judging from the extralinguistic factors, noted in previous chapters, the cultural aspects of English in India are influenced by the history of British colonization and the subsequent adoption of English as a language widely used in different spheres of human activity.

In general, what can be said about the culture of English in India, its aspects are complex and multifaceted. The main cultural aspects include: the influence of regional languages which has led to the appearance of the new variety - Indian English (the lexical, grammatical, phonological and pragmatic features of this variety will be described in further subchapters); the widespread use of English in pop culture (many Indian movies, especially Bollywood ones are being made in English or in the mixture of English and Hindi; many publications of different domains are being used; even many songs are being sung by Indians in English - the examples of how this language is used are numerous); the use of English in

science, politics and also in religion (Indian Christians are using it in their services and many religious texts of other religions are being translated into English) etc. [42].

But one of the most vibrant spheres of use of English in India is the literature written in English. According to the scientist M. Chuprina, nowadays, India is the third country after the USA and Great Britain in the production of literature in English. Literary works in English are an integral part of the South Asian literary tradition. The topics of literary works in English are constantly increasing [18].

The literature in India encompasses a wide range of topics, such as colonialism and postcolonialism, national identity, religion, gender rights, poverty etc. The first Indian writer to publish a book in English was Raja Rammohan Roy, who wrote "The Precepts of Jesus" in 1820. However, it was not until the late 19th and early 20th centuries that Indian English literature began to flourish. Writers like Rabindranath Tagore, Sarojini Naidu, and Mulk Raj Anand emerged as pioneers of Indian English literature during this time [52].

The period between the 1930s and the 1960s is often referred to as the "Indo-Anglian" period, during which a number of writers made significant contributions to the genre. This period saw the emergence of writers such as R.K. Narayan, Bhabani Bhattacharya, and Raja Rao, who are regarded as the "trinity" of Indian English literature [5].

In the 1970s and 1980s, Indian English literature witnessed a major transformation with the emergence of a new generation of writers who were more politically and socially conscious. Writers like Salman Rushdie, Arundhati Roy, and Vikram Seth emerged during this period and brought new themes and styles to Indian English literature [42].

It is also worth to note that some Indian writers won the nobel prize for their works in the sphere of literature (e.g. Rabindranath Tagore, who in fact was the

first Indian to win a Nobel Prize having won it 1913 for his collection of poems, *Gitanjali*; V.S. Naipaul, the diaspora Indian writer, who won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2001 for his works that explored the complexities of the post-colonial world ("A House for Mr. Biswas," "In a Free State," and "The Enigma of Arrival.") etc.) [49].

In conclusion, the culture of English in India is rather vibrant and the English language is omnipresent in India. The language has been shaped by the country's colonial history, cultural influences, and social aspirations, and continues to evolve in response to changing trends and needs. Indian English literature is a rich and diverse field that shows the culture and social realities of India. It is a testament to the power of literature to capture and reflect the complexities of human experience.

1.3 Features of Indian English

Indian English can be considered to be a unique variety in terms of its linguistic features. Having evolved to incorporate a blend of the standard English, and regional languages spoken in India, resulting in a distinct vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar, it has been of a high interest to different researchers, both foreign and Ukrainian.

In terms of linguistics, the IE has become unique in all aspects of language: vocabulary, phonetics, grammar, discourse and pragmatics. All these features reflect the linguistic, political and social processes, which has contributed to its creation.

IE has developed and still develops due to many reasons described in previous chapters: cultural influences, colonial rule, globalization processes, education specifics etc. In order to consider the main features, which distinguish IE from other varieties, a table was created during this study to describe the aspects of Indian English:

Table 1.1. "Linguistic Features of Indian English"

Aspect	Features
Phonetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change of sounds; • non-distinction between several sounds; • reduction; • monophthongization; • aspiration (typical for the speakers of several local languages); • complexity of stress patterns.
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • replacement of words; • semantic change; • abbreviations and acronyms typical for the Indian English; • idiomatic expressions; • culturally specific words, regionalisms; • kichiri forms.
Grammar and morphology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loanwords; • compounds; • use of specific affixes and endings (misuse of English ones and borrowing of Indian); • peculiar morphology features (misuse of words and tenses, inverted word order etc.)
Discourse and pragmatics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • politeness (self-abasement, honorifics etc.); • code-mixing;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unique non-verbal means; • indirectness in speech; • cultural reference.
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Judging from the information presented in the table, it can be said that IE has a rather extensive system of features that require research. A close examination on all the aspects of IE will be presented in the next subchapters in this study.

1.3.1 Phonetics and phonology

According to the researchers of Indian English, its most striking feature is phonetics. In the field of IE phonetics, there are a number of deviations from the norms of pronunciation of British English.

Researchers of Indian English explain these phonetic features by the fact that the peoples inhabiting India have an articulatory set different from the peoples inhabiting the British Isles (the jaws are more loosely connected and the distance between the upper and lower teeth is comparatively wider, so that the oral cavity is more and even too open than the standard British pronunciation implies)[61].

The phonetic features of IE are closely linked to the local languages, which enriched this variety. It should be noted that the languages in India are extremely diverse in terms of their phonetic representation, that's why phonetic features of, for example, IE of Indian north might be different from the South.

In general, speaking about the most eye-catching phonetic features, the following can be outlined: change of sounds, non-distinction between different sounds, reduction and monophthongisation, aspiration, sound voicing, complexity of stress patterns [16, p. 3][47].

The Indians tend to change sounds into another. Among the most typical changes occurring the following can be outlined: change of alveolar consonants to retroflex ones ([t] and sometimes [d] go retroflex); change of [r] sound to

oscillating or retroflex (especially in the words like "hurt", "park", "car", however in the words like "pleasure" [r] is obsolete); change of [z] to [d] (the word "zero" sounds like [di:ro]), change of [z] sound to [s] in plural nouns (the word "pupils" will have [s] sound at the end), interdental sounds become alveolar sounds ([θ] instead of [θ̪] in "throw", for example, but this feature is typical for Tamil-speakers), glottal stop [ʔ] in the words like "little"; change of [f] to [p] sound etc.

Indians don't distinguish between several sounds, unifying them in their speech. The brightest examples of this phenomenon is non-distinction between consonants [v] and [w] ("volleyball" and will sound like [walibal] and all words with [w] and [v] have the sound [w]); [ɒ] and [ɔ] sound like [a] ("coffee" goes like [kafi]) etc.

Some sounds in IE are reduced. For example, in fast speech they tend to reduce the -ed ending in the verbs ("I walked yesterday" will sound like "I walk yesterday"). Also the word "acts" will have the reduction of [t].

Monophthongisation is a rather striking feature of IE phonetics. The words like "sure", "beer", "choir" will sound like [ʃu:r], [bi:r], [kwa:r] in IE, having the diphthongs reduced to one sound.

Indian languages, with the exception of Tamil, have aspirated and unaspirated plosives, and fricatives that are written as "th", "bh", "dh" are often aspirated. Needless to say, that the speakers of Hindi will aspirate them speaking English ("top" will go as [tʰap] produced by Hindi-speaker).

In some regions, the speakers of IE tend to voice plosives. This feature isn't present everywhere in India, but is present in the speech of Dravidians ("simply" in their speech will sound like "simbly").

As for the stress, researchers note that Indian English is usually syllabic, which means that stressed syllables do not alternate at regular intervals. In addition, syllables that are unstressed in other varieties of English are sometimes stressed in Indian English, with vowel reduction canceled. Thus, stress in standard

Indian English is a rather confusing phenomenon. Where the stress falls depends on the "weight" of the syllable. A syllable is considered light if it contains only one short vowel, and the number of consonants preceding the vowel does not matter [62]. All this makes Indian English difficult to understand.

To sum up, Indian English differs so much from the BrE or AmE in terms of phonetics, therefore being a plentiful sphere for the further phonetical research done by many scientists.

1.3.2 Vocabulary

The vocabulary of Indian English can be considered as a rather vibrant part of the language. It has been regularly enriched through centuries of its existence. Some elements of it may seem strange and challenging to a person who speaks standard English at a communicative level. If not diving into the specific vocabulary features of the sub-varieties of Indian English and speaking generally, the vocabulary of IE was highly influenced by local languages (especially Hindustani and Dravidian family of languages) and the standard English itself and lexical features of Indian English include the following: replacement of one word with another, total change of the meaning of words, use of specific abbreviations and acronyms, kichiri forms, idioms, culture-bound elements etc. There are also other features, but these are the most eye-catching [39][31].

The greatest example of replacement of one word with another is the use of the word *across* instead of *over*. As a result of such substitutions, the standard English cues "send it over" take on an unusual form: "send the bill across to me". *Back* also will replace *ago* to indicate an action that has passed some time ago, such as "I met him 3 years back" instead of "I met him 3 years ago."

The words of standard English can sometimes totally change their meaning in Indian English, acquiring completely new semantics, main examples include the following: "funny" having not only the meaning "odd"/"strange", but also "rude,

improper" ("He was acting so funny with me."); "freak out" with the meaning "to have fun" ("Let's freak out at my brother's home"); "pass out" meaning "to graduate" (I will pass out of the university in 2023); "wheatish" - "light brown color of skin"; "mood" having the meaning of "the state of being sexually aroused"; "smart" - "beautifully dressed" etc.

The younger generation in India is prone to use different abbreviations or shortenings. The most striking one is the use of *TK* or *T-K* ("theek hai, literally meaning okay"), especially when answering some question: "Would you like to come to the movie? - TK, I'll meet you there later." or different word curtailments like "enthu" instead of "enthusiastic", "fundu" instead of "fundamental" [66][65]. Indians are also using such a type of language, which is a mixture of English, Hindi and other languages. The Indians call this phenomenon *kichiri*. *Kichiri* is a meal that consists of a few random ingredients, which is a fairly accurate description of how Indians talk to each other. Even in "pure" Indian English, non-English expressions such as *mai*, "generally speaking" and *ek minute*, "one minute", are common. Other examples include: "acha" - "good", "nice hai" - "its is nice" etc.

