

LINGUISTIC STEREOTYPING IN THE TV SERIES 'TED LASSO': A SOCIOLINGUISTIC ANALYSIS

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Abstract

Stereotypes as a widespread sociolinguistic phenomenon can be constructive or destructive according to the social goal they are oriented to. Such a phenomenon can be found in many aspect of social life as well as social media, TV series, and programmes as in the case of our current data. *Ted Lasso* is an American TV series full of stereotypes. The present study aims at (1) finding the dominant stereotypical type in *Ted Lasso* series; (2) stating the linguistic component of the stereotypical utterance abstracted from *Ted Lasso*; and (3) explaining the social function behind communicating stereotypes in *Ted Lasso* series. Both qualitative and quantitative analyses are applied. The study finds that the highest frequency and percentage results is of Group Identity with 77.77% for the dominant steretypical types, State Verb with 33.33% for highest linguistic components and Social Categorization with 44.44% for the most prominent social function in *Ted Lasso*. In conclusion, *Ted Lasso* redefines stereotypes of social categorization as a tool for connection and communal identity rather than a weapon for division and negativity.

Key Words: Sociolinguistics ; stereotypes ; *Ted Lasso* ; linguistic components ; social categorization

1. INTRODUCTION

A framework for comprehending stereotypes as linguistic as well as social phenomena is offered by sociolinguistics. Expectations about a person's personality, intellectual ability, or social status are frequently based on stereotypes that are connected to language varieties, dialects, or certain communication methods. This area of study looks into the ways that linguistic ideologies -beliefs about language- help create and preserve stereotypes (Legarski, 2024). Sociolinguistic research clarifies the social repercussions of stereotypes along with their influence on social interaction and communication by examining the ways in which language is employed to classify and evaluate people and groups (Walker, 2024). One of the key areas where the interplay between language and society becomes evident is in the formation and perpetuation of stereotypes. While stereotypes can serve as cognitive shortcuts to simplify the complexities of the social world, they often lead to oversimplification, inaccuracy, and negative social consequences. The media, in particular, plays a significant role in the dissemination and reinforcement of stereotypes, often presenting simplified and easily digestible representations of social groups. Thus, stereotypes cannot be understood out of its social context since determining the positive or negative aspect of stereotypes beside the social functions behind using this phenomenon cannot be fully understood without relying on the context of the series of *Ted Lasso*. The present study aims at: (1) finding the dominant stereotypical type in *Ted Lasso* series; (2) stating the linguistic component of the stereotypical utterance abstracted from *Ted Lasso*; and (3) explaining the social function behind communicating stereotypes in *Ted Lasso* series. To achieve these aims, the study applies a model which is composed of three levels: 1. *Types of stereotypes* following Labov (1972) Variation Theory with Fiske, Cuddy & Glick's (2007); 2. *Linguistic Components of Stereotypes* by Semin & Feidler (1988); and 3. *Function of Stereotypes* following Ashmore & Del Boca's (1994) and Schneider's (2005).

2. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2. 1. Stereotyping as a Social Phenomenon

Beukeboom (2025) defines linguistic stereotyping as the use of "generalization in language, where language generalizes across individuals, situations, and time, to create and apply stereotypes". Additionally, stereotypes are understood as "generalized beliefs about a particular category of people" that represent expectations individuals might have about members of specific groups (Coulmas, 2013). A stereotype is a commonly held view or concept about a specific group of people that is oversimplified and generalized. Race, nationality, ethnic background, gender, religion, and other social factors (types) can all serve as the basis for stereotypes (Mikolic, 2020).

Stereotypes are broad assumptions or opinions about the traits of people in a certain group. By definition, stereotypes are broad, overgeneralized, and frequently fixed judgments or opinions about the traits, actions, or motivations of people based only on their actual or perceived membership in a certain social group. Due to their inherent simplicity and frequently negative nature, stereotypes are a type of social classification that exacerbates social bias as well as inequality. Stereotypes in language frequently entail presumptions about people's speech patterns based on their social identities (e.g., "women speak more politely" or "people from X region speak with a lazy accent") (Hall-law and Podesva, 2021).

