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The Morphology of News Website Headlines Towards Linguistic and Stylistic Strategies for Reinterpreting Political Actor Relations in Times of Tension: "Mali" and" Algeria" as a Model.

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Abstract:

The current study aims to reveal the morphological dimensions within the linguistic and stylistic factors included in the main headlines on news websites published in April 2025, related to coverage of the crisis between Mali and Algeria, relying on the discourse analysis approach. The study concluded with a set of results, the most important of which are :The language used in the headlines expressed a formal tone and diplomatic restraint, portraying Algeria as a reaction rather than an aggressor by framing the issue

Keywords: *Morphology; News Website Headlines; Linguistic; Stylistic; Political Actor.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Newspaper headlines are among of the most semantically packed textual places, with a high linguistic load that contributes to the formation of meaning and the reframing of political reality, serving the editorial line within ideological framework of the media organization. The media language incorporated in these headlines not only helps to transmit the event, but also has a symbolic impact that pushes the reader toward a specific interpretation of the conflict or political tension. This impact is frequently apparent through the strategic use of language, the framing of issues, and the emphasis placed on some elements of a tale over others. As a result, readers' views may be altered by linguistic subtleties, resulting in a constructed interpretation of events that is consistent with the dominant narratives propagated by the media.

In this context, the literature on media political discourse analysis suggests that the headline is not viewed as a neutral element, but rather as a linguistic and ideological tool that uses precise morphological and stylistic selection to highlight some actors while marginalizing others, or to create tension or calm relations based on the discourse's requirements. Media bias, particularly in the "propaganda model," does this not just through absence or silence, but also through subtle language processes such as passive voice, focalization, and symbolic condensation. (Herman & Chomsky, 1988, pp. 2-4).

The newspaper headline, particularly on the front pages, is a reflection of these symbolic strategies, in which the process of "manufacturing consensus" or "reconstructing the enemy" is carried out through a charged grammatical structure that reinterprets tense political relations in a way that serves the media institution's political perspective (Entman, 1993, p. 53).

Accordingly, constructing the linguistic and stylistic components of newspaper headlines is a basic analytical technique to understanding journalism's place within meaning conflicts, as well as the limitations of its function in influencing public opinion and creating or removing legitimacy.

Algeria's interest in the Sahel area originates from its role as a magnet for foreign and regional forces, as well as its inherent internal upheavals. As a result, Algeria must seek to identify regional solutions in order to avoid any harm to Algerian national security*. Algeria has attempted to prevent any foreign intervention under the guise of "fighting terrorism," reaffirming its vehement opposition to its land being used as a base for foreign military installations. It has also urged regional countries to protect their borders from the threats of terrorism, arms smuggling, and illegal immigration, free of international intervention. Beginning in the 1990s, Algeria addressed new developments in the African Sahel, notably the risks presented by rebel forces in northern Mali and Niger. These risks compelled it to take diplomatic and military measures to prevent foreign intrusion on its southern borders and the formation of a new hotspot of tension, all within the context of a comprehensive, multifaceted security strategy. (Dakhil , 2016, p. 1)

Algeria considers itself a participant in movements aiming at establishing security, peace, and stability in its geopolitical context. It has also reclaimed its rightful place on the world stage, as seen by a robust and effective presence in all international forums. This has helped to advance the quest for effective answers to the world community's concerns, such as terrorism, disarmament, development, and human security, notably in northern Mali. To avoid a security crisis and protect its borders for fear of the contagion spreading internally, Algeria has worked through its diplomatic foreign policy to bring the conflicting parties in the Malian region closer together and to the negotiating table through numerous negotiations, particularly those involving the Tuaregs. (Barash & Roqoli , 2021, p. 501).

Journalism is critical in creating collective impressions of political events, particularly in places prone to repeating crises and instability, such as Africa's Sahel. In environments where security issues connect with geopolitical stakes, such as Mali, media coverage becomes more than just a report on events; it is a symbolic process of building an interpretative framework that reshapes ties between local and international political actors. The Sahel region, including Mali, has seen a series of violent wars as well as regional and international interventions, rendering journalistic coverage prone to discursive tensions and competing interests. In this setting, journalism participates in a narrative conflict over who is the culprit, who is the victim, and who

is to blame for the violence. As a result, newspaper headlines serve as both an access point to news and an interpretative tool for reshaping ties between political players during times of conflict.

Newspaper headlines tend to use linguistic and stylistic strategies that reflect implicit positions and may produce ideologically charged representations of political actors, especially when it comes to countries such as Mali, which are sometimes presented in media discourse as a fragile security case. Hence, our study aims to reveal the morphology of the headline on news websites as a linguistic and stylistic window that redraws the tense relations between political actors from the political perspective of the media institution.

How do the morphological dimensions of news website headlines reflect linguistic and stylistic factors in redrawing and interpreting the recent tense relations between Algeria and Mali?

1. Study Sub -Questions

1.1. Linguistic dimensions of News Website Headlines

- To what extent does the vocabulary used in headlines reflect an official diplomatic stance, or does it contain subliminal political messages that express the media organization's orientation?
- How can the terminology's meanings help to present the dispute as a reactive activity rather than an offensive one?
- Does the news site's intention to present the issue in a non-escalating, calm way have anything to do with the abstract terminology it chooses?

