

# The Use of Tense and Aspect in Holocaust Survivors' Interviews: A Corpus-Based Approach

Woobeen Bang

*Seoul National University*

**Bang, Woobeen. 2023. The Use of Tense and Aspect in Holocaust Survivors' Interviews: A Corpus-Based Approach. *SNU Working Papers in English Language and Linguistics* 19, 1-17.** This article explores the use of tense and aspect of verbs in Holocaust survivors' spoken interviews, provided by the Voice and Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive. The plenty of testimonies and interviews collected after the Holocaust are a yet untapped resource within linguistics. Focusing on scarcity, a corpus was specially constructed for the current study based on the existing data. The corpus contains the interviewee's episodes during the Holocaust. By using *AntConc*, and its tagging program, verb forms of past tense and aspects such as progressive and passive voice in the interviews are analyzed. In the obtained data, the verb uses of interviewees vary depending on their traumatic and particular episodes. The progressive and passive verb forms in past contexts appear more frequently when the survivors describe their experience during the genocide. Additionally, the lexica reflect the victims' negative emotions for the same period during the war. With the new and particularly constructed corpus, it is fairly expected that further approaches can be made in collaboration with linguistics and the Holocaust study. (Seoul National University)

**Keywords:** corpus study, the Holocaust study, language use, tense, aspect

## 1. Introduction

There has been a plethora of research to figure out which experiences do Holocaust survivors bury and retain in their minds to open up about past silences. Researchers continuously question if there are particular memories that the survivors would like to provide us in a more vivid way to unburden themselves, and what roles their language and discourse do play in survivors'

readiness to reveal hidden memories. The Holocaust has become a significant field of culture and history research in the last four decades. Topics of study range in varied ways and the scholars rely in large part on survivors' testimony and interviews.

Voice and Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive is one example in the course of the testimony works. The left generations are able to witness many survivors' struggles to recount their experiences of violence during the genocide. Using their own words, the survivors speak for themselves and their memories and in this way, their strong emotions are delivered to their readers and audience through recorded and written testimony. Especially, from the perspective of linguistic cues, their use of verb tenses and aspects might be interpreted as one of the overt tools to express their narratives more effectively. This tool also might be analyzed for linguistic research. That is, this article aims to investigate the ways in which trauma and language use intersect in surviving memories by interviewees whose second language is American English as they immigrated after their liberation. Based on the collected interviews, the current article constructed the corpus for the clear-cut research goal: to examine the forms and aspects of verbs that were uttered by the non-English native interviewees and to explore the types of verbs which have been buried in their underlying memory repository.

## 2. Theoretical Background

There is little doubt that there has been a proliferation in the Holocaust research work related to people's memories and trauma in the last decades. They are demonstrated as rooted pains and remaining responsibilities for survivors and post-war generations. The arguments that have been built on the previous research are that the Holocaust does not diminish or go faint in importance as the time passes; rather the effects keep reaching farther deeper. On a collective level, the interviews (or memories) may emerge through interactions and communications, such as interviewer's questions, and may be retained and revitalized through the use of different narratives. Focusing on the particular verb forms, the importance of providing proper theoretical backgrounds lie in academic grammar theories covering the past tense and aspects corresponding to the purpose of the current article. To address the research questions properly later, some distinct grammar rules will be necessarily considered in the following

subsections.

## 2.1. The Progressive

The form of gerund-participle combined with auxiliary *be* covers the progressive aspect. It is called the 'present' participle "because the time associated with it is characteristically the same as that expressed or implied in the larger construction" (Huddleston & Pullum, 2002, p. 80). Also "the progressive aspect is used to describe activities or events that are in progress at a particular time, usually for a limited duration" (Biber et al., 1999, p. 470). More specifically, (as the main interest of this paper is to examine the past tense) the past progressive aspect represents events that were in course of progress or about to occur at some earlier time. This 'process' element of meaning may even be more important to point out that this type reports the end-point of some processes as well. In addition to those characteristics, in English, the progressive aspect can appear in various combinations, presenting more specific verbal readings and meanings.