The IE is rich in idioms and set phrases which might be obsolete in British or American English. Here are the following: "out of station" - "not at home, not at the place of residence"; "Tell me" - "How can i help you?"; "do the needful" - "do the tasks you are supposed to do"; "do one thing" - "shut up" [67][68].

And, of course, being the English variety in such an exotic country, IE is full of different culture-bound words and phrases (some of them might be tied specifically to some region), which describe typical objects, foods, traditions of the place: "basmati" - "type of rice", "chaiwalla" - "a person who makes and serves chai, Indian tea"; "creamy layer" - "members of a backward caste who are highly advanced socially, economically and educationally"; "purdah" - "religious and social female seclusion"; "namaste" - "traditional Indian greeting" [69][70]. These

words, however, are also present in other variants of English to denote the realia typical of India and countries, which are similar to it in terms of culture.

To sum up, the vocabulary part of Indian English is one of the most representative and peculiar parts of it, influenced by different other languages and dialects and being rather dynamic and still a developing part of this English variety.

1.3.3. Grammar and morphology

Indian English, like any other variety of English, has its own unique grammar and morphological rules and usage. Being the part of the English variety outside the Inner Circle, they are rather specific, of course, and require further studies and research.

On the morphological level Indian English is distinguished by the following features: use of compounds, loanwords, use of special affixes and endings, peculiar inflectional morphological features[46][24].

The compounding is a rather productive feature in IE. This is because the Indian languages are rich in compound words and this feature has been carried over to Indian English. Compound words can be divided into the categories noun-noun and adjective-noun. The most productive type is the noun-noun type: ("auto-rickshaw", "kitty party", "sari-clad", "shalwar kameez" etc.)

Many compound words are formed by the principle of association, such as:

- noun-noun, including nouns derived from verbs ("eve-teaser", "car-lifter", "room cooler", "stone-pelter" etc.)
- adjective-noun ("half-pants", "tomato roti", "masala chai", "creamy layer" etc.)

Affixation is also productive enough in terms of word formation in IE. Perhaps one of the most productive suffixes is the -wala (or sometimes spelled as -wella and written separately) suffix, which is used to describe a person who is engaged in a particular activity. Many of these words denote those people who sell

different objects and foods: "chaiwalla", "presswalla", "waterwalla", "boxwalla" etc. Another suffix used is the English suffix -fy (like in the word "muskafy", for example), but it is a rather rare one. Speaking about prefixes in IE, they can be used in a non-standard way: to create the word "prepone", the prefix is -pre, instead of -post (from postpone), such a unit means "to reschedule to an earlier time".

The ending -s is also used non-standardly in IE. It is attached to the loanwords and the uncountable nouns ("rotis", "litters", "furnitures" etc.), which is considered to be a mistake in AmE or BrE, but is taken for granted in IE. Also there is a typical Indian ending -ji added to names to show respect (Jimmyji, Michaelji etc.).

There are also many loanwords in IE, as it borrows heavily from languages such as Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Telugu, and Bengali. Mostly, these words are rather culture-specific: "dhoti", "bandh", "kaccha", "ayah" etc.

As for the inflectional morphology, Indian English is relatively similar to British and American English. Nouns are generally marked for number (singular or plural), and verbs are marked for tense (present, past, future, etc.), aspect (continuous, perfect, etc.), and agreement with the subject. However, there are some differences in inflectional morphology, such as the use of "is" as a plural marker (e.g. "two is enough") in some varieties of Indian English.

The grammar features of Indian English contain many deviations from the standard variants of English, needless to say that they are present in IE because of the impact of local language grammars and direct translations of grammar constructions from one language to another. Among the features of grammar the following ones can be singled out: misuse of different words, reduplications, misuse of tense forms and infinitives, inverted word order etc.

As for the misuse of different words, the most striking examples are "What is your good name?" (translated directly from the Hindi phrase □□□□ □□□

□□□ □□□ □□?) and "close the light" instead of "turn off the light" (compare with Hindi □□□□ □□□□)[67]. Also Indians tend to use *itself* and some other words unjustifiably ("Can we go there itself?"). To this type of grammar features the omission of articles ("He is teacher.") and misuse of prepositions ("talk on the phone" instead of "over the phone") can be added, too.

Indians, like, for example, Singaporeans and Malay people, are also using many reduplications such as "Come, come!", "Sit, sit!", "bad, bad person" as an intensifier and this feature was taken from colloquial Hindi.

The verbal forms and tenses are usually acquiring incorrect forms in IE and are marked by misuse. Among the striking examples of it here are the following ones: use of progressive tense of stative verbs ("Are you knowing it?", "Where are you coming from?"); misuse of prepositions ("pay attention on"), yes/no expression of tag questions ("She is here, no?") etc.

Indians also tend to produce questions with the inverted word order (subject is changing place with predicate), which is a rather unique feature of the variety: "What you would like to eat?", "You are from Ukraine?" etc. Needless to say, that this is a sign of superimposition of grammatical norms of local languages on English.

To put in a nutshell, IE has its own distinct grammar and morphology that have evolved over time due to the influence of various Indian languages and dialects. While it shares many features with standard English, there are also significant differences in usage that make it a unique and fascinating variety.

1.3.4 Discourse and pragmatics

Indian English has its own unique discourse and pragmatic features due to its diverse linguistic, cultural, and social influences, which, of course, would be different from those typical of the Anglo-Saxon world. Some of the distinctive features of Indian English discourse and pragmatics are the following: code-mixing,

politeness, indirect language, high reliance on non verbals, cultural references [14][29].

Politeness of Indians is the most striking feature in this country. Indian languages usually have more polite word formulas than European ones, which can be explained by the high impact of the near-existing cultures, caste system and high intercultural connections. Indian politeness can be expressed in different ways: use of the self-abasement language ("My poor home is..."); use of the words for raising the self-esteem of the interlocutor ("Ok, my honorable friend."); use of different kinship terms ("Hello, Liza sis."); ji- suffix to show honorable attitude ("auntie-ji"); use of honorifics especially with members of higher casts and foreigners ("ma'am", "sir") etc.

Indians also tend to mix codes while communicating online, in informal settings and in media. Indian English speakers often switch between English and their native language or other Indian languages, creating a unique blend of languages. This phenomenon is often used to express emotions, emphasize certain points, to convey cultural nuances or simply to show yourself as an educated person. Here are some examples: "g boht *emotional yeh sir* woh *feel* karsakte hai jo *broke* ho *it's meann u broken*", "*looking for* gupshup?" "apka *age*?" (the words in bold and italics are the English ones, but the other text is in Hindi). The code-mixing poses a real difficulty while communicating with foreigners.

Among the other typical features of Indian discourse is indirectness in speech. Indians tend to use indirect language and hints rather than explicit communication to avoid causing offense or confrontation. This can sometimes lead to misunderstandings, especially for non-Indians who are not familiar with this cultural practice. The best example of this is the statement "Do one thing!" used with the meaning "Be quiet!", which might be not understood correctly by the person unfamiliar with Indian culture.

Indians rely heavily on non-verbal communication such as facial expressions, gestures, and tone of voice to convey meaning. This is especially important in a country with so many different languages and dialects. Some of the gestures are quite different in the meaning from the Western ones, such as moving your head from left to right to express affirmation and nodding up and down to say "no" etc. [2, p. 21].

Indian English speakers often make cultural references to movies, music, and other aspects of Indian popular culture. This is often used to create a sense of shared identity and belonging among speakers. The example of this can be the reference to myths and legends, which is highly popular in the scientific and political discourse.

On the whole, the discourse and pragmatics of Indian English reflect the rich cultural, linguistic, and social diversification of India and are constituting a remarkable part in modern research of IE linguistics.

Conclusions to Chapter 1

English has a significant role in India's political discourse and has a powerful influence on Indian society and culture. India is one of the top four countries with the largest number of English speakers, with its evolution reflecting the changing social, political, and economic landscape of the country. While Hindi is the lingua franca in the North, English is the universal language in South India, and its sociolinguistic side is varied and depends on factors such as social class, education, region, and occupation.

English is widely spoken and used as the primary language of communication in cities and among educated urban citizens. However, local languages and dialects are more prevalent in rural areas and among less-educated populations. English proficiency varies greatly across the country, with some states and regions having a higher concentration of English speakers than others. Its

usage and status also differ based on various reasons such as education, origins, caste etc.

English played a vital role in India's colonial past and has since become a language of privilege and upward social mobility. It is used in various domains, including school and university education, politics, and business. While it is one of the official languages of the Indian government, its fluency and usage are more extensive among the elite class who are often educated in English-medium schools.

The emergence of "new varieties" of English in India is becoming more localized as differences arise between English used by native speakers and different local languages. English is crucial in India's economic, professional, political, and social life, but its usage has also created social stratification and elitism, where fluency in English or any other Western language is used as a means for the elite to distinguish themselves from the common people.

In conclusion, English in India has become a language of power and prestige, reflecting the country's changing social, political, and economic landscape. While it has played a significant role in India's development, it has also led to social stratification and elitism. The ongoing evolution of English in India will continue to adapt and change to the country's changing landscape.

CHAPTER 2. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK OF THE RESEARCH

2. Research data and methodology

English is widely used in political debates and discussions in India, especially in the higher echelons of government and among the educated urban population. Political debates in India are usually conducted in a formal setting, such as on television news channels, during parliamentary sessions, or in high-level political meetings. In these settings, politicians and commentators use sophisticated vocabulary and complex sentence structures to convey their arguments and ideas.

The data chosen for the research in this thesis includes the Youth Parliament debates of India. The Youth Parliament program in India is an initiative aimed at providing young people with a platform to engage in parliamentary debates and learn about the functioning of the Indian parliamentary system. The program is organized by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and is open to students between the ages of 18 and 25. The program consists of several series of debates that are structured according to the norms of the Indian parliament and judged by a panel of experts. One of the series of the debates, consisting of 8 videos, has been taken from the platform such as Youtube to conduct the research. Also for the study following sites such as Filmot and Downshub will be applied in order to download the transcripts required for close linguistic examination of the English language situation in Indian politics.