1.2. Stylistic dimensions in analysis of News Website Headlines

- How does the temporal perception of the crisis in headlines change when abstract nouns are used in place of verbs?
- Is there an implicit directive for the reader or does the "question and answer" format of headlines represent a neutral investigative journalistic style?
- What does the absence of evaluative adjectives and adverbials indicate about the media's construction of the crisis as an analytical, rather than an emotional, discourse?

1.3. Morphological Dimensions In Analysis Of News Website Headlines

- How does the morphological structure of words (such as the use of infinitives and derived nouns) contribute to the formality and linguistic reserve of titles?
- Do nominal derivatives create an emotional distance between the reader and the event compared to the use of direct verbs?
- To what extent is the morphological structure consistent with the overall communicative purpose of titles?

2. Importance of the study

- This study derives its importance from its focus on the newspaper headline as a meaningful linguistic unit that plays a crucial interpretive role in shaping the reader's perception of events, particularly in contexts of conflict and political tension.
- Revealing the morphological dimensions of a headline is considered evidence of the editorial line of a media organization within its linguistic and stylistic structure. It serves as a guide for journalistic representations and journalistic perceptions of political actors, and a reproduction of the power and symbolic relations between them.
- Amid the intense media coverage of political crises in the Sahel region, Mali and Algeria stand out as a distinct case in terms of their place in media narratives, both regionally and internationally. Examining newspaper headlines in this context provides an opportunity to understand how the connotations of "agent," "adversary," and "ally" are constructed through charged linguistic structures and intense stylistic strategies.
- The current study sheds light on dimensions that go beyond the explicit form of the headline to understanding its implicit structure, as a text with ideological connotations, particularly in conflict contexts. This study adopts a semantic linguistic approach to analyzing media discourse, which seeks to deconstruct the headline as an agent in producing meaning, rather than merely a transmitter of information.
- The study contributes to deconstructing the morphological structure of titles to understand how language is used to guide interpretation, especially in politically charged topics such as

regional conflicts.

II. Methods and Materials:

1. Research Methodology

Discourse analysis : Georges Mounin defines it as every technique that seeks to establish the general and formal links between the linguistic units of spoken or written discourse at a higher level than the sentence (Mounin, 1974, p. 26). According to Jonathan Potter, it is the research process or methodological tool concerned with studying that interaction based on analytical materials that may be conversations in the context of interaction or written texts such as newspapers, daily memories, records, etc (Salah El-Din Abdullah, 2013, p. 198).

2. Analytical approaches:

The current study is based on the following two approaches:

2.1 Stylistic Approach :

Stylistics studies the act of communication not as a mere product of a string of words but as a bearer of the speaker's personality trait and as an attractor of the attention of the listener or reader (Boumelhem, 1995, p. 172)**.** It is linguistics that deals with the phenomenon of the mind carrying expressive understanding and specific perception. (Boumelhem, 1995, p. 173). Our use of the stylistic approach in studying the style of formulating news website headlines aims to reveal the linguistic games that affect the reader and attract his attention, by employing several templates, including the following:

- Employing dramatic and sensational styles: using powerful, emotionally charged words.
- Incitement or appeasement: depending on the newspaper's ideological orientation.
- Bias or neutrality: sometimes evident in the choice of words.

2.2 The Semantic Linguistic Approach :

This approach is considered an effective tool in deconstructing the representations constructed by the media, as it shows how reality is reproduced through linguistic mechanisms that appear neutral on the surface but are implicitly semantically charged. (Charaudeau & Maingueneau, 2002, p. 71). This approach is not limited to the dictionary meaning of words, but rather expands to include the suggestive and implicit connotations that vocabulary and phrases may carry within certain textual structures, especially in media discourse in which language is produced within tense ideological and political contexts (Kerbrat-Orecchioni, 1980, p. 34).

Semantic field tool is used to detect the word network. It was developed by the Center for Lexicology at San Cao, based on an axiomatic linguistic rule that a concept has no meaning except through its relationship to the vocabulary and the words surrounding it, where these relationships are classified according to semantic categories: the network of concepts, the network of attributes, and the network of verbs. (Nasr, 1990, p. 43).

3. Terms :

3.1 Morphology: It is the study of word forms in terms of their internal composition and the structure of the units that enter into their composition, whether radical or morphological (Mounin, 1974, p. 248). Morphology is a critical analytical tool in media discourse, demonstrating how morphological structure is used to perform semantic and ideological functions such as concealing the agent through the passive voice, instilling fear through intensified forms, or biasing through the use of adjectives and derived nouns over others.

3.2 Manchette / Headline: Roger Merle defines the headline as: "A condensed linguistic embodiment of the press's function of influencing the recipient, accomplished by concentrating the event in the fewest possible words" (Merle, 1994, p. 112). According to van Dijk, the headline is more than just a summary of the news; it is a "discursive structure in its own right," with intentionality, a persuasive strategy, and a pre-formation of the text's interpretation. (Van Dijk, 1988, p. 53).

Manchette is the initial textual unit of a news item and the most visible typographic element on the front page, the start of an article, or the website's interface. It has both utilitarian and aesthetic dimensions, as follows:

- Captures the core of the news or event.
- Rhetorical strategies such as metaphor, irony, and wordplay are used to arouse curiosity.
- Word choice and phrase structure serve as disguised ideological advice.