## 2.2. The Perfect

According to Huddleston & Pullum (2002), the perfect tense system can indicate several concepts. The use of the present perfect "is concerned with the occurrence of situations within the time-span up to now" (p. 143). In addition to the use of present perfect, the perfect of recent past may be connected with the concept of 'distance', which is contrary to the 'recency' (i.e., recent past) of present perfect. From the Semantic perspective, the theory of now "is extended into the past and it provides a long interval as a contextually salient time. Support for this view comes from the fact that a temporal adverbial that can occur in a present perfect refers to an interval that contains the utterance time" (Ogihara, 2007, p. 408).

## 2.3. Passive Voice

The passive in English can have two different forms; the *BE* passive and the *GET* passive. The use of passive voice may indicate a piece of numerous information during spoken discourses. Previously, Biber et al. (1999) pointed out that "one of the major functions of the passive is that it demotes the agent

of the verb (often the person doing the action of the verb), while giving topic status to the affected patient (the entity being acted on)” (p. 481). The *GET* passive is generally restricted and is found almost exclusively in conversation. It is interesting to note that the most common verbs occurring with *GET* passives have negative readings (or connotations), and they convey that the action of the verb is difficult, or at least, is disadvantageous to the subject. Also, use of this particular form can contribute to a more dynamic sense and reading than the *BE* passive. That is, the *GET* passive describes the process of getting involved in the state, while the other often tends to simply describe a state. Additionally, lexical factors are significantly related to the choice between active and passive forms.

## 2.4. Research Questions

Considering the purpose of the current study, the importance of language uses, retained and recomposed by survivors of World War II, may arise to analyze the interviews by using currently constructed corpus data. As a complex interface between the Holocaust Research, psychology, and linguistics, it urges to posit multidisciplinary questions when approaching the set of data. As a string of linguistic research, the current research of course will be clearly relevant to human language fields including a bit of Semantics.

Focusing on the language production by the speakers, this paper raises following hypotheses: i) The progressive and the passive may appear more often when speakers describe tragic events and ii) The lexical category of verbs may differ according to the topic of discourses. Based on these hypotheses, research questions also arise as follows, and they will be covered in the next following Discussion section.

1. How the surviving memories are reconstructed and produced in their foreign language in terms of usage of past tense and aspects?
2. What types of lexicons are used for expressing their personal experience before, after, and during the war?

## 3. Data and methodology

Voice and Vision Holocaust Survivor Oral History Archive is a project that has

been built by Sidney Bolkosky since 1981. He has interviewed Holocaust survivors and the interviews are repositied in the University's Mardigian Library. Under the mission of providing a forum for the survivors' voices, the archive represents a guarantee of unembroidered presentation, without any dramatization. Because of the fact that the Project has not been a 'fanfare', the data speaks for itself—literally, but with integrity and quality. Now the collection has obtained a potentially larger audience, and copies of all the interviews rest in the archives of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. Additionally, copies of videotapes are found in the Yale Video Archives and the Holocaust Memorial Center in West Bloomfield, MI, U.S.

Despite the full accessibility to scholars, historians, psychologists, and students, the data has not been visited with any attempts to make it into a set of the corpus. Here, for the current research, the specific corpus was built on the previously existing written data, the Survivors' Interviews, and henceforth, *Corpus of Holocaust-survivors Interviews* (CHI). This newly constructed corpus, CHI, was made particularly for the current research, and as far as known, there is no analogous attempt in both Holocaust Research and Linguistics. The subject of this current study is to investigate the past contexts and verb forms in them, particularly focusing on the verb aspects and 'languages of survivors,' which contain a lexicon in survivors' narratives. CHI was reconstructed by sorting out the whole interview section into three types of memories: *Life before the War*, *Memories during the Massacre*, and *Life after the War*. For each subcategory of memories, chronological classification was applied to the narratives on the basis of the years of World War II which occurred between 1939 to 1945. The first memories of the survivors, *Life before the War*, are traced back to events before the war. Starting with their brief self-introduction, the survivors brought back the memories of their family background, childhood, religious life, education, relationships between other people from different nationalities, etc. Then, their memories which were vastly formulated during the genocide, *Memories of Massacre*, take most portion of the survivors' interviews. Lastly, the interviews continued covering survivors' lives after the War and their liberation, and in this article, it is named *Life after the War*.