2. 2. Types of Stereotypes

Stereotypes fall into a number of categories such as gender, race, age, physical characteristics, language, occupations and socioeconomic status, national groups, and further unspecified categories (Schneider, 2005). An oversimplified incorrect judgment about the traits, actions, and roles that are ideal for a person depending on their gender is known as a **gender stereotype** (Schmitz, David Stein and Schneider, 2025). These generalizations frequently overlook the uniqueness of individuals within a gender group and can be restrictive (Hensi, 2025). An unfair and simplistic assumption that all members of a particular racial or ethnic group have the same features, behaviors, or attributes is known as a **racial stereotype**. These assumptions, whether positive or negative, are always harmful since they discourage creativity and can lead to prejudice and discrimination (Gorter and Cenoz, 2025). A broad and frequently misleading assumption or belief about a person's traits, skills, or actions based only on their chronological age is known as an **age stereotype** (Sauntson, Cunningham, Enns-Kananen and O'Brien, 2025). One of the main elements of ageism -prejudice and discrimination due to age- are age stereotypes (Rymes, 2020). A **physical-attribute stereotype** is an oversimplified, which is regularly incorrect expectation or belief about a person based only on how they seem (Nshom and Croucher, 2024; Munoz and Miralpeix, 2024). An oversimplified which is often incorrect generalization about a specific language, a linguistic variant (such as an accent or dialect), or those who speak it is known as a **language stereotype**. Stereotypes based on **occupation**, income, and social status are simplistic and frequently unfavorable assumptions about the traits, actions, and roles of people (Hall-Lew, Lauren; Moore, Emma and Povdesva, J. Robert, 2021). An unfavorable opinion about a social group that is then incorrectly attributed to each of its individual members is known as a **group identity stereotype** (Volkel and Nassenstein, 2022).

2. 3. Linguistic Components of Stereotypes

The way that particular linguistic components are employed to produce, support, and disseminate prejudiced assumptions about social groups is known as the linguistic component of stereotypes. These component, according to Semin and Fiedler (1988) are as follow:

1. State verb: A language phenomenon known as a "state verb stereotype" occurs when a state verb is used to characterize a trait of an individual or a group, giving the impression that the trait is innate, unalterable, and permanent. This types often denotes feelings or emotions like (love, hate, prefer..etc.), thoughts or opinions (believe, agree..etc.), senses or perceptions (see, smell..etc.), and possessions and relationships (own, belong...etc.).
2. Descriptive Action Verb: A unique, dynamic verb that vividly describes the subject's action is called a descriptive action verb. Compared to a generic or "weak" verb, it is more expressive and gives more details, for instance (stroll, sprinted, creep...etc.).
3. Interpretive action verb: In addition to depicting an activity, an interpretative action verb (IAV) also necessitates further interpretation and analysis to fully grasp its meaning, in contrast to a purely descriptive verb, like (interpret, asses, analyze, demonstrate...etc.).
4. Adjective: Using adjectives to create stereotypes entails giving a person or group fixed and frequently incorrect attributes by using descriptive terms, like (nurturing women, logical man, immature teenagers..etc.).
5. Noun Category: By dividing people into oversimplified groups according to their common roles, places of origin, or perceived traits, noun categories have the power to support and maintain stereotypes. Noun stereotypes work by assigning a label to a person or group and assuming certain traits or actions based on that label.

2. 4. Sociolinguistic Function of Stereotype

According to Ashmore's and Del Boca (1994), and Schendlier (2005) as cited in Lo Baido and Maria Cristina (2024), stereotypes are not random pieces of communication, they are spoken with specific functions). These functions are underlined under social categorization, personal classification, group identity and belonging, justification and self-esteem, positive/negative view, humour, emotional regulation, expressing power and status, marginalization and disagreement (Lo Baido and Maria Cristina, 2024).

