

A Pragmatic Study of Evasion in Theresa Mays' Political Interviews

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Abstract

Evasion is defined as a strategy, used by politicians trying not to give direct answer or to escape from the right answer. The present paper aims to study the evasion strategy in the political interviews, the study investigates evasion in Theresa May's political interviews on pragmatic level. The present study presents a brief definitions about evasion, types of evasion and which type is heavily most by May, functions that she fulfilled in her interviews, and what are the tactics that she uses to evade to answer the question. This study also investigates which maxim of Grice is violated in the political interviews. The analysis consists of data on six texts of interviews with Theresa May from 2016 to 2019. The results summarize the conclusions which the study reached at. Among these conclusions is that evasion has an essential role in the political interviews, and politicians tend to use it to fulfill certain functions such as talking about special issues that leading to arguments into media. Politicians also tend to evade answering the question in covert way more than overt. Grice's Maxims are violated by politicians especially the relevance and manner. Politicians use several techniques in order to evade the question, diplo speech is most widely used by them.

Keywords: A Pragmatic Study, Theresa Mays', Political Interviews

introduction

An interview is a conversation through it persons are interviewed and those persons have a power such like decision maker or political group (Blum-Kulka1983:133). A political interview is a particular type of media interview. It is viewed to be "one of the most important ways in which the political debate is conducted. It is a key in how they communicate with us" (Hannan1986:77).

The political interview is conceived by Lauterbach (2007:139) as a negotiation where the questioner argues for the sake of arguing both in the interest of people in general and himself, to persuade the watchers to favor and agree with them. Evasiveness of politicians must be considered as an important feature in the form of political interviews, because such interviews have a difficult question and embarrassing information or testing for politicians (Clayman and Whalen,1987:341). Moreover, the discussion that happens in a political interview is exceptionally uncommon kind. Somewhat it is a type of deception, what has all the earmarks of being a discussion in actuality an exhibition, orchestrated to take place for a catching crowd conceivably of millions. As for example, it has pulled in light of a legitimate concern for various correspondence researchers disguised with the examination of discussion a one of a kind and un mistakable social setting (Cohen,1987:85).

The trading of data in political interview is significantly affected by rules which seem to control the connection. For instance, the example of turn-taking is very particular (Greatbatch,1988: 404) .In any event, when the questioner with draws from the inquiry and answer position of following questioners to look for the emotions and points of view of others while abstaining from plain remark, since the questioner is relied upon to seem un a biased, another significant element of the broadcast political interview (Clayman,1988: 40).

Fairclough (1998:40) defines political interviews normally blend their types and their talk. In complex manners, legislators naturally move into conversational classification, and draw up on life world talk. In finding to address mass crowd who are tuning in or viewing in chiefly household situations. In political interviews, interviewers and interviewees make an effort to accomplish certain points: One of the points that law makers attempt to accomplish in political meetings is persuading the quick questioners and the audience (Furo,2001:40). The political meeting is essentially not worthy in political communication. It is viewed as a significant component of the present open circle (Clayman and Heritage,2002:7).

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Politicians exploit the political meeting so as to show the projects and plans of the political parties that they represent. In political interviews, government officials likewise attempt to do "center equitable capacity; and requesting explanation of legitimate strategy, considering officials responsible for their activities, and managing the parameters of open debate"(Ibid:3). A major feature of political interviews is in directness it employs in a hard way in politicians' speech because they tend to give indirect answer to the questions are given in the interview (Furo and Abuczki, 2014:46). Evasion is considered has a vital role in the political interviews (Furo,2001:30). Therefore, because of its importance, the researcher investigates the use of evasion in political interviews. As such, the paper tries to find answers for the following questions:

- 1-Do Politicians always employ evasion in their interviews? And how they use it in their interviews?
- 2-Why do politicians tend to use evasion in political interviews and what are the major functions of evasion in political interviews?
- 3-What are the tactics that politicians use to evade answering the question?
- 4- Is there a relation between evasion and Grice's maxims? How?

