

# The mandative subjunctive in postcolonial Englishes

*A corpus-based study of the mandative subjunctive  
and its alternative realizations in four  
Asian postcolonial Englishes*

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## Abstract

This thesis presents an investigation of the mandative subjunctive (MS) and its alternative realizations in four Asian Postcolonial Englishes: Philippine English (PHI), Singapore English (SING), Indian English (IND), and Hong Kong English (HK). The majority of the previous studies on the MS in postcolonial Englishes have mainly focused on the investigation of the MS and *should*-periphrasis using the *International Corpus of English* (ICE). The aim of this study is to conduct a quantitative analysis of the use of the MS, *should*-periphrasis, the indicative, other modals, and non-distinct forms, using *The Corpus of Global Web-Based English* (GloWbE) to perform the analysis. This study adopts a corpus-based trigger approach based on the same set of mandative triggers as Hundt (2018): *demand, recommend, order, require, and request*. Hence, the objective of this study is to provide more evidence for 1) how frequently the MS and alternative realizations are used in Asian postcolonial Englishes, 2) what role the mandative triggers play in the distribution of the mandative clauses, and 3) to what extent the Asian English varieties differ from or align with their matrilects, British English (BrE) and American English (AmE). The results are discussed in relation to Schneider's Dynamic Model.

The preliminary analysis shows that PHI and SING produce the MS more frequently than IND and HK. Moreover, the study has been able to provide new evidence which suggests an increase of the MS in HK and IND. The study also shows that IND deviates from the other varieties in its high preference for the alternative realizations. The secondary analysis shows that lexical triggers are the strongest predictors for the realization of the syntactic variants, but the results from GloWbE-IND establish that the predictor variable *variety* must not be disregarded. The tertiary analysis reveals that HK and PHI align the most with their matrilect, while SING affiliates more with AmE than BrE. IND demonstrates higher frequency of the *should*-periphrasis than BrE, providing new evidence to IND's linguistic conservatism. Lastly, this study confirms SING's advanced level of endonormative stabilization and PHI's strong nativization features. The analysis has also strengthened the argumentation for HK belonging in an intermediate position between phase two and three, while the results from GloWbE-IND indicate a potential development towards endonormative stabilization.

**Keywords:** The mandative subjunctive, World Englishes, postcolonial Englishes, Asian Englishes, Outer Circle varieties, Schneider's Dynamic Model, Corpus Linguistics, Corpus-based approaches to grammar

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## List of abbreviations

- HK – Hong Kong English
- IND – Indian English
- PHI – Philippine English
- SING – Singapore English
- AmE – American English
- BrE – British English
- MS – Mandative subjunctive
- IDG – Indigenous strand
- STL – Settler strand

## Corpora mentioned

- ICE – International Corpus of English
- GloWbE – Corpus of Global Web-Based English
- F-LOB – The Freiburg LOB Corpus of British English

# 1 Introduction

This thesis introduces a corpus-based approach to the study of a marginal and controversial grammatical category in English grammar: the mandative subjunctive (MS). Earlier research on the MS has mainly been dedicated to its use in American English (AmE) and British English (BrE), but the compilation and availability of digital corpora of national varieties of English have provided the field of World Englishes with the opportunity to explore its realization in several postcolonial varieties. This grammatical category has been of particular interest for the framework of World Englishes because it is known for being a formally recognizable phenomenon (Schneider 2000: 124) which has been shown to vary between Englishes. Scholars of World Englishes have proposed that the “[c]olonial varieties tend to reduce grammatical complexity if it is not functionally required” (Schneider 2000: 130). Thus, due to the complex nature of the MS and the postcolonial varieties’ processes of simplification of the English language, the MS is expected not to occur frequently in postcolonial Englishes. However, contemporary research on the MS (Schneider 2000, 2011; Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Hundt 2018; Deshors & Gries 2020; Lemmetty 2020) indicate differently, revealing that the marginal grammatical category is very much alive in World Englishes. The current study intends to expand on previous research on the MS in postcolonial English varieties, adopting Schneider’s Dynamic Model of Postcolonial Englishes as a point of departure to evaluate the use of the MS in four Asian postcolonial varieties: Philippine English, Singapore English, Indian English, and Hong Kong English.

## 1.1 Aim and scope

Before the ground-breaking studies on the MS in American English (AmE) and British English (BrE), by scholars such as Turner (1980), Algeo (1992), Övergaard (1995), the MS was considered a dying feature of the English language (Bevier 1931, Foster 1968). The studies revealed that the MS is mainly found in AmE, while BrE is inclined to use the periphrastic-*should* (Turner 1980; Algeo 1992; Övergaard 1995). However, Övergaard’s (1995) corpus-driven study showed that BrE is undergoing a revival of the MS which indicates that the grammatical category might be gaining foothold in other English varieties too. Based on these findings, scholars of World Englishes have found it relevant to investigate whether American and British postcolonial varieties reveal similar linguistic norms as their respective matrillects or whether they have developed their own idiosyncratic features. With the availability of corpora allowing for the investigation of postcolonial varieties, scholars

have been able to chart the use of the MS and *should*-periphrasis in both Inner and Outer Circle varieties. The majority of the previous corpus-based studies on postcolonial Englishes have used the *International Corpus of English* (ICE) as a point of departure to investigate the MS in World Englishes. However, ICE has the limitation of being a relatively small-scale corpus, and a larger up-to-date corpus has been developed in recent years: *The Corpus of Global-Web Based English* (GloWbE). Only two studies (Hundt 2018; Deshors & Gries 2020) have used GloWbE to investigate the use of the MS in Outer Circle varieties. Hence, the present study aims at providing new evidence for the MS and its alternative realizations in GloWbE-IND (Indian English), GloWbE-SING (Singapore English), GloWbE-PHI (Philippine English), and GloWbE-HK (Hong Kong), which have not been investigated in former research. Lemmetty (2020), using ICE, studied the use of the MS and its syntactic variants in the same varieties chosen for the present study. Hence, this study intends to test some of the hypotheses and claims presented in her study, and provide more evidence on the use of the MS in the four Asian postcolonial varieties.

As previous studies have mainly focused on analysing the use of the MS and its alternative realizations using ICE, the current study's first aim is to provide more recent data to conduct a quantitative analysis of the chosen varieties' use of the MS, with a focus on frequency comparisons. Moreover, previous studies on AmE and BrE have primarily focused on the realization of the MS against the periphrastic *should*. As a consequence, research on the MS in World Englishes has also largely been restricted to these two syntactic variants. However, in Lemmetty's (2020) study of ICE-PHI, ICE-SING, ICE-IND, and ICE-HK, she used a wider range of syntactic variants, adding the indicative, other modals, and non-distinct forms. The current study will investigate the same syntactic variants as Lemmetty (2020) with the aim of providing newer data. Moreover, previous research on the MS in GloWbE has mainly been limited to the MS and *should*-periphrasis, thus, I hope to add new evidence for the postcolonial varieties' use of other alternative realizations. Due to the size of GloWbE, I will limit the investigation of the syntactic variants to six mandative triggers, adopting the same methodology and choice of mandative triggers as Hundt (2018). Based on findings from previous research (Schneider 2000, 2011; Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Hundt 2018; Deshors & Gries 2020; Lemmetty 2020), the hypothesis for the frequency comparisons is that the Asian Englishes which share the same matrilect will reveal a similar distribution pattern of the syntactic variants, with the exception of SING which has previously shown similar distribution patterns as PHI (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020).

A further aim of this study is thus to investigate to what extent the four Asian Englishes differ from or align with their matrilects. The investigation will be based on Hundt's (2018) data of the MS and *should*-periphrasis from GloWbE-US and GloWbE-GB. Previous research has hypothesized that each variety will reveal similar distribution pattern as their former colonizer. However, SING has been the only variety attesting diverging patterns from its matrilect. This hypothesis will be tested in the current study. The quantitative analysis will be used to establish the developmental phase each variety has reached according to Schneider's Dynamic Model, and to test whether the findings align with the conclusion drawn in previous research (Schneider 2000, 2011; Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020).

Lastly, previous studies on the MS and its alternative realizations have not only investigated the overall frequency level of each syntactic variant, but also examined the distribution pattern for each mandative trigger. Peters (2009), Hundt (2018), Deshors & Gries (2020), and Lemmetty (2020) studied the behaviour of the mandative triggers and to what extent they are significant in the realization of the different syntactic variants. Their findings revealed that the mandative trigger is the most important predictor variable of the MS followed by variety. Thus, I intend to test the claim whether the MS and its alternative realizations are lexically conditioned.

### **1.1.1 Research questions**

Based on previous studies and the objective of this thesis, the following research questions will be directing the investigation:

**RQ1:** How frequently does the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations occur in the four Asian postcolonial varieties?

**RQ2:** What role do the mandative triggers play in the distribution of the mandative clauses in the four Asian postcolonial varieties?

**RQ3:** How does the distribution of the mandative subjunctive and *should* in the four Asian postcolonial varieties differ from or align with British English and American English?

The results of the research will be discussed in relation to Schneider's Dynamic Model in order to determine whether the varieties demonstrate any signs of progressing along the developmental phases of the model.

## **1.2 Thesis outline**

This study encompasses a total of eight chapters. Chapter 1 presents the aim and scope of the paper, and outlines the research questions directing the study. Chapter 2 provides the theoretical frameworks for the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations, followed by a presentation of Schneider's Dynamic Model and a classification of each Asian variety within the model. Chapter 3 presents previous studies on the mandative subjunctive in the four Asian English varieties. Chapter 4 gives a presentation of the material chosen for the study in light of representativeness, balance, and sampling. Chapter 5 gives an outline of corpus-based approaches to grammar and the mandative subjunctive, followed by the chosen method for my study and the framework of classification. Chapter 6 presents the results and analysis from the quantitative study. Chapter 7 provides a discussion of the findings in relation to previous research. Lastly, chapter 8 concludes the study and gives an overview of the main findings. In addition, a brief discussion of the study's limitations and suggestion for further study is included.

## 2 Theoretical frameworks

This chapter comprises two sections. Section 2.1 introduces the theoretical frameworks for the use of the subjunctive mood with an emphasis on the mandative subjunctive (MS) and its use in present-day English, followed by an outline of the different alternative realizations of the MS. Section 2.2 gives an outline of the English language situation in Outer Circle English Varieties focusing on the Asian English varieties investigated in this thesis:

Philippine English, Indian English, Hong Kong English, and Singapore English. The account of the English language situation in the different varieties will be viewed in relation to Kachru's Three Concentric Circles Model and Schneider's Dynamic Model, with an emphasis on the latter.