Among more than 180 interviews, the present study focuses on 42 interviews, based on the number of consisting episodes. The 42 interviews consist of episodes (or sections) between 40 and 70, and this was understood as (reasonably) an average scope. The transcribed data produced by interviewers, whose first language is English, was excluded on the basis of the purpose of this

**Table 1.** Total Number of Words and Verbs for Each Narrative

	Life before the War	Memories of the Massacre	Life after the War
Total Words	87,691	469,387	218,757
Total Verbs	17,237	98,756	46,696

article.

As one of the additional data cleaning processes, there are certain data sets that have been excluded. Including a few back channel cues, as understood as reactions to interviewers, such as *that's right* and *that's correct*, general and clear filler-phrase such as *you know* and *you see* were deleted from the whole data not to affect the results. Excluding those phrases, the total size of words is 788,786 words overall. More specifically, for each type of divided episodes, the *Life before the War* consists of 87,691 words, the *Memories of the Massacre* consists of 467,387 words, and the *Life after the War* consists of 218,757 words in total. However, as the main concern of the current study is to see verbs, the additional calculation is made on the basis of the number of verb-word as follows; the *Life before the War* consists of 17,237 verbs, the *Memories of Massacre* consists of 98,756 verbs, and the *Life after the War* consists of 47,696 verbs, respectively. The word counts of each sub-corpus are summarized in Table 1 above.

For constructing CHI from scratch, the current research use the *AntConc* and *TagAnt*.<sup>1</sup> Using the tagged sets, strings of verb sets were extracted to analyze, and those will be described in the next following section in more detail. According to the suggested 'Selected Tag Set' of *TagAnt*, there are six subcategories for verbs as follows: VB (verb, base form), VBD (verb, past tense), VBG (verb, gerund or present participle), VBN (verb, past participle), VBP (verb, non-3rd person singular present), and VBZ (verb, 3rd person singular present).

---

1. These software tools are freely accessible via *AntLab* (<http://www.laurenceanthony.net>).

## 4. Results

### 4.1. General Distribution

Given that the research questions of the current study are crucially related to the use of verb form in the survivors' voices, the whole number of verbs was calculated from CHI. Then, the percentage was also considered in the course of the calculation, and they were all rounded off to the second decimal place.

Table 2 shows the calculated result of the first narrative, *Life before the War*. Among the total number of verbs, base form is 3,244, accounting 18.82%, past tense is 8,735 accounting for 50.68%, gerund or present participle is 1,031, accounting for 6%, verb past participle is 813, accounting for 4.71%, non-3rd person singular present is 2,316, accounting for 13.44%, and 3rd person singular present is 1,098, accounting for 6.37%.

Table 3 illustrates the calculated result of the second narrative, which takes

**Table 2.** The Numbers and Percentages of Each Verb Form in *Life Before the War*

Verb Forms	Numbers	Percentage
VB ( <i>verb, base form</i> )	3,244	18.82%
VBD ( <i>verb, past tense</i> )	8,735	50.68%
VBG ( <i>verb, gerund or present participle</i> )	1,031	6%
VCN ( <i>verb, past participle</i> )	813	4.71%
VBP ( <i>verb, non-3rd person singular present</i> )	2,316	13.44%
VBZ ( <i>verb, 3rd person singular present</i> )	1,098	6.37%

**Table 3.** The Numbers and Percentages of Each Verb Form in *Memories of the Massacre*

Verb Forms	Numbers	Percentage
VB ( <i>verb, base form</i> )	20,840	21.12%
VBD ( <i>verb, past tense</i> )	48,454	49.11%
VBG ( <i>verb, gerund or present participle</i> )	5,563	5.64%
VCN ( <i>verb, past participle</i> )	4,446	4.51%
VBP ( <i>verb, non-3rd person singular present</i> )	13,800	14%
VBZ ( <i>verb, 3rd person singular present</i> )	5,653	5.73%