Aims

This study aims at:

- 1- Investigating if politicians tend to employ evasion in their interviews. Identifying if they are evade the question covertly or overtly?
- 2-Showing why do politicians tend to use evasion in political interviews and what are major functions of evasion in political interviews.
- 3- Clarifying what are the tactics that politicians use to evade the answer in their interviews.
- 4- Presenting if there is a relation between evasion, politeness and Grice cooperative principles. What are the most maxims are flouted in their speech.

Hypothesis:

1. Politicians always employ evasion in their interviews, it plays a central role in political interviews. Covert evasion occurs rather than overt one.
- 2- Politicians tend to use evasion in their interviews to fulfill several functions. The major function is talking about special issues leading to arguments in the media.
- 3.Politicians use several tactics to evade answering the question, diplo speech is widely occur in their interviews.
- 4- Gricean Maxims are broken in political interviews by politicians, especially the relevance and the manner maxims.

.2 The Concept of Evasion1

Bradak(1983: 42)proclaims that evasions messages are methods for abstaining from coming clear. For Obeng (1997:58) any matter in political interviews employ a verbal indirectness as one of the important facets. He recognized how politicians like to use strategies like evasion or indirectness, vagueness, and obliqueness in their communication, because of " the rather trickery and /or risky nature of politics itself, and especially to the power of the spoken word".

In other words, the appearance of evasion in political interviews is decided by the way through which the politician uses to answer the questions beside the reaction of the interviewer towards the political interviewee (Obeng,2002:210). After that, Galasinski (2000:40) stated that if the speaker tries not to give a direct answer or challenges the questions and to escape from the right answer, in this case the response can be evasive. Evasive speech are those that intended to be semantically insignificant. Similarly, Mckenzie"(2005:44) emphasize that "what is of the same amount of significance to what is stated, is the thing that gets left inferred".

Accordingly ,evasion means the demonstration of physically getting away from something, it is additionally signifies. Evading something you should do or unpleasant circumstance through maneuvering in response to the difficult questions. Evasion occurs when the information you receive from the speaker neglects to meet your desire. Regardless of whether an expression is hesitant or evasive, it depends on the data gave by the speaker. Evasion is a property of listener translation, and such, is a per locutionary impact. The answer *I think you'd better ask your mother* to the question *Can I go out tonight?* Is potentially evasive, depending on the father's role in such matters.(Ibid:59).Evasion is depicted as a way to fulfill a commitment

to come clean while keeping privileged insights from those not qualified for knowing reality, however is considered unethical except if there are grave purposes behind with holding the truth. Evasion is closely identified with Surely, a few proclamation fall under both portrayal (Bull,2008:333-334), evasion is the activity of maintaining a strategic distance from, dodging, or other evading around something It is a redirecting or diverting articulation to change the subject, create a reason, here and there abstain from responding to a frightful inquiry or challenge. Evasion is a thing that is frequently used to depict the shirking of an issue, individual, item, or circumstance .While the word ordinarily infers that the object of the evasion is something hostile or un wanted, it does not do so solely.

1.3 Types of Evasion

According to Galasinski(1996:19) evasion can be divided in to two types; **overt evasion** through this type the interviewee refuses to answer in direct way so he does not desire to co-operate, and **covert evasion** through this type, politician refuses to answer the question or he tries to response indirectly and challenges the questioner's right to ask, and in this type the interviewee tries to manipulate by the violation of the Gricean maxims of relevance. So that the questioner accepts the irrelevant answer, more over politician manipulates in his response by answering question which is different from the question that is presented by the questioner.

In the case of covert evasion, the speaker seems to liken with the "tricky or deceptive" type . On account of covert evasion, the speaker expressly flags that he/she will not offer a response to an inquiry and in this way that he/she "reluctant to participate". A covert evasion, then again includes the speaker does not give a significant/ satisfactory reply " in a secret way" (Galasinki,1996:19-21). Galasinski also specifies that covert evasion is identified with the "infringement of discussion proverbs". Over all, covert evasions are a greater amount of un announced yet straight forward un important, talk controlling that may in reality help the speaker abstain from giving satisfactory answers, which he/she may without a doubt be eager to cover up or may really be un equipped for giving an answer. In covert evasion the speaker addresses the warrant ability of past discourse. Refusing to respond to an inquiry, or in any event, nothing it straight forward without a full responsibility by the speaker, challenges the examiner's privilege or asks it (Galasinski,2000:71).