### 2.1 The subjunctive mood

A precise definition of the subjunctive mood has not been clearly established in the literature. Thus, a number of grammars need to be consulted in order to provide a broad enough classification. Quirk et al. (1985) define the subjunctive as a mood. However, the term is vaguely accounted for, and the most comprehensive definition of mood is delivered by Huddleston and Pullum (2002) and Leech et al. (2009):

Mood is a grammatical category associated with the semantic dimension of modality. Mood is to modality as tense is to time: tense and mood are categories of grammatical form, while time and modality are the associated categories of meaning (Huddleston & Pullum 2002: 53).

The term 'mood' refers to the way in which the grammar of a language encodes modality, a concept which is concerned with such semantic notions as 'possibility', 'probability', 'necessity', 'obligation', 'permission', 'intention', and 'ability'. These are called modal meanings (Leech et al. 2009: 275).

Hasselgård et al. (2012) further provide a classification of three different types of moods: the indicative, imperative, and subjunctive forms of the verb. The subjunctive mood, correspondingly to the modal auxiliaries, expresses non-facts (Hasselgård et al. 2012: 183). Moreover, Quirk et al. (1985: 155-158) account for two forms of the subjunctive mood: the present and past subjunctive. Within these two forms, they distinguish between three main categories: the mandative subjunctive, the formulaic subjunctive, and the *were*-subjunctive. This thesis only investigates the use of the MS, and an entire subsection will be dedicated to its definition and use (see section 2.1.2). Thus, a brief introduction of the two other main

categories will be given in this section in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the subjunctive mood.

The formulaic subjunctive, in contrast to the MS, appears in independent clauses, but similarly to the MS, it is morphologically realized as the base form of the verb. This category of subjunctives is employed in specific sets of expressions and is considered a rather formal and archaic category (Quirk et al. 1985: 157):

- (2.1) **Come** what may, we will go ahead with our plan.
- (2.2) God **save** the queen!
- (2.3) Heaven **forbid** that I should let my own parents suffer.
- (2.4) **Be** that as it may, we have nothing to lose.

The *were*-subjunctive, also termed the past subjunctive, is mainly used in adverbial clauses (2.5) after the following conjunctions: *if, as if, though, as though*. It also occurs in nominal clauses preceding the verbs *wish* and *suppose* (2.6). This category of subjunctives is primarily used with *were*, and is morphologically identifiable in the first and third person singular past tense (Quirk et al. 1985: 158):

- (2.5) If I **were** rich, I would buy you anything you wanted.
- (2.6) I **wish/suppose** the journey were over.

In section 2.1.2, a detailed classification and definition of the MS will be given. Prior to that, it is essential to discuss the development of the subjunctive mood and its decline and revival in the English language, which will be outlined in the following subsection.

### **2.1.1 The revival of the mandative subjunctive**

A number of scholars have considered the subjunctive mood as a grammatical category that will become a “disappearing feature of the English language” (Bevier 1931: 207). Others have gone as far as to claim that the decline of the subjunctive will result in a total absence of the mood in modern English (Harsh 1968: 98). This view has further been supported by Foster (1968) who stated that “the subjunctive mood of the verb is a rather feeble and restricted device in modern English” (1968: 220). However, research has rather indicated a different direction for the use of the subjunctive mood in present-day English. A brief outline of the main findings for the revival of the MS will be presented below.

Quirk et al. remark that even though the subjunctive in present-day English is an optional construction and very often considered a dying feature of English language, it is not as insignificant as some research has proposed (1985: 155). This statement is based on findings made by scholars such as Turner (1980), Övergaard (1995), Leech et al. (2009) and others who suggest a different fate for the rather disputed construction. This mainly concerns the resurgence of one of the main types of subjunctives: the mandative subjunctive (MS). Turner (1980) discovered that after mandative expressions, British English does not always favour modal auxiliaries over the subjunctive, but rather shows clear signs of frequently employing this optional construction. Therefore, Turner concludes “it is a mistaken exaggeration to conclude that it is on the verge of dying out completely” (1980: 271).

In the case of American English, Övergaard (1995) discovered that the use of the MS is alive and well-established in American English. Both Övergaard (1995: 37) and Algeo (1992: 600) go as far as to state that the grammatical category can be considered an idiosyncratic feature of the North American English variety, and that other English varieties show tendencies of being under American influence in their use of the construction. British English, which has previously demonstrated a preference for the periphrastic *should* or the indicative (Denison 1998: 160), has experienced a revival of the MS, according to Leech et al. (2009: 53). Their findings revealed that the periphrastic *should* has been replaced by the MS to a larger extent in American English than in British English, but that the MS is very much alive in British English. In addition, their study confirmed Denison’s (1998) claim that the indicative is often employed in British English in mandative expressions, which Leech et al. further categorize as “a syntactic Britishism in mandative contexts” (2009: 70). In the discussion of differences between American English and British English linguistic features, the MS has been one of the main features up for debate. Previous research on World Englishes has also included other English varieties and their use of the MS, and investigated whether the so-called “New Englishes” and postcolonial varieties (Schneider 1999, 2003) follow British or American linguistic norms, or if they rather demonstrate a divergent usage of the construction. A comprehensive review of postcolonial Englishes and their use of the MS will be presented in chapter 3

### **2.1.2 The mandative subjunctive**

The mandative subjunctive is the most frequently employed type of subjunctive, and appears in subordinate *that*-clauses. It has only one form, the base form of the verb, and is realized

like the imperative. This signifies that a standard indicative concord between the subject and a finite verb in the third person singular present is lacking. In addition, the present and past tense are identical, and therefore not possible to distinguish (Quirk & Greenbaum 1973: 51; Quirk et al. 1985: 156; Huddleston & Pullum 2005: 176-177). Due to the lack of concord between the subject and the verb in the third person singular, the mandative subjunctive is also termed the non-inflected subjunctive (Övergaard 1995: 11). In this thesis, the term *the mandative subjunctive* will be used.

According to Quirk et al. (1985: 156–157) and Leech et al. (2009: 52), the syntactic realizations of the MS are distinguishable in four contexts: in third person singular (2.7), in the absence of backshifting of tense (2.8), with the verb *be* in the finite form (2.9), and in negated clauses (2.10).

- (2.7) He mentions seeing Yi Soo in the hallway and **requests that** Yoon **listen** to her if she comes back (GloWbE-SING)
- (2.8) They were unable to marry because the parish priest **demanded that** he **retract** his views on the Church (GloWbE-PHIL)
- (2.9) Tsakhia **demanded that** the dinosaur **be** returned to his country (GloWbE-IND)
- (2.10) ... the Emperor has rejected French **demands that** he **not fortify** any place on the right bank of the Rhine (GloWbE-HK)

In (2.7), there is a lack of concord between the subject Yoon and the verb *listen*, which is identifiable through the absence of the inflectional *-s* in third person singular. In (2.8), the main verb in the matrix clause, *demand*, has an inflectional *-ed*, marking past tense, while the verb in the subordinate clause, *retract*, has no past tense marking and the verb is, therefore, not in tense agreement with the verb in the main clause. This feature is distinguishable in all persons, in contrast to the first example. In (2.9), the MS is observable in all persons with the irregular verb *be*, which is distinct from the indicative forms *am*, *is*, and *are* (Greenbaum & Quirk 1990: 43–44). In other words, with verbs other than *be* and with subjects other than third person singulars, the MS maintains the same base form. Lastly, in (2.10), there is an absence of DO-support, which places the negation in preposition of the lexical verb. This MS feature can be marked as distinct from the indicative with both singular and plural subjects (Quirk et al. 1985: 157; Greenbaum & Quirk 1990: 43–44; Huddleston & Pullum 2005: 176–177).

### 2.1.3 Alternative realizations of the mandative subjunctive

The mandative subjunctive occurs in finite dependent clauses that feature a suasive verb, noun, or adjective, which can be followed by a *that*-clause with MS. Suasive word groups “imply intentions to bring about some change in the future” (Quirk et al. 1985: 1180). These suasive word categories are also termed triggers and express volition, request, demand, recommendation, intention, proposal, futurity, and resolution.

However, suasive word groups do not only trigger the MS after a subordinate *that*-clause, but they also trigger other syntactic realizations: the periphrastic *should*, other modal verbs, and the indicative (Quirk et al. 1985; Övergaard 1995: 11; Algeo 1992: 600). This section will mainly be dedicated to providing a comprehensive definition of the main alternative realizations of the MS: the periphrastic *should*, other modals, and the indicative. A presentation of non-distinct forms will also be introduced, as it is significant in the classification of the corpus data in chapter 5. The following examples (2.11) – (2.15), provided by Quirk et al. (1985: 1182), will be used for the classification of the different syntactic realizations after the mandative triggers:

(2.11) People are demanding that she **leave**.

(2.12) People are demanding that **she should** leave.

(2.13) People are demanding that she **must** leave.

(2.14) People are demanding that she **leaves**.

(2.15) People are demanding that they **leave**.

Example (2.11) displays the use of the MS expressed by the absence of the third person inflectional *-s*, and a general indicative concord is missing as explained in section 2.1.2. In (2.12) and (2.13), one can observe the instances of what Övergaard (1995: 54) classifies as periphrastic alternants, or more specifically, a *should*-periphrasis (2.12) and other modal alternants (2.13). Quirk et al. (1985: 1182) have also coined the *should*-periphrasis as the ‘putative *should*’, but this thesis will mainly employ Övergaard’s terminologies. Övergaard explains that a number of modals can function as periphrastic alternants of the non-inflected subjunctive, such as *shall*, *should*, *may*, *might*, *must*, *will*, and *would*, but a distinction needs to be made between *should* and the other periphrastic alternants, because the former replaces the MS more frequently than any other modal (1995: 54–55). Thus, it is meaningful to investigate the frequency of *should* isolated from the other alternants. Moreover, semantically, the MS can replace all modal variants, but not the other way around, because the modals are

more specified in terms of meaning and usage and provide a varying degree meaning in contrast to the MS which does not provide this modifying feature (Övergaard 1995: 55).