4. Selected sample

Purposive Sample: It is a sort of non-probability sample in which elements are intentionally chosen by the researcher based on particular criteria that are congruent with the study's aims, rather than randomness or statistical representation. This sort of sample is employed when the purpose is to thoroughly examine a single phenomenon rather than generalize the findings to the full research population. (Taherdoost, 2016, p. 20). The current study selected 04 headlines from various news websites during April 2025 due to the worsening situation in the Sahel region, and the issue taking on diplomatic and military dimensions, which has become a rich source of material for media institutions to adopt as editorial material to shape their media policy. The table N°1 shows the distribution of the purposive sample according to the publication date.

Table (1) : Purposive sample

N°	News Website Headlines	Source	Publication date
01	Algeria adopts "reciprocity" by recalling its ambassadors to Mali and Niger and postponing the dispatch of its ambassador to Burkina Faso. (Alarabiya, 2025)	**France24**	**07/04/2025**
02	The diplomatic crisis between Algeria and Mali escalates as the two countries close their airspace to each other. (france24, 2025)	**France24**	**08/04/2025**
03	Question and Answer… Causes and Repercussions of the Crisis between Mali and Algeria (Aljazeera, 2025)	**Aljazeera**	**08/04/2025**
04	After the recent disputes between Algeria and Mali: Have relations between them reached the point of no return? (shafcenter, 2025)	**Shafcenter**	**15/04/2025**

The table above displays the main headlines published on various news websites during the month of April 2025, where the wording and structure of the headlines varied from declarative to interrogative, as well as the way they covered the tension between Algeria and Mali within the network of vocabulary, adjectives, verbs, and active and passive voices. Both approaches will be adopted together within each separate headline. The current study will adopt four titles for analysis within eleven titles to avoid falling into titles that are similar in semantic, stylistic and morphological formulation.

5. Semantic, stylistic and Morphological Analysis of Headline/ Manchette N° 1:

5.1. Semantic Analysis:

5.1.1General structure of Headline: Since the title is a verbal sentence that starts with the word "adopts," it conveys the idea of a formal, planned activity rather than an impulsive or emotional response. Despite having a declarative style throughout, the entire work is loaded with overt political overtones.

5.1.2 Keywords and their meanings:

- The verb “adopts” (**to adopt**): refers to a conscious, calculated, and institutional decision.
- The term "**Reciprocity**" in quotation marks: The use of quotation marks suggests that the word is loaded with political or symbolic meanings. It may also suggest that the media itself may be reporting the words of the Algerian authorities without fully adopting them, meaning there is a reporting distance between them and the writer. The connotation of "reciprocity" refers to a reaction to previous behavior, suggesting existing diplomatic tension and that Algeria is not taking the initiative, but rather responding.
- “**Recalling**” (recalling ambassadors): Diplomatically, this is an act that indicates a high

degree of tension or discontent. It doesn't amount to severing relations, but it is a strong diplomatic message of protest.

- **Mali and Niger**: The duality of the self and the other or the semantic opposition (Mali and Niger as two countries experiencing a unique political situation (military coups, new alliances, etc.).
- **Postponing (verb to postpone):** Less severe than "calling," but expressing a reservation or suspension of full formal relations.
- **Dispatch of Ambassador:** Official dispatch, which usually demonstrates trust and openness, suggests hesitation or skepticism about the receiving state's intentions.

5.1.3 Semantic strategy:

- The title reframes Algeria's relations with the Sahel countries in light of unspoken diplomatic tensions.
- The reason behind this decision was not mentioned, leaving room for interpretation, but the use of "reciprocity" gives Algeria the role of "responding, not attacking."
- The title engages in a kind of "**Peaceful Framing of Tension**": instead of saying "Algeria severs relations" or "expels ambassadors," it chooses seemingly neutral but semantically charged verbs (adopts, recalls, postpones).

5.2. Grammatical and Stylistic Structure:

5.2.1 Verb Tense: The simple present tense (adopts): Indicates that the action is ongoing or formal and permanent, rather than just a fleeting reaction.

- **The verb-initial structure** is common in English news headlines and gives the event a dynamic/actual/formal feel.

5.2.2.Formal and institutional style: The use of terms such as: (adopts, recalling, postponing, dispatch),all of these are terms that belong to formal diplomatic discourse. There is no use of emotional, direct, or harsh language. This reflects an apparently neutral, formal, and bureaucratic style.

5.2.3.Stylistic Arrangement of Elements: There is an intentional gradation in the intensity of the decisions: Summoning ambassadors ← Stronger than Delaying dispatch more diplomatic . The style relies on the technique of **Climax**, it is known in rhetoric as: starting with the most intense and ending with the least intense, which creates balance in the tone of the speech and prevents an escalation of tension at the end of the address.

5.2.4.Labeling and symbolic naming: The key word "**Reciprocity**" in quotation marks, this stylistic use is known as ideological framing or **Quotation Framing**. Putting a word in quotation marks either: highlights it as a "borrowed" political term, or demonstrates that the newspaper is quoting it from an official source without fully adopting it **"Descriptive Distance**" approach. Thus, the style here employs punctuation to create interpretive distance between the position and the term.

