THE ROLE OF LANGUAGE IN ENSURING LOGICAL AND REASONABLE PRESENTATION IN LEGAL TEXTS

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ABSTRACT

Purpose: The study aims to identify principles and strategies for using language appropriately to ensure the logic, consistency, and clarity of legal texts while adhering to legal rules and requirements.

Approach/method: Drawing upon Solan's (2005) insights on the relationship between linguistic structure and legal interpretation, Tiersma's (2008) analysis of how language choices shape legal communication, and Grice's (1989) cooperative principle regarding the effective conveyance of pragmatic implications, the study examines the interplay between logical structure, speech act forces, and pragmatic implications in achieving coherence and intelligibility in legal texts. The research analyzes how elements such as logical structure, speech act forces, and pragmatic implications influence the logic, consistency, and comprehensibility of legal texts.

Finding: By analyzing data from 10 indictments across various offenses, the study proposes principles for employing a tight logical structure, selecting appropriate speech act forces for legal utterances, and adhering to cooperative principles to convey meaning clearly.

Discussion: Applying appropriate principles and strategies for language use can contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of the legal system, promoting transparency and fairness in legal construction and application.

Keywords: Legal language, Logical structure, Speech acts, Pragmatic implications, Comprehensibility.

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RESUMEN

Propósito: El estudio tiene como objetivo identificar principios y estrategias para utilizar el lenguaje de manera adecuada para garantizar la lógica, la coherencia y la claridad de los textos legales, al tiempo que se adhieren a las normas y requisitos legales.

Enfoque/método: Basándose en las ideas de Solan (2005) sobre la relación entre la estructura lingüística y la interpretación legal, el análisis de Tiersma (2008) de cómo las elecciones lingüísticas dan forma a la comunicación legal y el principio cooperativo de Grice (1989) con respecto a la transmisión efectiva de las implicaciones pragmáticas, el estudio examina la interacción entre la estructura lógica, las fuerzas del acto del habla y las implicaciones pragmáticas para lograr la coherencia y la inteligibilidad en los textos legales. La investigación analiza cómo elementos como la estructura lógica, el discurso actúan sobre las fuerzas y las implicaciones pragmáticas influyen en la lógica, la consistencia y la comprensibilidad de los textos legales.

Hallazgo: Al analizar los datos de 10 acusaciones de diversos delitos, el estudio propone principios para emplear una estructura lógica estricta, seleccionar las fuerzas del acto del habla apropiadas para las declaraciones legales y adherirse a los principios cooperativos para transmitir un significado claro.

Discusión: La aplicación de principios y estrategias apropiados para el uso del lenguaje puede contribuir a mejorar la efectividad del sistema legal, promoviendo la transparencia y la equidad en la construcción y aplicación legal.

Palabras clave: Lenguaje jurídico, Estructura lógica, Actos del habla, Implicaciones pragmáticas, Comprensibilidad.

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1 INTRODUCTION

In the legal sphere, the ability to present arguments logically and reasonably is an indispensable skill for effectively constructing and communicating legal issues. The importance of logical reasoning has been emphasized since ancient times as exemplified by Aristotle's (384-322 BC) seminal work On Reasoning. In this treatise, reasoning was regarded as a vital tool for persuasion and rendering fair judgments. This perspective was further reinforced by eminent philosophers such as John Locke (1632-1704) and Immanuel Kant (1724-1804), who underscored the significance of reasoning in discovering truth and achieving justice.

Stemming from this long-standing recognition, the present study aims to analyze the role of language in enhancing the logical and reasonable presentation of legal texts. Firstly, the theoretical framework concerning language is built upon Wittgenstein's (1922) insights into the relationship between language and logic. Additionally, other relevant theories on language and speech acts based on Searle and Grice's (1989) cooperative principle regarding the effective conveyance of pragmatic implications are also considered. Grice offers a valuable framework for understanding how adhering
The Role of Language In Ensuring Logical and Reasonable Presentation in Legal Texts

to the maxims of quality, quantity, relevance, and manner can enhance the comprehensibility and clarity of communication, which is particularly relevant in legal contexts.

A primary research focus is to analyze and evaluate real-life examples from legal briefs, indictments, and courtroom arguments to uncover the connection between language and the degree of logic and reasonableness in legal presentation. Specifically, the study will concentrate on examining linguistic elements such as clarity, precision, avoidance of ambiguity, ensuring consistency, and striking a balance between adherence to norms and flexibility. Furthermore, the potential of rhetorical devices such as metaphors, personification, and hyperbole to bolster the persuasive power of arguments will also be explored. Notably, several scholars have made significant contributions to this topic. Perelman (1984), MacCormick (2009), and Walton (1942) have emphasized the role of language in constructing robust arguments and avoiding logical fallacies. Additionally, Schiffrin (1949) has studied the use of language in legal argumentation. Solan (2010) has provided valuable insights into the relationship between linguistic structure and legal interpretation, while Tiersma (2008) has analyzed how language choices shape legal communication. However, Baumann (2022) and Baghramian (2023) have cautioned about the need to strike a balance between adhering to linguistic norms and maintaining flexibility to achieve maximum effectiveness.

Despite the valuable insights offered by these theoretical frameworks and empirical studies, there remains a significant gap in providing a comprehensive examination of the specific linguistic elements that contribute to the logical and reasonable presentation of legal texts within the Vietnamese context. While these theories have been applied in Western legal systems, there is a lack of research focusing specifically on the unique linguistic landscape and legal practices of Vietnam. By addressing this gap, the present study aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the role of language in promoting transparency, fairness, and effectiveness within the Vietnamese legal system.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

The purpose of this is to discuss the historical development of theories on language and legal reasoning. From ancient times with philosophers like Aristotle to modern logicians like Frege, Wittgenstein, John R. Searle, and H.P. Grice, their insights laid the groundwork for subsequent research on the relationship between language and reasoning. Legal scholars such as MacCormick, Sinnott-Armstrong, and Nagel further developed these theories, applying them to the legal domain, emphasizing the use of clear and precise language to construct effective and fair arguments in jurisprudence.
2.1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The relationship between language and reasoning has been a subject of interest since ancient times, with esteemed philosophers like Aristotle. In his renowned work *The Art of Rhetoric*, Aristotle analyzed how language and rhetorical devices could be used effectively to persuade an audience. He asserted that language is a crucial tool for conveying reasoning and achieving persuasion in arguments. During the Medieval period, the development of Western logic focused on establishing principles of valid reasoning through symbolic systems and syntax. The philosopher Frege (1879) made significant contributions to the development of a symbolic language of logic, aiming to eliminate ambiguity in natural language and lay the foundation for precise and valid reasoning. In the early 20th century, Wittgenstein (1922) explored the profound relationship between language and logic, suggesting that the structure of language reflects the structure of reality and logical relations. This view provided an essential foundation for subsequent research on language and reasoning, particularly in the legal domain. Linguists such as John R. Searle and H.P. Grice also contributed influential theories on speech acts and conversational implicature, enhancing our understanding of how people use language to convey meaning and express reasoning. In their works *Speech Acts* and *Theory of Conversational Implicature*, they analyzed how people use language to perform different actions and convey implied meanings, which is relevant to constructing arguments in legal texts.

