A Feminine Stylistic Analysis of Princess Diana Speech "Does the Community Care?"

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Abstract

This paper concentrates on analyzing Princess Diana speech from a feminine stylistic perspective . It achieves these aims 1) Depicting types of lexical hedge employed by Princess Diana in her speech .2) Clarifying the most prevalent form of lexical hedge is used by Princess Diana to convey her aim 3) Pinpointing women's language features in her speech 4) illustrating the most dominant features that identify her speech .Consequently , it hypothesizes that 1) Princess Diana invests only modal verb and epistemic lexical verb as a kind of lexical hedge in her speech . 2)) Modal verb is the most general sort of lexical hedge that distinguishes her speech. 3) Depending on Lakoff's women features, Princess Diana employs lexical hedge , tag question and intensifiers in her speech . 4) Intensifier is the preponderant feature that specifies her speech .This study ends with these points 1) Princess Diana employs epistemic lexical verbs , modal verbs , modal adjective and modal adverb as sorts of lexical hedge in her speech . 2) Modal verb is the common sort of lexical hedge that distinguishes her speech . 3) Princess Diana executes only lexical hedge , empty adjective , intensifiers and hyper correct grammar in her speech . 4) Lexical hedge is the dominant feature that specifies her speech .

1.Introduction

Language is a major means of communication. Communication regards as any conduct that results in an interchange of meaning (Rai ,2010: 6). It is the transmission of data and meaning between individuals(ibid.)

In communities, women and men do not talk precisely in the same way as each other. The linguistic behavior of women differs from men and in several ways (Holmes,2013159-60). Linguistically, women employs amiable words more than men (ibid.). simply, this paper endeavors to answer these questions:

1)What types of lexical hedge utilized in princess Diana's speech?

2) which is the most dominant form of lexical hedge used by Princess Diana to convey her goal?

3) what features does Princess Diana employ in her speech?

2)What is the most dominant feminine feature that clarify her speech?

2.Literature Review

Stylistics is commonly defined as "the study of a writer's literary or non-literary style". Widdowson (1975:3) Consequently , Feminine stylistics is that sub branch of stylistics transacting with the method where gender issues are linguistically encoded in texts (Mills,2006). It is involved with the analysis of the impacts of the questions and issues of gender on the production and realization of texts(ibid.).

Many studies in this field are seen such a paper entitled "A Feminist Stylistic Analysis of Katherine Mansfield's "Miss Brill" by "Farah Hafedh Ibrahim 2020" deals with Katherine Mansfield's "Miss Brill" via a feminist stylistic approach to discover how female characters are introduced. The study discovers whether the author supports or challenges the stereotypical image of women by perceiving them as inferior or equal to men.

And Another paper entitled "A Study of Feminist Stylistic Analysis of Language Issues of Gender Representation in Selected Literary text" by Asst. Prof. Gheni 2021 This study has manifested that transitivity patterns are utilized as a device to analyze gender representation also to depict the ideational meaning which encompasses the experiential recognition of the world

This paper diverges from the previous papers in that it attempt to show the linguistic features are used in the current study introduced by Princess Diana speech "Does the Community Care? ".In addition the model followed in the analysis of the data is (Lakoffs modal and. Hyland 's 1998 classification of hedge).

3.Feminine Stylistics

Feminine stylistics is acquainted as the domain of stylistics that has to do with gender. It is depicted as a type of politically incentive stylistics whose goal is to evolve a consciousness of the way gender is handled in texts (Montoro ,2014).

It deals with the analysis of the way that questions of gender effect on the production and comprehension of texts(Norgaad et al., 2010: 18).

In fact , the role of feminist stylistics is not limited to adding gender to the elements being analyzed , but rather aims to clarify the assumptions on which the traditions are based (Mills,1995) .It analysis socioeconomic factors which have permitted that language to appear (ibid.).

4.Language and gender

Language is the ultimate fully enunciated of whole media of human communication (Jackson,2014). Communication regards as the symbolic process by which people formulate meaning with others (ibid.).