The sphere of political debates in India has been widely studied by many scientists, therefore remaining topical nowadays. India is the world's largest democracy and has a complex political landscape that includes multiple political parties, diverse regional interests, and a range of socio-economic, linguistic and cultural factors that influence political discourse (such as caste system, religious differences, national differentiation etc.).

The scientists R. Gargesh and A. Sharma have made an analysis of linguistic features in the English language of India on micro- and macrolinguistic levels, considering the Kachruvian notion of the 'verbal dispute' and how it functions in Indian discourse. In their research they considered the 3 types of political discussions: the debate, the interview and altercation between the moderator and guests.

On a macrolinguistic level their study included the following stages: setting of the discussion analysis, image of the participants, socio-cultural and political background; informational content, argumentation, expressive features. The microlinguistic level of their research consisted of the following phonology examination, syntactic analysis, analysis of question types used in the debates, rhetorical devices etc.

The study of the Youth Parliament Debates in our thesis will have certain similarities with the one conducted by R. Gargesh and A. Sharma, such as the analysis of linguistic features (on lexical, morphological, pragmatic levels etc.) used. However, the much deeper synthesis and analysis would be provided in terms of the constraints of the genre of the political debates, socio-linguistic profile, registers etc. and the results of it will be presented in our work.

2.1 Constraints of data collection and selection

The Youth Parliament debates in India refer to the platform provided to the youth of the country to discuss and deliberate on issues of national importance. The debates are organized by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and are aimed at encouraging young people to participate in democratic processes and contribute to policy making.

The Youth Parliament Debates in India are a rich source of linguistic data that can be analyzed to gain insights into language use and discourse patterns among Indians. However, there are several constraints that must be taken into account

when collecting and selecting data for linguistic analysis. They include the following:

- Availability of data. The Youth Parliament Debates may not be regularly held, and it may be difficult to obtain transcripts or recordings of the debates, needing to rely on secondary sources or incomplete data, which can limit the scope and validity of the analysis. The availability of the data may be limited, making it challenging to collect sufficient info for analysis. Access to data may also be restricted due to privacy concerns, copyright issues, or other legal restrictions.
- The quality of the data. It may be inconsistent, with some debates having poor audio or video quality, making it difficult to transcribe and analyze. Additionally, the language proficiency of the participants may vary, making it challenging to analyze their language use accurately.
- Diversity of participants. The Youth Parliament Debates may involve participants from different linguistic backgrounds, castes and regions of India, the country which is indeed rather multifaceted, making it challenging to select a representative sample for analysis. There may arise a need to consider factors such as age, gender, socio-economic status, and language proficiency when selecting participants for analysis.
- Selection bias. Another constraint is the possibility of selection bias, where the sample of data collected for analysis may not be representative of the population of interest. For example, if only collecting data from participants who are fluent in English, there may be missed out on important insights into the language use and discourse patterns of non-English speakers, in our case Indian English speakers.
- Ethical considerations. In modern times, when there exists a strict and fierce defense of copyright, there is also a need to consider ethical considerations

when collecting and analyzing data from the Youth Parliament Debates. There might be a requirement to obtain an informed consent from participants, ensure confidentiality and anonymity, and follow ethical guidelines for data collection and storage.

- Time constraint. Collecting and analyzing large amounts of data can be time-consuming, and the research may face time constraints that limit the scope and depth of the analysis.
- Data cleaning and preprocessing. Linguistic analysis of the Youth Parliament Debates may require extensive data cleaning and preprocessing, particularly if the data is in the form of transcripts or recordings. The researcher may need to remove irrelevant information, such as audience reactions or interruptions, and transcribe the data accurately to enable analysis. For this the transcription sites such as Filtmot and Downsub will be used in order to put the materials of the debates into text for further analysis.
- Legislative acts to encourage the use of Hindi in political discourse. Although English still plays the dominant role in India due to various socio-cultural causes, several legislative acts (such as, for example, the law by Narendra Modi of 2013) were issued in order to encourage the use of Hindi in politics. That is why the number of the debates of recent years in English might be lesser than before the issuance of the law and it might affect the research, too.

Summarizing that, the linguistic analysis of the Youth Parliament Debates in India requires careful consideration of the constraints of data collection and selection to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings.

2.1.1 English spoken in India primarily as a second language

English is one of the official languages of India and is widely used in political discourse in the country. While Hindi is the most widely spoken language

in India and is used as lingua franca at times, English is the language of the elite and is viewed as the language of education, commerce, and politics.

Political discourse in India is often conducted in English, particularly at the national level. Most of the country's political leaders (such as Shashi Tharoor, who is INC leader and Member of Parliament; Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister; Arvind Kejriwal, the Chief Minister of Delhi etc.) are fluent in English, and it is the language used in parliamentary debates, media interviews, and public speeches.

India has a parliamentary system of government, with the President as the head of state and the Prime Minister as the head of government. English is used in the proceedings of the Indian Parliament, which is made up of the Lok Sabha (lower house) and the Rajya Sabha (upper house). Members of Parliament are allowed and after the legislative acts of 2013 - encouraged to speak in any of the official languages of the country, including Hindi and English as well. India is a member of many international organizations, including the United Nations, and in these forums, English is often used as the common language for communication with representatives from other countries.

In fact, the use of English in politics and other domains has also been a subject of controversy in India. The opponents of English state the following:

- the widespread use of English is related to the colonial past, which is the sensitive topic in Indian society;
 - English is marginalizing the local languages and culture;
 - It reinforces the class and language hierarchies, excluding large sections of the population not having a good command of English;
- etc.

However the supporters of English have a different mind on this topic:

- It is viewed as a means of promoting national unity;
- English is the language contact between different linguistic groups in India;

- English is the language used internationally;
etc.

Judging that, it can be said that although the role of English is significant in Indian politics, it is not the first language of India, but it is widely spoken as a second language in the country with the majority of the population using one of the many native languages spoken in the country as their first language. It is important to note that not all Indians speak English as their second language, and there are many who don't speak it at all. In fact, the majority of the population in India does not speak English as their first language or even their second language. Therefore Hindi, which is also widely used on governance level and the other 22 official languages are encouraged to be used to smooth out the political and national tension.

To sum up, while English has been deeply entrenched in political discourse in India since colonial rule, when it was the main language of administration, it is important to ensure that language proficiency is not the only criteria for participation in political discourse, and that other languages are also given equal importance.

2.1.2 English rarely spoken in politics

English, being one of the official languages of India, is widely used in various aspects of Indian politics. English is commonly used in the Indian parliament, where members are allowed to speak in either Hindi or English. Many Indian politicians, especially those from urban and educated backgrounds, prefer to use English as their primary language in parliamentary debates and discussions.

As it was stated before English in India is a rather varied medium of communication, being differentiated into sub-varieties by regions, castes etc. and having their specific language features both inside and outside the subvarieties. However, there is a tendency not to use various types of English in politics in

general, Indian included. There are distinct reasons for not using this or that variant of English in politics.

Archaic English is avoided because it sounds outdated and may not be understood by the modern-day audience.

Formal or academic English is not widely used in political discourse as it doesn't connect with the general public. Instead, politicians use Standard Indian English on a high state level and colloquial variants of English, such as Hinglish, Tanglish, Manglish, Benglish, Chinglish, and others, to connect with regional audiences.

Slang English is avoided due to concerns of being unprofessional and inappropriate, and technical or jargon-filled English is also not commonly used as it may be difficult for the average person to understand.

To sum up it can be said that political discourse in India tends to use clear and simple English that is easily understood by a wide audience and guarantee the politician to be heard, grasped in the right way and to attract the sufficient number of their electorate. Although, mostly political discourse in India tends to use more formal and standard forms of English, the informal version of language might be applied, too, in order to reach the political goals needed.

2.1.3 Selection of 'Youth debates' and data description (genre, participants etc)

The political discourse in India is considered to be rather complex and variegated due to various social, cultural and economical implications described in previous chapters. It can be analyzed in various ways and by selecting different genres in terms of political ideology, regional diversity, religious affiliations, caste identities, social and economic disparities, linguistic (phonology, sociolinguistic, semantic) features, being a plentiful field for research.

Youth Parliament Debates, in a number of 8 videos, chosen for this research, are a platform where young Indians between the ages of 18 to 25 can come together to discuss and debate issues that are important to them. The program is organized by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and is aimed at encouraging young people to understand the workings of democracy, develop leadership skills, and become responsible citizens. The debates are modeled on the proceedings of the Indian Parliament, with participants taking on the roles of MPs and engaging in structured debates on a range of topics, which are selected based on their relevance to current social, economic, and political issues. Some of the topics that have been debated in the past include climate change, gender equality, education, healthcare, and corruption. The debates are held at the district, state, and national levels, involving the young politicians of different origins, meant regionally and socially, with winners from the lower levels advancing to the higher levels.

The genre of debates and the Indian Youth Parliament Debates have been chosen for the research due to the following reasons:

- political debates, as a genre, involve the use of language as a tool to persuade and influence the audience and therefore might serve as a valuable research material to be analyzed in terms of rhetorics, persuasive tactics applied etc.;
- taking into account the exoticity of IE and its sub-varieties, complex political situation in India and the different features of the participants in the debates there might be certain tendencies observed typical to the region to facilitate the further studies in this field;
- India's social profile is prominent for its issues such as caste system, gender-related problems, poverty issue, religion problems etc. All these factors couldn't help impacting on the language and discourse in general;

- India, having 28 states and union territories and being rather multinational, is a country with many different languages spoken and each language and regional specificities are reflected in the Indian English, which is a medium of communication in Youth Debates;
- The generation differences in terms of linguistics might be interesting, too, due to the fact that people of different generations take part in the Youth Parliament debates (e.g. the age belongings of the parliament members and the parliament vs. moderators age opposition are different and that might affect linguistic side of the debates);
- The analysis of the political debates in India might also give insight into the ideology or ideologies, which exists now in India, as this country has many parties presenting different ideas. And the Youth Parliament debates are mimicking the Indian parliament in some way, reflecting therefore the ongoing processes etc.