5.2.5. Absence of another political Actor : The title depicts Algeria as the sole actor. The other countries (Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso) appear as objects or contextual objects, but without agency. This is a technique called **Strategic Omission**, and it contributes to highlighting Algeria's active and sovereign self.

5.2.6.Not using any explicit assessment tools: The title does not contain adjectives or adverbs such as "angrily, "due to hostility or "in protest ." This demonstrates a **Non-Evaluative** style. However, the verbs themselves are loaded with implicit evaluation, such as "recall" and "postponement," which indicate tension without directly naming it.

5.3 Morphological Analysis:

5.3.1.Adopts (to adopt): Grammatical addition: -s denotes the third-person singular present tense. It Denotes an institutional action, suggesting a decision-making process within a formal framework.

- The verb was employed within ideological dimensions. The verb "responds" or "reacts" was not used, which suggests emotion. Rather, the verb "adopts" was used, which indicates that

the decision is well-considered and legitimate.

5.3.2."**Reciprocity**": the word come from root (reciprocal): morphological addition: -ity ← nominal ← indicates an abstract concept. The word is a nominal derivative, giving it a legal institutional character. It suggests reciprocity as a diplomatic value, not as a punishment. In quotation marks: It suggests a political labeling or redefinition of the term.

5.3.3. Recalling / Postponing: Both are gerund, derived verbs, (recall + -ing / postpone + -ing). The structure indicates continuity or describes a state. Algeria is not just "summoning" or "postponing," but adopting ongoing policies. Grammatically a gerund used as a rhetorical device to describe an action, not simply to inform about it.

5.3.4.Dispatch: It reflects bureaucratic language, not emotional language. Grammatically, it indicates that the decision has not been canceled, but merely postponed, meaning there is a diplomatic gray area**.**

5.3.4. Morphological Structure: The use of three derived verbs: (adopts, recalling, postponing), gives a coherent morphological rhythm and contributes to the logical sequence of the narration of political actions as they are in reality. They are verbs derived from Latin roots, which reflects the formal and bureaucratic nature of the discourse.

6.Semantic, stylistic and Morphological Analysis of Headline/ Manchette N° 2:

6.1. Semantic Analysis:

6.1.1General structure of the title: The news phrase that opens the title, "The diplomatic crisis," conveys a formal and somber tone. The title has a dynamic nature, with an obvious escalation rather than a static description, because the verb "escalates" is used to show that the situation is developing in an unstable and increasing manner. The title has a significant semantic charge about the political tension and acrimonious differences between two countries that were meant to have friendly ties, even though it is news.

6.1.2 Keywords and their meanings:

- "**Diplomatic crisis**": A politically charged expression, suggesting that relations between Algeria and Mali have moved from a mere disagreement or temporary tension to a structural crisis threatening the official channels between them.
- **"Escalates**" is a strong, dynamic word that denotes that the situation has escalated beyond a simple miscommunication and into more dire options like alienation or regional interference.
-"**Close their airspace to each other":** Airspace closures are a high-risk sovereign action that demonstrates a total lack of confidence between nations. Both material and semantic dimensions are present in this act: material because it blocks aviation traffic, and semantic because it expresses a desire for political pressure, segregation, and isolation. Since neither state initiates the action, the act of cutting off communication with one another produces a sort of "hostile symmetry," which supports the idea of balanced escalation.

6.1.3.Semantic Strategy: Without using sentimental language, the title presents the situation as dynamic and perilous. Rather, it depends on specific actions and descriptions (such as sealing the airspace or escalation) that demonstrate the gravity of the issue. The title conveys a sense of uncertainty and fear by failing to specify the causes for the increase, allowing opportunity for political and media interpretation. It employs the tactic of "described escalation," in which a sharp decline in relations is indicated without specifically mentioning direct hostile measures (like war or a total rupture). Similar to the "peaceful framing of tension" I described, this just refers to procedural activities (closing) that have implications of great tension rather than discussing "hostility" or "threats."

6.2. Grammatical and stylistic structure:

6.2.1.Verb Tense: Simple present tense (escalating/close) ➔ Events are given a feeling of formality and continuity when they are written in the simple present tense, which implies that they are continuing rather than ended. English news headlines frequently use this strategy to convey a feeling of vitality and relevancy.

6.2.2.Verb beginning structure: "**The Diplomatic Crisis",** The title places greater emphasis on the event or circumstance than the players themselves since it starts with the subject (the diplomatic crisis) rather than the verb. The crisis itself is given weight as the primary emphasis by this arrangement.

6.2.3. Formal and institutional style: Words like "crisis," "escalates," and "close their airspace" are used to make official diplomatic statements. A neutral, somber, and professional tone is reflected in the absence of emotive or popular language.

6.2.4. Stylistic arrangement of elements (rising tension): The **Climax** approach is evidently used in the title**; "escalates,"** a broad term for increasing stress, is used at the beginning**.** Then comes a specific, useful detail: "close their airspace," which is a risky escalation of diplomatic ties. The reader's stress is progressively increased throughout the narrative, producing a subtly dramatic impact.

6.2.5. Naming and symbolic naming: The absence of quotation marks indicates that the publication uses the phrases "crisis" and "escalates" without including a quote mark or a space. By doing this, the title gains more interpretative power and presents the viewpoint as a "news fact" as opposed to an opinion that has been credited.