The idea of combining the concept of gender with language traces back to the fact that people's realization of gender are strongly influenced by the language they utilize (Coates , 2013) .Gender is that term used to depict socially constructed categories based on sex .

Consequently, (Holmes,2013) mentions that women's linguistic behavior differs from men in numerous ways. For instance: women's usage of language is more courteous than men. Also, women employ the standard forms in their language more than men. Contrariwise, men utilize more of the vernacular forms than women do(ibid.163).

5.Women˙s Language Features:

Lakoff suggested that women's speech was marked by the following linguistic features(ibid.302).

5.1Lexical hedges or fillers

Lexical hedges are used to reduce the vigor of an assertion such as "I think", "I'm sure" "perhaps".They give an idea that the speaker is unsure of what (he /she) says. In general women tend to employ these expressions more than men (ibid .79) . Hyland (1998: 103-155) classify hedge in to the following groups:

a) Epistemic lexical verbs convey an interpersonal meaning. They are either Judgment verbs: such as believe, expect, calculate, conclude, etc. Or evidential verbs such as: argue, claim, indicate notice, observe, seek (ibid. 119-129).

b) Modal verbs express the meaning of possibilities, permissions and obligations such as should, must, will, might and could (Web Source 1).

c)Modal adjective: It includes words like possible, probable, necessary, etc (Web Source 2).

d) Modal adverbs refer to the modality of a verb such as perhaps, possibly, certainly, definitely, potential (ibid.). As for fillers, a filler denotes a pause or hesitation in speech as in um, uh, er, ah, okay, right, and you know (Web Source 3).

5.2. Tag questions: They invite the hearer to respond in agreement with the interlocutor, as in the government should cut income taxes, shouldn't it? (Greenbaum and Nelson, 2002: 122).

5.3 Rising intonation on Declaratives: this kind means that receiving the decision to the remittee in a non-coercive manner since the speaker is uncertain whether the addressee will concur with his /her opinion. As in (It is really good) (Lakoff ,2004:50).

5.4 Empty Adjective: They refer to the emotional responses to the specific information. Some of them are neutral which, men and women, can use them such as (great, neat, terrific and cool) others are exclusive in usage to women as in (adorable, charming, sweet, lovely, divine, gorgeous, and cute) (Lakoff,2004).

5.5 Precise Color Terms: Women use color terms more obviously than men, such as maroon, beige, ecru, lavender or aquamarine (ibid.).

5.6 Intensifiers: Expressions that degrease or increase the degree of property. Examples, very, extremely, slightly, quite , rather. (Cruse, 2006: 89).

5.7 Hypercorrect grammar: Women speak in standard verb forms than men (Holmes,1992).

5.8 Hyper polite forms: Women speak more politely than men. e.g. Indirect request, euphemisms (ibid.) .

5.9 Avoidance of strong swear words: Group of words explicate excess anger. Generally, swearing is more associated with men than women (Eckert ,2003).