**Table 4.** The Numbers and Percentages of Each Verb Form in *Life After the War*

Verb Forms	Numbers	Percentage
VB ( <i>verb, base form</i> )	10,248	21.95%
VBD ( <i>verb, past tense</i> )	18,857	40.38%
VBG ( <i>verb, gerund or present participle</i> )	3,215	6.88%
VCN ( <i>verb, past participle</i> )	1,836	3.93%
VBP ( <i>verb, non-3rd person singular present</i> )	8,356	1.79%
VBZ ( <i>verb, 3rd person singular present</i> )	4,184	8.96%

the biggest proportion of the whole episode, *Memories of the Massacre*. Among the total number of verbs, base form is 20,840, accounting for 21.12%, past tense is 48,454, accounting for 49.11%, gerund or present participle is 5,563, accounting for 5.64%, verb past participle is 4,446, accounting for 4.51%, non-3rd person singular present is 13,800, accounting for 14%, and 3rd person singular present is 5,653 accounting for 5.73%.

Table 4 illustrates the calculated result of the last narrative, which has the second biggest proportion of the whole episode, *Life after the War*. Among the total number of verbs, base form is 10,248, accounting for 21.95%, past tense is 18,857, accounting for 40.38%, gerund or present participle is 3,215, accounting for 6.88%, verb past participle is 1,836, accounting for 3.93%, non-3rd person singular present is 8,356, accounting for 1.79%, and 3rd person singular present is 4,184, accounting for 8.96%.

## 4.2. Past

The main methodological outcome of the present article allows us to gain more precise insight into the cognitive mechanisms which are underlying non-English native speakers' memories of the past. Considering the purpose of the present study, the past verb forms are divided into two main usages: progressive and perfect. These aspects of English verbs are regarded to represent the degree of involvement in particular events of speakers. To investigate the uttered and transcribed data whose usage lies in the past context, this paper also delves into the relevant data after similar processes of the calculation.

Table 5 illustrates the result of the number of present progressives and its percentage per the total number of past form verbs used in the first narrative,



**Table 5.** The Ratio of the Perfect and the Progressive in the Past Context of *Life before the War*

Verb Forms	Tag Set	Numbers	Percentage
Present/Past Perfect	<i>have/has/had</i> + VBN	59	0.67%
Past Progressive	<i>was/were</i> + VBG	397	4.51%
Total Past Context	-	8,794	-

**Table 6.** The Ratio of the Perfect and the Progressive in the Past Context of *Memories of the Massacre*

Verb Forms	Tag Set	Numbers	Percentage
Present/Past Perfect	<i>have/has/had</i> + VBN	514	1.05%
Past Progressive	<i>was/were</i> + VBG	3,275	6.69%
Total Past Context	-	48,968	-

*Life before the War*. The searching strings of tag sets for use on *AntConc* are as follows: 'VBD' for the total number of past form verbs, 'have/has\_vb \*\_VBN' and 'had\_vbd \*\_VBN' for the present/past perfect, and 'was/were\_vbd \*\_VBG,' for the past progressive. The present and past perfect in the past context is 59, accounting for 0.67% of the whole past form verbs and progressive in the past context is 397, accounting for 4.51% respectively. The total past context, VBD, is 8,794.

Table 6 describes the result of the number of present progressive and its percentage per the total number of past form verbs used in the second narrative, *Memories of the Massacre*. The same searching strings of tag sets were applied for the analysis, as presented in the previous paragraph. The result for the biggest part of the Holocaust experiencers (or victims) are as follows: The present and past perfect in the past context is 514, accounting for 1.05% of the whole past form verbs and progressive in the past context is 3,275, accounting for 6.69% respectively. The total past context, VBD, is 48,968.