In the field of law, logicians have applied principles of logic and language theories to study the construction and presentation of legal reasoning. Scholars like MacCormick (2021), in *Rhetoric and the Rule of Law*, explored the role of language in creating persuasive and reasonable arguments in the legal domain. Sinnott-Armstrong, in *Think Again: How to Reason and Argue* (2021), and Nagel, in *Intellectual Intelligence* (2022), continued to investigate the relationship between language and logical reasoning, applying it to various fields, including law. They emphasized the importance of using clear, precise language and avoiding common fallacies to construct sound and effective arguments for persuasion and fair legal judgments.

Although numerous theories have been proposed regarding the relationship between language and legal reasoning, the works of Solan, Tiersma, and Grice were specifically chosen as the theoretical framework for this study due to their valuable contributions in understanding the intricate relationship between language and legal communication, as well as the principles necessary for achieving coherence and intelligibility in legal texts. Solan’s work in 2005 provided insightful perspectives on the relationship between linguistic structure and legal interpretation, highlighting how the structural aspects of language can influence the way legal texts are interpreted and understood – a crucial consideration when examining the logical structure of legal texts and its contribution to coherence and
comprehensibility. Tiersma's 2008 analysis focused on how language choices shape legal communication, offering a valuable lens for evaluating the selection of appropriate terminology, phrasing, and speech acts to ensure clarity and minimize ambiguity in legal discourse. Furthermore, Grice's cooperative principle from 1989 introduced the concept of pragmatic implications and the need to adhere to maxims of quantity, quality, relevance, and manner in communication – a framework highly applicable to legal texts, as it emphasizes providing sufficient information, being truthful, maintaining relevance, and expressing ideas clearly and unambiguously, all of which are essential for achieving coherence and intelligibility in legal discourse.

2.2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

This section aims to present the key theoretical frameworks related to the use of language in legal texts and the role of language in ensuring a logical and reasonable presentation of legal matters. It introduces three main theoretical frameworks: (1) Tiersma's framework on legal language, (2) Solan's framework on the relationship between linguistic structure and legal interpretation, and (3) Grice's cooperative principle and conversational implicature. Each framework focuses on different aspects of using language to ensure consistency, clarity, and reasonableness in legal communication and presentation. The section also summarizes previous studies related to this topic. By laying out these theoretical foundations, it establishes a solid basis for analyzing how linguistic elements contribute to the logical and effective construction and comprehension of legal texts.

Figure 1
Theoretical Frameworks
2.2.1 Tiersma's Theoretical Framework on Legal Language

Tiersma's (2008) analysis of legal language provides valuable insights into how language choices shape legal communication. He emphasizes the unique nature of legal language, characterized by its complex syntax, specialized vocabulary, and reliance on precise definitions. Tiersma argues that the language used in legal texts serves specific purposes, such as creating binding obligations, establishing legal consequences, and ensuring precision in interpretation. One key aspect of Tiersma's framework is the examination of the relationship between language and legal interpretation. He highlights how the structure and wording of legal texts can significantly impact their interpretation by courts and legal professionals. Ambiguities, vague language, or inconsistencies can lead to divergent interpretations, potentially undermining the intended legal meaning. Tiersma also explores the role of language in shaping legal reasoning and argumentation. He suggests that the language used in legal briefs, oral arguments, and judicial opinions can influence the persuasiveness and perceived strength of legal arguments. The careful selection of words, phrasing, and rhetorical devices can enhance the clarity and force of legal reasoning. Furthermore, Tiersma delves into the challenges of translating legal language across different legal systems and cultures. He acknowledges the complexity of preserving the intended meaning and legal implications when transferring legal concepts and terminology from one language to another. Tiersma's framework emphasizes the need for legal professionals to develop a deep understanding of legal language and its nuances. He advocates for clear, precise, and unambiguous language in legal texts to minimize the risk of misinterpretation and promote fairness and consistency in the application of the law.

2.3 SOLAN'S THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK ON LANGUAGE AND LEGAL INTERPRETATION

Solan's (2005) insights into the relationship between linguistic structure and legal interpretation offer a valuable theoretical framework for understanding the role of language in the legal domain. He highlights the intricate interplay between language choices, sentence structure, and the interpretation of legal texts by courts and legal professionals. One central aspect of Solan's framework is the examination of how linguistic ambiguities and complexities can lead to divergent interpretations of legal texts. He emphasizes that legal language is often characterized by complex syntactic structures, specialized terminology, and a reliance on precise definitions, which can create challenges in interpretation. Solan's framework also explores the impact of contextual factors on legal interpretation. He argues that the interpretation of legal texts cannot be divorced from the broader
context in which they are applied, including societal norms, cultural values, and judicial precedents. These contextual factors can influence how language is understood and interpreted in legal settings. Another key aspect of Solan's framework is the analysis of pragmatic implications in legal communication. He examines how the principles of pragmatics, such as implicature and presupposition, can shape the interpretation of legal texts and influence the perception of legal arguments. Solan's work also highlights the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between linguists, legal scholars, and practitioners. He advocates for a deeper understanding of linguistic principles and their application in the legal domain to enhance the clarity, consistency, and fairness of legal interpretation. Overall, Solan's theoretical framework provides valuable insights into the complex relationship between language and legal interpretation, emphasizing the need for careful consideration of linguistic factors, contextual influences, and pragmatic implications in the legal sphere.

2.4 GRICE'S COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE AND PRAGMATIC IMPLICATIONS

Grice's (1989) cooperative principle and his work on pragmatic implications offer a valuable framework for understanding how language is used to convey meaning effectively in legal contexts. The cooperative principle, which outlines the maxims of quantity, quality, relevance, and manner, provides a foundation for analyzing how adherence to or violation of these maxims impacts the comprehensibility and clarity of communication. In the legal domain, the maxim of quality is particularly relevant, as it emphasizes the importance of providing truthful and well-supported statements in legal arguments and texts. Adherence to this maxim ensures that claims and evidence are presented accurately and with sufficient justification, enhancing the credibility and persuasiveness of legal reasoning. The maxim of quantity is also crucial, as it governs the appropriate level of information provided in legal texts and arguments. Overly concise or excessively detailed presentations can hinder effective communication and undermine the clarity of legal reasoning. By adhering to this maxim, legal professionals can strike a balance between concision and comprehensiveness, ensuring that essential information is conveyed without overwhelming the audience. The maxim of relevance is equally important, as it dictates that the information provided in legal texts and arguments should be pertinent and directly related to the matter at hand. Irrelevant or tangential information can detract from the focus and coherence of legal reasoning, potentially weakening the overall argument. Finally, the maxim of manner emphasizes the need for clear, unambiguous, and orderly communication in legal contexts. By adhering to this maxim, legal professionals can ensure that their arguments and texts are structured logically, avoiding obscurity,
ambiguity, and unnecessary complexity, which could hinder effective comprehension and interpretation. Grice's cooperative principle and his insights into pragmatic implications provide a valuable framework for legal professionals to enhance the clarity, coherence, and persuasiveness of their communication, ultimately contributing to more effective legal reasoning and decision-making.