In (2.14), there is a *that*-clause followed by an indicative verb. Subject-verb agreement is displayed with the presence of the inflectional *-s*. Studies of the mandative constructions have mainly researched two realizations: the mandative subjunctive and the *should*-periphrasis. However, previous studies (Poutsma 1926; Turner 1980; Quirk et al 1985; Övergaard 1995; Leech et al. 2009) have also discovered the use of the indicative as an alternative realization, especially in British English. Semantically, when the indicative replaces the other alternative realizations, “the writer minimizes the volitional element, and the noun clause is turned into an ordinary instruction, [...] or a comment or a current fact” (Övergaard 1995: 63).

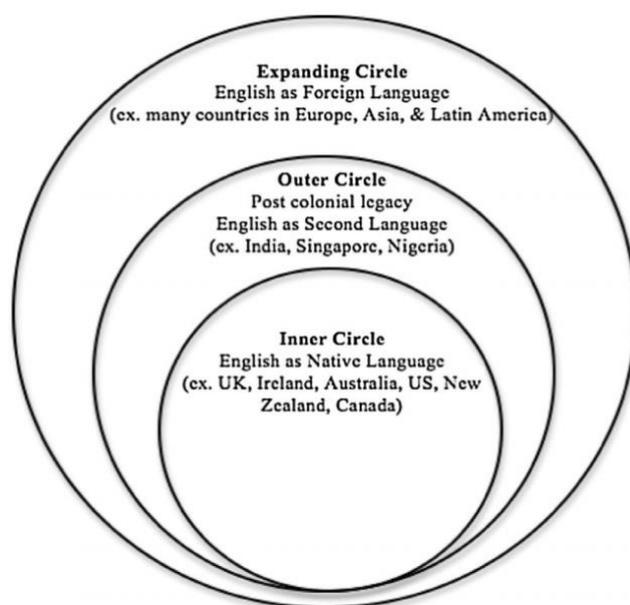
The last example (2.15) can also be classified as an indicative due to the subject-verb agreement. However, according to Övergaard (1995: 68-69) and Quirk et al. (1985: 157), this category is classified as an ambiguous or a non-distinct form. The MS can only be marked as distinct from the indicative with a third person singular subject. In cases where we encounter a plural subject, the base form can be interpreted as an indicative or a mandative subjunctive as in (2.15). Thus, Quirk et al. remark that in these ambiguous cases there is a neutralization of the indicative and the subjunctive mood (1985: 157). For that reason, this thesis will treat these neutralized forms as neither indicatives nor mandative subjunctives, but rather place them in their own respective category: non-distinct forms.

## **2.2 Kachru’s three concentric circles of World Englishes**

The current status of the English language in the world is predominantly determined by two main factors. The first one concerns the previous British world hegemony and the political, cultural, and linguistic heritage from British colonialism in the nineteenth century. The second factor involves the rise of a new world power in the twentieth century, the United States. The US started to position itself in linguistic competition with Great Britain and continued to have major influence in the status of English as a global language (Crystal 2003: 59-60). Due to this complex language situation, a call for a systematization of the English language position in the world arose.

In the early 1980s, Braj B. Kachru coined the term “World Englishes” with the introduction of the Three Concentric Circles Model “representing the types of spread, the patterns of acquisition and the functional domains in which English is used across cultures

and languages” (Kachru 1985: 12). Kachru’s model is the most adopted and recognized framework in the field of World Englishes. His tripartite model of Englishes is divided into the Inner Circle, the Outer Circle, and the Expanding Circle (Schneider 2007: 13, Martin & Siry 2011: 598) (see Figure 1). The Inner Circle refers to the territories where English is the principal language in use and where the initial spread of the language occurred, i.e. the USA, UK, Ireland, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. The Outer Circle comprises the early phases of the spread of English in non-native territories and the institutionalization of the English language in these contexts. Due to colonization, English has become a second language in these bilingual or multilingual nations, i.e. Singapore, India, Nigeria, Ghana, the Philippines and more than fifty other nations. Lastly, The Expanding Circle concerns the territories that recognize English as an international language. (Kachru 1985: 12-13, 2008: 568; Crystal 2003: 60-61; Schneider 2007: 14)



**Figure 1:** Kachru’s (1985) concentric circle model representing the spread of World Englishes (from Martin & Siry 2011: 598)

Kachru’s Three Circles model has been a greatly influential framework, but due to more recent developments of English as a world language, the model has been challenged by other World Englishes scholars, such as Trudgill (2004) and Schneider (2007, 2017), who problematize certain aspects of the model and, therefore, propose more comprehensive frameworks to analyze the current status of English in the world. Some of the concerns that have been raised are related to the model’s lack of linguistic classification of each English

variety and the absence of sociolinguistic factors. Thus, Schneider (2007) proposed the Dynamic Model as a new comprehensive model to settle the problems that have been raised with respect to Kachru's and other similar frameworks. Schneider notes:

[...] the [Dynamic] model is much more ambitious in claiming that, in principle, cyclic thinking and the observation of characteristic subsequent evolutionary phases can be observed in all emerging varieties of English, and it is much more detailed and fundamental in both describing a number of characteristic phenomena which can be observed at each stage, and claiming a causal relationship between historical conditions, socio-psychological consequences, and linguistic effects (Schneider 2017: 12).

The Dynamic Model became one of the standard frameworks in the field of World Englishes and has been much applied in the study of the English language situation in postcolonial nations. However, Lemmetty (2020), who studies the same postcolonial varieties that have been chosen for this thesis (see section 3.1.7), mainly employed Kachru's model in classifying Hong Kong, Singapore, Philippine, and Indian English use of the MS. She argues that Kachru's model is essential in classifying the Asian Outer Circle varieties. My study does not challenge Lemmetty's claim, but rather wishes to provide a more comprehensive linguistic classification of the English varieties which Kachru disregards. In the following section, Schneider's Dynamic Model will be outlined and the English language situation in the four postcolonial varieties chosen for this study will be viewed in relation to Schneider's theoretical framework.

## **2.3 Schneider's Dynamic Model**

Schneider's contribution to the field of World Englishes is recognized through his development of the Dynamic Model which includes 16 postcolonial English varieties and American English. The model is essentially created to illustrate how postcolonial Englishes, which have arisen in postcolonial surroundings and countries, have a process of development that can be viewed homogeneously notwithstanding the countries' divergences and unique varieties (Schneider 2003: 233). This uniform process, which drives the formation of postcolonial Englishes, shares many similarities and is present when a language is transplanted (Schneider 2007: 29). The language model is categorized as an evolutionary model due to the characteristic evolutionary phases the postcolonial English varieties progress through. Hence, the model offers the field of World Englishes a theoretical framework that allows for a detailed and observable description of different linguistic developments within

each evolutionary phase (Schneider 2017: 10). Altogether, the Dynamic Model is used as a tool for describing the sociolinguistic development of a colonized, or a postcolonial, region or country, and the evolutionary linguistic outcome of these developments that create innovative postcolonial Englishes. Thus, the model can be used as an index to measure, compare and analyse the linguistic developments in these Outer Circle varieties (Schneider 2017: 14).

Schneider's evolutionary cycle comprises four main parameters: historical background, identity constructions, sociolinguistic conditions, and linguistic effects. According to Schneider, the first parameter, historical background, forms the identity constructions of the two main groups that take part in a colonization process: the colonizers and the colonized, also classified as the settler strand of English (STL) and the indigenous strand of English (IDG). The identities formed during this process are important for the sociolinguistic conditions that form the communicative environment, which successively, determine the linguistic effects of the postcolonial English variety (2014: 11). In accordance with these four parameters, the model also suggests that evolving English varieties experience five evolutionary phases: foundation, exonormative stabilization, nativization, endonormative stabilization, and differentiation. It is important to remark that Schneider acknowledges the challenge of drawing a clear line between each evolutionary phase and that the criteria set for one phase may overlap to some degree with the succeeding one. These challenges are considered a limitation of the model due to the difficulty of clearly establishing the phase a postcolonial territory has reached. Below, each phase will be introduced in order to present, classify and evaluate the English language situation in the four Asian varieties in question: Philippine English, Indian English, Hong Kong English, and Singapore English. The main emphasis will be placed on the parameter of linguistic effects within each phase due to its relevance in evaluating the varieties' use of the mandative subjunctive.

Foundation is the first phase of the model. In this phase, English is founded in a new territory by a large group of colonial settlers, and the new settler language is spoken regularly in the colonial territory. Moreover, English is considered a "language of power" (Schneider 2017: 14) and the IDG strand undergoes a process of linguistic influence from the STL strand. Thus, cross-linguistic influence occurs, mainly affecting the indigenous inhabitants, and an emerging bilingualism takes hold in the new territory. Linguistically, incipient pidginization, koinéization, and toponymic borrowing are linguistic processes that characterize this phase. Language and dialect contact occurs, but the IDG strand does not have to behave in a linguistically homogenous manner, and some groups, dependent on their exposure to English, develop non-standard dialects of English where pidginization and koinéization are likely to

occur. All these linguistic effects are, primarily, restricted to informal oral contexts (Schneider 2007: 33–35, 2014: 11, 2017: 14–15).

The second evolutionary phase, exonormative stabilisation, occurs when the colonized territory experiences a stable political environment and there is a greater interaction between the IDG and the STL strand. English has a larger foothold in the territory and its usage has expanded to public institutions such as administration, education, and legislation. A so-called “British-plus” or an “American-plus” identity (Schneider 2007: 38–39), dependent on the postcolonial territory in question, is developing within the IDG strand, leading to an extensive linguistic development, which does not only affect lexicality, but also starts to shape morphological and syntactic structures to a certain extent. The linguistic norms are gradually becoming more dominantly set by the matrilect, for example, Britain, which thereby generates the development of an elite bilingualism among the colonized population (Schneider 2007: 36–40, 2017: 15; Melchers et al. 2019: 29).

Nativization is the third and central phase of the Dynamic Model and is also considered the most significant phase due to a prominent transformation of both cultural and linguistic features. Colonial dominance decreases in this phase and the indigenous population experiences a greater independence in the country. Linguistically, the indigenous population consider themselves bilingual at this phase, and the increased contact between the IDG and the STL strand results in linguistic structures distinctive to the new developed variety. Hence, the nativization phase is the evolutionary phase that has the largest impact on the restructuring of the English language in the postcolonial territory, and gives rise to a new, formally distinct postcolonial English. Moreover, the English language in the territory experiences a “structural nativization” (Schneider 2007: 72), meaning that grammatical features, such as morphology and syntax, are becoming idiosyncratic to the new postcolonial English variety (Schneider 2007: 40–45, 2014: 11).