Table 7 presents the result of the number of present progressive and its percentage per the total number of past form verbs used in the last narrative, *Life after the War*. Here, the same searching strings of tag sets were applied for the analysis as well. The result for the second biggest part of the interviewers' voices is as follows:

**Table 7.** The Ratio of the Perfect and the Progressive in the Past Context of *Life after the War*

Verb Forms	Tag Set	Numbers	Percentage
Present/Past Perfect	<i>have/has/had</i> + VBN	235	1.23%
Past Progressive	<i>was/were</i> + VBG	985	5.16%
Total Past Context	-	19,092	-

The number of present and past perfect in the past context is 235, accounting for 1.23% of the whole past form verbs and progressive in the past context is 985, accounting for 5.16% respectively. The total past context for the last section, VBD, is 19,092.

#### 4.3. Passive

In Table 8, the ratio of the passive use in the past context from the three subcorpora. Using the searching strings, ‘*was/were\_vbd\*\_VBN*’ and ‘*got\_vbd\*\_VBN*’, the results were obtained as seen in the table following.

For further discussion regarding Table 8, it should be pointed out that one particular and typical form of, ‘*BE born*’ is resulting in the confusing reading of the data sets. For clarifying the exact ratio of each subcorpus, ‘*BE born*’ had to be deleted as reanalyzed in Table 9.

Along with the research questions, the language use of the passive voice produced by survivors was also subject to examination at the lexical level. The following tables summarize the collocate frequency of *BE* passive and *GET*

**Table 8.** The Ratio of the Passive in the Past Context

Subcorpus	Tag Set	Numbers		Percentage	
Life before the War	<i>was/were</i> + VBN	342	387	3.89%	4.40%
	<i>got</i> + VBN	45		0.51%	
Memories of the Massacre	<i>was/were</i> + VBN	1,566	1,740	3.20%	3.56%
	<i>got</i> + VBN	174		0.36%	
Life after the War	<i>was/were</i> + VBN	520	621	2.72%	3.25%
	<i>got</i> + VBN	101		0.53%	

**Table 9.** The Ratio of the Passive in the Past Context (*BE born* excluded)

Subcorpus	Tag Set	Numbers		Percentage	
Life before the War	<i>was/were</i> + VBN	253	298	2.88%	3.39%
	<i>got</i> + VBN	45		0.51%	
Memories of the Massacre	<i>was/were</i> + VBN	1,499	1,673	3.06%	3.42%
	<i>got</i> + VBN	174		0.36%	
Life after the War	<i>was/were</i> + VBN	464	565	2.43%	2.96%
	<i>got</i> + VBN	101		0.53%	

**Table 10.** *BE* Passive Use in the Past Context from Each Subcorpus

	Life Before the War		Memories of the Massacre		Life After the War	
Rank	Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
1	born	89	taken	106	born	56
2	given	16	born	67	killed	32
3	married	16	called	54	liberated	25
4	called	15	liberated	51	taken	23
5	taken	13	supposed	46	sent	18
6	sent	9	left	45	supposed	15
7	killed	9	killed	41	married	15
8	dressed	8	sent	35	raised	11
9	allowed	7	shot	32	called	11
10	done	7	made	30	given	11
11	grown	5	put	29	told	11
12	deported	5	gone	27	written	9
13	brought	5	given	27	left	9
14	told	5	picked	25	brought	8
15	raised	5	bombed	23	stopped	7
					put	
					picked	

**Table 11.** *GET* Passive Use in the Past Context from Each Subcorpus

	Life Before the War		Memories of the Massacre		Life After the War	
Rank	Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
1	married	19	killed	23	married	44
2	killed	6	married	19	killed	8
3	paid	3	liberated	11	stuck	6
4	beaten	3	shot	10		
5	shot	2	caught	8		
6	caught	2	hit	7		
7			used	6		

passive in the past context extracted from CHI as described in Table 10 and Table 11 above, separately. It should be noted that a frequency less than 5 was excluded from the result of data shown in Table 11.