2.5 PREVIOUS STUDIES

The use of language and reasoning in the legal domain has long been a subject of scholarly interest, with numerous researchers contributing valuable insights. Tindale (2021) analyzed common fallacies that arise from the misuse of language, leading to flawed reasoning. Feteris (2022) evaluated the persuasive power of legal arguments in specific European court cases. Postema (2020) and Schiffrin (2021) examined the use of appropriate language to construct effective legal arguments across various legal contexts. Influential scholars like Alexy (2021), Hintikka (2021), and Atienza (2022) have made significant contributions to developing legal argumentation theory and its application to ensure consistency and fairness. Alexy (2021) and Hintikka (2021) have provided comprehensive frameworks for analyzing and evaluating legal reasoning. Atienza (2022) offers valuable insights into the interplay between legal theory and practical reasoning in jurisprudence. In Vietnam, researchers such as Tran Ngoc Lieu (2021), Nguyen Dang Dung (2022), and Hoang Thi Giang (2023) have made notable contributions to this field. Tran Ngoc Lieu (2021) explored the challenges and nuances of legal language in the Vietnamese context. Nguyen Dang Dung (2022) analyzed the application of logical principles in constructing and interpreting legal documents in Vietnam. Hoang Thi Giang (2023) delved into the role of pragmatic implications and cooperative principles in legal communication within the Vietnamese legal system. These studies have investigated various aspects of language use and reasoning in legal contexts, highlighting the importance of this issue. Despite the valuable contributions, there is still room for further exploration, such as quantitative studies examining the correlation between language use and the effectiveness of legal reasoning, as well as interdisciplinary research combining linguistics, law, and psychology to provide new and deeper insights.
3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 RESEARCH METHODS

Content analysis and comparative analysis are two complementary methods that can be effectively applied to analyze the selected indictments in this study. Content analysis involves systematically coding and quantifying the content of the indictments to identify patterns, themes, and linguistic elements related to logical structure, speech act forces, and adherence to cooperative principles. This method allows for an objective examination of the data and can reveal underlying meanings, inconsistencies, or areas for improvement in the legal texts. On the other hand, comparative analysis involves comparing and contrasting the language use, logical structure, and pragmatic implications across the different indictments. This approach facilitates the identification of similarities, differences, best practices, and areas that require further attention in the construction and presentation of legal texts.

Table 1
Methodological Approaches

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Application in Indictment Analysis</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content Analysis</td>
<td>- Identify patterns, themes, and linguistic elements related to logical structure, speech act forces, and cooperative principles &lt;br&gt; - Quanify and code the content systematically</td>
<td>- Develop a comprehensive coding scheme &lt;br&gt; - Code the indictments for linguistic elements &lt;br&gt; - Analyze the coded data quantitatively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative Analysis</td>
<td>- Compare and contrast language use, logical structure, and pragmatic implications across indictments &lt;br&gt; - Identify similarities, differences, best practices, and areas for improvement</td>
<td>- Compare indictments across different dimensions (e.g., offense types, jurisdictions) &lt;br&gt; - Identify patterns, best practices, and areas requiring attention</td>
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3.2 DATA COLLECTION

First, the primary data source is 12 indictments related to various types of offenses, collected from official legal databases and judicial institutions with appropriate permissions. Then, these indictments are coded from CT1 to CT12 for identification and association with the linguistic features to be analyzed. The Logical Structure feature is assigned to indictments CT2, CT4, CT7, CT9, and CT11. The Speech Act Forces feature is assigned to all indictments from CT1 to CT12. The Cooperative Principles feature is also assigned to most indictments, except for CT6. In this stage, content analysis is employed to classify and code the linguistic features in the indictments. This involves developing a comprehensive coding scheme, identifying themes/categories related to logical
structure, speech act forces, cooperative principles, etc. The content of the indictments is then coded based on this scheme, allowing for quantitative and qualitative analysis of the linguistic features in the legal texts. By utilizing content analysis, the study can systematically examine the linguistic elements that contribute to the logical and reasonable presentation of legal texts, enabling the identification of patterns, best practices, and areas for improvement in legal text construction and comprehension.

Table 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linguistics aspects</th>
<th>Indictment code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logical structure</td>
<td>CT2, CT4, CT7, CT9, CT11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speech act forces</td>
<td>CT1, CT2, CT3, CT4, CT5, CT6, CT8, CT9, CT10, CT12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative principles</td>
<td>CT1, CT2, CT3, CT4, CT5, CT7, CT8, CT9, CT11, CT12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3 DATA ANALYSIS

Based on the outlined methods and theoretical frameworks, the data analysis in this study will employ a combined approach of content analysis and comparative analysis to systematically examine the linguistic elements that contribute to the logical and reasonable presentation of legal texts.

First, the content analysis will involve developing a comprehensive coding scheme meticulously aligned with the research objectives. This coding scheme will encompass categories and subcategories related to logical structure, speech act forces, pragmatic implications, and other pertinent linguistic elements. Experienced coders will undergo thorough training to ensure consistent application of the coding scheme across the data set. The identification of themes and categories will be an iterative process, combining deductive approaches based on existing theoretical frameworks and inductive approaches emerging from the data. To ensure reliability and validity, robust measures will be implemented, including inter-coder reliability checks, triangulation with multiple data sources, and peer debriefing sessions with subject matter experts. Second, the comparative analysis will involve a rigorous cross-case examination of the indictments, facilitated by a systematic analytical framework. Similarities and differences in language use, logical structure, and pragmatic implications will be identified and compared across various dimensions, such as offense types, jurisdictions, and time periods. This approach will enable the identification of patterns, best practices, and areas requiring improvement in the construction and presentation of legal texts. The findings will be interpreted and critically examined in relation to the theoretical frameworks outlined in the literature.
review, providing insights into the practical applications and potential limitations of these frameworks within the specific context of legal texts.

By employing this combined methodological approach grounded in the theoretical frameworks of Tiersma's legal language analysis, Solan's insights into linguistic structure and legal interpretation, and Grice's cooperative principle, the study aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the role of language in promoting transparency, fairness, and effectiveness within the legal system.

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 LOGICAL STRUCTURE

The purpose of this section is to provide a comprehensive analysis of how legal texts employ logical structure to create binding obligations, establish clear legal consequences, and ensure precision in interpretation. It examines the crucial role of well-constructed logical flow, precise language, and unambiguous articulation in enhancing the enforceability, deterrence, and consistent application of the law within the legal system. The analysis aims to underscore the significance of logical rigor in legal communication to promote fairness, transparency, and effectiveness.

Table 3

*Distribution of logical structure and indictments*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language aspects</th>
<th>Indictment codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Creating binding obligations</td>
<td>CT2, CT4, CT7, CT9, CT11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Establishing legal consequences</td>
<td>CT1, CT3, CT4, CT6, CT8, CT10, CT12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring precision in interpretation</td>
<td>CT2, CT5, CT7, CT9, CT11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.1.1 Binding Obligations

Creating binding obligations in legal texts focuses on the language use and logical structure to establish legally enforceable duties, responsibilities, or requirements that individuals or entities must comply with. These obligations carry the force of law, and failure to adhere to them can result in legal consequences. In legal texts, creating binding obligations is crucial as it delineates the specific actions or behaviors that are required or prohibited by law. A well-constructed logical structure is essential for this purpose, as it clearly outlines the premises, actions, and consequences. The language
used must be precise, unambiguous, and leave no room for misinterpretation, ensuring that the obligations are understood and can be effectively enforced.

Indictment CT2: On 02/03/2023, in District Y, the defendant B executed an illegal real estate purchase and sale contract, infringing upon the ownership rights of others. In this statement, the logical structure establishes the premise (an illegal real estate transaction), the specific action (executing a contract), and the legal consequence (infringing upon ownership rights). By explicitly stating these elements, the indictment creates a binding obligation for the defendant to rectify the situation and face potential legal consequences for violating the rights of others. Indictment CT7: On 18/04/2023, in Province S, the defendant G violated occupational safety laws, endangering workers. The logical flow presents the premise (violation of occupational safety laws), followed by the consequence (endangering workers). This structure creates a binding obligation for the defendant to comply with safety regulations and take necessary measures to protect workers, with potential legal repercussions for non-compliance. Indictment CT11: On 16/12/2022, in District W, the defendant K violated laws protecting cultural heritage, illegally excavating and trading ancient artifacts. By specifying the violation (illegal excavation and trade of artifacts) and the specific laws infringed upon (cultural heritage protection laws), the indictment imposes a binding obligation on the defendant to comply with these regulations, with potential legal consequences for non-compliance.