5.10 Emphatic Stress: It refers to how people express uncertainty through their own words for example: It was a brilliant performance (Lakoff,2004: 81).
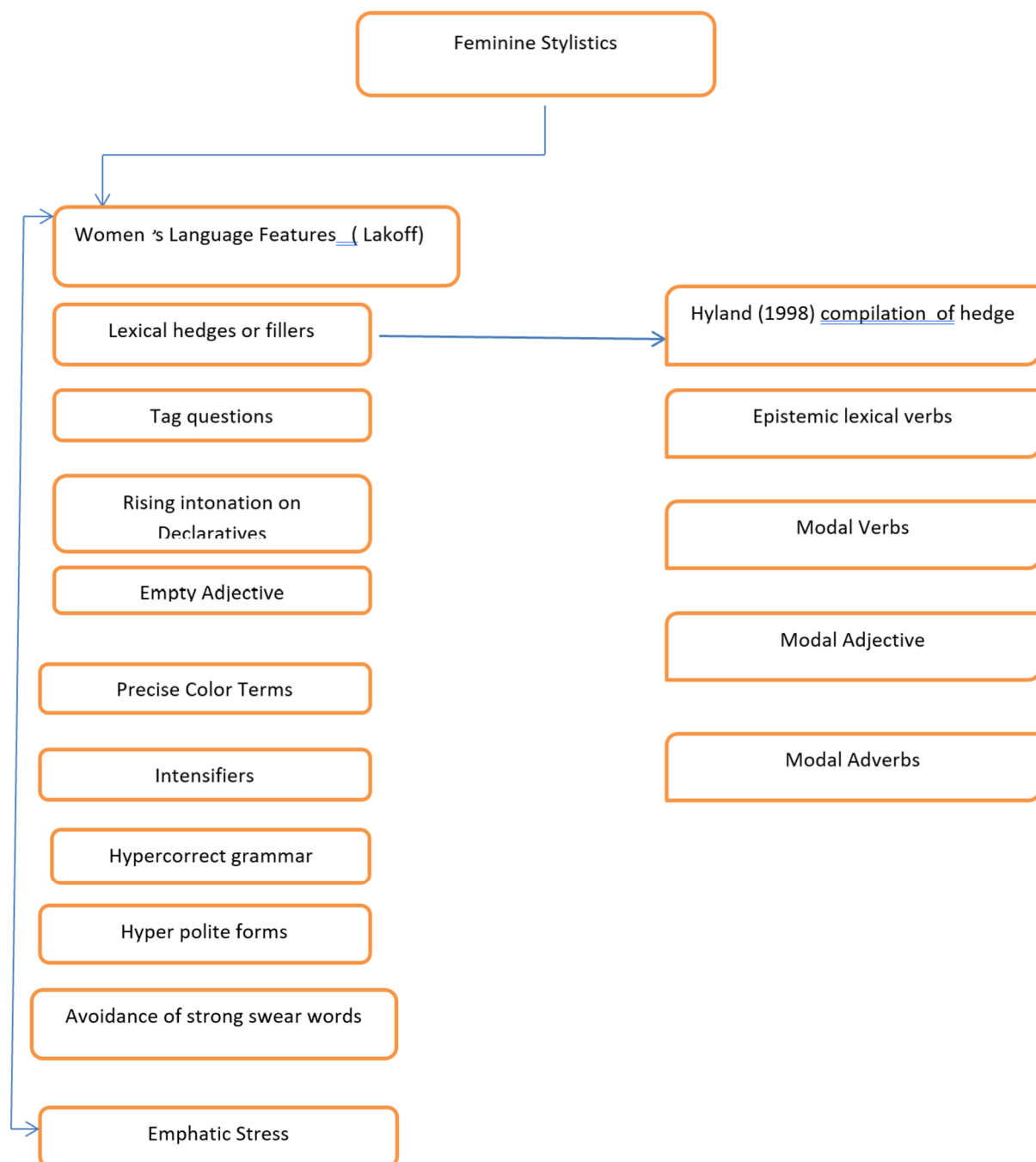
Figure (1) Selective Modal Analysis

Text Analysis
Text 1
"For many people in our society, the idea of talking with someone who has been in care, whether it be a juvenile offender, a person who has suffered from mental illness or perhaps someone with learning difficulties is too awful to contemplate. I can assure them, it's not so bad"(Web Source 4).

Princess Diana employs "perhaps" as a kind of lexical hedge which refers to possibility to explicate her idea about talking to people who has a mental illness is not terrible because those people is part of society.

She confirms her speech by using "can" as a modal verb describing that her meeting scene with those people is not inferior .

Also, she mentions the prevailing belief about that group of people by "too" as an intensifier which modifies the word "awful". Then , by employing "so" as another sort of intensifier , she illustrates that her personal experience is not bad.

She also, uses "awful" to illustrate the idea of talking to mental illness or with people facing learning

difficulties.