6.2.6. Emergence of political actors: Two actors (Mali and Algeria) are identified in the title, and their respective powers are distributed evenly. This method avoids explicitly depicting one side as the aggressor or victim by balancing the narrative and emphasizing that both are accountable for the escalation.

6.2.6.Not using explicit assessment tools: Neither "angrily," "after a heated argument," nor "hostilely" are evaluative adjectives or adverbs. However, there are a lot of implicitly negative meanings in the phrases themselves (crisis, intensifies, near). Without a precise emotional explanation, the terms "escalate" and "close airspace" imply a decline in ties.

6.3.Morphological analysis:

6.3.1.The: A definite article indicates that the crisis is known and specific.

6.3.2.Diplomatic: is an adjective derived from the root diplomacy, which in turn comes from the Greek word diploma (official document).

6.3.3 The suffix –ic: It changes a noun into an adjective (Diplomacy → Diplomatic). This grammatical construction indicates that the crisis concerns official and diplomatic affairs, not direct popular or military events.

6.3.4. Between: is a preposition indicating a two-way relationship.

6.3.5. Escalates: Verb: Third-person singular present. The root is escalate, and the suffix -s indicates that the subject (the diplomatic crisis) is singular. The verb is derived from the Latin word scala (ladder), suggesting a gradual increase in intensity and tension. Morphologically, the use of the present tense gives the sense that the escalation is occurring now, meaning that the crisis is still active and developing.

6.3.6. Close: A plural present tense verb following the subject "the two countries." The root "close" indicates a final closure or prohibition of passage. The morphology here indicates that the action is reciprocal between two equal parties in action and decision.

6.3.7. To Each Other: A prepositional phrase that denotes reciprocity, reinforcing the idea that each country made a similar decision toward the other.

6.3.8. The General Grammatical Structure of the Title: A combination of: Nouns (crisis, Algeria, Mali, countries, airspace), Adjectives (diplomatic), Present-tense verbs (escalates, close), Conjunctions and determiners (the, between, as, to each other). The title's action is achieved through the two main verbs "escalates" and "close," giving the impression of the vitality and continuity of the events. The reliance on the present tense gives the title a real-time feel, as if the crisis is developing moment by moment.

The title includes a real movement, unlike the previous title (Question and Answer), it is strong in its use of verbs (escalates, close), which reflects the escalation of the diplomatic situation, and not just its analysis or explanation. It is distinguished by a more dynamic morphological character: verbs + semantically charged nouns.

7. Semantic, stylistic and Morphological Analysis of Headline/ Manchette N° 3:

7.1. General structure of the title: There are two sections to the title:

7.1.1 Question and Answer…": This indicates that the material is not a standard narrative but

rather follows an expository or conversational structure, simplifying and explaining things for the reader.

- The descriptive and analytical section **"Causes and Repercussions of the Crisis between Mali and Algeria"** provides a thorough foundation for the conflict, covering everything from its causes to its effects.

7.1.2.An ellipsis (…) following Question and Answer adds a sense of tension or anticipation by implying that the subject is complicated and open-ended, making it difficult to simplify.

7.1.3 Keywords and their meanings:

7.1.4.Question and Answer": It conveys a sense of order, clarity, and a desire to make a difficult subject easier for the reader to understand. It shows that the writer and the incident are analytically separated; the writer approaches the situation with interpretative coldness rather than with passion.

7.1.5"Causes": Analyzing the reasons reveals that the crisis has political or historical origins rather than being abrupt or unplanned. Even though no party is explicitly named, this word implicitly clarifies obligations.

7.1.6. "Repercussions": It implies that the issue has real repercussions that go beyond diplomatic boundaries and have an impact on the area, the economy, or security.

7.1.7.Crisis between Mali and Algeria":The phrase here is direct, not to ease tensions between the two countries, but rather to explicitly acknowledge the existence of a real "crisis," giving the title a serious and warning tone.

7.1.8. Semantic strategy: In addition to describing the event, the title gives it an analytical rather than a reportorial quality by promising the reader a glimpse into its causes and a forecast of its outcomes.

7.2.Grammatical and stylistic structure:

7.2.1 Verb tense: -The title itself depends on abstract nouns (Causes, Repercussions, Crisis) rather than verbs in the present or past tense. A "time freeze" approach is indicated by the lack of a verb in the present tense, implying that the subject is being examined or debated rather than reporting a brief development.

-The headline begins with the "Question and Answer" structure, a style more like what you'd find in investigative journalism or analytical reports than breaking news.

7.2.2.Formal and institutional style: The use of words like "causes," "repercussions," and "crisis" conveys an analytical and scholarly tone. Instead of using emotive language, the style emphasizes analysis and a methodical comprehension of the connections between causes and consequences; it is more interpretative than declarative.

7.2.3.Stylistic arrangement of elements: The title is organized both chronologically and logically:

Question and Answer (organizing the shape and structuring the material formulation). Then, Causes (the roots, or the start of the problem). After, repercussions (the ensuing consequences - the consequent effect) , This provides the title with a clear cause-to-effect linear structure that is suitable for a methodical, structured investigation.