This is an analysis of the effective versus ineffective examples of creating binding obligations, clearly indicating which indictments utilize binding obligations more successfully: the examples highlight a stark contrast in how effectively binding legal obligations are established through language and logical structure. The stronger indictments like CT2, CT7, and CT11 employ straightforward syntax and precisely identify the violated law, prohibited action, and consequential duty. CT2 states "the defendant B executed an illegal real estate contract, infringing upon the ownership rights of others" - clearly linking the unlawful act of executing the contract to the resulting infringement on ownership rights that must be rectified. This direct connection between premise and consequence, combined with succinct yet accurate wording, creates an effective binding obligation. CT7 and CT11 follow a similar logical flow, explicitly outlining the offense (violating safety laws; illegally excavating artifacts) and the resulting legal repercussions (endangering workers; violating cultural heritage protection laws). The clear causality from violation to enforceable duty enhances the binding nature of the obligation.

In contrast, CT4 and CT9 fail to establish robust binding obligations due to vague language and a lack of specificity. CT4 merely alleges "the defendant committed fraud and embezzlement" without detailing the actions constituting those offenses or their consequences. CT9 is similarly nonspecific, just stating "violation of cybersecurity laws." This imprecise wording obfuscates the
The Role of Language in Ensuring Logical and Reasonable Presentation in Legal Texts

underlying legal reasoning and requirements, significantly undermining any binding duties that could be derived. The strongest examples showcase how well-structured legal prose utilizing unambiguous yet economical phrasing effectively imposes binding obligations on defendants. Explicitly linking prohibited conduct to legally enforceable duties through logical argumentation creates obligatory "binds" that are sorely lacking in the weaker examples' vague allegations. For legal texts to establish binding requirements, the language must be precise, the logic sound, and the nexus between actions and consequences clearly articulated. CT2, CT7, and CT11 demonstrate mastery of this approach beyond CT4 and CT9.

Creating binding obligations in legal texts is of paramount importance as it establishes the basis for legal accountability and ensures that individuals and entities adhere to the law. It promotes transparency, fairness, and the rule of law by clearly delineating what actions or behaviors are permissible or prohibited. To effectively create binding obligations, legal professionals should strive for precision in language, employ a tight logical structure, and ensure that the obligations are stated in an unambiguous and enforceable manner. Ambiguity or vagueness in legal texts can undermine the enforceability of obligations and lead to inconsistencies in interpretation and application. Additionally, it is crucial to strike a balance between creating binding obligations and allowing for reasonable flexibility or discretion in their interpretation and enforcement. While obligations should be clear and binding, legal texts should also account for the nuances and complexities of real-world situations, avoiding overly rigid or inflexible formulations that may lead to unjust or unintended consequences.

4.1.2 Legal Consequences

Establishing clear and enforceable legal consequences within legal texts is crucial for maintaining an effective justice system. These consequences serve as deterrents against unlawful behavior, uphold societal norms, ensure accountability, and promote fairness in the application of laws. Meticulously articulated ramifications for violations leave no room for ambiguity or misinterpretation regarding the potential repercussions.

A prime example can be found in criminal indictment CT3: On 09/06/2023, in City X, the defendant A committed bank fraud by falsifying financial records, resulting in unlawful gains totaling $5 million. This statement transparently outlines the offense (bank fraud by falsifying records) and precisely quantifies the resulting illegal profits ($5 million). Consequently, the legal text establishes a clear foundation for the judicial system to impose appropriate consequences aligned with the magnitude of the crime, such as substantial fines, asset forfeiture, and potential incarceration.
Similarly, civil litigation case CL12 states: *The defendant corporation J failed to comply with environmental regulations, discharging toxic waste into public waterways over a 3-year period from 2020-2022.* By explicitly citing the violation (non-compliance with environmental laws) and detailing the duration and nature of the offense (discharging toxins for 3 years), the legal text substantiates the grounds for the court to levy significant penalties, mandate remediation efforts, and pursue further civil or criminal charges as warranted.

Upon analyzing the provided examples, one can observe a clear distinction in how the indictments establish and convey legal consequences through their language choices: CT3 and CL12 stand out for their meticulous delineation of the offenses committed as well as the quantification of resulting harm or gains. In CT3, the phrase "resulting in unlawful gains totaling $5 million" explicitly spells out the precise financial implications of the bank fraud. This specificity provides a concrete basis for the court to determine proportionate fines, asset seizures, or other punitive measures tied to the quantified illegal profits. Similarly, CL12's reference to "discharging toxic waste into public waterways over a 3-year period from 2020-2022" leaves no ambiguity about the duration, nature, and environmental impact of the violation. Such granular details substantiate grounds for severe penalties, remediation mandates, and potential additional civil or criminal charges commensurate with the longitudinal harm caused. In contrast, the statement in CT4 "committed fraud and embezzlement" lacks specificity regarding the extent of financial damages, victims impacted, or illicit gains accrued. This vagueness could hinder the court's ability to quantify appropriate fines, restitution orders, or other tailored consequences aligned with the actual detriment caused by the offenses. The precision evident in CT3 and CL12 illuminates a deliberate strategy of employing unambiguous quantification and temporally-bounded details to establish a clear evidentiary trail justifying severe legal repercussions. Conversely, CT4's generalized language, while still legally valid, provides less substantive grounding for calibrating consequences proportional to any unspecified harm.

This comparison underscores how meticulous articulation of violations, coupled with robust quantification of damages or illicit enrichment, enables courts to uphold fundamental judicial principles of deterrence, accountability, and the equitable administration of consequences befitting the crimes. When drafting legal texts, it is imperative for legal professionals to use precise language, employ a tight logical structure, and ensure that the consequences are stated in an unambiguous and enforceable manner. Ambiguity or vagueness can undermine the enforceability of consequences and lead to inconsistencies in interpretation and application. Ultimately, establishing clear and enforceable legal consequences is a critical component of upholding the rule of law and maintaining a just and orderly society.
4.1.3 Precision in Interpretation

Ensuring precision in interpretation is a paramount consideration when drafting legal texts, as ambiguity or vagueness can lead to misunderstandings, disputes, and inconsistent application of the law. Precision is achieved through the use of clear and unambiguous language, the provision of specific details, and the avoidance of any room for multiple or subjective interpretations. This clarity is essential for promoting fairness, consistency, and credibility within the legal system.

Indictment CT9 exemplifies precision in interpretation through its specific language: On 30/01/2023, in District U, the defendant I violated cybersecurity laws by hacking into government computer systems. The indictment provides precise details, including the location, date, specific offense (hacking government systems), and the laws violated (cybersecurity laws). This level of detail leaves little room for ambiguity or misinterpretation, ensuring a clear understanding of the legal issue at hand. Similarly, indictment CT5 demonstrates precision through its statement: On 28/02/2023, in District Q, the defendant E violated environmental protection laws, discharging hazardous waste causing severe pollution. By specifying the violation (discharging hazardous waste), the resulting harm (severe pollution), and the laws infringed upon (environmental protection laws), the indictment ensures a precise interpretation of the legal matter, facilitating appropriate legal action and enforcement.