Endonormative stabilization is the fourth phase of the model. Socio-politically, a common national identity is more prominent in the postcolonial community. This concerns both the IDG strand and the STL strand. Local linguistic norms are accepted to a greater extent, and a codification process of the postcolonial English variety takes place, which means a presence of local dictionaries and an acceptance of innovative linguistic norms. In other words, a linguistic stabilization and homogeneity has transpired from phase three to four. Newbrook states that at this phase “the community reaches an understanding that the new local norm, distinct from the norms of the original colonizers, will also be accepted as adequate in formal usage” (1997: 236, in Schneider 2007: 50). Even though this phase is

characterized by a greater homogeneity, some linguistic heterogeneity persists, dependent on ethnicity and social class, but these remaining features are mostly disregarded due to a diminution of the gap between the IDG and the STL strand (Schneider 2007: 48-52, 2014: 12; Melchers et al. 2019: 29).

The final phase, differentiation, is characterized as a phase with internal stabilization in the postcolonial territory, and the language no longer endures external influence that overturns the national stabilization. According to Jenkins (1996: 111), this phase distinguishes itself from the previous phases in that there is an internal heterogeneity moving from a national identity to a community identity. Linguistically, dialect differences occur, and the postcolonial English varieties that occurred in the previous phases experience a development of internal variations and diversification. Schneider emphasizes that a linguistic maturity has taken place, and there is coexistence of a number of English varieties within one territory typical of multilingual nations (Schneider 2007: 52–55, 2017: 16).

The Dynamic Model has been applied and integrated in several linguistic studies about postcolonial Englishes, and has provided the field of World Englishes with a ground-breaking theoretical framework in the analysis of linguistic developments in postcolonial English-speaking nations (see section 3.1). Its strength, as pointed out by Van Rooy and Terblance (2010: 358), is that it integrates both native and non-native varieties in one mode. This is also supported by Melchers and Shaw (2011: 31), who emphasize the model's great applicability for studies of a wide range of English varieties. In the following subsection, an account of each the English language situation in each of the postcolonial English varieties chosen for this study will be given in light of Schneider's Dynamic Model.

## **2.4 The English language situation in four postcolonial varieties**

This study includes four postcolonial varieties of English: Philippine English, Indian English, Hong Kong English, and Singapore English. Due to the study's aim of investigating the usage of the mandative subjunctive in relation to Schneider's classification, it is essential to understand the English language situation in the countries in question and identify the phases each postcolonial variety has undergone in view of the accounts provided by Schneider (2007).

### 2.4.1 Singapore English

Singapore English is a clear result of a distinctive language policy in the nation targeted towards an “English-based bilingualism” (Tickoo 1996: 438, in Schneider 2007: 153). In contrast to the other varieties in this study, Schneider classifies Singapore English as being on an advanced level in the Dynamic Model. He claims that it has shown clear signs of endonormative stabilization in the evolutionary model and is exhibiting signs of moving towards a fifth and final phase, the differentiation phase, due to the linguistic innovations taking place in the nation (Schneider 2007: 153).

The two early phases, foundation and exonormative stabilization, took place between 1819 and 1942. Historically and politically, Singapore was a trading outpost for the British East India Company, resulting in multinational language contact between Chinese, Malay, Arab, Indian and European traders. The British colonization contributed to further cross-linguistic contact. In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, Singapore experienced an increase in the population with a European ruling class, different Asian settlers, and the development of an Asian elite giving rise to an elite bilingualism which persisted until World War II (Schneider 2007: 154–155).

After World War II, the nation entered the third phase, nativization, when the IDG strand wished for political self-reliance from the colonial powers which led to independence in 1965. Singapore entered a postindependent period characterized by the establishment of new language policies, resulting in the transition to phase four in the Dynamic Model. At this level, the English language is employed by everyone in the multilingual and multicultural community, which in turn decreases the value of the ethnic languages (Schneider 2007: 156–157). In the case of syntax, which is the most relevant linguistic component in this study, Singapore English is clearly marked by idiosyncratic rules and patterns. Hence, Pakir (2001) argues that these strongly established linguistic norms and homogeneity of language indicate that the country is transitioning into Kachru’s Inner Circle and Schneider’s final phase in the Dynamic model, differentiation (in Schneider 2007: 160–161). This is supported by results from corpus studies conducted on the use of the mandative subjunctive in Singapore English presented in section 3.1 (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020).

### **2.4.2 Indian English**

Indian English derives from a linguistic area experiencing a persistent and long history of cross-linguistic contact and the learning of English-in-diaspora in the world (Kachru & Nelson 2006: 153). Even though the postcolonial variety is one of the most widely spoken today, due to India's large population, English is still a minority lect, limited to specific domains and ranks of the society (Schneider 2007: 161). Hence, the Dynamic Model in this study will mainly be applied to that respective part of the population in India that uses English habitually, disregarding the communities who remain unexposed to the language.

Phase one, foundation, took place in India in the early seventeenth century up to the late eighteenth century, with the arrival of the British East India Company triggering English linguistic and cultural influence in the territory. The establishment of English-medium missionary schools around the nation induced English influence. India, compared to the other postcolonial nations in this study, underwent a lingering foundation phase up until the second half of eighteenth century when a transition to phase two, exonormative orientation, occurred through the initiation of a new educational policy that established an English-based education system (Schneider 2007: 162-164; Gargesh & Sailaja 2017: 426) This resulted in a bilingual education in which English became a symbol of elitist education and high social status (Gargesh & Sailaja 2017: 426), and an institutionalization of English took place in India.

The third phase, nativization, occurred in the late twentieth century and is considered to be the current phase Indian English has reached in the evolutionary cycle. Schneider addresses the difficulty of establishing the exact reasons for this transition to phase three, but refers to Krishnaswamy and Burde (1998: 110, in Schneider 2007: 166), who assume that the gradual detachment from the British rule after independence turned English from a foreign language to a second language. Due to the strong role of Hindi in the IDG strand's identity construction, a pan-Indian identity for English has not been fully developed. English is mainly reserved for specific domains such as education, administration, media, and the judiciary, thereby creating an elitist status of the language (Schneider 2007: 168; Gargesh & Sailaja 2017: 426). Linguistically, Indian English displays clear patterns of structural nativization and some idiosyncratic innovations in all linguistic fields, but due to the lack of stabilization, homogenization, and codification, Schneider (2007: 172) states that one cannot yet establish that Indian English has reached endonormative stabilization. This is confirmed in his study on the Indian English use of the mandative subjunctive (see section 3.1.1), and supported by findings made by other World Englishes scholars (Peters 2009; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020).

### 2.4.3 Hong Kong English

Hong Kong English has not been recognized as its own variety to the same extent as the other three varieties in this study. Bolton (2000: 265) and Schneider (2007: 137–138) argue for the recognition of a ‘Hong Kong English’ rather than ‘English spoken in Hong Kong’ by addressing some of Hong Kong’s idiosyncratic linguistic features. They show that the English variety demonstrates signs of a nativization phase with some remaining characteristics of an exonormative orientation.

The first phase of English influence in Hong Kong started with the arrival of the British East India Company in the early nineteenth century and Hong Kong’s transition into a British colony during the Opium Wars. The exonormative phase is characterized as a stable period under British rule with Hong Kong becoming a hub for trade between the British and Chinese, generating a greater language contact (Bolton 2000: 267–268; Schneider 2007: 133–135).

Even though scholars like Luke and Richards (1982), Li (1999), and Tsui and Bunton (2000) insist on the exonormative orientation of the English language situation in Hong Kong, Bolton (2000) and Schneider (2007) still present arguments for the South East-Asian variety transitioning into a nativization phase (in Schneider 2007: 137). The early signs of phase three occurred during a period of ‘late British colonialism’ from the 1960s onwards. The elite bilingualism, which marked phase two, transformed into phase three with the introduction of new educational reforms. These reforms gave all children the opportunity for education resulted in a system of ‘mass bilingualism’ (Bolton 2000: 268–269).

The nativization phase, which is first and foremost recognized as postcolonial restructuring of the English language, is not as prominent in Hong Kong as in other postcolonial territories. Since Hong Kong English is linguistically lagging behind some of the prominent developments in phase three, and since there is an ongoing strengthening of Cantonese in the nation, Schneider concludes that Hong Kong can be placed in the continuum between exonormative stabilization and nativization. In regard to the study of the mandative subjunctive in Hong Kong English, corpora studies classify the variety in different phases. Hundt’s (2018) findings place Hong Kong in phase three (see section 3.1.5), while Lemmetty’s (2020) results place the variety in phase two (see section 3.1.7). Hence, further data needs to be collected to test their claims.

#### **2.4.4 Philippine English**

In contrast to the other postcolonial varieties introduced in this section, Philippine English is a result of American, not British, colonialism, which makes its colonial history considerably shorter compared to the other postcolonial varieties. The initial phases of Philippine English started in 1898, when the United States invaded the Philippines after three centuries of Spanish rule, and the nation has experienced a rapid language development during a short time span. (Schneider 2007: 140; Bolton & Bautista 2008: 4).

The first two phases of the dynamic model emerged rapidly, and the territory comprised mainly of a large IDG strand, but a small STL strand. A part of the American colonial quest was to radically change the cultural perception of the indigenous population, and therefore, English was quickly enforced as the nation's new official language. Recognized as the "Thomasites", the first American teachers arrived in the country in 1909 with the aim of spreading the English language instantly among the locals (Bolton and Bautista 2008: 4, Schneider 2007: 140). English spread more rapidly under the American rule than the Spanish language did during three centuries of Spanish occupation.

Prior to full independence, the Philippines achieved limited sovereignty, which prepared the ground for the nation's new national language: Tagalog. Despite a rising sentiment for the new national language, English still remained influential in the postindependent period, and a bilingual education scheme (Schneider 2007: 141), advocated the use of both English and Tagalog, later renamed Filipino in the Constitution of 1973. Due to the greatly entrenched role of English in large parts of formal domains such as business, politics, education, and media, Philippine English started to gain foothold in the ensuing decades as its own respective English variety. As a consequence of its formal usage, Philippine English displays clear signs of a phase three development.