1.4 Functions of Evasion

The government officials are so much evasive in their responses, the reason behind this behavior is that politicians have no desire to answer directly. Harris (1991:94) takes note of that not all inquiries in her/his corpus are basic, straight word demands for data. At the point, when questions are rehashed with no real desire for answer, they are much of the time working together as at least one of the functions they want to fulfill. The speaker's absence of enthusiasm for the achievement of her/his utterance, and superfluous of its substance render evasion a kind of informative activity. Evasion appears to play a phatic function, that is the avoidance's fundamental capacity is centered around keeping in touch between the speaker and the addressee. In the event that the substance of the articulation is critical just to the extent that giving off an impression of being semantically applicable, the main thing that the speaker does not say anything at all. Dodging an inquiry is a method for controlling the progression of discussion, yet at progressively fundamental level, evasion is likewise a method for advancing discussion keeping it a live as it was. This specific feature of evasion makes it like casual conversation, one of barely any open undertaking in which it is progressively significant that ,words had verbally expressed as opposed to what is said (Knapp and Vangelisti,1992:222).

Clayman (1993: 39) distinguishes functions and rephrasing by the politician when he answers any question in the interview. He proclaims two functions of this behavior (i) to make the difficult questions easy ones , and (ii) to escape from the subject. Escaping from question can appear under certain conditions like:

1-Summarizing the subject or shifting to another topic,

2- Answer part of question which means to answer the first part of the question and escape from the second part (in question have two parts) by any way of evasion strategies, and

3-The politicians have two options either acceptance or not.

There for, evasion can serve several functions like keeping away from problems, preserving face, reducing reactions which they are not positive and avoiding blame and talking about special issues that are leading to an arguments in the media (Obeng,2002:12). Moreover, The major function of using evasion by politicians speakers is that to persuade rather than to convince implies that the expository or rambling methodologies should not be utilized freely, however should utilize in a sensible route or possible in an apparently way. As to maintain a strategic distance from any allegation of submitting misrepresentations that lead to bothersome consequences, the representative's argumentative answers ought to in this manner be suitable withstand basic accurately examine from the audience

1.5 Strategies Of Realizing Evasion

Partington (2003,235-255) comprehends evasion as the terminal point at the straight forwards/aberrance continuum of the speaker's decision while addressing the question. In any case, Partington surrenders that capturing the connection between the explicitness of the appropriate response and the level of hesitance procedures embraced by the speakers. What's more , he categorized the evasion methods into six types. For simplicity of reference the sorts are summarized and portrayed in more detail below:

1-5-1-Refusal to answer

a- On record refusal to answer without justification, this refers to the intentional silence of the interviewee when he opposed by the interviewer and by this answer (silence) there is a reference to overt evasion (Clayman,2001:70).

b- On record refusal to answer with justification, politician refuse to response either he cannot answer or he does not desire to answer.

1-5-2-Claiming incompetence to answer

a-Lack of knowledge (claim of ignorance).

b-Lack of competence .

c-Outside the responsibility scope .

d- Referring the question to another person.

1-5-3 Rhetorical mode, slogans and officialese/diplospeech

Politicians usually tend to use rhetorical mode which describes the variety, conventions and purposes of languages and communication as away to escape from such question. a- officialese ,or diplo speech which means that, the dialect of slang or euphemistic talks that is used by politicians through their interviews when they saying something difficult or terrible. Euphemism might be used to give rise to vagueness, because it states to implicit things and when it state implicit things this lead to what politicians try to use in their speech to escape from difficult questions (Pan,2013:2109).

b- Responding by raising a safe topic, this to the first technique of rhetoric question by this technique politician avoids difficult question by changing the present topic through going to a less important topic.

c- Generalization, vague language. Generalization is the second technique of rhetoric modes , by this technique politician tends to leave a particular matter and moving to general one.