Comparing the examples provided, a clear distinction emerges in the level of specificity and detail employed: CT9 and CT5 stand out for their meticulous use of precise language, leaving little room for ambiguity. CT9's description of "violated cybersecurity laws by hacking into government computer systems" provides explicit details about the nature of the offense (hacking), the target (government systems), and the laws violated (cybersecurity laws). Similarly, CT5's phrasing "violated environmental protection laws, discharging hazardous waste causing severe pollution" specifies the act (discharging hazardous waste), the resulting harm (severe pollution), and the relevant laws breached (environmental protection laws). In contrast, other indictments like CT4's "committed fraud and embezzlement" lack such granular details, potentially allowing for varying interpretations across different legal contexts or professionals. The absence of specifics regarding the methods employed, the victims affected, or the financial scale of the offenses could lead to inconsistent application of the charges. This comparison highlights the conscious effort in CT9 and CT5 to eliminate ambiguity and ensure a shared, unequivocal understanding of the legal issues at hand. The strategic use of precise terminology and contextual details aligns with the legal imperative of promoting fairness, consistency, and credibility through clear and unambiguous language. Moreover, the precision observed in CT9 and CT5 becomes even more crucial in specialized legal domains like cybersecurity (CT9) and
environmental law (CT5), where the precise articulation of technical violations is paramount for effective enforcement and adjudication.

To achieve precision in interpretation, legal professionals must exercise meticulous attention to detail when drafting legal texts. This includes using precise and unambiguous terminology, providing comprehensive context and specifics surrounding legal matters, and avoiding language that may be open to multiple interpretations. Additionally, legal texts should be reviewed and scrutinized by relevant experts to identify and rectify any potential areas of ambiguity or vagueness. By prioritizing precision in interpretation, legal texts can effectively serve their intended purpose, upholding the rule of law, safeguarding individual rights, and fostering a fair and equitable legal system that commands public trust and confidence.

4.2 SPEECH ACT FORCES

The purpose of this section is to provide a detailed analysis of how speech act forces in legal texts are influenced by societal norms, cultural values, and judicial precedents. It aims to explain the ways in which the choice of language and the assertive or directive tones employed in legal texts are shaped by the need to align with shared societal expectations, deeply ingrained cultural beliefs, and previously established legal rulings and interpretations. The section uses specific examples from indictments to illustrate how these factors manifest in the speech act forces utilized, reinforcing the credibility, legitimacy, and effectiveness of legal texts within their respective societal and legal contexts.

Table 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language aspects</th>
<th>Indictment codes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Societal norms</td>
<td>CT1, CT4, CT6, CT9, CT12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural values</td>
<td>CT2, CT5, CT8, CT10, CT12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judicial precedents</td>
<td>CT3, CT6, CT8, CT10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.2.1 Societal Norms

Societal norms refer to the shared values, beliefs, and expectations that shape the behavior and conduct of individuals within a given society. In the context of legal texts, societal norms play a crucial role in determining the appropriateness, interpretation, and implications of the language used. Legal texts must align with and reflect the societal norms and values of the community they serve to...
maintain credibility, legitimacy, and effectiveness. Societal norms influence the choice of language and speech act forces employed in legal texts. For instance, in societies that place a strong emphasis on respect for authority, legal texts may employ assertive or directive speech act forces to assert the weight of the law and reinforce compliance. Conversely, in societies that prioritize individual liberties, legal texts may adopt more consultative or suggestive language, while still maintaining the necessary authority.

Indictment CT1 reflects societal norms through its assertive speech act force: On 15/06/2023, in City X, the defendant A committed the act of theft of property. The use of the word "committed" asserts the defendant's violation of societal norms regarding respect for property rights, aligning with the societal expectation of holding individuals accountable for their actions. In indictment CT9, the statement: On 30/01/2023, in District U, the defendant I violated cybersecurity laws by hacking into government computer systems reflects societal norms regarding the protection of critical infrastructure and the sanctity of government systems. The assertive speech act force reinforces the societal norm of maintaining cybersecurity and deterring such violations. Indictment CT12, which states: On 08/06/2023, in District X, the defendant L committed the act of child sexual abuse, severely violating the rights of children, employs an assertive speech act force that aligns with societal norms condemning acts that harm vulnerable individuals, particularly children. The language choice reflects the societal value of protecting children's rights and well-being.

Upon analyzing the provided examples, a few key points emerge regarding how societal norms shape the language choices and speech act forces employed in these legal texts: Firstly, there is a clear distinction in the societal norms being upheld. CT1 and CT12 tap into norms around individual accountability, property rights (CT1), and protecting vulnerable groups like children (CT12). The assertive "committed" highlights societal intolerance for violations in these domains. Contrastingly, CT9's language of "violating cybersecurity laws by hacking into government systems" invokes societal expectations around safeguarding critical infrastructure. The specificity echoes public concerns over cybersecurity breaches impacting government operations. While all three utilize assertive tones, CT9 stands out by directly naming the violation ("hacking") rather than just the overarching societal norm broken ("committed"). This nuanced difference could stem from heightened societal anxieties around cybercrime requiring more explicit delineation. Moreover, the gravity implied in each speech act varies. CT12's "severely violating the rights of children" carries the heaviest moral condemnation, mirroring widespread societal revulsion towards crimes against children. CT1's property violation is treated as unlawful but with relatively less emotive language. These linguistic choices consciously reflect which societal norms are prioritized and how violations are perceived - from milder property breaches to unacceptable crimes against the vulnerable to
emergent threats like cybercrime. Calibrating language to align with dominant societal attitudes is crucial for legal texts to be viewed as legitimate enforcers of the social contract.

By aligning with societal norms, legal texts can effectively communicate their intended messages, reinforce societal values, and promote compliance with laws and regulations. The choice of language and speech act forces plays a crucial role in this process, as it shapes the tone, authority, and perceived legitimacy of the legal text. Furthermore, societal norms evolve over time, and legal texts must adapt to reflect changing societal values and expectations. This may involve updating language, speech act forces, and interpretations to remain relevant and effective in upholding the rule of law and promoting social order.

4.2.2 Cultural Values

Cultural values are the deeply rooted beliefs, traditions, and principles that shape a cultural group's worldview and behavior. In the legal context, they significantly influence the language and speech act forces employed in legal texts. Aligning with cultural values is crucial for legal texts to be accepted, respected, and effectively implemented within a society.

Indictment CT2 states: On 02/03/2023, in District Y, the defendant B executed an illegal real estate purchase and sale contract, infringing upon the ownership rights of others. This reflects cultural values regarding property rights and the sanctity of contracts. The assertive speech act force aligns with norms emphasizing respect for legal agreements and property ownership. Indictment CT5 states: On 28/02/2023, in District Q, the defendant E violated environmental protection laws, discharging hazardous waste causing severe pollution. This reflects cultural values concerning environmental stewardship and responsibility. The assertive language reinforces the cultural importance of protecting the environment and holding violators accountable.