However, the use of English in the Philippines has weakened in recent decades which is a clear sign of phase three. Innovations and further development of Philippine English seems to be stagnating and a development towards an endonormative orientation is weak. Hence, Schneider (2007) states that the Dynamic Model is not as applicable in the case of Philippine English due to the deteriorating phase it has reached. Several linguistic studies have been made in order to determine idiosyncratic features of Philippine English and whether the variety shows any clear differences from American English. In the case of the mandative subjunctive, studies (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020) have shown clear signs of affiliating with American English, and they confirm Schneider's classification of Philippine English at phase three of the Dynamic Model.

### **3 Literature review**

This chapter introduces a selection of important research on the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations in postcolonial Englishes. The chapter will focus on reviewing studies that have been conducted on the same Asian English varieties selected for this study:

Philippine English, Singapore English, Indian English, Hong Kong English.

#### **3.1 Previous corpus-based studies on the mandative subjunctive in postcolonial Englishes**

##### **3.1.1 Schneider 2000**

Schneider was the first scholar to conduct a synchronic analysis of Indian English use of the mandative subjunctive (MS). He employed the Kolhapur Corpus of Indian English to investigate Shastri's statement that "English in India, taught as a second language, tends to retain some of the older usages which might have lost currency in the first language situation" (Shastri 1988: 18, in Schneider 2000: 123). Thus, the aim of his study is to investigate how Indian English use of the construction differs from British and American English, and whether he can provide evidence to confirm the Indian linguistic conservativeness or a possible nativization phase (see section 2.2). The MS, as a linguistic phenomenon, is strategically chosen for his investigation due to its clear position and usage in English-speaking nations, particularly American English and British English. He mainly focuses on comparing the frequency of the MS to *should* as they are the two realizations that distinguish American English from British English the most. The results of his study show that the MS is common in the variety, but it is used less frequently than *should*. The maintenance of the construction suggests that Indian English is to a certain extent linguistically conservative together with other postcolonial varieties as, Peters (1998) and Shastri (1988) propose. However, Schneider remarks that Indian English demonstrates a "colonial lag", a term introduced by Peters (1998), and maintains the linguistic norms of its previous colonizer to a great extent. Based on these findings, he concludes that Indian English is moving towards a nativization phase with its own linguistic preferences.

##### **3.1.2 Peters 2009**

In her study, Peters investigates the use of the MS in a wide range of World Englishes with data extracted from the *International Corpus of English (ICE)*, i.e. New Zealand English, Australian English, Singapore English, Philippine English and Indian English. Her study

focuses mainly on analysing the spoken component of the six ICE corpora, but also includes written data in order to provide a brief comparison between written and spoken use of the construction in the different varieties. One of the purposes of her study is to examine whether the results display any marked regional differences between settler and indigenized English varieties (Peters 2009: 241) building on Schneider's (2000) findings on Indian English in the Kolhapur corpus. She raises the question of exonormativity and endonormativity (see section 2.3), related to Schneider's Dynamic Model and his previous study on Indian and Philippine English (2000, 2005), and aims at analysing whether other postcolonial Englishes demonstrate a neutral use of the MS similarly to Indian and Philippine English. Hence, she provides the field with a larger data collection than Schneider (2000, 2005) in order to compare written and spoken use of the MS. Her main findings from ICE-PHIL, ICE-IND and ICE-SING suggest that there is a parallel distribution of the MS in ICE-SING and ICE-PHIL in written and spoken environments, while ICE-IND deviates from the other two with a considerably lower frequency. This suggests that Philippine English is experiencing an exonormative development due to their American affiliation, while the same argument cannot be used for Singapore English, which is based on British English (Peters 2009: 251–255).

### **3.1.3 Bautista 2010**

Bautista (2010) replicates Schneider's (2000) study on the Indian English use of the subjunctive and other linguistic features, investigating Philippine and Singapore English use of the same structures. She draws on the Philippine and Singapore component of the ICE corpus and mainly concentrates on the written component of the corpus, in contrast to Schneider (2005). She conducts a comparative study of the two varieties with the objective of investigating whether Philippine and Singapore English show signs of a nativization development (Bautista 2010: 5) and to what extent they differ or follow other World Englishes. Her results indicate that the MS is more dominant in Philippine English than in Indian English, and the use of *should* rarely occurs in ICE-PHI compared to the Kolhapur corpus. Thus, the findings confirm her hypothesis about Philippine English following American English norms rather than British English. The subjunctive in Singapore English, a previous British colony, demonstrates a similar distribution as Philippine English, and therefore did not follow the linguistic norms of its previous colonizer. Thus, the results from ICE gives evidence to claim that the two English varieties in question seem to follow American use of the MS, and use it more frequently than other postcolonial Englishes. Lastly,

Bautista concludes that both varieties demonstrate a preference for the mandative construction over *should*-periphrasis, but that Philippine English seems to adhere more strictly to its previous colonizer compared to English spoken in Singapore. However, the latter still seems to maintain some British norms by choosing the indicative over the subjunctive in certain environments. Thus, Philippine English may be heading towards a phase of nativization due to their “colonial lag” (Peters 1998: 98, in Bautista 2010: 21), but “the kind of colonial lag alluded to above might well disappear in not-so-distant future given high interconnectivity of the world’s population at this time” (Bautista 2010: 22).

### **3.1.4 Schneider 2011**

Schneider (2011) examines Philippine English use of the MS in written and spoken environments, and builds upon his previous study from 2005 by including newer writings into the study. He draws on the Philippine component of the *International Corpus of English* (ICE-PHIL), investigates the stylistic differences in the use of the construction, and further compares the subjunctive realization to the modal verb *should*, other modals, and non-distinct forms in several World Englishes. His findings show that Philippine English, similarly to all the postcolonial English varieties in question, has “incorporated frequency-based norms of using alternative variants” (Schneider 2011: 170). Philippine English, equally to American English, favours the MS, while the modal verb *should* displays a low frequency. Thus, Schneider states that Philippine English seems to generally comply with the linguistic norms of their previous colonizer and remarks that his study confirms the results presented by Peters (2009). He also comments on the difference between Singapore and Philippine English that seems to demonstrate a similar distribution of the MS due to American English influence in Singapore. This finding also confirms the results in Bautista’s (2010) study of ICE-SING and ICE-PHI. Schneider concludes that the high frequency of the mandative construction in Philippine English indicates that the variety is in “close proximity to American English, in line with its history and normative orientation” (Schneider 2011: 170).

### **3.1.5 Hundt 2018**

Hundt (1998) addresses previous research on the MS which provided evidence for its ‘revival’ in the twentieth century, and examines the use of the MS and *should*-periphrasis across ten World Englishes. She conducts the most comprehensive analysis of the MS to date. Her study includes four Asian Outer Circle English varieties: Singapore, India, the Philippines

and Hong Kong, signifying that she is the first scholar to address the use of the MS in Hong Kong English with corpora. In addition to the ICE corpora being her core study, GloWbE is also included as a follow-up study on American, British, and Indian English due to the small size of ICE and its limitations on representativeness (see section 4.2).

The aim of the study is to investigate whether it is the contextual or linguistic factors that trigger the MS and *should*-periphrasis. The results showed that Philippine English affiliates with the American English preference for the MS, confirming previous studies (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011). Indian and Hong Kong English did not demonstrate a strong preference for neither of the two realizations, while Singapore English aligns to a certain extent with Philippine English, displaying a greater preference for the MS, which confirms previous studies (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011). In addition, Singapore English does not seem to affiliate with their ‘matrilect’ (Hundt 2018: 21). Hundt also made an important discovery concerning the factors that determine the triggering of the subjunctive and *should*-alternations. Register, variety and person do not seem to have a significant effect on the two options. However, the lexical trigger seems to be the factor that predicts the realization of the MS and *should*-periphrasis. Hundt employs Schneider’s (2007) Dynamic Model as a theoretical framework to consider her findings which. The results suggest that Hong Kong, Philippine and Indian English are classified in phase three of the model, due to their affiliation to their matrilect, while Singapore English can be categorized as phase four due to their deviation from British English norms (Hundt 2018: 22).

### **3.1.6 Deshors & Gries 2020**

Based on Hundt’s (2018) study on the MS and *should*-periphrasis in several World Englishes, Deshors & Gries (2020) conduct a new multi-factorial research dealing with specific methodological limitations in Hundt’s analysis. They question Hundt’s methodological choice, especially her choice of sampling method, to test different mandative triggers and contexts in ICE compared to GloWbE. Consequently, they aim at building on her multi-factorial GloWbE study and improve some of the limitations by focusing on American, British, Australian and Indian English using the same corpora. Like Hundt (2018), Deshors & Gries’ find that the type of suasive verbs (see section 2.1.3) is essential in the realization of the MS and *should*-alternations. Thus, the findings strengthen the argument about the presence of the MS being lexically conditioned. Furthermore, their study supports the findings made in Peters (2009), but they add newer findings to previous work on the construction by

incorporating factors such as the constructional preferences of the mandative triggers, and using larger corpora than ICE to avoid the limitations of representativeness.

### **3.1.7 Lemmetty 2020**

The most recent corpus-based study on the MS and its syntactic variants was conducted by Lemmetty (2020) in her Master's Thesis. She investigates four Asian English varieties: Singapore English, Indian English, Philippines English, and Hong Kong English. She criticizes previous studies on their methodological discrepancies affecting validity and comparability. The purpose of her study is to investigate the frequency of the MS and alternative realizations, how the different realizations are distributed across the different suasive verbs, and evaluate the formality of the MS. Her discoveries expose that Hong Kong and Indian English share similar distributions of the MS and *should*-periphrasis which correspond to their 'matrilect', British English, as discovered for Indian English in previous studies (Schneider 2000; Hundt 2018; Deshors & Gries 2020). However, Hong Kong, in contrast to all the other varieties in question, demonstrated a great preference for the indicative rather than *should*-periphrasis, which according to Lemmetty may indicate a movement towards phase two in Schneider's Dynamic Model. This finding differs from the one in Hundt's (2018) study, which suggests that Hong Kong English is rather experiencing a form of nativization. Further data needs to be collected in order to assess the classification of Hong Kong English in relation to Schneider's (2007) model. In the case of Philippine and Singapore English, both varieties displayed a great preference for the MS in all environments and affiliate with the American English use of the construction, as previous studies have shown (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018). As for the mandative triggers, the results showed a similar distribution of all the suasive verbs and the same suasive verbs seemed to trigger the MS in all the postcolonial varieties. Both Lemmetty (2020) and Hundt (2018) suggest a possible American influence or 'Americanisation' among postcolonial varieties one assumed would align with British English.