1-5-4 Challenging the question, questioner, source

a- Challenging the premise of the question. The premise means to accept the information as it is to conclude such truth.

b- Challenging the authority of the enquire /question. Which means to think in different ways to give vague answer to the questioner.

c- Challenging a presupposition of the question. This refers to case in which the evader tries to present unclear and incomplete reply to presuppose the question.

d- Challenging the facts included in the question. To evade on truths are mentioned in the question.

e- Challenging the questioner.

1-5-5 Evasion by humour

Humor is already used in the wish of avoiding direct answer or escaping from a tough spot. For example, in an interview with Mr Lackhart talking about the president:

Q:[...] but the President is a larger-than- life figure and he's somebody who gets attention every time he opens his mouth.

Mr LOCKHART: Well, we're going to put him on a diet.(Laughter.) He is going to be smaller, thinner ,less noticeable.

The evasiveness is proved here, the question is embarrassing one for the interviewee to explain, because that he moves to the style of mocking and humor in order to leave the required and the direct answer.

1-5-6 Evasion by claiming

The answer has already been answered, politicians do not agree to answer on the grounds that or commonly covered that ground. He has already answered a certain question. Moral evasion is a demonstration that bamboozles by expressing a genuine explanation that is insignificant or prompts a bogus end. For example, a man realizes that another man in a room in the building in light of the fact that he heard him, yet in answer to an inquiry says, "I have not seen him", there by erroneously inferring that he does not know.

Bull(2003:114) distinguishes twelve tactics that politician use to evade questions:

1- To pay no attention to the interviewer's question. Which means , the political actor disregards the interview's question and does not try to present an answer.

2- To admit the interviewer's question without giving any answer.

3- To question the question of the interviewer. There are two methods to do so: Either to pretend that he does not understand the question so he asks the interviewer to simplify the question, and to repeat the same question.

4- To present certain political ideas, expressing themselves, defending policy, or suggest another topics. Politicians usually tend to create politician ideas and thoughts through a variety of methods like : making certain out attacks, reassuring certain matters, appealing to nationalism, analyzing special political matters, justifying themselves, and talk about their own side.

5- To apologize. What Sudzczyńska (1999:1056) summarized a general model of the apology as below:

1-Illocutionary force indicating devices.

a- An expression of regret.

b- An offer of apology.

c- A request forgiveness.

2- Explanation or Account, any external mitigating circumstances, 'objective' reason for violation')

3- Talking on Responsibility.

a-Explicit self –blame.

b- Lack of intent.

c- Expression of self-deficiency.

d- Expression of embarrassment.

e- Self-dispraise.

f- Justify hearer.

g- Refusal to acknowledge guilt.

4- Concern for the hearer.

5- Offer of repair.

6- Promise of forbearance.

According to Suszczyńska's study, the most famous word that used for apologizing is "I'm sorry " rather than "I apologize" , another phrase is "Please forgive me" which is used for forgiveness. These forms of apologizing are used as a social actions over face-threatening acts. Some languages cares only with negative face of both participants, others are concerned with preformative which threaten the speaker's positive face , or with hearer's negative face.

6- To repeat an answer that he or she already given to past question. It is already, politicians refuse to answer on the question that is already answered or covered.

7- To offer in complete answer. There are different structures of incomplete answers in political interviews such as: starting to response the interviewer's question without ending it (the politicians may commit " self-interruption"), presenting "half responses" and giving replies that are "fractional".

8- Attack the interviewer. Politicians tend to attack those who oppose them. This means that not each question presents to the interviewee is easy or need a normal response, so in this case politician tries to avoid the answer through attacking the interviewer.

9- To state that politicians always give an answer .
To tell or propose that the politicians has already given a response to the interviewer's question.

10- Peculiarity or literalism; Bull (1991:119) emphasizes that " the literal aspect of question which was not intended to be taken literally is answered".

