

## INTERACTIONAL PATTERNS AND COMMUNICATIVE STRATEGIES IN SELECTED NIGERIAN TELEVISION TALK SHOWS

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### ABSTRACT

This study examined the interactional patterns and communicative strategies employed by interlocutors on Silverbird Television's (STV) 'Head to Head' talk show programme. In conversations that are interactive, people are expected to adhere to the norms of conversation. This study analysed the discourse of participants on the show with a view to finding out if those norms are adhered to or not and factors that accounted for the strategies and patterns observed. Interactive episodes were purposively selected. The concepts of Conversation Analysis and Pragmatics were employed in analyzing the data for this study. The talk shows were of a highly conversational order, employing features of turn-taking, adjacency pairing, feedbacks and repair. The Interviewer dictated the pattern and mode of the interaction in most cases. The cooperative principle is also not always adhered to in the talk show discourse as there is outright flouting of the maxims of quantity, quality, relation and manner. The politeness principle is most of the time not observed by the Interviewer in a bid to get his discussants reveal pertinent information.

**KEYWORDS:** Television Talk Shows, Silverbird Television, Interactional Patterns, Communicative Strategies, Cooperative and Politeness Principles