## 4 Material

In this section, the corpus used for the study, the Corpus of Web-Based English (GloWbE) will be introduced with regard to its content, design, and researchers' evaluation of the corpus' advantages and limitations of the corpus. In section 4.1, theory on representativeness, balance, and sampling in corpus linguistics will be outlined. Thereafter, in section 4.2, the Corpus of Web-Based English will be introduced, with emphasis on some of the main differences between GloWbE and ICE, as they are the only two available parallel corpora in the study of World Englishes. Lastly, there will be a discussion of representativeness, balance, and sampling in GloWbE in light of recognised World Englishes scholars (Davies & Fuchs 2015; Nelson 2015; Mair 2015; Mukherjee 2015; Peters 2015).

### 4.1 Representativeness, balance and sampling

According to Leech (1991: 27) "a corpus is thought to be representative of the language variety it is supposed to represent if the findings based on its contents can be generalized to the said language variety". In the definition provided by Biber (1993), the emphasis is placed on the role of sampling when designing a corpus: "Representativeness refers to the extent to which a sample includes a full range of variability in a population" (1993: 243). Thus, in order to guarantee representativeness, two key factors need to be taken into consideration: balance and sampling.

Balance concerns the collection of genres, register and production variables the corpus provides (Nelson 2010, 60). A balanced corpus is supposed to fulfil the principle of encompassing a large variety of text types, which ensures the representation of the language in question. However, McEnery and Hardy (2012) the importance balance plays in evaluating representativeness. Thus, as researchers we need to evaluate the intended use of the corpus and the possible limitations of the material in our analyses.

Sampling concerns the conscious or unconscious decisions made when constructing a corpus, which involves the type of texts the corpus comprises, the amount of text samples, the categorization of these text samples, the length of the samples, and the variety of them (Biber 1993: 243). The main purpose of sampling "is to secure a sample which, subject to limitations of size, will reproduce the characteristics of the population, especially those of immediate interest, as closely as possible" (Yates 1965: 9). Thus, the sample choices in a corpus determine the representativeness of the general population. One of the important choices in sampling is related to the size of the corpus (Nelson 2010: 58). In order for a corpus to be

representative of a general population or language, the size of the corpus should be large enough to produce enough instances of the language phenomenon in question (Gatto 2014: 14). However, a measurement of the size of a corpus is not established in corpus linguistics, and the focus in recent time has rather been that each corpus serves its own purposes, and the choice of corpora depends on the grammatical category up for investigation. In the subsequent section, the large web-based corpus used for the study, *The Corpus of Global Web-Based English*, will be introduced and discussed in light of representativeness, balance and sampling.

## **4.2 The Corpus of Global Web-Based English (GloWbE)**

The collection of texts used in this study is retrieved from *The Corpus of Global Web-Based English* (GloWbE). GloWbE, released in 2013, is one of the largest corpora of World Englishes, encompassing 1.9 billion words in 1.8 million web pages. The corpus consists of texts from 20 World Englishes, from both Inner and Outer Circle varieties. Sixty percent is based on informal blogs and forty percent consists of other genres and text types such as newspapers, magazines, company websites and others (Davies & Fuchs 2015a: 1–3). Moreover, due to the small size of the *International Corpus of English* (ICE), which has been used widely in research on English varieties, GloWbE was designed to account for the limitations of each subcorpus in ICE. According to Davies and Fuchs (2015a), ICE has not been able to provide sufficient data on syntactic constructions that occur infrequently in World Englishes, such as the mandative subjunctive. They explore the opportunities GloWbE offers in analysing syntactic variation and linguistic conservatism in Outer Circle varieties, and state that the establishment of a corpus such as GloWbE, being 100 times larger than ICE, is essential for comprehensive linguistic analyses of World Englishes (2015: 2).

As for the size of the different subcorpora, American English and British English comprise the largest part of the corpus with approximately 386 million words each. The Inner Circle varieties follow with roughly 80 million words, including India, while the remaining varieties are represented by 40 million words each. Hence, GloWbE has a clear advantage over ICE in that the majority of the varieties represented in GloWbE are 40 times larger than the components in ICE, except for the United States and Great Britain, which are 400 times larger (Loureiro-Porto 2017: 450). However, both corpora have their advantages and disadvantages. Loureiro-Porto (2017) makes it clear that ICE has the disadvantage of being small, but on the other hand, it has greater balance and sample variation than GloWbE, which

is a more genre-specific corpus. The large size of GloWbE offers the opportunity to retrieve rare linguistic features that would seldom be found in corpora such as ICE and the Brown family of corpora (Lange & Leuckert 2020). However, the main disadvantages are related to the large size of the corpus, which would require further subsampling in order to manually handle the data (Hundt 2018; Deshors & Gries 2020). Thus, in this study, the fact that subsampling may limit the possibility to draw generalizing conclusion about a whole population must be taken into account and considered as a limitation.

Concerning the design of the corpus, Davies and Fuchs emphasize three factors: “size, genre balance (including informal language), and accuracy in terms of identifying the dialect that it is representing” (2015: 3). In Reichenbach’s (2019) evaluation of the GloWbE corpus as a tool for Big Data corpus linguistics, he expresses that the size of the corpus has elicited different responses from recognised World Englishes scholars. Those in favour of the web-based corpus have voiced the benefit of it in the study of lexis, morphology and mid- and low-frequency phenomena in English varieties (Gerald 2015; Mair 2015; Mukherjee 2015; Peters 2015) such as the mandative subjunctive. In addition, it enables the analyses of Englishes used in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (Peters 2015: 41) and, therefore, allows replication of previous studies that have used smaller and older corpora such as ICE (Mair 2015: 29). However, issues have been raised concerning GloWbE as a Big Data web-based corpus. In regard to balance, the corpus does not include a sufficient range of text varieties compared to its counterpart ICE (Nelson 2015: 39), which affects the representativeness of the data retrieved from the corpus.

Moreover, Peters (2015: 42) problematises the possibility of blogs in GloWbE replacing or representing the spoken component in ICE when comparing results from the two data bases. Nelson (2015: 39) also questions the representation of the population in a web-based corpus. He explains that one of the limitations of GloWbE is that there will always be an uncertainty concerning the nationality of the writer. Web pages from the country in question do not guarantee that the writers necessarily originate from the same country, nor do they certify the writers’ first language. Davies and Fuchs (2015) reply to these criticisms, underlining that GloWbE serves another purpose than ICE and is fruitful in investigating linguistic features such as lexis, phrases and low-frequency syntactic constructions that are typical of the variety in question. ICE, on the other hand, rather serves the purpose of investigating language use in specific genres (Loureiro-Porto 2017: 461). Hence, GloWbE does not replace ICE, but is rather an enlargement and serves as another tool in the field of World Englishes (Davies & Fuchs 2015b; Mukherjee 2015).

## 5 Method

This study aims at contributing to the field of World Englishes and the English varieties' use of the mandative subjunctive (MS) through a corpus-based approach. Initially, section 5.1 will provide a definition of corpus linguistics and give an overview of previous corpus-based approaches to grammar (subsection 5.1.1) and the mandative subjunctive (subsection 5.1.2). This study has adopted Crawford's trigger approach in the retrieval of mandative clauses, which will be outlined in subsection 5.1.3. Thereafter, the stages of extracting mandative clauses from the corpus will be explained in section 5.2, followed by the framework of classification for the data in section 5.3.

### 5.1 Corpus linguistics

Due to the objective of using a corpus-based approach in analysing the use of the MS and its alternative realizations in Outer Circle varieties, it is essential to provide a definition of corpora and corpus linguistics followed by a brief comparison of corpus-based and corpus-driven linguistics.

A corpus is "a body of written text or transcribed speech which can serve as a basis for linguistic analysis and description" (Kennedy 1998: 1). Instead of investigating what is theoretically possible in a language, corpora give access to naturally occurring texts which makes it possible to investigate actual language use (Biber et al. 2007: 1). The term corpus linguistics is defined "as dealing with some set of machine-readable texts which is deemed an appropriate basis on which to study a specific set of research questions" (McEnery & Hardy 2012: 1). It is a methodology frequently employed in linguistics to examine authentic and naturally occurring language use quantitatively or qualitatively. McEnery and Hardy (2012) argue that corpus linguistics is not about analysing specific features of a language, but rather focuses on specific methods for linguistic studies. However, they also clarify that corpus linguistics must not be viewed as a homogenous field with established methods and procedures that are agreed upon, but should rather be regarded as a heterogenous field with a variety of approaches in the use of corpora. Furthermore, Kennedy (1998: 8) emphasises the importance of generalisability, representativeness, validity and reliability (see section 4.1) of the empirical data collected in linguistic research. The advantage of corpus linguistics as an empirical approach is that corpora provide richness of evidence, which strengthens the generalisations drawn about a language (Kennedy 1998: 8). This view is supported by McEnery and Hardy (2012) who further state that corpora give researchers the opportunity to

understand language through the observation of language and that the combination of corpus, search tool and corpus annotation facilitates research on grammatical categories that have previously been challenging to investigate (2012: 28).

### **5.1.1 Corpus-based approaches to grammar**

The terms corpus-based and corpus-driven language study were initiated by Tognini-Bonelli (2001) and concern the manner in which we approach corpus linguistic research. A corpus-based approach uses data from corpora to investigate an already existing theory or hypothesis introduced in existing literature to test, develop, validate or reject it (Tognini-Bonelli 2001: 65; Baker 2010: 7; McEnery & Hardy 2012: 6). Biber et al. (2007) assert that “the goal of corpus-based investigations is not simply to report quantitative findings, but to explore the importance of these findings for learning about the patterns of language use” (Biber et al. 2007: 5). A corpus-driven approach, on the other hand, focuses on the corpus itself being the main and single source of hypotheses about language and does not have any predetermined theory or hypothesis about language, but rather aims at creating linguistic theory and classification solely based on corpus data.

In the case of analysing syntactic constructions, such as the MS, Biber et al. (2007) stress that a corpus-based approach strengthens the field of syntax since traditional studies have previously disregarded the study of mood in favour of lexicography and lexicogrammar. Access to larger corpora and machine-readable tools enables the analysis of grammatical structures in languages by investigating frequency distribution of different grammatical constructions and factors that may influence the choice between different syntactic realizations (Biber et al. 2007: 56). These factors are essential when analysing how suasive word groups trigger different syntactic realizations and how these realizations may differ based on factors such as register, variety of English, and social and linguistic variables. Different methodological approaches to the mandative subjunctive will be presented in the following section.