To be honest, what can be said about the political discourse in India, it is characterized by a complex interplay of regional, caste, and religious factors, as well as a multiparty system that allows for a wide variety of political opinions and viewpoints. No wonder, that all the complexities of it are as a result superimposed on the English language of India. The choice of the Youth Parliament debates might serve as a valuable means to research the language specificities of the debates, social, cultural and economic situation of India and the political discourse in this country.

2.2. Descriptive framework

India is a country with a rich cultural heritage and unique sociolinguistic profile, therefore the political discourse in India is influenced by a variety of factors such as language diversity, power dynamics, and gender roles.

In this thesis, the focus is on the sociolinguistic analysis of political discourse in India, with emphasis on the phonetics, discourse strategies, power dynamics, and gender roles that shape the use of Indian English in political discourse. It will explain that politicians often use multiple languages and dialects to appeal to different linguistic communities, and how rhetorical devices like metaphors, similes, and analogies are used to appeal to voters and make their arguments more compelling. Additionally, in this analysis there will be highlighted how power dynamics and gender roles come into play in political discourse, and how a sociolinguistic analysis of political debates in India can provide insight into the complexities of Indian politics and the role of language in shaping political discourse.

The phonology would be also analyzed with emphasis on the sounds and patterns of speech used by politicians during debates, and this analysis can provide insights into the communication strategies employed by politicians, as well as the linguistic features of Indian English. The description of the intonation patterns used by politicians, the use of specific sounds and pronunciation patterns, and how rhythm, pauses and pacing of speech will identify patterns in how politicians structure their arguments and deliver their messages.

Furthermore, the political discourse of India is typical of the use of culture-bound words and regionalisms, which are present in some speeches, and the influence of cultural and historical factors, including caste, class, religion, and language on political discourse.

In conclusion, what can be said is that political discourse in India is complex and heavily influenced by sociolinguistic factors such as linguistic diversity, cultural context, and regional variation. The sociolinguistic and phonological analysis of political debates in India can provide valuable insights into the linguistic features of Indian English, the communication strategies employed by

politicians, and the role of language in shaping political discourse. It is important to understand the nuances of Indian English and how it is used in political discourse in order to gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of Indian politics and society. The deep analysis would be presented in the next subchapters.

2.2.1 Sociolinguistic analysis

As it was stated before in the previous chapters, India has a rich cultural heritage and a unique sociolinguistic profile that is unlike any other country in the world, being very diverse in various terms. The analysis of the sociolinguistic part of Indian English is considered to be topical for this research.

One important aspect of sociolinguistic analysis is to examine the various linguistic resources used by politicians in their talks. For example, the use of different languages, accents, and dialects can reveal information about the social and regional backgrounds of the politicians. In India, politicians often use multiple languages and dialects to appeal to different linguistic communities and demonstrate their linguistic proficiency. For example, a politician from North India may use Hindi, while a politician from South India may use Tamil or Telugu and this of course can have a tremendous impact on the use of Indian English, too.

Another aspect of sociolinguistic analysis is to examine the discourse strategies used by politicians during debates, which refer to the various ways in which politicians structure their arguments and use language to convey meaning. For example, politicians in India often use rhetorical devices like metaphors, similes, and analogies to appeal to voters and make their arguments more compelling.

Sociolinguistic analysis can also examine the power dynamics at play during political debates in India. For example, politicians from dominant linguistic communities may use their language as a tool to assert their dominance and marginalize minority linguistic communities. As an example, a politician may use

formal, standard IE to appeal to upper-caste voters, while using regional dialects to appeal to voters from specific regions. Similarly, politicians may use their linguistic prowess to intimidate opponents or to position themselves as more knowledgeable and authoritative than their opponents. Also it is important to consider the role of gender in political discourse of India. India has a patriarchal society with a still-present and deeply entrenched concept of *purdah* (female seclusion), and this is reflected in the language used by politicians. Female politicians may face sexist remarks or be judged based on their appearance or marital status, while male politicians may use language to assert their dominance over female politicians.

To put in a nutshell, a sociolinguistic analysis of political debates in India would involve examining the ways in which language is used to reflect social and cultural context, power dynamics, and gender roles. It would provide insight into the complexities of Indian politics and the role of language in shaping political discourse.

2.2.2 Phonological analysis

Phonological analysis of the political side of English in India would involve examining the sounds and patterns of speech used by politicians during debates and is rather complex due to various factors (regional differences, for example). This analysis can provide insights into the communication strategies employed by politicians, as well as the linguistic features of Indian English.

One aspect of phonological analysis would be to examine the intonation patterns used by politicians. Indian English is known for its distinctive rising intonation, which is different from the one of the Inner circle Englishes used. Politicians may use this intonation pattern to appear more approachable or to signal that they are open to discussion. Also, judging from different political videos watched, it can be said that intonation also varies across regions (e.g., the typical South Indian

intonation pattern of IE is sing-song, melodic, with constant change of rises and falls, unlike the Northern, which is more flat, with a slight rise in pitch towards the end of a sentence etc.)

Another aspect of phonological analysis would be to examine the use of specific sounds and pronunciation patterns. For example, Indian English is known for its tendency to replace the "v" sound with a "w" sound and other deviations from British or American standard variants. Also, as it was described before, these differences might be observed regionally, such as stunning of plosives, typical of the Dravidian speakers etc.

Additionally, the rhythm, pauses and pacing of speech can be analyzed to identify patterns in how politicians structure their arguments and deliver their messages. This can provide insights into the rhetorical strategies used by politicians to persuade their audience. For instance, a faster rhythm may indicate urgency or excitement, while a slower rhythm may indicate contemplation or thoughtfulness and it is very important to analyze which role plays the rhythm in Indian English language of politics.

The phonetic specificities are also intertwined with the sociolinguistic factors of influence, such as caste system and education. For example, upper-class students may have been exposed to a more standard British English accent and pronunciation, which they then carried into their own speech. On the other hand, lower-caste students may have had less access to formal English education and may have learned the language through exposure to local dialects or through less formal channels, resulting in different patterns of pronunciation and language command itself.

All in all, the phonetics of Indian English are shaped by a complex interplay of sociolinguistic factors, including linguistic diversity, cultural context, regional variation etc. A phonological analysis of political debates in India could provide

valuable insights into the linguistic features of Indian English and the communication strategies employed by politicians to connect with their audience.

2.2.3 Lexical and semantic analysis

Politics in India often involve heated discussions on issues such as social justice, economic policies, national security, religious freedom, and human rights. The political discourse is influenced by cultural and historical factors, including caste, class, religion, and language. Political leaders and commentators use language and rhetoric to appeal to their supporters, to criticize their opponents, and to shape public opinion. And, of course, this cannot be attained without use of specific lexis with appropriate meaning.

One of the most interesting parts of lexical analysis is the analysis of the culture-bound words and regionalisms, which are omnipresent in political discourse of India, the words or phrases that might also have different meanings outside the political discourse. Here are some examples of regionalisms and culture-reflecting words: "didi" (a Bengali word that means elder sister, used to refer to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, who is seen as a maternal figure by her supporters); "chaiwalla" (tea seller, the word which describes Narendra Modi, hinting to his humble origin, often used by his supporters to tout his down-to-earth image) etc.

Indian politicians frequently use rhetorical devices like alliteration, repetition, and metaphors in their speeches. These devices are used to persuade and to create a memorable impression on the audience. Sometimes, Indian politicians might use archaic expressions and idioms in their speeches, which are not commonly used in everyday conversation. This is often done to convey a sense of authority and tradition and also to make some allusion (such as phrases like "Hindu-Muslim unity" used during India's independence movement to promote unity between the two major religious communities in India and continuing to be

topical in India nowadays; "Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy", which has its roots in the Nehruvian era of Indian politics and is still cited by some politicians etc.).

In Indian English political discourse there is also a use of expressive vocabulary to convey emotion or emphasis. This can include slang, colloquial expressions, and metaphors. The examples include "Mera Booth Sabse Mazboot": this term is used to describe the importance of a political leader's local support base or "booth" in electoral politics, translated as "my booth is the strongest."; "mitron", used to address a group of people or friends, this word has been popularized by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his speeches and has become a way for him to connect with the masses; "jugaad" - a slangish word, which means frugal innovation, reliance to ad-hoc solutions; "mai baap", which literally means "my father", but it can be used to criticize a leader who is seen as authoritarian or paternalistic etc.

Indian English debates often involve the use of multiple languages, with speakers switching between English and one or more Indian languages such as Hindi, Tamil, or Bengali. This is especially common when discussing topics that are culturally specific to India. For example:

A: "I believe that we need to focus on economic growth to create jobs for our citizens."

B: "Lekin main yeh nahi maanta ki sirf vikaas se kaam banega. ("But I don't believe that jobs can only be created through development.") We need to focus on skilling our youth and creating a robust ecosystem for entrepreneurship."

In this example, the second speaker switches to Hindi to emphasize his point and to connect with the Hindi audience.

In the end, lexical analysis can help us understand the language and rhetoric used by politicians in India's political debates, and how this language shapes public

perception and opinion. It reflects the political life of India, its vibrance and heterogeneity of full value and can give an insight into the culture of India in general.

2.2.4 Morphosyntactic analysis

Indian English is a complex and vibrant variety of English, which is marked by its specific features, which differentiate it from other varieties: use of loanwords, omissions, deviations in use of words and tense forms, inversions etc. All this can be in some way applicable to the political discourse of India. However, there are some other specificities typical of it and they are being part of an analysis.