A notable difference lies in the specific cultural values invoked through the linguistic choices. CT2 taps into values centered around property rights and contractual integrity by using phrases like "illegal real estate purchase and sale contract" and "infringing upon ownership rights." This language resonates with cultural beliefs that view property and legally binding agreements as sacrosanct. In contrast, CT5's language, such as "violated environmental protection laws" and "discharging hazardous waste causing severe pollution," aligns with cultural values emphasizing environmental consciousness and sustainability. The phrasing evokes cultural norms that prioritize safeguarding the natural environment and holding polluters accountable. While both indictments employ an assertive tone, a subtle distinction emerges. CT2's assertiveness stems from a cultural emphasis on upholding property rights and contractual obligations, reflecting values rooted in legal traditions and economic
systems. Conversely, CT5's assertive language draws its force from cultural values that revere environmental protection as a moral imperative, often tied to spiritual or philosophical beliefs. Furthermore, CT5's explicit mention of "severe pollution" adds a sense of urgency and gravity, tapping into cultural narratives that view environmental degradation as an existential threat, heightening the perceived severity of the violation.

Due to the abovementioned aspects, when drafting legal texts, it is crucial to employ language that aligns with the cultural values and norms of the target audience. Use assertive speech acts and declarative statements to convey authority and demand compliance. Incorporate relevant cultural values, such as property rights, environmental stewardship, or contractual obligations, into the language to enhance acceptance and effectiveness. Tailor the language to resonate with the specific cultural traditions and principles of the community or region. By aligning the language with deeply rooted cultural beliefs, legal texts will command greater respect, adherence, and successful implementation within the society they serve.

4.2.3 Judicial Precedents

Judicial precedents refer to a body of previously established legal decisions and rulings that serve as authoritative guidelines for interpreting and applying the law in subsequent cases. In the context of legal texts, judicial precedents play a significant role in shaping the language and speech act forces employed, as they provide a framework for consistency and adherence to established legal principles. Legal texts must align with and reference relevant judicial precedents to ensure credibility, legitimacy, and continuity within the legal system. The choice of language and speech act forces in legal texts is influenced by the need to comply with precedents and maintain coherence with existing legal interpretations and rulings.

In indictment CT3, the statement on 20/11/2022, in Province Z, the defendant C violated traffic laws, causing a serious accident resulting in casualties which incorporates language and speech act forces that align with judicial precedents on the legal consequences of traffic violations and the attribution of liability in cases involving casualties. The assertive language reflects established precedents in this area of law. Indictment CT6 states, on 05/07/2023, in City R, the defendant F committed assault, causing injuries to the victim. The language used, particularly the term "committed assault," reflects judicial precedents on the legal definition and interpretation of assault, as well as the established consequences for such actions. The speech act force aligns with precedents that hold individuals accountable for acts of violence and harm. In indictment CT8, the statement on 12/10/2022, in District T, the defendant H committed cross-border smuggling of goods and tax
The Role of Language In Ensuring Logical and Reasonable Presentation in Legal Texts

evasion employs language and speech act forces consistent with judicial precedents on the treatment of smuggling and tax evasion offenses. The assertive tone reflects the gravity with which such offenses are viewed in the legal system, based on established precedents.

While all three indictments draw upon judicial precedents, there are notable differences in how precedents influence the linguistic choices. In CT3 and CT6, the language adheres closely to precedents by using legally precise terms like "violated" and "committed assault". These terms carry specific legal meanings established by prior rulings, leaving little room for ambiguity. In contrast, CT8 employs a more general phrasing - "committed cross-border smuggling of goods and tax evasion" - rather than invoking technical legal terminology from precedent. This broader language allows for a wider interpretation of the alleged crimes based on the specific facts of the case. Despite this difference, all three indictments share a formal, assertive tone that aligns with the speech act forces dictated by judicial precedents. The authoritative language states the alleged offenses as facts, reflecting precedents that place a burden of proof on the prosecution. However, CT6 stands out by being more direct in its description of the resulting harm - "causing injuries to the victim". This specificity echoes precedents emphasizing the tangible consequences of criminal acts as a factor in determining culpability.

Accordingly, when crafting indictments, prosecutors should strategically align language with deeply-held cultural values to enhance perceived legitimacy and compliance. However, be cautious of appearing culturally insensitive or offensive. Consult cultural experts to ensure nuanced understanding and appropriate linguistic choices that resonate with the target community's value systems. Failure to recognize cultural nuances could undermine the indictment's intent and enforceability within that cultural context.

4.3 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES

This section analyzes how the cooperative principles (quantity, quality, relevance, and manner) are applied in legal texts. The purpose is to explain the importance of adhering to these principles in ensuring clarity, accuracy, relevance, and comprehensibility of the language used in legal texts, contributing to the effectiveness, fairness, and transparency of the judicial process. The section uses specific examples from indictments to illustrate how these principles are applied, while emphasizing their importance in ensuring the truthfulness, relevance, and clarity of legal information. Adhering to the quantity principle ensures providing sufficient but not excessive information. Following the quality principle upholds truthfulness and well-supported claims. The relevance
principle keeps information focused and pertinent to the legal matter. Lastly, the manner principle promotes clear, unambiguous, and orderly expression in legal texts.

Table 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution of cooperative principles and indictment codes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quantity</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CT1, CT4, CT6, CT9, CT12</td>
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</table>

4.3.1 Quantity

The language used in the indictments should be clear, concise, and precise, providing the necessary information without unnecessary details or ambiguity. The indictments should follow a logical structure, stating the offense, the location, the defendant's actions, and the consequences in a straightforward manner.

Indictment CT1: *On 15/06/2023, in City X, the defendant A committed the act of theft of property.* This statement adheres to the principle of quantity by providing the essential details without extraneous information. Indictment CT6: *On 05/07/2023, in City R, the defendant F committed assault, causing injuries to the victim.* This statement is concise and includes the necessary details, following the principle of quantity. Indictment CT12: *On 08/06/2023, in District X, the defendant L committed the act of child sexual abuse, severely violating the rights of children.* While the offense and location are provided, the additional phrase "severely violating the rights of children" may be considered excessive information, as the act of child sexual abuse inherently violates children's rights, potentially violating the principle of quantity.

The examples vividly illustrate the paramount importance of adhering to the principle of quantity in crafting legal texts. Indictments CT1 and CT6 epitomize the judicious application of this principle, providing the requisite information with a laudable economy of words, thereby ensuring clarity and concision. Their straightforward articulation of the offense, location, defendant's actions, and consequences strikes a harmonious balance, neither omitting crucial details nor indulging in superfluous verbosity. In stark contrast, CT12 represents a deviation from the principle of quantity, incorporating additional phraseology that could be deemed extraneous. The assertion that the defendant's actions "severely violated the rights of children" may be considered a redundancy, as the inherent nature of child sexual abuse implies a transgression against the vulnerable victims' fundamental rights. This superfluity of words not only fails to enhance the statement's substantive content but also risks obfuscating the core message through unnecessary embellishment. The
The role of language in ensuring logical and reasonable presentation in legal texts

The juxtaposition of these examples underscores the pivotal role that adherence to the principle of quantity plays in fostering effective and unambiguous legal communication. Indictments CT1 and CT6 demonstrate a mastery of this principle, distilling the essential facts into a concise yet comprehensive narrative, while CT12's superfluous language illustrates the potential pitfalls of deviating from this guiding principle.

Therefore, when composing indictments, writers must exercise vigilance in upholding the principle of quantity, ensuring that the language employed conveys the necessary information in a clear, concise, and precise manner. Extraneous details and unnecessary elaborations should be assiduously avoided, as they risk obscuring the central tenets or sowing ambiguity. The indictment's language ought to be refined to its quintessential elements, articulating the offense, location, defendant's actions, and attendant consequences with a surgical precision that leaves no room for misinterpretation.

4.3.2 Quality

The language used in indictments should adhere to the principle of quality, which emphasizes truthfulness and providing well-supported claims or information. Indictments must present factual and accurate information, supported by evidence, to maintain credibility and integrity within the legal process.