3. METHODOLOGY AND ANALYSIS

The researchers adopt a mixed method of approach (qualitative and quantitative) in analysing the selected data. We believe that *Ted Lasso* can provide the best answers to the research questions as well as a comprehensive and deep understanding to the present phenomenon (Green, 2022). The researchers have chosen three random utterances as samples from the three seasons to avoid redundancy and repetition. Since not all characters evoke stereotypical speech, the researchers will rely on the diversity of stereotypical utterances that are spoken by the main character Ted Lasso (Baggett and Baggett, 2024). Below is the analysis of nine extracts (from each season

three extracts are taken to achieve equality which suggests that every group receives an identical number of data points.) the researchers have chosen from the series:

Extract 1, Episode 1: *"I always thought that tea was just gonna taste like hot brown water. And you know what? I was right. It's horrible".* * -Ted Lasso, poking fun at cultural differences.

Ted Lasso refers to tea as "garbage water" and "pigeon sweat" in his well-known comments, expressing his deep distaste for the beverage. He jokes that he returns his tea to the counter since someone has made a "horrible mistake" when asked how he makes it. "Tea and I are still taking a lifelong hiatus," he famously said. Ted Lasso has a very bad opinion of tea; he notoriously calls it "absolute garbage water" and "hot brown water," and he much prefers coffee and iced tea. He occasionally wonders if the tea being provided to him is a joke because of his great dislike, which stands in humorous contrast to the English culture's passionate appreciation of tea. The kind of stereotype undergoes under the **Group Identity** type with negative preferences. In his stereotypical utterance, Ted shows himself belonging to the social groups of coffee lovers rather than tea ones.

State Verb (SV) is the kind of the linguistic component appears in the stereotypical utterance. When conveying a belief or idea, the verb "thought" serves as a state or stative verb. It is a stative verb that characterizes a steady mental state within Ted's mind in which a certain notion is held *"I always thought that tea was just gonna taste like hot brown water"*. Ted uses the word "always" as an adverb of frequency with the state verb 'thought' to show that something happens 100% of the time, continuously, consistently, or without exception with a fixed recurrence.

The sociolinguistic function is **Group Identity and Belonging** since the speaker concentrates upon enhancing the sense of his group identity and belonging (belonging to the side of coffee lovers) rather than the other side groups (tea lovers). The term "coffee lover" is examined from a number of angles in sociolinguistics, such as the cultural and social significance of coffee as a ritual and community symbol, the specialty coffee industry's specialized vocabulary and marketing tactics, and the ways in which coffee preferences can serve as indicators of identity and social class.

Extract 2, Episode 4: *"He's not being rude, he's just being Dutch"* - a lighthearted comment poking fun at cultural stereotypes

The statement offers an unambiguous display of the application of sociolinguistic stereotypes in discourse. Instead of viewing someone's actions as a personal failing, it helps to reclassify them and reinterpret them via a cultural perspective. Usually viewed as negative ("rude"), the statement reframes the action as neutral or at least culturally acceptable ("Dutch"). The way **Group Identity** is created and maintained in real-time communication is demonstrated by this stereotype. It serves a sociolinguistic purpose by reclassifying an individual's behavior and using a 'national identity' stereotype to explain it instead of attributing it to personal traits. Both the speaker's as well as the recipient's social identities are impacted by this reinterpretation of a bad quality (rudeness) as a culturally distinctive one (directness).

The inferred verb of interpretation is the stereotype. Although it is not mentioned directly, the speaker is rephrasing or reassessing the Dutch person's actions for the listener's benefit. "Not being rude" serves the purpose of an **Interpretive Action Verb** that is used for interpretation. "Rude" is a subjective term that can change based on context, culture, or personal perception, and interpretive factors include judgment, perspective, or interpretation. What is nasty to one person may not be to another.

The individual's actions, which could be deemed impolite in other situations, are instantly classified as "Dutch." Based on a person's nationality, the utterance simplifies and explains their behavior through **Social Categorization**. The speaker subtly contrasts the alleged "rudeness" with current social conventions, which may place a higher value on more tactful or indirect communication. By redefining the insult as a neutral cultural difference, the comparison downplays its severity.