Text 2

"One woman I vividly remember meeting had been 'put away' thirty years ago, suffering from post natal psychosis, after the birth of her first child. Yet if the right support and resources had been available to her, she could so easily have continued to live in the community. Eating what she wanted, rather than being given food which offended the fewest taste buds. Being able to be private when she needed to, rather than having to share a room with four other people. No space, no privacy, no life!"(ibid.).

She exploits " could" which expresses the possibility as a modal verb to state that through her meeting with a woman who was exposed to certain circumstances , Princess Diana mentions that there is no need to put them in the institutions if the support and care are provided to them .

Then by using "so" as intensifier , she emphasizes her view that those people can live normally in a society if a convenient support is supplied to them . Also, she utilizes "rather" which gives the meaning of preference to illustrate that living normally in a normal environment such as "house" is better than being in these institutions which seem uncomfortable to these people .

She , also uses two adverbs "so easily" as a kind of hypercorrect grammar to mention her opinion about woman's case that she met .

Text 3

"Care in the community has made all the difference to this woman's life. She is now being helped to return to the community she left so long ago. She is relearning the skills which had been lost to her. Savouring again the delights of a life she could barely remember"(ibid.).

She mentions the vital role of the institutions to those people. These institutions present various service to secure a healthy and good life to these people .Thus , by using " could" , she expresses that in this healthy environment those people can conquer all difficulties.

Then , she invests "so" as an intensifier to refer to the period of time that this woman spend in the institution.

Text 4

"Recently a great deal of publicity has been given to a tiny number of people who have damaged themselves or others when they returned to the community from hospital care. It has raised very real concerns in many people. It's true there is a small minority who are rightly seen as a potential danger to the community who need greater levels of care and understanding. But however terrible these tragic cases are, they cannot be used as a way of dismissing the needs of thousands of others who are no threat to the community whatsoever"(ibid.).

She focuses on the idea that these group of people needs some care and they do not pose any risk to society. Thus , she uses "can" which denotes possibility .

Despite the belief that these people regards as a source of a hazard to society but actually they do not . She confirms that by employing a modal adjective "true" and " potential" . Also, she utilizes "great" as an indication to the a mount of propaganda .

Then , she resorts to use intensifier "very" as a sign to express the a mount of concerns that has attracted the attention by others .

Text 5

"Finding the right kind of care in the community for each individual can never be seen as the soft option. Nor is it cheap! It requires the specialist skills of many different experts and organizations. A partnership, between doctors, health and local authorities, the voluntary and private sector and the police, all working together"(ibid.).

By using "can" as a modal verb , she focuses on mentioning that social care to these people is not limited to one person but it is the job of many characters such as doctors , experts , voluntary sectors work to gather to create good environment .

Text 6

"Sharing their resources and undeniable talents to create an environment in which a person can develop and grow. However, being asked to help decide what is best for themselves can leave the individual overwhelmed and frightened. Building on the work of 'Citizen Advocates', perhaps we could also learn from the help being given to people with AIDS"(ibid.).

Again , by employing "can" as a modal verb , she emphasizes the role of the co-operation between specialists and people who has some difficulties in order to make them overcome the adversities . Also, by using "could" ,she focuses on the assistance method's diversity and the possibility of benefiting from others experience in solving these difficulties .

The modal adverb " perhaps" which is used to express about things happen in the future refers to the possibility of learning from methods used in treating people infected with "AIDS" .

Text 7

"Very early on it was realized that they needed a very special kind of support, a very personal kind of attention to help them face their difficulties. Family and friends were sometimes too close to the problems to be able to really see what was needed. While the experts didn't always have the time to see beyond the symptoms. What was needed

was an ally, a 'Buddy' to give them one to one attention. Someone who could listen and be there for them. Being a 'Buddy' is not easy. But from those I've met the exchange of basic human kindness enriched not just the person being helped but also the person who did the helping. By sharing the successes and the disappointments, a 'Buddy' could really make a difference to the lives of those taking their first steps back into the community"(ibid.).

She exploits an evidential verbs "see" and "listen" as kinds of epistemic verb to concentrate on the role of ally in this institutions .