11- To criticize the interviewer's question, politicians do so for eight causes. a- the question fails to tackle the important issue, b- the question is hypothetical or speculative, c- the question is based on a fails premise, d- the question is factually in accurate, e-the question includes a misquotation, f- the question includes a quotation taken out of context, g- the question is objectionable, and h- the question is based on a false alternative.

12- To refuse to proclaim a response to the interviewer's question. There are five ways that politician have which enable them to do that:

a-"refusal on grounds of inability".

b- unwillingness to answer".

c-"deferred response ".

d-"It is not possible to answer the question for the time being", and

e- "pleads ignorance".

At the end , when politicians do not want to be in an embarrassing position , they tend to use the evasion strategies which start from postponing the answer of such question or evading a response at all. These strategies are related to the techniques of cover-up which is often used as a clear strategy ,for example, in political negotiations through it the interviewer and interviewee start by concealing (Weigand, 2010:9).

2.Grice's Cooperative Principles

The agreeable rule is a principle of discussion that was proposed by Grice 1975, expressing that each will make a "discussion contribution, for example, is required at the phase at which it occurs, by the acknowledge reason or bearing of the discussion trade. "The helpful guideline, along the conversational saying, mostly represents conversational implicatures.

Grice (1975:45) states in his hypothesis of helpful standard in these words "make your conversational commitment as it is required, when individuals impart that thought conversation individuals will be coordinate to accomplish common closures. This conversational participation even works when they are not being agreeable socially. Among those lines , for instance, they can be arguing with each other irately but then they will in any case collaborate a lot conversationally to accomplish the argument. This conversational participation shows itself.

In various adages as he calls them, which they believe they have to comply with. These proverbs see first sight like than linguistic or phonological principles are (ibid:41).He adds that people in order to communicate, they must follow specific maxims in their communication. These maxims are as follows:

a- Maxim of Quantity: Make your contribution as informative as required, which means that not more information nor less than it is required, so it is related with the amount of information. It has two sub-divided:

a. Make your contribution as informative as is required.

b. Do not make your contribution more informative than is required (Levinson,1983:102).

b- Maxim of Quality: Seeks for information that which you think is true and leave that which you think is false or which you think it is needed for evidence. This consists of the following maxims:

1. Do not say something which you believe to be untrue.
2. Do not say something for which you need adequate evidence

c- Maxim of Relevance: Be relevant, you must join what you want to say with what you already being talked about.

d- Maxim of Manner: Make your contribution clear and not vague, brief and orderly , this maxim refers to the way of telling rather than the information was telling . It includes the sub-maxims:

1. Avoid obscurity of expression. 2. Avoid ambiguity. 3. Be brief. 4. Be orderly (Ibid:49). Grice recognizes four ways through them the maxim un fulfill: violating, flouting, opting and clashing. By flouting he means that the speaker violate the maxim unintentionally and wants the hearer understand the implied meaning , it is considered as the main type of the ways . Through this way the speaker can fulfill a maxim without affecting the other maxims. So here the speaker does not lie or deceive but he tries to lead the listener to observe the implied meaning. In other words, flouting a maxim makes the speaker can conceal his true intention and uses manipulating in order to reach his goal and to present his message as he likes (Grice,1975:30). Grice's theory of agreeable guide line is one of the fundamental viewpoints inside the field of pragmatics(Zhou,2009:43). The second way of unfulfilling maxims is violating, in this type the speaker violates the maxims by using obvious lying (Flowerdew,2013:101)

3. The Model of Analysis

A developed model used by the researcher to analyze the data, it is analyzed according to types of evasion, functions of evasions . The texts analyzed also according to Grice's maxims and the relation between evasion and cooperative principles.

4. Data Analysis

Interview No.1

AN: You a very very important speech at lanchester House this week when you're talking about your plans for beretta there's been working and it for months and months and months so I'm sure it was very much thought through and in that speech you said that if Britain had to walk away from a bad deal inside the EU and I'm quoting you here we would have the freedom to set the competitive tax rates and embrace the polices that would attract the world's best companies and biggest inventors to Britain can I ask you what those policies would be?