Indian English often uses words and expressions that are unique to Indian English, such as "prepone" (to bring forward) and "outsider" (a person who is not from the local area) ("The candidate is an outsider and may not understand the local issues" instead of "The candidate is not from here and may not understand the local issues.").

Indian English often uses double comparatives and superlatives for emphasis, which is not commonly used in other varieties of English ("This is more better than that" instead of "This is better than that.") and this feature might be observed in political speeches.

Indian English often uses indirect speech to convey politeness and respect, especially in formal contexts such as political discourse ("The honorable minister stated that he would consider the proposal" instead of "The minister said he will consider the proposal.") Besides that, Indian politicians also use redundancy to emphasize a point or to add politeness, such as "kindly cooperate with us" instead of "cooperate with us." Also in India, it is common to address others as "sir" or "madam" as a sign of respect. For example, a politician might say "Thank you, sir, for your question" instead of "Thank you for your question."

Indian English also includes the use of idioms and expressions that are common in Indian languages. For example, a politician might say "We must walk together to achieve our goals" instead of "We must work together to achieve our goals." etc.

Indian English in political discourse may also use gender-neutral language to avoid gender bias. For example, a politician might say "chairperson" instead of "chairman." But this is not always the case. Sometimes Indian politicians might use phrases which are gender-sensitive and might seem politically incorrect. One of them includes "Mard ko dard nahi hota" (Men don't feel pain) - a common phrase used in political speeches to highlight the supposed strength and resilience of men, reinforcing harmful gender stereotypes that suggest men are emotionally invulnerable and that expressing pain is a sign of weakness. Another example is "Sheila Dixit ji ki bhasha, AK-47 ki goli, dono ek si hoti hai" (The language of Sheila Dixit and AK-47 bullets are the same). This misogynistic statement was made by a politician in reference to former Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dixit, suggesting that her language was as lethal as a gun. It trivializes violence against women and perpetuates the notion that powerful women are threatening and dangerous.

There are more features to be analyzed, as the political discourse and morphosyntax of IE is a complicated issue. To put in the nutshell, the analysis of morphosyntactic features in political debates in English in India can provide insights into the linguistic strategies that politicians and other speakers use to communicate their ideas and persuade their audiences. It can also shed light on the role that language plays in shaping public opinion and influencing political outcomes.

Conclusions to Chapter 2

The use of language in Indian politics is complex and multifaceted, reflecting the country's linguistic diversity, cultural context, regional variation, and

sociolinguistic factors. A linguistic analysis of Indian English political discourse will provide valuable insights into the communication strategies employed by politicians and the linguistic features of Indian English.

Phonological will focus focuses on the sounds and patterns of speech used by politicians, revealing the distinctive rising intonation of Indian English, variations across regions, and specific sounds and pronunciation patterns. Such analyses can offer insights into rhetorical strategies employed by politicians to persuade their audience, and how sociolinguistic factors like caste and education shape the phonetics of Indian English.

On the other hand, a lexical and semantic analysis will focus on the words and meanings used by politicians, highlighting the influence of cultural and historical factors like caste, class, religion, and language on Indian English political discourse. The use of culture-bound words and regionalisms, archaic expressions and idioms, rhetorical devices, and expressive vocabulary, along with the use of multiple languages, are significant features of Indian English political discourse.

The linguistic analysis of Indian English political discourse offers a deeper understanding of the communication strategies employed by politicians and the linguistic features of Indian English. It can help to better comprehend the political discourse in India and its impact on society. Therefore, the study of language in Indian politics is crucial to understand the complex dynamics of Indian society and its political sphere.

CHAPTER 3. YOUTH PARLIAMENT DEBATES IN INDIA: SPECIFICS OF LANGUAGE USE

3. Indian English in setting of political debate

India is a country with rich linguistic differences, with over 19,500 languages and dialects spoken across its various regions. English, which was introduced to India during the colonial era, has become an important language in the country's political discourse, particularly in the context of political debates. The use of English in political debates in India, also known as Indian English, is a unique phenomenon that reflects the country's complex socio-cultural and linguistic history.

Over the years, Indian English has evolved, with distinct specifics that differentiate it from other varieties of English. In recent years, Indian English has gained prominence in the setting of political debates, where it is used by politicians, journalists, and analysts to express their views on a range of issues.

One of the key advantages of Indian English in political debates is that it allows politicians to connect with a wide range of audiences. India is a diverse country with many different languages and dialects, and Indian English serves as a lingua franca that allows politicians to communicate with audiences that do not share their language. In this way, Indian English has become a tool for political mobilization, allowing politicians to connect with voters across linguistic and regional divides.

Young Indians are increasingly taking part in political debates and discussions, both online and offline. They are using Indian English to express their views on various issues, ranging from social justice and equality to economic development and national security. Indian English, with its unique vocabulary and syntax, allows them to express themselves in a way that is familiar and relatable to their peers.

In conclusion, Indian English has become an integral part of political debates in India, with its unique vocabulary, grammar, and code-switching practices. While some may criticize it as a lack of proficiency in the language, others see it as a legitimate form of English that reflects the unique cultural and linguistic context of India. Regardless of its legitimacy, Indian English has become a tool for political mobilization, allowing politicians to connect with voters across linguistic and regional divides. As India continues to grow and evolve, it is likely that Indian English will continue to play a prominent role in shaping the country's political discourse.

3.1 Constraints of the genre

Political debates, as a linguistic notion, are related to the ways in which language is used in the context of political discourse and argumentation. They are a form of public speaking that involves the exchange of ideas and arguments between candidates or representatives of different political parties or factions, often in front of a live audience or on television.

Being a very plentiful way of communication subject of extensive research over the years, there exist various constraints of the very genre, which include time limit, format, need of appeal to the supporters, ethical constraints etc.

One of the most significant constraints of political debates is the time limit. Typically, debates are structured to allow each candidate a set amount of time to speak on a given topic, which means that they must be concise and focused in their remarks. This time constraint can be particularly challenging for candidates who are trying to explain complex policies or ideas, as they must distill their arguments into a short amount of time. Additionally, time constraints can limit the depth and nuance of the discussion, as candidates may not have enough time to fully explore the complexities of an issue.

Another constraint of political debates is the format. Most debates follow a rigid format, with each candidate given the opportunity to speak on a set of predetermined topics. This format can be limiting for candidates who want to address issues that are not covered by the debate topics or who want to respond to something their opponent said earlier in the debate. The format can also lead to a lack of spontaneity, as candidates may feel constrained by the need to stick to the pre-arranged topics and format.

Political debates are also constrained by the need for candidates to appeal to a wide range of voters. Because debates are often televised or broadcast, candidates must be careful not to alienate any potential supporters with their remarks. This can lead to a certain level of caution and blandness in candidates' statements, as they try to avoid saying anything that might be controversial or offensive. The need to appeal to a broad audience can also lead to a lack of specificity in candidates' proposals, as they may be hesitant to take a firm stance on certain issues for fear of turning off potential voters.

Political debates are constrained by the need to remain civil and respectful. While candidates are expected to argue forcefully for their positions, they are also expected to do so in a way that is respectful to their opponents and to the audience. This can be a difficult balance to strike, as candidates may feel the need to attack their opponents in order to make their case. However, overly aggressive or disrespectful behavior can backfire and turn off voters, so candidates must be careful to maintain a level of civility in their remarks.

Also, while political debates can be an important part of the political process, they are subject to a number of constraints that can limit their effectiveness. Time limits, rigid formats, the need to appeal to a broad audience, and the need for civility and respect all contribute to the challenges of political debates.

Political debates are also often influenced by the ideology of the speakers and the parties they represent. This means that the speakers have to use language that reflects their ideology and is consistent with their party's platform and this one of the constraints, too.

In Indian political discourse there are other hindering factors, which include the following: polarization (the parties in India are very different views, which can hinder the scope of constructive discussions and meaningful dialogue); media bias and media influence (the media in India is often accused of being biased towards certain political parties, for example, during the 2019 general elections, some news channels were accused of giving a too much favorable image of the ruling party); cultural, regional, linguistic diversification (this can create challenges in terms of understanding and communication, as different participants may have different perspectives, language knowledge and ways of expressing themselves); lack of representation (certain groups, such as women, minorities, and marginalized communities (dalit caste, for example), are often underrepresented in political debates, which can limit the diversity presented and might also hinder the linguistic research too; lack of substance (some political debates in India tend to focus more on rhetoric and personal attacks rather than substantive policy discussions and ideas, which can limit the effectiveness of such debates in shaping public opinion) etc.

In conclusion, the genre of political debates poses various challenges and constraints for researchers. These include issues related to data availability, genre complexity, subjectivity, and ethical considerations. Despite these challenges, research on political debates remains an important area of inquiry, providing insights into the ways in which language and communication can shape political discourse and influence public opinion. As such, it is important for researchers to

continue to grapple with these constraints and develop innovative approaches to studying this important genre of communication.

3.1.1 Participants and their roles

The Indian Youth Parliament, chosen for the studies in this research, is a platform for young people to engage in parliamentary debates and discussions on various issues. The participants of these debates are usually students, activists, and young professionals who are passionate about public policy and governance.

The material chosen dates back to the 2013 Youth Parliament debates session united by the topic 'The Political class of India has failed to meet the aspirations of India's youth', being divided into several parts. In the first video from the array of videos chosen it was stated that the Youth Parliament is a joint initiative of The Times of India and Times Now aimed at providing a springboard for the articulate youth of India to represent their voice and engage in open conversation with policy-makers. It consists of three separate sessions, one for politics, second for economics, and third for foreign policy and strategic affairs. The Parliament comprises eight participants, including four from the establishment and four from the youth. The participants will debate on the motion decided by the House. The moderator, Arnab Goswami, Times Now's Editor-in-Chief, and also a co-moderator, whose name is Shankar Raghuraman, being a senior editor for The Times of India, are present there.