By employing "could" as a modal verb , she emphasizes on the role of the existence of positive person such as family and friends to be near these people . Family and friends can give them psychological support through listening to their problems and solving them . Again by exploiting "could" ,she mentions the positive impact and the ability of "buddy" on these people.

Princess Diana uses various kind of intensifiers such as " very" in which she illustrates that from an early period of time these people need a very sort of support. Then , by using "too" she expresses how friends and family can help these ill people and can change their reality .

Ultimately , she reinforces the ability of an ally via presenting support and care to people, Thus , by doing this , these people can live normally in society . She portrays this idea by using "really" .

Also, she employs " very early" as a type of hypercorrect grammar to focus on that people need to support in their life .

Text 8

" They no longer believe they have the time or energy to give back to the community they live in, by helping those around them to build a happier life. Yet a community can only develop when individuals remember how dependent we all are on one another and reach out to those around them"(ibid.).

She concentrates on the idea of cooperation between individuals because people in society can only develop when they cooperate and support each other . she illustrates this idea by using the modal verb " can" and a judgment verb "believe" as a kind of epistemic verb .

Text 9

"Virtually everyone at some point in their lives will need to be cared for by that community. The community is us. If it's denied the nourishment it needs for survival it will fail to flourish. A plant without water will die and so too will the spirit of our community"(ibid.).

In general , the relationship between people and society is a complementary flexible relationship that can be correct and progressed because people are the basic pillar in the society .

Then , she analogies the role of human in society with the role of water in flowering and germination of plants by using the modal verb "will".

Also , she tends to be more formal and prestigious in her speech by using two adverbs "so too" as a sort of hypercorrect grammar .

Text 10

"Working together, to find new ways of helping these people who've been excluded and connecting them with neighbors who will understand and accept them. By providing, proper funding for the homes they will need and the support they so rightly deserve, we can show them how much we care. Every single one of us needs to demonstrate how much we care for our community," (ibid.).

She manifests signs of cooperation among people by using an evidential verb "show " and a judgment verb "demonstrate" as sorts of epistemic lexical verb. .

By using "will" as a modal verb , she emphasizes on the role of human's cooperation and knowledge in order to help these people which circumstances kept them away from society by providing all the qualifications they needed .

Also, she states that by providing assistance in various forms to these people, they can realize the extent of attention and care provided to them , she presents this idea by using "can" as a modal verb expressing the ability.

An intensifier is evident in her speech by using "so" to mention the effect of support to those people .

Text 11

" Wherever I go I'm privileged to meet so many people who are trying, in so many different ways, to improve the quality of all our lives. Volunteers and professionals, individuals and groups, from the old to the very young, all bringing people together. All attempting to build, in whatever way they can, a happier community, a better society and a healthier nation. But despite the remarkable work they're doing, there still seems to be a deep concern that something is missing in our society today - a real belief that the community cares! There seems to be a growing feeling of discontent" (ibid.).

She employs an evidential verb "seem" as a kind of epistemic lexical verb in which she talks about people's contributions in constructing a happier and healthier society . Also, she exploits "seems" to mention that some people have feeling of resentment .

She monopolizes intensifiers such as "so" and "very" to illustrate that the specialists who have unique skills presents practical and emotional support to the ill mental people to help them in facing life challenges .

Text 12

"Perhaps, we're too embarrassed to change, too frightened of the consequences of showing that we care. But why not risk it anyway! Begin today! Carry out a random act of seemingly senseless kindness! With no expectation of reward or punishment. Safe in the knowledge that one day, someone, somewhere, might do the same for you"(ibid.).

She continuously expresses the significance of the cooperation in society by employing a modal adverb "perhaps" .

She adds by using "might" the work that a person offers to others can be provided to him in the case that this person is exposed to a certain circumstance or predicament .

Again , she resorts to use an intensifier "too" to explain the degree of embarrassment and frightening .

Text 13

"But again the circle of ignorance, fear, and prejudice spins to condemn. Casting them in the role of the untouchables - the people to be avoided at all costs. Disabling them, for being different. Denying them their God given right to be included, to be part of their community. Denying them their right to live without fear of ridicule, hate, and exclusion" (ibid.).