Extract 3, Episode 7: *"You tore your butt, son. There's nothing to be ashamed of, okay? It happens. People tear their butts all the time in athletics. You're not alone, man"* - Ted Lasso, addressing injuries with humor.

Coach Ted Lasso mentions that to a player named O'Brien in the episode. O'Brien is furious because he tore a muscle and thinks it's a "butt tear". By highlighting that such accidents occur in sports and that there is no cause for shame or embarrassment, Lasso's approach aims to reassure the player. **Physical Characteristics** is the kind of stereotype here, since the speaker promotes the physical strength of the player despite of being failing in this situation. By encouraging a change from damaging self-criticism to intrinsic worthiness, the stereotypical statement "there is nothing to be ashamed of" has substantial societal benefit and mitigates the detrimental effects of shame and humiliation. Its ability to remove toxic guilt, lessen social control, cultivate self-compassion, and create genuine connections by redefining individual experiences as components of the human experience rather than causes of loneliness accounts for its social significance.

Descriptive Action Verb (DAV) is the linguistic component used in this utterance. Because they offer a more intricate and captivating form of a basic action term, descriptive verbs are sometimes referred to as strong verbs like the verb 'to be' used in this stereotypical utterance. Descriptive verb *"....to be ashamed of"* provides a more thorough description of the activity by being more precise. Since sociolinguistics is a descriptive not a prescriptive field of study, "descriptive verbs" in this sense refer to the actual verbs as speakers employ in a particular social situation, as opposed to the "correct" or "standard" forms.

Justification and self-esteem is the sociolinguistic function of this utterance. The notion stated by Ted Lasso "there is nothing to be ashamed of" is a declaration of justification and self-acceptance, which is an essential

component in developing self-esteem that transcends accomplishments or approval from others to a fundamental conviction in one's own value. A strong sense of intrinsic value that endures regardless of achievements or setbacks is the source of high self-esteem, whereas shame results from a lack of self-worth. This viewpoint is supported by the notion that our value is derived from who we are as individuals and is not dependent on what we do, which relieves us of the pressure to continuously prove ourselves.

Extract 4, Episode 7: *"Well, I Can't Be Your Mentor Without Occasionally Being Your Tormentor"* - Dr. Sharon Fieldstone, showcasing her tough yet caring approach to mentorship

The statement is predicated on manipulating the socially built mentorship archetype. By evoking and then undermining the conventional idea of a mentor, the speaker's remark accomplishes a complex sociolinguistic function that redefines the power dynamics in the relationship. The conventional mentor stereotype is overwhelmingly favorable. Generally speaking, a mentor is viewed as a kind, understanding, and patient advisor who imparts knowledge, offers insight, and provides unwavering support. This socially created ideal of a mentor is reflected in positive-face politeness techniques that emphasize the development and welfare of the mentee. For creating and displaying a certain **Group Identity**, it is an effective sociolinguistic strategy. The speaker creates a strong and complex character by purposefully challenging the traditional notion of a mentor, redefining possibly unpleasant actions as constructive and establishing authority.

The utterance *"Well, I Can't Be Your Mentor Without Occasionally Being Your Tormentor"* uses "be" as its primary **State Verb**. This sentence combines the modal verb "can't" with the verb variant of the verb "to be." It conveys a sense of impossibility or incapacity. Being a mentor or tormentor is the state in dispute.

By evoking and then deftly combining two different social roles -the kind mentor and the evil tormentor- the utterance uses **Social Categorization** sociolinguistic function of the stereotype. The speaker redefines the mentor position to include a more difficult, corrective component by using language to manipulate how the mentee categorizes them.

Extract 5, Episode 8: *"I think that you might be so sure that you're one in a million that sometimes you forget that out there, you're just one of 11"* - Ted Lasso stresses teamwork.