In general, the communicative roles of the participants might be divided into the following ones:

- **Speaker:** The speaker's role is to present their arguments and defend their position on a particular topic. They must use persuasive language and rhetorical devices to convince the other participants and the audience of their viewpoint. In the videos chosen, there are speakers who are speaking for the topic represented by Kiran Bedi, Social Activist & Retired IPS officer;

Yogendra Singh Yadav, Social scientist & Political activist; Aashay Sahay, Delhi; and Aashwin Chhabria, Chennai. Linguistically, the speakers are using various devices to present their points, such as rhetorical questions ("Are they supposed to be exercising their own judgment their individual opinions their consciences?"); figurative language ("fight their fight for them", "captured certain links," "labor under that perspective"), sometimes even colloquial expressions ("I'm so fiery!"), giving the speech additional emotionality and proximity to the general public etc. All is done to be easily understood by the public and to persuade the whole audience in their own right.

- **Opposer:** The opposer's role is to present arguments against the speaker's position. They must provide counter-arguments and use evidence to support their own point of view. The main opposers to the topic are Sachin Pilot, Minister of State for Corporate Affairs; Harsimrat Kaur Badal, MP, Fawaz Shaheen, Aligarh; and Vipul Nanda, Bangalore. In terms of the language production they also tend to use rhetorical devices, such as rhetorical questions, redundancies, emotive language etc., but they also tend to use irony and sarcasm to overthrow the arguments of the speakers: "why is this greater ghettoization between different communities?" (when speaking about people in Orissa); "I am electing to blame the politicians in Rome." (when the previous speaker talks about how the political class is all of us).
- **Questioner:** The questioner's role is to ask questions of the speaker and the opposer. They must challenge their arguments and seek clarification on their positions. This role is taken by the most number of participants: moderator, co-moderator, the establishment members and the members of the audience take it. The role of the questioner is not explicit in these videos, but linguistically, what can be said, questioners mostly use wh- questions to

clarify their point: "Why did all the political parties go on the streets against all program short island city bike boycott this party forever and banned them from the streets?" "When was the last time our students are the middle class the what we call the youth today responded to thee, sir?"

- **Rebuttal Speaker:** The rebuttal speaker's role is to summarize the debate and provide a final argument in favor of their position. They must also address any outstanding issues raised by the questioner. This role is usually occupied by the moderator, who is usually making summaries to the points uttered by the speakers and opposers. The rebuttal speakers are not explicitly seen throughout the videos chosen, but it can be inferred that the participants are sometimes providing a rebuttal to the arguments made by the opposing side. The best example for language of rebuttal is the following citation taken from one of the videos: "When you say it's incorrect, you can defend that." - This is the moderator addressing the speaker who made a claim that the opposing side disagrees with.
- **Moderator and co-moderator:** Their role is to facilitate the debate, maintain order, and ensure that all participants have an opportunity to express their views. These roles are taken by A Goswami and Sh. Raghuraman. Therefore, mostly, the language spoken by them will obtain, so to say, the representative and guiding tone, being more formal and neutral in comparison with the other participants: "Let me welcome first Shankar Raghuraman, who is a co-moderator with me in this special Youth Parliament"; "Now speaking for the motion today is Ashwin...I wish you the best, Ashwin, may the youngest and the best voice win!"; "Let's have a good debate today, let's have an open debate and I like the audience to be as participative as possible in the course of our debate today."

In general, the Youth Parliament debates, being a valuable platform for the development of future politicians, clearly shows how the parliament of India works. The communicative roles of the participants in Youth parliament debates in India are critical in ensuring that the debates are productive, informative, and engaging. Through their active participation, they help to shape public discourse on important issues and encourage young people to engage in the democratic process.

3.1.2 Register

Based on the transcripts chosen for the research, it is worth mentioning that the Youth Parliament debates in India seem to have a more formal register compared to general political debates. The introduction to the Youth Parliament debate emphasizes the selection process and the idea of bringing the youth into a direct open conversation with decision-makers. The participants are introduced in a structured and formal way, with their backgrounds and affiliations mentioned. The moderator also sets out the motion and the rules of the debate clearly.

The language used in the Youth Parliament debates is also more formal, with participants using formal titles and addressing each other with respect. Mostly, the professional, politics-related language is used in order to set the atmosphere of the debates. This can be observed on the following examples, both on sentence and collocation level:

"Doctor, address Dr. Kiran Bedi, you said JAL Jungle Jimena is being led by the politicians, but it's not just the politicians; it's also multinational corporations and a sorted number of NGOs and middlemen cutting corners."

"They are less tolerant of this resigned indifference to corruption and all the problems in the system."

"foreign policy and strategic affairs"

"rigorous selection process"

However, some informal elements of language (contractions, colloquial expressions etc.) are also being used in order to dilute the atmosphere and make the speech closer to the people, as the participants are also members of the people. Yet this is a rare feature:

"I'm so fiery!"

"..hang on, let me finish!"

"I'm done!"

In general political debates, the language used can be more informal and emotive, with participants often interrupting each other and using colloquial language. The structure of the debates can also be less formal, with less emphasis on setting out the rules and introducing the participants.

There could be several reasons why the language of Youth parliament political debates is more formal than general political debates:

- Emulating the real parliament: Youth parliament debates are designed to simulate the functioning of the real parliament, which is a formal and structured institution. Therefore, the language (such as the political terminology, titles, politically correct expressions etc.) used in Youth Parliament debates is likely to reflect the formal style used in the real parliament.
- Educational purposes: these debates are often organized as part of educational programs (namely the debates chosen for the research were the part of the program launched by the government and major news agencies - The Times of India and Times Now) and the use of formal language is intended to help participants develop their skills in public speaking, argumentation, and critical thinking.
- Setting a professional tone: The use of formal language in debates for young politicians helps to set a professional tone and create a sense of seriousness

and gravity around the proceedings. Although the real debates are usually less formal in their essence, the Youth Parliament debates, show how they should ideally be.

- Promoting civility and respect: The use of formal language in Youth parliament debates can help to promote civility and respect among participants, encouraging them to focus on the issues and arguments rather than personal attacks or insults. Therefore the neutral language is used and the participants address each other with respect and using their regalia.

Generally, what can be stated is that the Youth Parliament debates in India appear to have a more structured and formal register compared to general political debates, although containing some elements of informal language. The emphasis on the selection process, the clear rules, and the official language used by participants and the moderator, all contribute to this formal tone in order to help the young politicians to immerse into the atmosphere of political communication and try to use their knowledge, obtained during the debates, in practice.

3.2 English language of political debate in India

Youth parliament political debates in India have gained immense popularity over the past few decades, especially due to the linguistic prowess displayed by the young debaters. These debates provide a platform for the youth of the country to express their opinions on a wide range of political issues, from economic policies to social issues. The linguistic aspect of these debates plays a vital role in the impact they have on the audience and the broader society.

Although the debaters have a good command of English, being the educated members of the country, they do not communicate in standard American or British English, remaining the native speakers of the Indian variety of English. It is well-known that the debaters come from the people, therefore their style of

communication will, of course, pertain to the specifics of not only the society they stem from, but of the language, which is used in this society.

In general, what can be said based on the research materials used is that the speech of the debaters incorporates both the specifics of the language of the general public and the specifically discourse-related language. These two types of language intertwine, making the speech both professional and understandable for the general public.

In the course of the study, the following main features of political debates in India were highlighted. They were sorted into this table and will be discussed more clearly in the next subchapters:

Table 3.1. "Features of IE in political debates of India provided the material chosen for the research"

Aspect	Features
Lexis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of Anglicisms; • use of IE idioms; • culture-bound words of the IE political discourse; • use of lexical material of general political discourse; • presence of neologisms (rare feature).
Morphology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • compounds; • borrowings; • omission of words; • non-standard morphological use of the words; • repetitions of similar word forms at the same time; • use of passive voice.
Syntax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deviant use of tenses and gerunds;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of prepositions atypical for standards Englishes; • superimposition of syntactic norms of Hindi at English; • complex sentences with many clauses.
Phonology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of the typical means of sound production of IE (rhotic "r", light "l", cerebral "t" sound etc.); • standard IE intonation pattern without regional differentiation; • pauses; • fast speech tempo; • voice rising in some situations.
Pragmatics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of indirect language and euphemisms; • direct statements where needed; • repetitions and redundancies; • use of honorifics and titles; • linguistic inclusivity; • hesitation markers; • mixing of registers; • cultural reference.

3.2.1 Lexis

As it was previously stated, the language used is often formal, technical, and precise. Participants may use specialized terms, jargon, or acronyms that are specific to the field of politics or the particular topic being discussed. In Indian political debate politicians tend to apply and superimpose the features typical for the IE, mixing Hindi or local languages with English, using regionalisms and culture bound words etc., making a unique blend of formal English with Indian English and regional tongues.

The younger generation of India, who are the main players in the Youth Parliament Debates, tend to use a more correct and standardized version of English than the older generations, despite both being members of the English-speaking society. This is due to various reasons such as higher exposure to English-speaking education, technological advancement and globalization, ambitions and competitive atmosphere of the modern world, and differences in mentality. Indian youngsters may have had more exposure to English education, especially if they have attended private schools or universities where English learning is a must. They are also bombarded by different technological innovations, which they need to keep up with the pace of time. Indian politicians and politicians in general view language skills as a way to gain an advantage over their rivals and may be more aware of the importance of good English communication skills in politics. It is also possible that younger politicians in India simply have different attitudes towards language, viewing correct English as a mark of education and sophistication, whereas older politicians may prioritize other skills or values.

However, what can be said is the fact that, although the above mentioned factors contribute to the high English-language command of younger Indians, the IE features are still present in their speech, being intertwined with the speech of their predecessors.

What can be concluded is that Indian English (IE) used in the Youth Parliament debates incorporates a mix of lexical features that are both culture-bound and those found in general political discourse. Anglicisms are used rarely, and idiomatic expressions are common. Culture-bound words and phrases are used, but may not be understood by those unfamiliar with Indian culture and politics. Neologisms and inversion of the meaning of words are not frequently used in these debates.