She talks about the prevailing idea that they are an outcast group and different from others by using an intensifier "at all".

Methodology

The selected text is adopted from Princess Diana Speech "Does the Community Care?" and the eclectic model chosen in this work can be represented by using Lakoff˙s features of women's languages and Hyland ˙s (1998) classification of hedge . The model begins with showing Lakoff˙s classification " lexical hedge , fillers , tag question , raising intonation on declaratives , empty adjectives, precise color terms and intensifiers, hyper correct grammar , hyper polite forms , avoidance of strong swear words and emphatic stress." To distinguish which type princess Diana employs in her speech . Then , and Hyland ˙s (1998) classification of hedge(epistemic lexical hedge , modal verb , modal adjective and modal adverb) is used to clarify which kind princess Diana uses in her speech . Then , the researcher resorts to use quantitative and qualitative method to confirm or decline the hypothesizes .

Statistical analysis

Table(1):The Overall Frequencies and Percentages of types of lexical Hedge

Lexical Hedge	Frequency	Percentage
Epistemic Lexical verb	6	24%
Modal Verb	14	56%
Modal Adjective	2	8%
Modal Adverb	3	12%
Total	25	

The table shows that modal verb scores (56%) .As for epistemic lexical verb scores (24%) ,wherein modal adverb scores (8%) and modal adverb scores (12%) . In concise, Princess Diana employs modal verbs in her speech to express ability , possibility , certainty , obligation and permission .Thus , modal verb gets the highest percentage in this table .

Table(2):The Overall Frequencies and Percentages of Lakoff˙s Features of Women˙s Language.

Lakoff˙s Feature of women's languages	Frequency	Percentage
Lexical Hedge	25	55.555%
Fillers	0	0%
Tag question	0	0%
Rising intonation on Declaratives	0	0%
Empty Adjectives	1	2.222%
Precise Color Terms	0	0%
Intensifiers	16	35.555%
Hyper correct grammar	3	6.666%
Hyper polite Forms	0	0%
Avoidance of strong swear words	0	0%
Emphatic Stress	0	0%
	45	

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Lakoffs Feature of women's languages	Frequency	Percentage
Lexical Hedge	25	55.555%
Fillers	0	0%
Tag question	0	0%
Rising intonation on Declaratives	0	0%
Empty Adjectives	1	2.222%
Precise Color Terms	0	0%
Intensifiers	16	35.555%
Hyper correct grammar	3	6.666%
Hyper polite Forms	0	0%
Avoidance of strong swear words	0	0%
Emphatic Stress	0	0%
Total	45	

This table shows that princess Diana exploits lexical hedge with(55.555%) percentage to express the possibility of things occurrence , or as a politeness strategy in her speech , then , empty adjective scores (2.222%) percentage , while intensifiers score (35.555%) percentage and hypercorrect grammar scores (6.666%) percentage .

Conclusion

Depending on the previous analysis of this study , the researcher adopts the following conclusions :

1) Princess Diana employs epistemic lexical verbs , modal verbs , modal adjective and modal adverb as sorts of lexical hedge in her speech to concentrate on her opinion about the problems and difficulties that some people suffer from and she focuses on the role of institutions in helping them .

2) Modal verb is the general sort of lexical hedge that distinguishes her speech. In sum , a verb is the heart of the sentence via she utilizes to create several pictures of possibilities, permissions and obligations about community issues .

3) Language considers as an act of communication where speech can be performed to manifest certain feelings or create good image . People use many linguistic means , such as , pragmatics , stylistics and feminine stylistics which is defined as a shape of politically motivated stylistics whose goal is to evolve a consciousness of the way gender is handled in texts. In this study , princess Diana monopolizes only lexical hedge , empty adjective , intensifiers and hyper correct grammar in her speech.

4) She uses lexical hedge as a dominant feature in her speech to soften the force of her speech regarding community issues .

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