Epistemic Modality as Found in Four Four Two

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Abstract

This research investigates lexical and phrasal constituent s in epistemic modality by analyzing each constituent based on syntactical function in the sente nce and determining each constituent belongs to Four Four Two magazine on November 2012 edition. Alwi' theory (1992) is applied to analyze epistemic modality under syntax and semantic s studies. The observational method (nonparticipant observational and note taking technique) is used in collecting data. Moreover, distributional method (deletion, expansion, and substituti on technique) is applied in analyzing data. The result of analysis is clarified through verbal stat ement and figure. Based on all sample, there are some lexical constituent like modal and adverbi al and phrasal constituent like prepositional phrase belonging to possibility, futurity, certainty, obligation, orientation, and negation. The existence of modal (will, may, must, should, can), pre positional phrase (for me, in my opinion, I think, I'm sure), and adverbial (probably, possibly, sur ely, clearly) cause epistemic modality in the sentence.

Keywords: epistemic modality, possibility, futurity, certainty, obl igation, orientation, and negation.