The features include the use of Anglicisms, idioms typical of colloquial Indian English, culture-bound words and phrases, lexical material typical of general political discourse, and neologisms.

The use of Anglicisms is seen in the incorporation of British English words, such as "Treasury benches," which refers to the first row seats taken by senior members of Indian parliament. Idioms like "have a say heard," "youth brigade," and "whipping boys" are also typical of colloquial Indian English.

The culture-bound words and phrases are specific to Indian political communication, such as "Jai Hind," which is a political slogan meaning "Long live India" or "Salute to India.", being roughly speaking the analogue of Ukrainian "Slava Ukraine". Other examples include "Aam Aadmi," the name of one of the parties represented in Indian parliament, and "JAL jungle Jimena," which refers to the struggle for land and resource rights by rural and tribal communities in India.

In addition, the participants in the Youth Parliament debates use lexical material typical of general political discourse, such as "ghettoization," "political class," "democracy," "human rights organization," "NGO," and "civil activism."

Although neologisms are rarely seen in the transcripts, there are instances where the meaning of words is inverted, as in "let's FaceTime an employability for you," where "to FaceTime" is used with the meaning "let's consider this." The Merriam-Webster dictionary states that "to FaceTime" is "to use the FaceTime service to make calls", while in case with the Indian debates it was used with the meaning "let's consider this".

To sum up, although the IE-speakers tend to use a more formal and correct version of English, still they don't lose their Indian linguistic identity on lexical level, therefore allowing IE to maintain further development as a linguistic variety. Their speech is a blend of formal English language with Indian English vocabulary, idiomatic expressions and lexical structures.

3.2.2 Morphology

IE, as a distinct variant of English, has a long history of its creation and evolution, which has happened due to a number of reasons. No wonder that it has its unique features, which are vaguely present in other varieties.

Looking at Youth Parliament debates, it can be stated that Indian English exhibits certain morphological characteristics such as the frequent use of compound words, borrowing of words, and omission of articles, prepositions, and parts of verbs.

These debates are characterized by a unique vocabulary that distinguishes it from other forms of English spoken in India. The thesis highlights the features of IE morphology that are prevalent in the debates, which include the use of compound words, borrowings, omission of articles, prepositions, parts of verbs, deviations in the number across nouns, unjustified use of some words, repetition of similar, but at the same time different word forms in one sentence, and passive voice.

The use of compound words is a prominent feature of IE morphology in Youth Parliament debates. These compound words are represented by nouns or gerund forms and are often used as markers of political discourse. Examples of such compound words include "number cruncher" and "decision-making". These words are used to create new meanings that are not found in standard English and are therefore unique to IE.

Another feature of IE morphology found out is borrowings. Borrowings are relatively rare in Youth Parliament debates, and when they do occur, they are mostly presented by kichiri forms. Examples of such borrowings include "lekha problems" (where "lekha" means "counting, accounting") and "Iran mila" (where "mila" means "union" or "nation"). These borrowings are unique to IE and are not found in standard English.

The omission of articles, prepositions, parts of verbs is also a common feature of IE morphology in Youth Parliament debates. Speakers often omit articles and prepositions, and use only parts of verbs, such as "care" instead of "care for". These omissions are often justified by the speaker's desire to express themselves more succinctly or to emphasize certain points.

Deviation in number across nouns is also common in IE morphology, as illustrated in the example of "very incoherences" instead of "very much incoherence" or "high incoherency". These deviations are not found in standard English and are unique to IE.

Unjustified use of some words is another feature of IE morphology that is prevalent in Youth Parliament debates. Some words are used in phrases where they do not belong, resulting in different meanings. For instance, the phrase "very incoherences" may imply "very much incoherence" or "high incoherency". These unjustified uses of words are unique to IE and are not found in standard English. Repetition of similar, but at the same time different word forms in one sentence is a rare feature in Youth Parliament debates. However, in some instances, speakers may use similar word forms in the same sentence to emphasize certain points or to create a rhythm in their speech.

Lastly, the passive voice is commonly used in IE morphology in Youth Parliament debates. Speakers often use the passive voice to express themselves more formally or to emphasize certain points. Examples of the passive voice in Youth Parliament debates include "if I was well, well argued" and "it was written while in service".

In conclusion, Indian English has its own distinct morphological features that reflect the linguistic and cultural heritage of the country chosen for the research. The morphological characteristics of the language used in the Youth Parliament debates clearly reflect them, echoing the general norms of Indian English.

3.2.3. Syntax

Indian English is the language of deviations. The deviations, which make it a unique and interesting variety of English can be observed on various levels: the level of grammar, morphology, on the lexical level and pragmatic level as well. The syntax in this variety is not an exception, being marked by various differences from the Inner Circle types of English. Needless to say, these features are a result of different socio-cultural and political events occurred throughout the history of India.

Speaking about the specifics of the English use in Youth Parliament debates regarding the syntactic level, what can be said is that there is no difference from the standard IE. Although the speakers taking part in this event belong to the educated class of India and have enough access to international learning via different social media and sites, they don't lose their Indian identity and therefore communicate using their native language variety. This can also be explained not only by the origin of the speakers, but by the general societal atmosphere, where IE is more dominant than AmE or BrE, where there is need to adapt in order to be clearly understood by the target audience and fellow speakers.

One of the features identified is deviations in the use of tense forms and gerunds. The present continuous tense is often used excessively, even to describe past actions. For instance, "I see a Laura Hinds go up so I thought I'll first take it from here," and "they're calling..." are examples of the present continuous tense used inappropriately.

Another feature is the use of prepositions that differ from the standard forms of English. However, these prepositions have the same meaning as the standard form. For example, "take on the establishment across the motion" uses "across" to mean "speaking about," "regarding," or "with respect to." Similarly, "there are four

participants from what we call the establishment" uses "from" to mean "representing" or "belonging to."

The superimposition of grammatical and syntactic norms of Indian languages on English is another feature observed in the debates. Most of these instances involve Hindi being translated into English. For example, "toh jo aap kar rahe ho wo bahut hi sharmnaak hai" is, so to say, transmitted as "what you do on the other hand is appalling!" Similarly, "sab behatar rahe!" means "all the very best!"

Inverted word order is also used in the debates for emphasis, as an emotion marker, or as part of the influence of the local language. For example, "defending the political class today, which is a brave thing to do for us" uses inverted word order to emphasize the bravery of defending the political class. Similarly, "What do we do with them I mean 2G scam, we all demonize to Raja and that's how it should be..." uses inverted word order to emphasize the demonization of Raja.

Finally, complex sentences are used in the debates with many clauses and phrases. For instance, "Opening this up, keep in mind, our country is at an inflection point, we are talking about the youth, they're changing youth, they're snatching their rights back from the ruling classes. If they are not happy, they are more assertive, they are more demanding and they are less tolerant of this resigned indifference to corruption and all the problems in the system opening it up right now for interjections." This sentence uses multiple clauses and phrases to convey a complex argument.

In the end, what can be stated is that the syntactic features of communication of the speakers in Youth Parliament are no way different from the other speakers of IE, as the politicians come from the same society and same backgrounds as the other members of the society in this country. Therefore the societal norms,

standards and aspirations shaped by various extralinguistic factors will be clearly reflected in the speech of young Indian politicians.

3.2.4 Phonology

Indian English is a unique variety of English, which has developed its unusual phonological patterns, having no analogues in the Inner Circle English. This was determined by various reasons, such as the intricate history of the variety, the intermix of English with the local languages and, what is interesting, the shape of the jaws of the inhabitants of Hindustan peninsula.

What can be said about the general trends in the material chosen, the participants utilized a range of phonological features typical of Indian English. These features included retroflex sounds, non-rhoticity, monophthongs, stress shift, and lighter "l" sounds, among others. The use of these features in the debates indicates the influence of Hindi and other Indian languages on the English spoken in India.

One of the most striking features of the phonetics used in the debates is the presence of retroflex sounds. Speakers in the debates used retroflex sounds in words such as "country", "proceedings", "divided", "difficult", and "parliament". Another unique feature of Indian English phonetics in the debates is the use of the cerebral "t" sound instead of the English "th". This sound was used in the word "youth". Monophthongs, or single vowel sounds, were also present in words such as "motion", "low", and "know".

Despite the presence of these phonological features, there was no regional difference in the intonation of the speakers. The use of standard IE intonation patterns helped to establish a formal atmosphere in the debates (like in this example: "Hello and welcome to our Youth Parliament joint initiative of The Times of India and Times now!") The predominant intonation pattern was flat with a slight rise at the end of sentence or sentence chunks, which is typical of all

speakers of Indian English. This contributed to the clarity and understanding of the participants' messages.

In addition, the participants in the debates spoke at a fast tempo, which is another common feature of Indian English. The fast tempo may have been influenced by the time limit in the debates and the need to meet it. However, it may also be a marker of the unique idiolect of the speaker. This feature was present in the speech of all participants and contributed to the dynamic nature of the debates.

Pausing was also used by some participants to emphasize certain points or to structure their speech. The great example of these two ways of use of pauses here: "It's surprising that in all this debate | nobody has raised anything to do at any point to do with student unions, | because we've left them in the lurch, | we've forgotten about them | and we hate to talk anything related to them." These pauses helped to draw attention to important issues and made the speeches more effective. Voice rising was another feature present in some of the participants' speeches, but it was not as common as the other features. The emotionality of the speeches was conveyed primarily through the faster tempo of speech.

To sum up, the Indian speakers present at the debates, namely their speech production and patterns, showcase the uniqueness of the variety, the native speakers of which they are. The IE in the debates clearly reflects the trends in the society the speakers are from and this society with its cultural and linguistic norms influences the political discourse as well.

3.2.5 Pragmatics

The unique characteristics of Indian English discourse and pragmatics are shaped by a multitude of linguistic, cultural, and social influences that are distinct from the European norms. The same thing can be said by the general situation with the political discourse of India: it pertains to certain differences in the use of language,

such as many polite words, some of them being very unique, indirectness in speech, honorifics etc.