When someone finds themselves feeling too self-important, Ted utilizes this clichéd expression to promote humility and a more expansive viewpoint. The quotation emphasizes the idea of self-perception versus reality, implying that although people may feel special and unique, they are only one person among many in a broader environment. It implies that occasionally one needs to acknowledge they are a member of a bigger group and that an exaggerated sense of uniqueness might cause a detachment from the greater community. The kind of stereotypes appears in this utterance is **Group Identity** since Ted Lasso emphasizes the identity of the team (the smaller community group in the show) is not individual but rather being collective.

State Verb (SV) is the kind of the linguistic component appears in the stereotypical utterance. When conveying a belief or idea, the verb "think" serves as a state or stative verb. It is a stative verb that characterizes a steady mental state within Ted's mind in which a certain notion is held "... you're one in a million that sometimes you forget that out there, you're just one of 11". Instead of describing a continuous action, it describes a somewhat persistent mental state. Verbs that express a state or situation as opposed to an action are known as stative or non-action verbs. Because a state doesn't actually have a start or finish. Instead of using stative verbs to express ideas, feelings, senses, or possession, Ted employs the state verb "think" to convey a state or condition that persists for an extended period of time.

The sociolinguistic function is **Group Identity and Belonging** since the speaker concentrates upon enhancing the sense of his group identity and belonging (the identity of his soccer team) rather than individuality. From a sociolinguistic perspective Group identities as well as belonging are examined through the ways that language use, such as accents, dialects, and specialized vocabulary, creates a sense of community and acts as a marker of social group affiliation "... you're one in a million that sometimes you forget that out there, you're just one of 11". Ethnicity, age, gender, and socioeconomic status are all reflected and shaped by language, which allows people to communicate their affiliation with or goals for particular groups.

Extract 6, Episode 8: *"The Eiffel Tower is just a lamppost with a publicist"* -Rebecca's humorous take on the iconic landmark, highlighting Ted's insecure suspicions about Dr. Jacob possibly proposing to Michelle in Paris

The phrase challenges the widely held belief that the Eiffel Tower represents the pinnacle of upscale romance, creativity, and French culture. The tower is regarded as a singular and exquisite architectural achievement that epitomizes travel and love and captures the "Frenchness" of Paris. Pop culture and tourism frequently heavily promote this stereotype. It is an iconic instance of 'ironic metaphor', which reframes a venerated icon in commonplace, sarcastic terms in order to demolish a societal stereotype. By drawing the distinction across those who adopt cultural myths and those who see them with cynicism, the utterance defines and reflects **Group Identity**. We may examine how this sentence creates an out-group, cultivates an in-group, and affects self-esteem by means of social comparison by applying social identity theory.

Through downgrading and juxtaposition, the saying "Lamppost with a publicist" employs **Noun Categories** to produce a potent rhetorical effect. Key nouns include "publicist," "lamppost," and the inferred proper noun "The Eiffel Tower." "Lamppost," a common term that denotes a broad, everyday thing, is used in this sentence. The fundamental element of the metaphorical downgrade is the change from the magnificent proper noun (the tower) to the commonplace common noun (the lamppost).

The speaker and listener can place themselves in a particular social group in relation to others thanks to the utterance's potent sociolinguistic function of **Personal Classification**. Unlike individuals who have more traditional, idealized ideas, this act of 'personal classification' employs words to create a social identity based on perceived sophistication and cultural cynicism.

Extract 7, Episode 12: *"All human beings are opposed to the laugh police".* * - Ted Lasso, highlighting the importance of personal freedom and humor

Stereotypes include making unwarranted generalizations about a set of people. Rather, a linguistic analysis demonstrates how the phrase subverts preexisting negative stereotypes, establishes an in-group identity, and fosters a common understanding through the employment of particular literary and rhetorical elements. By establishing an in-group "all human beings" versus an out-group "the laugh police" that share a common value rather than a trait like race, gender, or nationality, the statement "All human beings are in opposition to the laugh police" directly tackles the idea of **Group Identity**. Ted Lasso utilized the quote as a rhetorical device to help individuals develop a good, common sense of who they are.