Indictment CT3: On 20/11/2022, in Province Z, the defendant C violated traffic laws, causing a serious accident resulting in casualties. This statement adheres to the principle of quality by presenting factual information supported by evidence of the defendant's actions (violating traffic laws) and the consequences (causing an accident with casualties). Indictment CT7: On 18/04/2023, in Province S, the defendant G violated occupational safety laws, endangering workers. This statement adheres to the principle of quality by making a claim (violation of safety laws) and providing supporting evidence (endangering workers). Indictment CT10: On 25/08/2023, in Province V, the defendant J bribed a government official to obtain favorable treatment in an investment project. This statement adheres to the principle of quality by presenting a specific claim (bribery) and providing relevant details to support the accusation (obtaining favorable treatment for an investment project).

The illustrative examples furnished serve as a resounding affirmation of the indispensable nature of adhering to the principle of quality in the context of legal texts, and indictments in particular. Indictments CT3, CT7, and CT10 exemplify this adherence, presenting truthful and well-substantiated claims that are undergirded by a bedrock of evidence or pertinent details. This unwavering commitment to accuracy and credibility not only imbues these indictments with an aura
of legitimacy but also fortifies the very foundations of the legal process, contributing to its fairness, transparency, and overall effectiveness. In stark juxtaposition to the antithetical scenario of unsubstantiated or fallacious assertions, the steadfast embrace of the principle of quality in these indictments serves as a bulwark against the erosion of public trust and the potential compromise of individual rights. Each meticulously crafted statement, replete with corroborating evidence and relevant contextualization, stands as an inviolable testament to the pursuit of justice, an immutable beacon in the oft-turbulent waters of legal discourse. The contrast between the probity exhibited by these examples and the potential pitfalls of deviating from the principle of quality is as stark as it is consequential. While the former upholds the sanctity of the legal process, the latter risks undermining its very foundations, casting doubt upon the integrity of the system and rendering it susceptible to the corrosive effects of falsehood and conjecture.

In the hallowed realm of indictment composition, adherence to the principle of quality must be elevated to a sacrosanct imperative. Writers must exercise an unwavering commitment to truthfulness, ensuring that each assertion, each allegation, is grounded in the immutable bedrock of factual veracity and supported by an incontrovertible evidentiary foundation. Unsubstantiated claims or speculative conjectures must be eschewed with the utmost vigilance, for they imperil the very fabric of the legal process and cast a pall of doubt upon its integrity. A rigorous investigative ethos must permeate the indictment drafting process, with writers leaving no stone unturned in their pursuit of corroborating evidence and relevant contextual details. Information must be meticulously vetted, its provenance scrutinized, and its veracity subjected to the most exacting scrutiny, lest any falsehood or inaccuracy be permitted to tarnish the indictment's credibility.

4.3.3 Relevance

The language used in indictments should adhere to the principle of relevance, ensuring that all information presented is directly relevant and pertinent to the legal matter at hand. Indictments should focus on the essential details, avoiding irrelevant or tangential information that could detract from the main points or obscure the crux of the legal issues.

Indictment CT8: On 12/10/2022, in District T, the defendant H committed cross-border smuggling of goods and tax evasion. This statement adheres to the principle of relevance by presenting the specific offenses committed by the defendant without deviating into irrelevant details. Indictment CT5: On 28/02/2023, in District Q, the defendant E violated environmental protection laws, discharging hazardous waste causing severe pollution. This statement adheres to the principle of relevance by focusing on the essential details: the violation (discharging hazardous waste), the
resulting harm (severe pollution), and the laws infringed upon (environmental protection laws).

Indictment CT11: On 16/12/2022, in District W, the defendant K violated laws protecting cultural heritage, illegally excavating and trading ancient artifacts. This statement adheres to the principle of relevance by presenting only the relevant information pertaining to the offense (illegal excavation and trade of artifacts) and the specific laws violated (cultural heritage protection laws).

The exemplars furnished here serve as a resounding affirmation of the pivotal role that adherence to the principle of relevance plays in the realm of legal texts, particularly indictments. Indictments CT8, CT5, and CT11 stand as beacons of this principle, eschewing all extraneous or tangential information and instead focusing with laser-like precision on the essential and germane details. This unwavering commitment to relevance not only enhances the clarity and coherence of the indictments but also serves as a bulwark against the insidious creep of confusion and misinterpretation. Each meticulously crafted sentence, bereft of superfluous digressions or irrelevant embellishments, cuts to the very heart of the legal matter at hand. The surgical precision with which these indictments articulate the offenses committed, the laws violated, and the resulting consequences is a testament to the power of concision and the inviolable importance of maintaining relevance.

In stark contrast to the dilution and obfuscation that could result from the inclusion of extraneous information, these examples stand as paragons of focus and clarity. Their steadfast adherence to the principle of relevance ensures that the legal issues at stake are conveyed with unassailable lucidity, unencumbered by the distractions and diversions that could potentially undermine the comprehension and effective communication of the legal tenets. The contrast between the probity exhibited by these examples and the potential pitfalls of deviating from the principle of relevance is as stark as it is consequential. While the former upholds the sanctity of clear and effective legal communication, the latter risks rendering indictments susceptible to the corrosive effects of obfuscation and ambiguity, ultimately undermining the very foundations of the legal process.

In the hallowed realm of indictment composition, writers must embrace an unwavering commitment to the principle of relevance. Each word, each phrase must be meticulously scrutinized, its pertinence to the legal matter at hand carefully weighed and assessed. Any information that fails to contribute directly to the elucidation of the offenses committed, the laws violated, or the resulting consequences must be excised with surgical precision, lest it dilute the indictment's clarity and focus. A relentless pursuit of concision and economy of language should be the guiding ethos, with writers assiduously avoiding the siren song of tangential digressions or extraneous embellishments. The indictment must stand as an inviolable bastion of relevance, its every sentence must be laser-focused on the essential legal tenets, unencumbered by the distractions that could potentially undermine its efficacy.
4.3.4 Manner

The language used in indictments should adhere to the principle of manner, which emphasizes the use of clear, unambiguous, and well-structured language. Indictments should be precise, avoid ambiguity or obscurity, and maintain coherence and logical flow in presenting the information.

Indictment CT2: *On 02/03/2023, in District Y, the defendant B executed an illegal real estate purchase and sale contract, infringing upon the ownership rights of others.* This statement adheres to the principle of manner by being direct, unambiguous, and presenting the information in an orderly manner. Indictment CT4: *On 10/09/2023, in District P, the defendant D committed fraud and embezzled property from multiple victims.* This statement adheres to the principle of manner by using straightforward language and avoiding ambiguity or obscurity in describing the offenses committed. Indictment CT7: *On 18/04/2023, in Province S, the defendant G violated occupational safety laws, endangering workers.* This statement adheres to the principle of manner by being clear, concise, and presenting the information in a logical and orderly manner, facilitating easy comprehension and interpretation.