### **5.1.2 Corpus-based approaches to the mandative subjunctive**

Previous corpus-based studies on the MS have adopted different methodological approaches, but the majority of the studies have mainly based their research on different sets of mandative triggers (see section 2.1.2) as a point of departure, also termed “the trigger approach” (Crawford 2009). Hundt (2018) makes clear that is difficult to retrieve all mandative sentences from a corpus since the MS also occurs without overt triggers (2018: 7). Thus, most

studies on the MS have been corpus-based, with the exception of Övergaard (1995), who applied a corpus-driven approach in the retrieval of the mandative constructions. Even though Övergaard's approach guarantees the findings of both overt and covert mandative expressions, which the trigger approach disregards, the corpus-driven approach is considered time-consuming and extensive regarding the amount of data that needs to be examined. For this reason, a corpus-based approach to the MS has been most frequently applied, even though the method implies certain limitations of representativeness and reliability. A possible solution to the limitations of a corpus-based approach in the study of the MS has been to include as many mandative triggers as possible (Schneider 2000, 2011; Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Lemmetty 2020). On the other hand, we find scholars such as Hundt (2018) and Deshors and Gries (2020) who have rather chosen a smaller set of mandative triggers. The reason for choosing a limited set of triggers is due to the extensive size of the corpus chosen for their studies. Thus, in order to cover a large selection of English varieties in their analysis of the MS, the number of lexical triggers was limited to six (Hundt 2018) and nine (Deshors and Gries 2020), in order to keep the manually post-edited data manageable (Hundt 2018: 7).

Since this thesis is adopting a trigger-based approach of the MS employing *The Corpus of Global Web-Based English* (see section 4.2), the methodology chosen for this is justified for the same reasons as Hundt (2018) and Deshors and Gries (2020). These choices have been made based on the large size of the chosen corpus and the objective of comparing the data with previous studies employing the same set of triggers. This thesis will use the same limited set of mandative triggers as Hundt (2018). In the following sections, the procedures of extracting mandative clauses will be outlined with an emphasis on Crawford's (2009) trigger approach, followed by the classification of the data.

### **5.1.3 The mandative trigger approach**

As mentioned in section 2.1.2, the mandative triggers, also known as suasive word groups, are the main indicators of the mandative *that*-clause complements. Thus, similarly to previous synchronic corpus-based studies of the MS, this thesis will adopt the "trigger-approach", a term introduced by Crawford (2009: 258), as a method to extract the mandative *that*-clause complements. A trigger-based approach implies that any lexical token that appears with the MS is considered a trigger. The advantage of this approach, in the extraction of mandative clauses, is that it "allows for reliable statements concerning the extent to which a finite set of lexical expressions co-occurs with the subjunctive" (Crawford 2009: 258). However, as mentioned in section 5.1.2, a corpus-based trigger approach will never provide us with a

complete set of mandative sentences (Övergaard 1995: 13; Hundt 1998: 91; Crawford 2009: 258), but it will still provide sufficient data to draw some generalising conclusion about its use in different contexts.

Furthermore, since this study does not intend to use a wide range of mandative triggers, due to the size of GloWbE, the specific choice of mandative triggers needs to be justified. Crawford (2009) distinguishes between three categories of triggers: strong, moderate, and weak. Triggers that regularly coincide with the MS are considered ‘strong’ triggers, while triggers that irregularly accord with the MS are termed ‘weak’. For a trigger to be considered strong, it has to contain a mandative clause in 65 per cent or more of all instances. Instances under 40 per cent are considered weak, while a continuum between the strong and weak triggers is considered moderate (Crawford 2009: 263–264). Based on Crawford’s findings of the three categories in American and British English, he categorizes 16 mandative triggers as illustrated in Table 1:

**Table 1:** Crawford’s (2009: 264) classification of 16 mandative triggers in British and American English. From the *Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English*.

<b>Mandative triggers</b>		
<b>Strong</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Weak</b>
Ask	Dictate	Decide
Demand	Wish	Determine
Request		Ensure
Recommend		Insist
Order		Provide
Propose		Suggest
Require		
Urge		

Crawford’s classification of the mandative triggers is used as a basis for this thesis. Hundt (2018) argues that in the retrieval of data from larger corpora, such as GloWbE, it is necessary to restrict the selection of triggers in order to manage the manual post-editing. She reasons that the selection of triggers should be restricted to only those which demonstrate a regular trigger effect of mandative clauses. Hundt bases her selection of strong triggers on findings from previous studies (Övergaard 1995; Hoffman 1997; Crawford 2009; Waller 2017), and chooses the following six trigger verbs: *demand*, *order*, *propose*, *recommend*, *request* and *require*. Based on Hundt’s (2018) argumentation, I therefore limit this study to a selection of the strongest mandative triggers in order to retrieve sufficient data of mandative clauses.

However, Hundt (2018) restricts her study to mandative verb triggers only, and thereby excludes other word groups that have mandative meaning. This restriction may be considered a limitation of her study due to the loss of potential data that includes mandative clauses triggered by other word groups (see section 2.1.3). This limitation in Hundt’s study is also recognized by Lemmetty (2020: 29), and is, therefore, taken into consideration in this thesis. The collection of governing expressions in mandative constructions chosen for this study (see Table 2) is identical to those of Hundt (2018), but includes their equivalent nouns as well. The mandative triggers chosen for my study do not have related adjectives and are therefore not relevant in the extraction of the data.

**Table 2:** Governing expressions in mandative constructions chosen for this study

<b>Mandative verb triggers</b>	<b>Mandative noun triggers</b>
Demand	Demand
Order	Order
Propose	Proposal
Recommend	Recommendation
Request	Request
Require	Requirement

## **5.2 The extraction of mandative clauses**

The first stage in extracting the mandative clauses was to uncover the mandative triggers (Table 2) in the corpus, GloWbE. The corpus technique used in the extraction of the mandative subjunctive (MS) was concordances. Concordances allow for uncovering the contexts in which a word is used. The benefit of using concordances as a corpus technique when extracting mandative clauses is that the recall and precision are high. This means that the data from the corpus provides every case of the target word in the context in which it occurs (Gries 2017: 18). Another advantage of using concordances is that they are ‘maximally comprehensive’, meaning that it is possible to investigate how frequently a linguistic element coincides with your search word (Gries 2017: 18). In the case of the MS, this implies that concordances offer the possibility to interpret the use of the MS in the context that follows the mandative triggers. However, due to the manual analysis and lack of syntactic annotation, one must read the concordance lines oneself, which is highly time-consuming. Gries (2017: 19) suggests that a possible approach in dealing with multi-million concordance lines would be to investigate a sample of concordances to reflect an overall tendency of the linguistic phenomenon in question. This approach in handling large corpora was adopted by Hundt

(2018) in her study of the MS in GloWbE. Due to the large number of hits GloWbE offered when extracting the data, she chose to sample the concordance lines and retrieved one hundred variable contexts for each trigger verb within each English variety. Hence, in order to handle the large amount of hits GloWbE provides, I have chosen the same sampling method as Hundt for this study. A sample of 100 concordance lines for each of the six mandative triggers was investigated for each variety: Hong Kong English, Indian English, Philippine English, and Singapore English. Thus, a total of 2400 concordance lines were manually analysed.

As mentioned in section 5.1.3, this study adopts Crawford's 'trigger-approach' in the retrieval of the mandative clauses in context. All trigger verbs and their noun cognates (Table 2) were included in the search queries in GloWbE. In order to extract mandative clauses which include all instances of the lexical item, the concordance lines needed to display the sum of the data (forms) and not solely the correlations (words) as Pearson (2007: 14) explains. This was realized by using a wildcard search parameter in which each mandative trigger was used with the asterisk followed by the subjunction *that* (i.e., *recommend\* that*), thereby including all forms of the lemma (i.e., *recommend, recommends, recommended, recommending, recommendation*). In other words, the base form of all the six regular trigger verbs were used together with the asterisk in the search query. However, with the mandative triggers *require* and *propose*, an adjustment of the search query had to be made in order to not lose valuable data. In order to include all instances of the lemmas *require* and *propose*, the final vowel of the base form had to be omitted from the concordance lines (i.e., *requir\* that, propos\* that*) to embrace all forms of the trigger (i.e., *require, requires, required, requiring, requirement*). Furthermore, to restrict the data and increase the possibility of retrieving mandative clauses in the corpus, zero *that*-clauses were eliminated from the search. The reason for this restriction is that previous studies have shown that searches which do not include the conjunction *that* trigger fewer instances of mandative clauses and one may, therefore, end up with a large number of hits that comprise few instances of mandative clauses.

### **5.3 Framework of classification**

The classification of data for this study is based on the strengths and weaknesses of previous studies. A majority of previous studies on the mandative subjunctive (MS) in World Englishes have primarily divided the corpus data into two groups as a basis for their analysis: the subjunctive and *should*-periphrasis. However, as explained in section 2.1.3, the suasive word

groups do not only trigger mandative clauses and the periphrastic *should*, but also other alternative realizations. Thus, my study intends to provide a broader classification of the corpus data than previous studies on World Englishes have, and therefore, includes all five syntactic realizations introduced in section 2.1.3: the mandative subjunctive, *should*, other modals, indicatives, and non-distinct forms.

The data was organised in the five syntactic categories for each English variety chosen for this study: Hong Kong English, Philippine English, Indian English, and Singapore English. Moreover, the five syntactic categories were organised for each of the six mandative triggers: *demand*, *order*, *propose*, *recommend*, *request*, and *require*. Thereafter, each concordance line was plotted in Excel into the suitable category, and the frequency of each syntactic category was counted within each English variety and each mandative trigger. Occasionally, certain hits would not display the MS or the other alternative realizations immediately after the conjunction *that* (5.1). Several studies have previously overlooked concordance lines where the conjunction *that* is placed far away from the MS due to the laborious operation of manually retrieving the full concordance line. I decided to include those instances my study. Even though laboursome, I have manually retrieved them from the corpus by directly consulting the original source. One example is shown in (5.1):

- (5.1) Any Contracting Party may require that, for the purposes of any procedure before the Office, an applicant, holder or other interested person who has neither a domicile nor a real and effective industrial or commercial establishment on its territory be represented by a representative (GloWbE-SING)

As mentioned in 2.1.3, the neutralized forms, which mark the indicative and the subjunctive mood simultaneously, can be classified as non-distinct, or as ambiguous forms (Quirk et al.1985: 157). Thus, these forms were placed in their own category: non-distinct forms. However, during the retrieval of the mandative clauses, I discovered that the criteria for the category needed to be broadened due to the collective nouns. Lemmetty (2020: 33) experiences the same challenge in her study when retrieving mandative clauses in ICE. The collective nouns *government* (5.2), *parliament* (5.3) *couple* (5.4), and *congress* (5.5) occurred frequently in GloWbE. The ambiguity that occurs with collective nouns is related to the choice between singular and plural concord marker. Consequently, it is challenging to determine whether the suasive expressions trigger the mandative subjunctive or if it is a plural

subject-verb agreement. Due to this ambiguity, instances with these collective nouns were classified as “non-distinct”.