May: Well is let me just first of all explain why I made that point because I think this is very important I have every expectation that we will be able to achieve a very good deal with the Europe an union I think that not just because it's going to be good for the UK but also it's going to be good for the European Union too so I want to trade deal with the EU which ensures that our companies have the best possible access to an opportunity to operate within the European single market in goods and services people I don't want to sign up to bad deal for UK so it is right that we say we look at the alternatives.

Types of Evasion

Covertly May evades the question by changing the content of the question. May talks about different topic, she mentions trade, companies and good deal with the market single of European Union and leave the essential question about policies.

Function of Evasion

Firstly, May escapes from replying the question by sifting to talk about different topic. Secondly, she talks about special issues that leading to argument in the media. She says " I want to trade deal with the EU which ensures that our companies have the best possible to opportunity....".So by her speech she asserts her audience that she do her best to serve the British companies. Also in the last part of her reply she tells them that she does not sign up any deal which is not for their interest or bad for them.

Tactics of Evasion

One of the tactics that May tends to use in her evasive style is a diplo speech. She changes the topic, instead of answering the question she starts talking about another topic.

Grice's Maxim

May flouts the maxim of quantity, she is not informative because she does not answer the question. She abides the quality maxim, because she wishes to do her best for her country. She violates the relevance maxim, because her reply is irrelevant to the question. The maxim of manner is also violated by May, because her response is vague, and not orderly.

Interview No.2

Andrew Neil: So, Prime Minister the negotiations to leave the European Union begin. It's a historic moment for our country. In what ways will Britain be a better country for leaving the European Union?

Theresa May: Well you're absolutely right, Andrew, that this is a historic moment for our country. We're putting into place now the decision that was taken in the referendum on the 23rd June Last year to leave the European Union and the formal process has begun. I've written to, as they say, invoke this Article 50 that people will have heard about which starts the process of formal negotiations. As we look ahead to the outcome of those negotiations I believe that we should be optimistic as a country about what we can achieve. I think when people voted last June what they voted for was for us to be in control; in control of our borders, in control of our laws, but I think people also voted for change in the country. And that's why alongside the work that we're doing on Brexit I'm clear that the government has a plan for Britain to build a more outward-looking country, a stronger economy where everyone plays by the same rules. A fairer society where success is based on merit, not privilege. And to ensure we're a more united nation. And somewhere that children, can be proud to call home.

Types of Evasion

Covertly, May evades in her response in that she tries to change the form of the question. She starts talking about the negotiations and its benefits to the country and why the people voted to leave European Union.

Functions of Evasion

The function of evasion that May fulfills is to escape from the question, she tries to escape by two ways, the first she shifts from the question talking about the best time to vote for leaving EU and the second she talks about the plan that she makes for the change of Britain in her speech "I'm clear that the government has a plan for Britain to build a more outward-looking country, a stronger economy where everyone plays by the same rules". By this speech May answers part of the question which means that she gives a fractional response and this is the second way of escaping.

Tactics of Evasion

Firstly, May uses the tactic of in complete answer and it is clear from her fractional reply. Secondly, she uses the diplo speech tactic, she ignored the question when she talks in general about the positive result of the Brexit. She tries to encourage the audience about her plan in talking about good things that will happen after their leaving the EU.

Grice's Maxims

May violates the maxim of quantity in her details, she tries to prolongs her answer. The maxim of quality is obeyed by May because she talks about things she wants to do it for her audience. The maxim of relevance is violated also by her when she moved from the question to talk about general things. The maxim of manner is violated by her in the sense that her speech is too long and not orderly.

Interview(3)

Stephan: Do they have the powers they need?

May: Well, the...the exercise is being done. I've given them extra powers over my time in office, particularly when I was home secretary before I became Prime Minister. I've given them extra powers. But we look again. But one of the issues that we really need to be addressing, and I'll be raising this when I'm at the United Nations, is the question of the use of the internet by terrorists for terrorist planning. But also this using it for the spread of extremism, of hatred, of propaganda that can incite and can inspire terrorism.

Types of Evasion

Overtly, May states openly the weakness of police and security, she says "I've given them extra powers", she announces she that she presents to the security extra powers in her governed period.