The examples presented here stand as an inviolable testament to the paramount importance of adhering to the principle of manner in the hallowed realm of legal texts, and indictments in particular. Indictments CT2, CT4, and CT7 exemplify this adherence, their language emanating with a crystalline clarity and precision that leaves no room for ambiguity or obscurity. Each meticulously crafted sentence is a paragon of lucidity, its structure and flow create a harmonious symphony of coherence and logical progression. In stark contrast to the potential pitfalls of ambiguous or convoluted language, these indictments stand as beacons of transparency and comprehensibility. Their unwavering commitment to the principle of manner ensures that the legal information they convey is not merely communicated but rather distilled to its quintessential essence, unencumbered by the obfuscations that could impede understanding or breed misinterpretation. The probity exhibited by these examples is not merely a matter of linguistic elegance but rather a vital bulwark against the insidious erosion of justice itself. For in the realm of law, where the consequences of misunderstanding or ambiguity can be profound, adherence to the principle of manner is not merely a matter of style but rather a sacred duty, a solemn obligation to uphold the very foundations of the legal process. It is this unwavering commitment to clarity, precision, and coherence that elevates these indictments beyond mere legal texts and into the realm of exemplars, shining beacons that illuminate the path toward a more transparent, more comprehensible, and ultimately more effective administration of justice.
In the hallowed realm of legal composition, where the consequences of imprecision or ambiguity can reverberate with profound implications, writers of indictments must embrace an unwavering fealty to the principle of manner. Each word and each phrase, must be meticulously crafted, its clarity and precision subject to the most exacting scrutiny and its capacity for ambiguity or obscurity expunged with surgical precision. A relentless pursuit of lucidity should be the guiding ethos, with writers assiduously eschewing the siren song of convoluted phrasing or labyrinthine constructions. The indictment must stand as an inviolable bastion of transparency, its every sentence is a clarion call to comprehension, unencumbered by the obfuscations that could imperil the very foundations of justice. Logical flow and coherence must be enshrined as sacrosanct tenets, with the presentation of information adhering to a structured, orderly progression that facilitates comprehension and forestalls the potential for misinterpretation. Only through such an unwavering commitment to the principle of manner can indictments truly fulfill their solemn duty as instruments of justice, conveying the grave matters at hand with the utmost clarity and precision.

5 CONCLUSION

This study has analyzed the pivotal role of language in ensuring the logical and reasonable presentation of legal texts. By examining real-world indictments through the lens of theoretical frameworks from scholars like Solan, Tiersma, and Grice, several key principles and strategies have emerged. Regarding logical structure, the findings underscore the necessity of maintaining a tight logical flow, employing precise terminology, and facilitating precision in interpretation. This rigorous approach lends credibility, enforceability, and consistent application to the legal obligations and consequences outlined within the texts. The analysis of speech act forces highlighted how language choices are shaped by societal norms, cultural values, and judicial precedents. Aligning speech acts with these contextual influences enhances the perceived legitimacy and effectiveness of legal communication within its sociocultural milieu. Furthermore, adherence to Grice's cooperative principles – quantity, quality, relevance, and manner – emerged as vital for ensuring clarity, truthfulness, coherence and comprehensibility in legal argumentation. Upholding these maxims fosters transparency and fairness in the judicial process. While this research offers valuable insights, certain limitations should be acknowledged. The study focused exclusively on written legal texts, specifically indictments. Examining spoken legal discourse could yield additional perspectives. Moreover, the cultural context was limited to the Vietnamese legal system, although the general principles may have broader applicability. For future research directions, a quantitative analysis correlating specific linguistic elements with the perceived clarity and persuasiveness of legal
arguments could provide further empirical evidence. Additionally, an interdisciplinary approach combining linguistics, law, psychology, and communication studies could yield a more holistic understanding of effective legal communication strategies. Ultimately, by applying appropriate principles and strategies for language use, legal professionals can contribute to enhancing the overall effectiveness, fairness and public trust in the legal system. A judicious command of language is a powerful tool for upholding the rule of law and promoting transparency in legal construction and application.

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The Role of Language In Ensuring Logical and Reasonable Presentation in Legal Texts


# APPENDIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Indictment Code</th>
<th>Indictment Content</th>
<th>Language aspects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CT1</td>
<td>On 15/06/2023, in City X, the defendant A committed the act of theft of property.</td>
<td>4.1.2. Establishing legal consequences&lt;br&gt;4.2.1. Societal norms&lt;br&gt;4.3.1. Quantity&lt;br&gt;4.3.3. Relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>CT2</td>
<td>On 02/03/2023, in District Y, the defendant B executed an illegal real estate purchase and sale contract, infringing upon the ownership rights of others.</td>
<td>4.1.1. Creating binding obligations&lt;br&gt;4.1.3. Ensuring precision in interpretation&lt;br&gt;4.2.2. Cultural values&lt;br&gt;4.3.4. Manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>CT3</td>
<td>On 20/11/2022, in Province Z, the defendant C violated traffic laws, causing a serious accident resulting in casualties.</td>
<td>4.1.2. Establishing legal consequences&lt;br&gt;4.2.3. Judicial precedents&lt;br&gt;4.3.2. Quality&lt;br&gt;4.3.3. Relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>CT4</td>
<td>On 10/09/2023, in District P, the defendant D committed fraud and embezzled property from multiple victims.</td>
<td>4.1.1. Creating binding obligations&lt;br&gt;4.2.1. Societal norms&lt;br&gt;4.3.1. Quantity&lt;br&gt;4.3.4. Manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>CT5</td>
<td>On 28/02/2023, in District Q, the defendant E violated environmental protection laws, discharging hazardous waste causing severe pollution.</td>
<td>4.1.3. Ensuring precision in interpretation&lt;br&gt;4.2.2. Cultural values&lt;br&gt;4.3.2. Quality&lt;br&gt;4.3.3. Relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>CT6</td>
<td>On 05/07/2023, in City R, the defendant F committed assault, causing injuries to the victim.</td>
<td>4.1.2. Establishing legal consequences&lt;br&gt;4.2.1. Societal norms&lt;br&gt;4.2.3. Judicial precedents&lt;br&gt;4.3.1. Quantity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>CT7</td>
<td>On 18/04/2023, in Province S, the defendant G violated occupational safety laws, endangering workers.</td>
<td>4.1.1. Creating binding obligations&lt;br&gt;4.1.3. Ensuring precision in interpretation&lt;br&gt;4.3.2. Quality&lt;br&gt;4.3.4. Manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>CT8</td>
<td>On 12/10/2022, in District T, the defendant H committed cross-border smuggling of goods and tax evasion.</td>
<td>4.1.2. Establishing legal consequences&lt;br&gt;4.2.2. Cultural values&lt;br&gt;4.2.3. Judicial precedents</td>
</tr>
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<td>Order</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>4.3.3. Relevance</td>
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</table>
| 9     | CT9             | On 30/01/2023, in District U, the defendant I violated cybersecurity laws by hacking into government computer systems.                                                                                         | 4.1.1. Creating binding obligations  
4.1.3. Ensuring precision in interpretation  
4.2.1. Societal norms  
4.3.1. Quantity |
| 10    | CT10            | On 25/08/2023, in Province V, the defendant J bribed a government official to obtain favorable treatment in an investment project.                                                                              | 4.1.2. Establishing legal consequences  
4.2.2. Cultural values  
4.2.3. Judicial precedents  
4.3.2. Quality |
| 11    | CT11            | On 16/12/2022, in District W, the defendant K violated laws protecting cultural heritage, illegally excavating and trading ancient artifacts.                                                                     | 4.1.1. Creating binding obligations  
4.1.3. Ensuring precision in interpretation  
4.3.3. Relevance  
4.3.4. Manner |
| 12    | CT12            | On 08/06/2023, in District X, the defendant L committed the act of child sexual abuse, severely violating the rights of children.                                                                               | 4.1.2. Establishing legal consequences  
4.2.1. Societal norms  
4.2.2. Cultural values  
4.3.1. Quantity |