A compound noun which underlies under **Noun Categories**, "laugh police" is the linguistic component of the present utterance. In particular, it is a figurative term that characterizes a particular kind of individual or conduct. A compound noun is one that consists of two or more words, as "laugh" and "police" in this instance.

The sociolinguistic function of **Social Categorization** can be used to analyze it by looking at how this process influences people's sense of self-worth, produces in-groups and out-groups, and simplifies social reality. The phrase "laugh police" refers to people or organizations that try to control humor, frequently by censoring or denouncing jokes they find unpleasant or inappropriate. They serve as a "out-group" in social psychology, the "them" which the "us" (the remaining humans) rejects.

Extract 8, Episode 12: *"Change isn't about trying to be perfect. Perfection sucks. Perfect is boring"** - Coach Beard, emphasizing individuality over conformity

The use of semantic reversal, a language strategy, challenges the "perfection" stereotype in the statement. The speaker uses negative language to undermine perfection rather than to reinforce the traditional, positive connections with it. This results in a potent rhetorical statement that reinterprets a widely recognized idea. Because it criticizes the concept of perfection itself using strong, judgmental language, this kind of linguistic breakdown of a stereotype works especially well. The statement questions and reinterprets a **Group Identity** based on the quest for perfect success. This assertion promotes a different, dynamic identity founded on self-acceptance and self-improvement, as opposed to extrinsic societal expectations to be flawless (socially imposed perfectionism). According to Group Identity theory, people feel pressured to fit in with the norms of their preferred in-group and get some of their sense of self from belonging to these groups.

The expression "Perfection sucks" has an **Interpretive Action Verb**. Judgment, viewpoint, or opinion are all part of interpretive statements. "Perfection sucks" conveys a personal opinion regarding the ideal of perfection. The remark "Perfection sucks" is interpretative rather than descriptive since it expresses a personal viewpoint on perfection.

Personal Classification, which is the process by which a person groups themselves and other people according to characteristics and experiences, can be used to examine the speech and it is the sociolinguistic function of the uttered utterance. This assertion presents a different, more dynamic identity in opposition to the widely held "perfect" self-categorization.

Extract 9, Episode 12: *"A Good Mentor Hopes You Move On. A Great Mentor Knows You Will"* Leslie Higgins, highlighting the value of mentorship and growth.

Its straightforward parallel structure and the nuanced yet important differentiation between two cognitive processes make it a potent message. Since Ted Lasso made the remark famous, its meaning is ingrained in the show's larger ideals of kindness, emotional intelligence, and personal development. This background affects how audiences interpret and use the quote, frequently in conversations about career advancement and leadership. Its skillful use of language to negotiate power dynamics, social relationships, and professional culture accounts for its efficacy. A sociolinguistic interpretation takes into account how this sentence serves as a tool for controlling social roles and expectations in addition to being a statement of wisdom. The kind of stereotype is **Physical Characteristics** through the use of two positive characteristics "GOOD" and "GREAT".

The linguistic component is **Adjective (ADJ)**. The terms "good" and "great" are used by Ted Lasso to create a semantic hierarchy that delineates several mentorship levels. A linguistic analysis demonstrates how these adjectives, when combined with the verbs they are linked with, produce a significant difference in a straightforward parallel structure. Both "good" as well as "great" are abstract, evaluative adjectives that add personal significance to the noun "mentor." They serve to convey a qualitative assessment of the mentor's efficacy and character in addition to describing a physical characteristic.

The sociolinguistic function of the stereotypical utterance is **Social Categorization**. The utterance defines many mentor categories and directs social interactions using the social categorization theory. The mental process of classifying people into in-groups—groups to which you belong—and out-groups—groups to which you do not belong—is known as social categorization. This process affects how one views and understands the mentor-mentee relationship, as well as one's conduct, perceptions, and self-concept.