The lexicon that the survivors used for reviving their memories have diverse meaning scope. As illustrated in Table 10, the subcorpus of *Life Before the War* contains verbs that describe one's general life such as *born* (89), *married* (16), *given* (16), *called* (15), and so forth, from the highest rank. For their recollections of *Life after the War*, one might notice an interesting indication that the lexicon in it is mixed with two other subcorpus. *Born* (67), *killed* (32), *liberated* (25), *taken* (23), *sent* (18), *supposed* (15), *married* (15), *raised* (11), *called* (11), *given* (11), *told* (11), and so forth are ranked from the highest collocation with the *BE* passive in the third narrative. Lastly, most impressively, the words that are produced in the narrative of *Memories of the Massacre*, contain some extremely negative meanings, especially related to the concept of death or being controlled such as *taken* (106), *left* (45), *killed* (41), *sent* (35), *shot* (32), *picked* (25) or *bombed* (23).

For the *GET* passive use, as described in Table 11, similar yet moderately different use can be captured. In the subcorpus of *Life Before the War*, the Holocaust experiencers took out the lexicon associated with their general life, *married* (16), at the highest frequency, followed by *killed* (6), *paid* (3), *beaten* (3), *shot* (2), and *caught* (2). For the period during the Massacre, the survivors chose to give descriptions of their memories using the verbs such as *killed* (23),

*married* (19), *liberated* (11), *shot* (10), *caught* (8), *hit* (7), and *used* (6). The majority of the verbs can be interpreted negatively when one looks into each interview in detail. Lastly, the same general life-associated verb *married* (44) occurs with the highest use frequency, followed by *killed* (8) and *stuck* (6) with their moderate number of uses.

## 5. Discussion

As previously suggested, the hypotheses and research questions are now able to be analyzed with the results. For the first hypothesis, there were only moderate differences between the ratios of each subcorpus as seen in Table 2, Table 3, and Table 4. When one looks into it in detail, however, the results present somewhat differently in the past context, as illustrated in Table 5, Table 6, Table 7, and Table 8.

Given that most contents of the interviews are composed of past tense, these different results seem to be reasonable. Specifically, in the subcorpus, *Memories of the Massacre*, both verb forms of present/past perfect and past progressive show the highest among the others. This is related to the first hypothesis that predicts the progressive and passive voice to appear more saliently and significantly in the second narrative. In English language, “the motivation for the use of progressive, more specifically, [BE *Ving*] form, has been linked to a speaker’s involvement in an event” (Petré, 2017, p. 247). Using progressive, survivors raise vividness when delivering their memories to their audience and this may implicate that their memories during this certain period of pain are retained in a fairly distinct way. As pointed out by the Holocaust Research, “memories of the Holocaust have strong bearings on contemporary settings. For instance, contesting the Holocaust is at least as much a way of engaging with present identities, events, and conditions as it is of engaging with the past” (Seeberg et al., 2013, p. 5).

Viewing the memories in light of thoughts about the past, one might predict that their lives in the more distant past may be fainter despite the chronological order of narratives. Interestingly, the results betray this prediction. It is noteworthy that the number of the verb form of present/past perfect in *Life after the War* is higher than that of *Life before the War* as the former is 1.23% and the latter is 0.67% respectively as seen in Table 5 and Table 7.

As shown in Table 9 where the confusing string, ‘BE *born*’, was deleted for clear data, the interviewees often use the form of the passive during the discourse of *Memories of the Massacre*. ‘BE passive’ and ‘GET passive’ were used more often than during other narratives, showing a subtle difference yet the highest frequency. Based on the use of the passive voice reading rule, covered previously, it may particularly convey the meaning of being pressed by outer force or at least, difficulty in controlling certain situations in the past. The way the interviewees focus on the agony that they experienced during the genocide could stem from their deep consciousness and remembrances.

## 6. Conclusion

As one of the members of contemporary society, the left generation may be urged to keep involved and interested in the antecedent events. In any academic field, this implication has been often addressed in scholarly work. Nevertheless, the remains sometimes avoid tackling some delicate yet tormenting facts or events. The discourse of the Holocaust or many tragic genocides, however, should be continuously revisited for humankind themselves. Under these ideas, the current research seeks the academic effort to address the profoundness of human history and the left.