7.2.4. Naming and symbolic naming: The newspaper accepts this account of events as objective and acceptable without the need for descriptive distance or linguistic reserve because "crisis" is provided without quotation marks**.**

7.2.5. Question and Answer: As though the article will address the situation using the logic of inquiry and answer rather than viewpoints or prejudices, "Question and Answer" conveys an implied signal of impartiality and neutrality.

7.2.6. Emergence of political actors: The two sides (Algeria and Mali) are discussed in equal terms with regard to the "crisis," without any implication of partiality or censure of either.By emphasizing the "crisis" rather than the characters, the title demonstrates the journalist's desire to analyze the event rather than politicize or personalize it.

7.2.7.Not using explicit assessment tools: Emotional adverbs and evaluative adjectives (such "dangerous," "catastrophic," "friendly," etc.) are absent. Even the most important terms (causes, effects) appear to be neutral, which lends the title a logical and analytical quality. The

evaluative connotations are ascribed to the content of the article rather than the title language.

7.3.Morphological Analysis:

7.3.1 Question and Answer: Two words are both nouns. The word "**question**" has the meaning of seeking knowledge and is derived from the Latin root **Quaerere** (to inquire). The word "answer" is derived from the verb "answer" (to answer, to react). The structural link between the two words—question → answer—indicates an intellectual process rather than a formal proclamation. This statement has an analytical and didactic quality since it entirely relies on nouns rather than verbs.

7.3.2. Ellipsis (….): It is not a morphological element, but it plays a semantic role related to continuity and incompleteness of meaning.

7.3.3.Causes: A plural noun (plural of cause), derived from the Latin verb causare (to cause). It focuses on the crisis's origins and indicates its fundamental causes or explanations. Keep in mind that using the plural word (reasons) implies a variety of causes and intricate histories.

Repercussions: It is a plural noun (n. plural). he addition of -s highlights the crisis's complexity by indicating many outcomes. The Latin origin of the phrase," **Repercutere"**, which means "to strike back," suggests that diplomatic action has indirect consequences, a precise meaning in the political context.

7.3.4 Crisis: Singular noun (from the Greek root krisis, meaning decision or decisive moment). Although the word is singular, it is charged with meaning and carries significant semantic dimensions. It is used in political and economic contexts to denote a state of extreme tension.

7.3.5 General grammatical structure of the title:

-The author relies entirely on nouns, not verbs. The choice of plural forms (Causes, Repercussions) reinforces the suggestion of multiplicity and complexity.

-The title constructs its conception of the crisis through "concepts" rather than "events," reflecting an analytical, interpretive discourse rather than a direct discourse.

- The morphological rhythm of the nouns (Question → Answer → Causes → Repercussions → Crisis) creates a logical path: Question → Answer → Analysis of causes → Predicting outcomes → Description of the crisis.

8.Semantic, stylistic and Morphological Analysis of Headline/ Manchette N°04:

8.1.Semantic analysis:

8.1.1General structure of the title:

- A title is a verbal compound phrase that starts with the adverb "After" and ends with an interrogative.
- Adverbs in the title indicate that the event (conflict) is complete and happened in the past, which sets the stage for a more thorough analysis than a simple summary.
- "**Have relations...?"** is an interrogative that suggests the problem is open and unsolved and does not force a conclusion on the reader.
- The phrase "**point of no return**" is often used to refer to an irreparable collapse in international relations, thus even while the title seems descriptive and investigative, it actually has deep political overtones.
- Instead of offering a sentimental or transient response, the title offers a rigorous explanation of the circumstance.

8.1.2.Keywords and their meanings:

- **Recent disputes:** A term that suggests the crisis is not ancient, but rather recent and urgent, lending it a sense of urgency and relevance.
- **Disputes"** is less severe than "conflicts" or "wars," suggesting a diplomatic or political dispute, not necessarily an armed conflict.
- **Relations:** A neutral, formal term that refers to the political structure between two states, not individuals. Using the plural form indicates that the relationship is complex, encompassing more than one aspect (political, economic, security.(
- **Point of no return**: A symbolic expression with heavy meaning, meaning that a significant

development has occurred to the point that the status quo ante cannot be reversed. This phrase transforms the dispute from a mere passing tension into a true existential crisis in the bilateral relationship.

- Punctuation: A colon (:) after a temporal statement separates the time frame from the core issue and indicates that what comes after it is more important**. The question mark** (?) creates a state of suspension or waiting, and indicates that the outcome is uncertain, which prompts the reader to think and reflect rather than accept.

8.1.3.Semantic Strategy: A title that presents the dispute in an unbiased, critical way:Instead of stating that "Algeria and Mali have entered into a rift," it inquires as to whether an irreversible stage may be reached, which linguistically lessens the severity of the escalation. It leaves the door open for the reader to participate in interpreting the situation, rather than receiving a definitive, definitive account.. It highlights the emphasis on the crisis's structure rather than its specifics and leaves up the possibility of interpretation and analysis by excluding any reference to the conflict's immediate sources, such as particular political stances or conflicts.

8.2. Analyse grammaticale et stylistique :

8.2.1 Verb Tense: The main sentence "Have relations between them reached the point of no return?" Uses the present perfect tense (Have reached) ➔ This suggests that the development is ongoing, not yet resolved, and falls within the immediate present, rather than a finished event.