Functions of Evasion

The first function she fulfills is preserving face, when the questioner tries to embarrass her in his question " Do they have the powers they need?" she tries to preserve her face by her justification that she gives them extra power. Another function is talking about special issues that leading to arguments in the media, when she promises to discuss the matter of terrorist in the United Nations.

Tactics of Evasion

May uses in her response tactic of presenting a political idea, which is the terrorism topic. And the second tactic is to criticize those are responsible about imposing security in the country.

Grice's Maxims

May tries to be informative in the maxim of quantity. She abides the maxim of quality because she tells the audience about real facts happen in her period time. She is also obeyed the relevance maxim since she is relevant to the question. The maxim of manner is flouted because her speech is not brief and not orderly.

Interview No. (4)

AN: We will come to all of those but you and I now there's a difference if you bump your car into somebody else's car you may be sorry the accident has happened but that's different from apologizing to the driver of the other car. So, can I ask you again can you apologize to the conservative party of what happened in that election?

May: Well, I've already opened I've spoken to my members of parliament I'll be speaking later today to the party activities look I threw out my entire life I have worked with the conservative party and I know people who out during that election who went worked really hard and I'm sorry that the result wasn't the one that all of us wanted I mean there's gonna be a lot of analysis of this election because if you work at it we got 2.3 million more votes we had our highest vote share for over 30 years we took seats we didn't think we were going to take we took got more more members of parliament in Scotland we didn't get that majority so what I'll be saying to people is yes we've got to look at what happened during that election we got to listen to the electorate listen to vote the messages they were giving us I think one of the things they were telling me that some of these issues that I addressed when I first became prime minister that I've identified you completely forgot about them I think the message we didn't across sufficiently during the election campaign but I think what voters were saying where they felt those even more keenly than perhaps we'd realize that's we're addressing it.

Types of Evasion

Covertly, she changes the form and the content of the question. May does not give the required answer to the question, and she moves to talk about other things about the election, the results and what happened in the election.

Functions of Evasion

May escapes to answer the question by shifting to another topic, she talks about events which have no relation with the question and this is the first function. Secondly, in her description she talks about special issues that lead to arguments in the media, she describes votes that she gets in the election campaign. It is the highest votes for over 30 years, after that she talks about the issues that she addresses.

Tactics of Evasion

The tactic that she use in her evasive response, first she talk in a diplo speech way, she talks in general, May changes the question when she present an answer gives nothing to the question although it is repeated for the second time.

Grice's Maxims

From the beginning of the answer May flouts the maxim of quantity because she is not informative as it is required and by her detailed description. She tries to obey the quality maxim in her speech, she talks about facts are happen. She also flouts the maxim of relevance because she is irrelevant to the question. The manner maxim is violated by her in the sense that her speech is not brief and not orderly.

Interview No.5

Nick: Isn't true that your colleagues said: "you can't resist this, prime minister- we're going to win this , we're going to win big, crush the saboteurs, defeat the Labour party, let's get on with it?"

May: Look Nick, every election has a risk. No politician wants to go into just for the sake of having an election. I've taken this decision because I genuinely believe it's in the national interest.

Types of Evasion

Covertly May evades the question, she changes the content of the question. She leaves the question and she talks about her wishes in making election.

Functions of Evasion

May evades the question to talk about special issues that leading her to arguments in the media. She says "I've taken this decision because I genuinely believe it's in the national interest", she wants to make the audiences believe her in this speech. Another function to fulfill to escape from answering part of the question, May say " no politician wants to go in to just for the sake of having an election" but she does not continue her speech.

Tactics of Evasion

The first tactic that May uses in evading the question is talking on responsibility, from the beginning of her speech she tries to express the responsibility of taking like the decision of the Brexit process. She adds that she takes the decision for the sake of her country interests. The second tactic is incomplete answer, May does not continue her answer in her speech " no politician wants to go in to an election just for the sake of having an election".

