

### Exploring Authorial Identity in terms of Voice Intensity and Subject-Positioning in the Argumentative Writings of Male and Female Iranian Advanced EFL Learners

Omid Mallahi \*

*Assistant Professor of English Language Teaching Group, University of Hormozgan*

Received: 2019/04/07

Accepted: 2019/05/27

**Abstract:** Academic writing is not just about presenting a set of ideas, but through the act of writing, the authors position themselves as individuals having particular identities which mostly reflect the dominant sociocultural values and practices of the discourse communities in which they are living and performing. The present study, using a mixed method approach, attempted to explore the evidences of voice and subject positioning, as reflections of authorial identity, in the argumentative writings of 41 advanced Iranian EFL learners. At first, the relationship between voice intensity and overall writing quality of the participants was assessed and the results indicated a positive relationship between the constructs. The multiple regression analysis conducted also revealed that assertiveness, as one of the main subcomponents of voice in writing, had the highest level of contribution in accounting for the writing competence of the learners. Afterwards, some representative instances of subject-positioning (i.e., ideational, interpersonal and textual) in the written texts were identified and discussed based on the ideological context of the study since it is believed that authorial identity and voice can vividly reflect the overall ideology of the specific discourse community in which they are constructed. Finally, it was suggested that raising the awareness of learners and even instructing them about the significance of authorial identity, voice and subject-positioning in writing can assist them in constructing more authentic texts in terms of idea presentation, consideration of readers and specific textual and linguistic features used.

**Keywords:** Argumentative Writing, Authorial Identity, Voice Intensity, Subject Positioning.

---

\* Corresponding Author.

Authors' Email Address: <sup>1</sup> O. Mallahi ([o.mallahi@hormozgan.ac.ir](mailto:o.mallahi@hormozgan.ac.ir))

ISSN (Online): 2322-5343, ISSN (Print): 2252-0198 © 2019 University of Isfahan. All rights reserved



پښتونستان د علومو او مطالعاتو د پوهنتون  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی





پښتونستان د علومو او مطالعاتو د پوهنتون  
پرتال جامع علوم انساني





پښتونستان د علومو او مطالعاتو د کونفرانس  
پرمهال جامع علومو انساني





پښتونستان د علومو او مطالعاتو د کونفرانس  
پرمهال جامع علومو انساني





پروپوزیشن گاہ علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرہنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پښتونستان د علومو او انساني مطالعاتو د مرستی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی





پښتو پوهنتون د علومو او مطالعاتو مرکز  
پرمختللیو علومو او مطالعاتو مرکز



پروپوزیشن گاہ علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرہنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پښتونستان د علومو او مطالعاتو فریښی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی





پښتونستان د علومو او انساني مطالعاتو د مرستی  
پرتال جامع علومو انساني





پروپوزیشن گاہ علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرہنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پښتونستان د علومو او انساني مطالعاتو د مرستې  
پرتال جامع علومو انساني





پروپوزیشن گاه علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرهنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پروپوزیشن گاہ علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرہنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پروپوزیشن گاه علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرهنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پروپوزیشن گاہ علوم انسانی و مطالعات فرہنگی  
پرتال جامع علوم انسانی



پښتو پوهنتون د علومو او مطالعاتو مرکز  
پرمختلليو علومو او مطالعاتو مرکز







پښتو پوهنتون د علومو او مطالعاتو مرکز  
پرمختلليو علومو او مطالعاتو مرکز