This article investigates the survivors’ verb uses focusing on the past tenses, progressive, passives, and lexicon use in their interviews. In the subcorpus that represents direct events during the massacre, the survivors used the verb form of progressive and passive more frequently. The survivors’ lexica were more frequently related to negative values such as death and external force in the same subcorpus, *Memories of the Massacre* than in other subcorpora. These remembrances can be understood as a clue that the survivors retained their memories somehow more vividly, bringing themselves to a collection of events that they were suppressed physically and mentally as victims. These post-war traumas were expressed in their foreign language use, directly reflecting the negative emotions by tense and aspects.

As far as it is known, there are only very few or no analogous studies to the present article, in terms of data and methodologies employed for it. Because of such scarcity, it fairly seems that there will be further discussions needed using the constructed corpus in more detail, from various perspectives. It is noteworthy that CHI contains numerous linguistic information which may be

used for further deeper discussion in the future. CHI had only especially been built for the purpose of this present research from scratch, so it may include apparent limitations during a number of series of data work. Nevertheless, as a cornerstone, it also might open more abundant discussions for any potential research later on.

## References

- Anthony, L. (2020). AntConc (Version 3.5.9) [Computer Software]. Tokyo, Japan: Waseda University. Available from <http://www.antlab.aci.waseda.ac.jp/>
- Biber, D., Johansson, S., Leech, G., Conrad, S., & Finegan, E. (1999). *Longman grammar of spoken and written English*. London: Longman.
- Huddleston, R., & Pullum, G. (2002). *The Cambridge grammar of the English language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ogihara, T. (2007). Tense and aspect in truth-conditional semantics, *Lingua*, 117, 392-418.
- Petré, P. (2017). The extravagant progressive: an experimental corpus study on the history of emphatic [BE Ving], *English Language and Linguistics*, 21(2), 227-250.
- Seeberg, M. L., Levin, I., & Lenz, C. (2013). *The Holocaust as active memory: The past in the present*. London: Routledge.

## Appendix

**Table A.** The List of Interviewees with the Number of Episodes and Word Counts

No.	Name	Episodes/Words
1	Ackermann, Eva	45/ 15,607
2	Adler, Olga	42/ 22,305
3	Berki, Peri	60/ 18,478
4	Brenner, Larry	52/ 27,092
5	Camhi, Bella	56/ 16,232
6	Dan, Bert	40/ 12,850
7	Elbaum, Luba	64/ 17,802
8	Fein, Albert	45/ 11,552
9	Feldman, Eugene	42/ 15,996
10	Feldman, Manya Auster	46/ 29,750
11	Fenster, Lily	61/ 39,337
12	Ferber, Fred	60/ 49,270
13	Ferber, Miriam Monczyk-Laczkowska	42/ 25,085
14	Fisk, Hannah	43/ 15,595
15	Fisk, Benjamin	41/ 18,098
16	Fordonski, Nancy	51/ 25,224
17	Gissing, Vera	40/ 11,571
18	Green, Rose	50/ 13,575
19	Greenberger, Anna	57/ 20,314
20	Hirsch, Bernard	40/ 11,788
21	Holcman, Abraham	42/ 10,474
22	Kalmas, Simon	49/ 10,386
23	Katan, Salvatore and Lili	44/ 12,750
24	Kaye, Louis	45/ 15,446
25	Kendal, Fred	43/ 12,740
26	Kessler, Ilya Martha	43/ 12,061
27	Lang, Helen	52/ 16,686



No.	Name	Episodes/Words
28	Lupyan, Esfir	47/ 12,395
29	Mandel, John	41/ 17,294
30	Marczak, Herman	61/ 21,331
31	Maroko, Simon	64/ 22,772
32	Northman, Nathan	49/ 16,799
33	Northman, Sonia	53/ 15,181
34	Opas, Michael	59/ 15,809
35	Roemerfeld, Mrs.	55/ 15,845
36	Rothenberg, Berek	69/ 27,848
37	Seltzer, Sam	41/ 26,950
38	Steiger, Zwi	44/ 13,635
39	Sternberg, Malka	40/ 16,594
40	Wayne, Larry	65/ 14,406
41	Weiselman, Nathan	44/ 17,652
42	Zamczyk, Natalie	62/ 26,211

Woobeen Bang

bwb0224@snu.ac.kr