8.2.2 Formal and institutional style: The use of terms such as: (**recent disputes, relations, point of no return),** demonstrates linguistic discipline and an analysis of international relations without emotion. Emotional descriptions such as "severe" or "catastrophic" are not used, but rather, the event is presented in analytical language without the communicator's intervention.

8.2.3. stylistic arrangement of elements

Title structure:

- **Temporal and spatial framing**: After the recent disputes
- **Subject of study**: Relations between Algeria and Mali .
- Possible outcome: the point of no return ➔ There is a logical sequential order: Cause (of the disputes) ⇨ Subject (of the relations) ⇨ Possible outcome (final rupture).

8.2.4 Symbolic label: The phrase "the point of no return" is not enclosed in quotation marks, which means the title implicitly adopts this description in an objective, unqualified, and serious way. Conflicts and relationships are described objectively, without accusing one party or the other. However, it predicts a final severance of relations in the future.

8.2.5 The emergence of political actors :The two countries (Algeria and Mali) are mentioned equally. The actions of each party are not described or categorized (neither "aggressor" nor "victim"). The two parties appear as "equal actors" within a single crisis. Like the model, the focus is on the crisis as an event, not on the individuals or specific political positions.

8.2.6 Lack of emotional evaluation: The editor avoids using the words "dangerous," "dark," "exciting," etc. Only employs rigid analytical vocabulary to avoid alienating the reader when reading the headline and making a preconceived judgment about the content of the article.

8.3. Morphological analysis:

8.3.1 After: Preposition indicating chronological order (after an event).

8.3.2. The Recent Disputes: the: A definite article indicating that the disputes were already known to the recipient. recent: An adjective derived from the Latin root **Recens** (recent.(disputes: A plural noun (plural of dispute), denoting disputes or disagreements.The root disputare (vigorously debated) carries the meaning of intensity.

8.3.3. Between Algeria and Mali: A prepositional phrase identifying the parties to the dispute. Algeria and Mali: Fixed proper nouns that do not undergo inflectional change.

8.3.4.Relations: Plural Noun (Relation → Relations). The root **Relatio** (relationship, bond), denotes a formal connection between two entities.

8.3.5. The Point Of No Return: Noun phrase, a popular phrase meaning a stage beyond which

there is no return.

8.3.6. Punctuation:

- Columns: Indicates that what follows is a detail or explanation of what preceded. Morphologically, they do not change the word, but they do change the pragmatic function of the sentence (from narrative to questioning).

- The colon (:): Separates the cause (conflicts) from the possible outcome (a question about the end of the relationship). It makes the title dynamic: not just a narrative, but a narrative followed by a question.

- The question mark (?): It turns the title into an open-ended question, engaging the reader emotionally and intellectually, and prompting them to search for an answer. Pragmatically: It creates tension and suspense.

The title's morphological structure is based on: Adjectives (recent), Plural nouns (disputes, relations), Phlegmatic verbs (have reached), Adverbial phrases (between Algeria and Mali, between them). The title suggests a critical transitional period, a shift toward the possibility of total collapse. Morphologically, the title uses the mechanisms of pluralization, continuity, and irreversible outcome, deepening the dramatic dimension of the crisis.

III.Results and discussion:

1. The analyzed headlines exhibit a common semantic and grammatical structure that represents a media tendency toward analytical framing of events rather than direct reporting, presenting the situation in an analytical manner away from emotional escalation. **Fairclough** (1995) asserts that this method improves the objectivity of media discourse by "freezing direct action" in favor of "analyzing the relationships between elements." (Fairclough, 1995)
2. Despite being couched in icy, impersonal language, key terms like crises, disagreements, and repercussions all allude to a genuine problem. Though it avoids using language of outright threat or animosity, phrases like "close their airspace" have strong diplomatic overtones. The use of such terminology. According to **Van Dijk** , is a component of what he refers to as "semantic control," or framing the situation so that the reader may assess its seriousness for themselves. (Van Dijk T. , 1998, p. 73)
3. Within the titles, abstract nouns (crisis, disputes, repercussions) predominate, not direct action verbs. The frequent use of present tense forms (escalates) or nominal structures (causes and repercussions) reflects. According to **Halliday**, a tendency toward what he calls "interpretive language," which prefers descriptive nominal construction to sequential chronological narrative. (Halliday, 1994, p. 61)
4. Negative evaluative adjectives (such as catastrophic or dangerous) are absent, indicating that the texts seek to allow the reader to infer the gravity of the situation without pushing them into a preconceived emotional position. The clear tendency toward descriptive-analytical discourse rather than mobilizing or protesting discourse is consistent with **Charaudeau's** argument about the function of analytical media discourse in creating distance from the event. (Charaudeau, 2005, p. 88).
5. The semantic strategy centers on presenting the crisis as an evolving event, creating an impression of continuity and indecisiveness. The use of the interrogative ("Have relations reached...?") opens up space for interpretation and falls within what Richardson calls an "open rhetorical strategy," where the recipient is invited to participate in the construction of meaning. (Richardson, 2007, p. 128). In contrast, titles such as "The diplomatic crisis escalates" gradually build the level of tension without blatant linguistic escalation, achieving a "**Peaceful Framing Of Tension**" in Galtung's term. (Galtung, 1998, p. 180).
6. Through a stylistic analysis of the selected headlines, it becomes clear that media discourse employs subtle linguistic techniques aimed at creating an impression of objective analysis and in-depth investigation rather than excitement or escalation. **Simpson** notes that "the choice of tense and grammatical context in news headlines is a tool of subtle direction, where verbs and nouns frame the reader's reception of the news." This is evident in the extensive use of abstract nouns (such as "crisis," "causes," "ramifications") rather than direct verbs. (Simpson,

1993, p. 88).