4. RESULTS

Here are the results of the current qualitative analysis which is oriented to achieve the study's three objectives. For the first objective (Finding the dominant stereotypical type in *Ted Lasso* series), the results are presented in Table (1.1):

Stereotypical Types	Frequency	Percentages
Group Identity	7	77.77%
Physical Characteristics	2	22.22%
Others	0	0%
Socio-economics and Occupations	0	0%
Gender	0	0%
Age	0	0%
Race	0	0%
Language	0	0%

Table (1.1): frequencies and percentages of stereotypical types

Table (1.1.) shows the types of stereotypes that appear within *Ted Lasso* stereotypical utterances and these types are arranged from the highest ones to the lowest. The type of **Group/Social Identity** is the highest one which is frequented seven times with the percentage of **77.77%**. The second highest type is **Physical Characteristics** which is repeated two times with **22.22%** percentage. Others, Socio-economics and Occupations, Gender, Age, Race and Language types do not appear at all (with **0%**).

For the second objective (Stating the linguistic component of the stereotypical utterance abstracted from *Ted Lasso*), the results are in Table (1.2):

Linguistic Components	Frequency	Percentages
State Verb	3	33.33%
Interpretive Action Verb	2	22.22%
Noun Categories	2	22.22%
Adjectives	1	11.11%
Descriptive Action Verb	1	11.11%

Table (1.2): frequencies and percentages of the linguistic categories

Data on linguistic categories, their percentages, as well as their frequency of occurrence are shown in Table (1.2). **State Verb** is the highest frequency and percentage of the linguistic categories which appeared three times with **33.33%** as a percentage. Second comes **Interpretive Action Verb** and **Noun Categories** which is frequented two times with a percentage of **22.22%**. Both **Adjective** and **Descriptive Action Verb** is frequented one time **11.11%**.

For the third objective (Explaining the social function behind communicating stereotypes in *Ted Lasso* series), the functions and their frequencies are shown in Table (1.3):

Social Function	Frequency	percentage
Social Categorization	4	44.44%
Personal Classification	2	22.22%
Group Identity and Belonging	2	22.22%
Justification and Self-esteem	1	11.11%
Positive/negative View	0	0%
Humour	0	0%
Emotional Regulation	0	0%
Expressing Power or Status	0	0%
Marginalization	0	0%
Disagreement	0	0%

Table (1.3): frequencies and percentages of the social functions

Table (1.3) shows the social functions within *Ted Lasso* stereotypical utterances. **Social Categorization** is the highest function which is frequented four times with **44.44%** as characters do more than only categorize; they also socially compare themselves to out-groups and identify with their in-groups. This is a driven method for increasing self-esteem by having a more positive opinion of one's own group. **Personal Classification** and **Group Identity and Belonging** appear two times with **22.22%**. **Justification and Self-esteem** does show up one time (with **11.11%**). **Positive/negative View**, **Humour**, **Emotional Regulation**, **Expressing Power or Status**, **Marginalization** and **Disagreement** do not show up at all (with **0%**).

5. CONCLUSIONS

The study ends up with the following conclusions:

1. Ted Lasso, the character, focuses upon stereotypes of group identity to promote positive social solidarity and relationships. He wants to show that being in a comprehensive community is better than being inclusively individual and this image was reflected clearly in his small group community (soccer game).
2. Stereotypes, though being mostly positive, are expressed greatly by state verbs to express a fixed state of being for the community values themselves. It also highlights individual's personal growth rather than the victory of the soccer game at the end. State verbs help create the impression of the stereotype is a fundamental fact about the group by presenting a trait as a long-lasting "state of being" as opposed to a transient activity.
3. Stereotypes appear to show positivity, concentrating upon building a community in a proper way rather than achieving something materialistic that would result in short-term achievements.
4. Ted Lasso's redefines social categorization as a tool for connection and communal identity rather than a weapon for division. At the conclusion of the story, each character resolves their trip by accepting a more nuanced and genuine version of themselves rather than by fitting into their original social category. In the end, this dismantling of rigid social identities produces a new, more inclusive social function: a selected "family" united by empathy as opposed to stereotype.

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