Grice's Maxims

May flouts the maxim of quantity, she is not informative as it is required. She tries to obey the maxim of quality in her speech "I've taken this decision because I genuinely believe it's in the national interest". May abides the relevance maxim because she is relevant to the answer. May violates the maxim of manner in the sense of that her answer vague and not orderly.

Interview(6)

John: All right does pick up on some of that in a moment let's go back to my original question is there any possibility have you even considered has it been recommended to you that you one way or another delay the vote happening next Tuesday evening?

May: know what we're doing the moment John I know what you're doing (John cuts her speech says I'm just wondering whether it's possible to you might delayed...) May says: what I'm saying "she laughs.." leading up to a vote on Tuesday notion though is we're having the debate yes I'm I'm meeting colleagues concerns..(John says 'particularly?') May continues her speech saying well is no not delaying it I'm listening to colleagues concerns around this issue this aspect of our withdrawal which is the backstop now the backstop is our guarantee to the people of Northern Ireland it's a guarantee about not having a hard border between Northern Ireland and Ireland but I recognize there are concerns from colleagues about the role of parliament about the sovereignty of the UK in relation to that issue so I'm talking to colleagues about how parliament might have and how we can look at parliament having a role in the going in to that and if you I can under the coming out.

Types of Evasion

In this text, May evades the question in covert way when she changes the form and the content of the question. She does not answer the question.

Functions of Evasion

May escapes to answer the question by talking about another topic, she talks about her way in taking decision and how she listens to her colleagues about some issues. The second function that she fulfills here is talking about special issues that leading to arguments in the media, when she talks about her listening to her colleagues. May and her colleagues care for the issue of withdrawal for Ireland and Northern of Ireland..

Tactics of Evasion

May performs a speech act of diplospeech, she changes the topic of the question and tends to talk about another topic. Then she challenging the question, she gives a reply present nothing with the question. She stills talking about herself and her colleagues

in taking decisions and leaves the essential answer. Humor is another tactic that May uses in her response, May laughs when she response to the question in order to evade the question and not reply.

Grice's Maxims

May flouts the maxim of quantity, she is not informative. She abides the maxim of quality, because she mentions that she listens to her colleagues in taking the decisions, So, there is reality in her speech. May violates the maxim of relevance, since she is irrelevant to the question. She also violated the maxim of manner in the sense that her response is not brief, not clear and not orderly.

5. Results of Analysis

The findings of the analysis of the present study are summarized by the following tables:

Table(1): The Occurrence of Types of Evasion

Type of Evasion	Frequency	Percentage

Table(2) :The Occurrence of Functions of Evasion

Functions of Evasion	Frequency	Percentage
about special issues		
Smiling Face		

Table(3) The Occurrence of Tactics of Evasion

Tactics of Evasion	Frequency	Percentage
Direct speech		
Complete Answer		
Denial of Responsibility		
Changing the Question		

Table(4) The Occurrence of Grice's Maxim

Maxims	Frequency	Percentage		Percentage
Quantity				
Quality	6			
Relevance				
Manner				

Conclusion

The present paper has arrived into the following conclusions:

- 1- The analysis of data has shown that politicians use evasion in their interviews. They use two types of evasion, covert and overt evasion, covert evasion occurs in their speech rather than overt evasion. This validates the first hypothesis which is *Politicians always employ evasion in their interviews, it plays a central role in their interviews, Covert evasion is used more than overt one.*
- 2- Politicians are evasive in their speech to fulfill several aims, talking about special issues and escape from answering questions are the most widely used functions that are used by them. This point verified the second hypothesis which is *Politicians tend to use evasion in their interviews to fulfill several functions, talking about special issues is the major function.*
- 3- The analysis has shown that politicians use some of the tactics in evading the question, such as diplomatic speech, incomplete answer, challenging the question, humor, criticizing and talking about responsibility. This point verified the third hypothesis which is *politicians use several techniques and tactics to evade answering the question, diplomatic speech is widely used in their interviews.*
- 4- In their interviews, politicians flout some of Grice's maxims, quantity, manner, and relevance are flouted highly in politicians' interviews and this verified the hypothesis which *Gricean maxims are broken in political interviews, especially the relevance and manner maxims.*

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