7. In terms of verb tense, the dominant use of the simple present, as in "escalates," creates what **Fowler** calls "the immediate presence of the crisis." This means that the reader feels that the crisis is not a closed, past event, but rather an ongoing reality that evolves moment by moment. This technique enhances the reader's connection to the news and keeps them mentally alert. (Fowler, 1991, p. 69)

8. On the other hand, choosing titles with a "question and answer" structure indicates a desire to engage the reader in a dialogical manner, which is consistent with the concept of investigative discourse as explained by **Bell** , who explained that formulating titles in interrogative or investigative forms opens the way for the reader to feel involved rather than passively receiving. (Bell, 1991, p. 50)

9. Moving away from emotional or evaluative terms, and being satisfied with cold analytical terms, confirms what **Fairclough** pointed out, that "the apparent neutrality of media discourse is in itself an ideological position, as the media chooses when to appear emotional and when to appear analytical, according to its framing purpose." (Fairclough, 1995, p. 112)

10. At the punctuation level, its use was carefully calculated. The absence of exclamation marks, and the use of ellipsis or quotation marks when necessary, reinforces the objective style and softens the emotional intensity of the language, in line with the observations of **Charaudeau** , who asserted that "punctuation plays a rhythmic and semantic role that reveals the communicative intent of media discourse." (Charaudeau, 1997, p. 95)

11. The tendency of titles to what **Halliday** calls 'grammatical abstraction', where events are transformed into fixed linguistic entities (such as 'mutual closure of atmospheres'), transforms the crisis from a mere event into a phenomenon that can be analysed and discussed, rather than a mere circumstantial fact. (Halliday, 1994, p. 95)

12. A morphological reading of the studied headlines reveals a subtle linguistic awareness in shaping the morphological structure of words with the aim of guiding the reader's understanding of the event without direct intervention. **Katamba** noted that "the morphological structure of a word not only determines its lexical meaning, but also plays a hidden role in constructing the ideological framing of media texts." (Katamba, 1993, p. 6)

13. The heavy reliance on nouns derived from verbs or semantic roots such as crisis, causes, and repercussions, rather than the use of explicit verbs, is what **Aronoff** calls the "nominalization of events," where dynamic verbs are transformed into static nouns, giving events an abstract, scientific character rather than a kinetic or emotional one. (Aronoff, 1976, p. 95)

14. The use of the present tense singular reflects what **Bauer** pointed out, that "the choice of the present tense and its singular form in news discourse enhances the sense of continuity and renewal, as if the event has not yet been decided." This serves the media's goal of keeping the reader engaged with the news as current events. (Bauer, 1983, p. 56)

15. The introduction of certain derivational suffixes, such as "**-tion**" in "repercussion," confirms **Plag's** claim that "nominal suffixes contribute to giving the text a more academic, analytical character than a descriptive or interactive one." That is, the language sounds closer to that of a scientific report, rather than to that of an emotional one. (Plag , 2003, p. 45)

16. At the level of morphological balance, the titles maintained a frequent use of infinitive forms or abstract nouns, which **Booij** calls "morphological patterning," which helps create a calm and balanced linguistic rhythm that enhances the objectivity of the presentation. (Booij, 2005, p. 110)

17. There is an absence of emotive verbs or evaluative adjectives within the headlines. As **Dressler** points out, "morphological economy in news texts is used as a mechanism to demonstrate alleged neutrality, avoiding strong connotations associated with the verb or adjective." This is evident in headlines that choose to remain within the confines of analysis, not personal expression. (Dressler, 1985)

IV. Conclusion:

The language used in the headlines about the diplomatic crisis between Algeria and Mali was neither innocent nor completely neutral, according to the results of the semantic, stylistic, and morphological analysis. Instead, it was loaded with a well-considered rhetorical structure meant to present a calculated picture of the situation.

Semantically, the language employed conveyed a formal tone and diplomatic restraint, portraying Algeria as a response rather than an aggressor by framing the issue as a reaction rather than an initiative. The speech was given an investigative and scientific quality by the deliberate use of time-blocking and analytical composition using abstract nouns instead of direct verbs, as indicated by stylistic analysis.

Morphologically, The media's portrayal of impartiality and sobriety during the crisis was strengthened by the morphological use of nominal forms and derivations, which demonstrated a propensity to convey events in a logical, structured way, apart from sentimental or emotive assessments.

In keeping with what contemporary linguistic studies confirm about the role of language in shaping the media's view of events, it can be said that the media discourse contained in the titles of articles published about the Algeria-Mali crisis adopted a comprehensive linguistic strategy based on controlling vocabulary and employing morphological, stylistic, and semantic structures to serve the purpose of political framing and controlling the recipient's general impression.

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