The speech of younger generation politicians is also marked by the following features, as the 2 different generations of politicians coexist together in the same country, having some similarities and differences.

One of the most prominent pragmatic features of the Youth Parliament debates is the use of indirect language and euphemisms, done to convey a politically correct message while adhering to the norms of democracy and the cultural rules of Indian society. The younger generation has grown up in a more politically aware environment, with greater access to information and exposure to diverse viewpoints. This has led to a more nuanced understanding of issues and general understanding, how to use language appropriately.

The speakers also tend to use direct statements, redundancies and repetitions in order to convey meaning and to make a strong point, too, and to have a better link with their audience.

The use of cultural references is another pragmatic feature of the communication in the Youth parliament. References to Indian movies, political families, and social issues help to make the speeches more relatable to the audience. For example, a speaker might reference the Indian film "Rang De Basanti" to make a point about young activists who channel their frustration with corruption and apathy into political action.

One of the most apparent features of IE in Youth Parliament debates is the use of indirect language and euphemisms. This feature is motivated by the need to convey a politically correct message while adhering to the norms of democracy and the general cultural rules of Indian society. For instance, a debater may say, "entry barriers are so difficult," which means "it's hard for the poor to take part in."

Similarly, the phrase, "these families have captured certain links," means "these families are corrupt or evil."

Direct statements are another feature of IE in youth parliament debates. Mostly represented in the form of rhetorical questions, they are used to engage the listeners and encourage them to think critically. For example, a debater may ask, "Are they supposed to be exercising their own judgment?" or "Where are we going with this?".

Repetitions and redundancies are also used in Youth parliament debates to emphasize certain points or as a marker of strong emotional feeling. For example, a debater may say, "It's...it's a question" or "that's not probably true at least at that basic bedrock we have to assume that's not and if we assume..." or "when we look at the rise of regional politics, when we look at the rise of identity politics..." or "if I was well, well argued..."

Politeness expressions are an essential feature of IE in youth parliament debates. They include "Thank you," "thank you very much," "excuse me," "hello and welcome to," "please," and typical Indian ways of politeness expression such as "for the opposition to notice, that your generous point...", "kindly tell us," "all the very best!" etc.

Honorifics and titles are also commonly used in youth parliament debates, especially when addressing one of the members of the debates. For instance, a debater may address a fellow participant as "Dr. Kiran Bedi" or "former IPS officer" or "Mr."

Inclusive language is another feature of IE in youth parliament debates. Pronouns such as "we," "us," and "our" are used to convey a sense of unity and encourage collaboration among the participants.

The mixing of registers is a relatively rare feature of IE in Youth parliament debates. Although informal expressions are used, they are not commonly employed. For example, a debater may say, "I'm so fiery" or "wrap this up."

Hesitation markers presented by interjections such as "uhm," "ahm," "ah" are also common in youth parliament debates. These markers indicate that the debater is thinking or searching for the right words to express their ideas.

Cultural reference is another essential feature of IE in youth parliament debates. Participants often use allusions or references to Indian cultural practices, movies, or events to enhance their arguments. For instance, a debater may say, "now that effectively means a Mattia census 100 million women have just disappeared," referring to the 2011 Indian census, which revealed a significant decline in the female-to-male sex ratio in India. They may also reference Indian movies such as "Rang De Basanti," which is about a group of young activists who channel their frustration with corruption and apathy into political action.

Also, judging from the videos of Youth parliament debates and the transcripts to them, it can be said that, there have been no instances of the code-switching, typical for the political communication of India and communication in India in general. This might be explained by the fact that the younger generation has more access to the newest technologies and therefore the access to education allowing them to study the English language of full value. Therefore, having a good command of English, there is no need to code-switch.

To put in a nutshell, the pragmatic features of the IE in the political debates in modern India have some similarities and differences from those typical of Europe, due to the fact that India has a very vivid political and socio-cultural landscape. Although being formal in nature, Youth parliament debates in India have certain informalities and clearly represent the needs, demands and tendencies in modern society of India.

Conclusions to Chapter 3

Indian English has become an essential language in political discourse in India, allowing politicians to connect with a broad range of audiences across linguistic and regional divides. Despite the constraints of time limits, format, and cultural and regional differences, Indian English remains a vital tool for political mobilization and shaping the country's political discourse. The use of Indian English has become an integral part of political discourse in the country, reflecting the unique cultural and linguistic context of India.

In terms of linguistic, namely lexical features, Indian English has a unique blend of formal English with Indian English and regional tongues. The younger generation tends to use a more correct and standardized version of English than the older generations, while still incorporating typical Indian English features. These features include the use of Anglicisms, culture-bound words and phrases, and lexical material typical of general political discourse.

Morphologically, Indian English exhibits certain characteristics such as the frequent use of compound words, borrowing of words, and omission of articles, prepositions, and parts of verbs. The use of compound words is a prominent feature of Indian English morphology in political discourse, creating new meanings that are unique to Indian English.

Some of the phonological features of Indian English in Youth Parliament debates include retroflex sounds, non-rhoticity, and monophthongs. The speakers resort to use of indirect language, euphemisms, and cultural references in the political discourse of Indian English. The younger generation tends to use more direct statements, redundancies, and repetitions in their speeches.

The speakers also used indirect language, euphemisms, and cultural references to convey a politically correct message while adhering to the norms of

democracy and Indian society. The younger generation tends to use more direct statements, redundancies, and repetitions to convey meaning and engage listeners.

In the end, Indian English plays a significant role in shaping political discourse in India, allowing politicians to connect with diverse audiences and reflecting the unique cultural and linguistic context of the country. As India continues to develop and evolve, Indian English is likely to continue playing a prominent role in the country's political discourse.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

The growing importance of English in India can be attributed to its interactions with the global community and its critical role in political and social discussions. India's linguistically diverse landscape makes the study of political discourse in English crucial for understanding the country's socio-political and cultural fabric. Many famous researchers have thoroughly examined the use of English in India, its impact on the country's socio-political landscape, and its unique features as a language of power and prestige.

English is now omnipresent in India, playing a vital role in education, politics, business, and everyday communication. However, its usage and status differ based on different reasons, which are education, social class, region, and occupation. While English has been instrumental in India's development, its use has also contributed to social inequality and elitism, with fluency in English or any

other Western language being used by the elite to distinguish themselves from the common people.

This research focuses on the Indian Youth Parliament, which serves as a forum for youth to participate in parliamentary discussions and debates regarding a wide range of issues. The participants in these discussions are students, activists, and young professionals who possess a strong interest in matters related to public policy and governance.

In the course of this study, the following features of Indian English in modern-day debates and political discourse were highlighted:

- Indian English in the political discourse of India is a unique blend of formal English and regional languages.
- Compared to older generations, younger Indians tend to use a more standardized form of English while conducting their speeches.
- Some common features of IE in the modern political debates include the use of Anglicisms, culture-specific words and phrases, and political jargon.
- Indian English of political debates has distinct morphological characteristics, such as the frequent use of compound words, borrowed words, and omissions of articles, prepositions, and verb components.
- Compound words are a striking aspect of IE morphology in political discourse, creating new meanings specific to Indian English.
- When participating in Youth Parliament debates, Indian English speakers tend to use retroflex sounds, non-rhoticity, and monophthongs.
- In political discourse, Indian English speakers often rely on indirect language, euphemisms, and cultural references.
- The participants of Youth Parliament debates tend to use more direct statements, redundancies, and repetitions to convey their message and engage their audience.

- In Indian English political discourse, speakers use indirect language, euphemisms, and cultural references to maintain political correctness and adhere to Indian societal norms.
- The participants of the Youth Parliament debates tend to communicate their message more directly and connect with their listeners through the use of redundancies and repetitions.

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SUMMARY

The use of English in India, especially in political discourse, has become a critical and fascinating topic of discussion and extensive research. This growing interest can be attributed to several factors, including the impact of globalization and India's interactions with the international community. As India assumes a more prominent role on the global stage, the role of English in fostering national unity and shaping the Indian identity has gained significance.

Renowned scholars such as David Crystal and Braj Kachru have dedicated their efforts to studying the multifaceted role of English in India. Their work has shed light on the unique features of Indian English that distinguish it from standard English, highlighting its distinct vocabulary, syntax, and pronunciation. Additionally, Ukrainian linguists and researchers, such as H. Vlasko and O. Semenets, have made notable contributions to the study of Indian English discourse, further enriching the understanding of this linguistic phenomenon.

Within the realm of political communication, the focus of this research is on the usage of English in the Youth Parliament debates in India. The Youth Parliament serves as a platform for young individuals to actively engage in parliamentary discussions and debates concerning public policy and governance. By analyzing the linguistic characteristics of these debates, the study aims to uncover the unique features of Indian English in contemporary political discourse.

One of the key aspects highlighted in this thesis is the blend of formal English, Indian English, and regional languages observed in the Youth Parliament debates. Indian politicians strategically draw from these linguistic resources to convey their messages effectively and connect with diverse audiences. Furthermore, the use of Anglicisms and culture-specific words and phrases adds depth to political discourse and reflects the rich tapestry of Indian society. Political jargon, another

noteworthy aspect, serves as a tool for politicians to establish their authority and navigate complex political landscapes.

By exploring the lexical, phonological, pragmatic, and morphosyntactic features of English used by Indian politicians in political communication, this research aims to provide a comprehensive analysis of language production in the sphere of Youth Parliament debates. It fills an important gap in existing research by focusing specifically on this underexplored area.

The findings of this study are anticipated to have broad applications in aiding individuals' comprehension of Indian English usage in modern-day debates and politics in general. Additionally, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of India as a country undergoing dynamic transformations, taking into account the lingering influences of its postcolonial legacy. By illuminating the linguistic dimensions of Indian political discourse, this thesis facilitates a more nuanced exploration of India's evolving identity and its complex relationship with the English language.