- (5.2) Brech said he **recommended that** the government establish an archives law in the early 1990s (GloWbE-HK).
- (5.3) Many women's groups **demanded that** Parliament act (GloWbE-SING).
- (5.4) They **demanded that** the childless couple pay them for " taking " their " pet (GloWbE-IND).
- (5.5) White House spokesman Jay Carney responded by **demanding that** Congress go ahead and raise the debt ceiling as part of any year-end deal (GloWbE-SING).

Lastly, this study does not classify the data in the different text types that GloWbE offers since the study does not include an analysis of the contexts in which theMS and its alternative realizations occur. However, in order for the data to be representative and to avoid that one of the text types was overrepresented, I ensured that the sample of 100 concordance lines for each of the mandative triggers represented the general distribution of text types in the corpus. As mentioned in section 4.2, sixty percent of the corpus is based on informal blogs and forty percent consists of other genres and text types such as newspapers, magazines, company websites and others. The concordance lines were therefore investigated manually to ensure that each sample included text types representative of the general distribution in the corpus.

## 6 Results and analysis

The following chapter presents the findings of the study and the analysis of the mandative subjunctive (MS) and its alternative realizations in four Asian postcolonial varieties. The chapter is divided into three sections corresponding to the three research questions formulated for this thesis (see section 1.1.1). Section 6.1 introduces the preliminary findings of the MS and its alternative realizations across four Asian postcolonial varieties. Subsection 6.1.1 focuses on the use and non-use of the MS in relation to the other alternative realizations, while subsection 6.1.2 provides a closer overview of the distribution of the alternative realizations. Thereafter, section 6.2 provides the secondary analysis, which details the distribution of the mandative triggers and how frequently they occur together with the MS and its alternative realizations across the four postcolonial varieties. Lastly, section 6.3 will present the tertiary analysis in which the distribution of the MS and *should*-periphrasis will be analysed in relation to data from Hundt's study (2018) of American and British English in GloWbE.

### 6.1 Preliminary analysis: Quantitative analysis of five syntactic mandative realizations

The first of aim of this study is to conduct a quantitative analysis of how frequently the MS and its alternative realizations occur in the four chosen Asian postcolonial Englishes. The quantitative analysis provides an overview of the frequency of the five syntactic realizations investigated in this study: the mandative subjunctive, *should*, other modals, indicatives, and non-distinct forms. The data comprises 1980 mandative clauses that were retrieved from the four subcorpora in GloWbE: GloWbE-PHI, GloWbE-SING, GloWbE-IND, and GloWbE-HK.

#### 6.1.1 Frequency of the mandative subjunctive across four postcolonial varieties

The frequency analysis of the MS in relation to other syntactic mandative realizations is presented in Table 3. The table displays the distribution of the MS across the four Asian varieties and the total distribution of the other four syntactic realizations: *should*, other modals, indicatives, and non-distinct forms. Table 3 thus gives an overview of how often the MS occurs in the postcolonial varieties in contrast to other mandative clauses. The results presented in Table 3 show that out of the 1980 clauses retrieved from the four subcorpora, a total of 668 concordances contain the MS. Calculated in relative frequency, this indicates that

33.7% of all mandative clauses in the four varieties contain the MS, while 66.3% of the data are realized as other syntactic variants. In sum, this suggests that the postcolonial Asian varieties as a whole usually resort to the alternative realizations in mandative clauses, rather than the MS.

**Table 3:** Absolute and relative frequencies (%) of the mandative subjunctive and the total of the other four mandative realizations in four GloWbE sub corpora.

	GloWbE <b>PHI</b>	GloWbE <b>SING</b>	GloWbE <b>IND</b>	GloWbE <b>HK</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Subjunctive</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>668</b>
	40.6%	34.4%	30.6%	29.8%	33.7%
<b>Alternative realizations</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>1312</b>
	59.4%	65.6%	69.4%	70.2%	66.3%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>1980</b>
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100 %

However, when examining each variety in isolation, there are certain differences between the varieties as expected. The data show a similar distribution of the MS and the alternative realizations between Hong Kong English (HK) and Indian English (IND). These varieties show the weakest preference for the MS, with a distribution of 29.8% for HK and 30.6% for IND. As for the other varieties, the results show that Singapore English (SING) is in an intermediate position in their use of the MS. However, SING still seems to correlate with IND and HK in their use of the MS, with a difference of 3-4%, rather than demonstrating a more innovative development in their use of the construction. In other words, SING reveals a trend of more neutral use of the MS by being less conservative than IND and HK. Lastly, the English variety which most noticeably deviates from the other varieties in question is PHI with a relative frequency of 40.6% in their use of the MS. Hence, as predicted, PHI is the postcolonial variety with the most idiosyncratic use of the MS.

### 6.1.2 Frequency of the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations

In the previous subsection, the results showed that PHI was the postcolonial variety with the highest frequency of the MS, followed by SING, IND and HK. Moreover, all the varieties revealed a higher preference for the alternative realizations combined rather than the MS. However, it is meaningful to investigate and compare the use of the MS to each alternative

realization and examine whether there are differences between the varieties in their use of the other mandative clauses.

**Table 4:** Absolute and relative frequencies (%) of the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations in four GloWbE sub corpora.

	GloWbE PHI	GloWbE SING	GloWbE IND	GloWbE HK	TOTAL
<b>subjunctive</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>668</b>
	40.6%	34.4%	30.6%	29.8%	33.7%
<b>should</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>217</b>
	8.4%	8.5%	15.1%	11.7%	11.0%
<b>indicative</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>210</b>
	10.5%	9.3%	11.7%	10.9%	10.6%
<b>other modals</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>299</b>
	14.4%	11.8%	15.9%	18.1%	15.1%
<b>non-distinct</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>586</b>
	26.2%	36.1%	26.9%	29.4%	29.6%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>1980</b>
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 4 presents a more comprehensive distribution of all the possible syntactic variants following the mandative triggers. An interesting finding is related to the distribution of *should* in all varieties. As expected, IND has the highest frequency of *should*-periphrasis with 15.1% followed by 11.7% in HK. SING and PHI, on the other hand, have the lowest frequencies and a roughly equal distribution of *should* with 8.4% in PHI and 8.5% in SING. Thus, SING does not show a trend similar to IND and HK in their use of the *should*-periphrasis, in contrast to the distribution of the MS where the three varieties revealed a relatively uniform distribution.

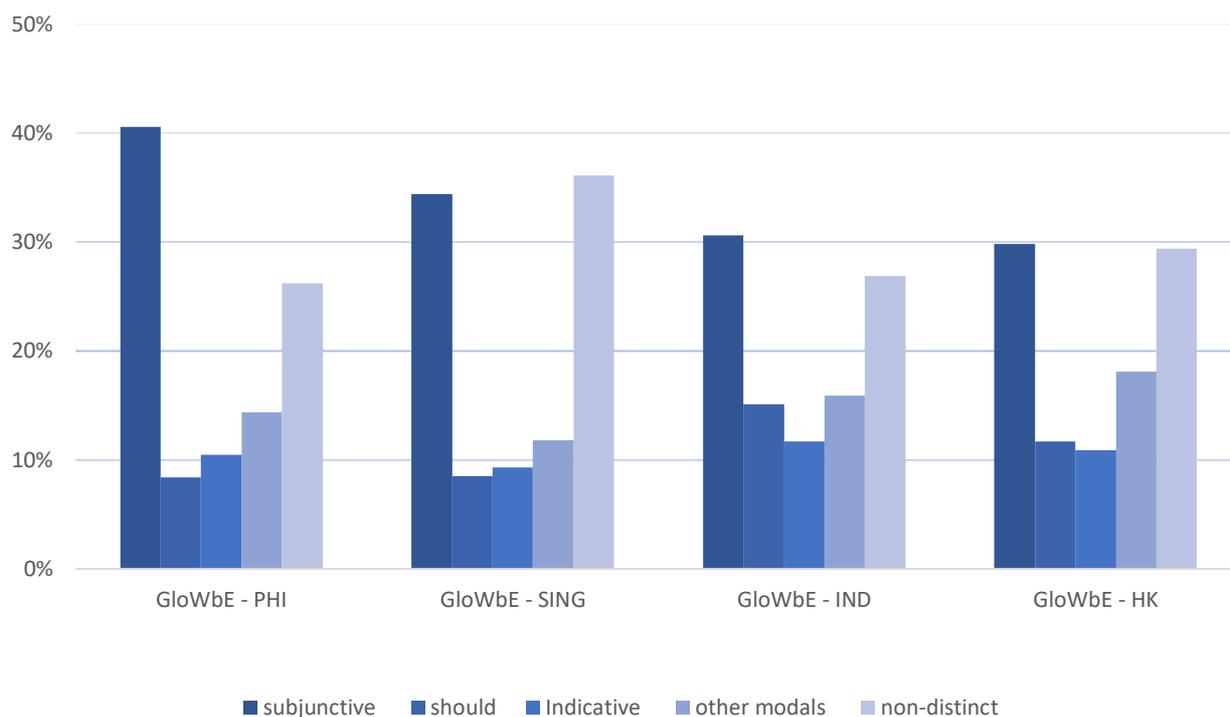
As for the distribution of the indicative, all varieties have an even distribution pattern in which IND has the highest frequency of indicatives with 11.7% followed by HK (10.9%) and PHI (10.5%). Interestingly, SING does not situate itself with the other British postcolonial Englishes, but rather seems to be the variety disfavoursing the indicative similarly to the *should*-periphrasis. However, the difference in the use of the indicative between the

four varieties is not large enough to establish that some varieties prefer the realization significantly more than the other varieties.

The distribution of other modals across the four different varieties differ to a moderate extent. The results show that other modals are more favoured in HK (18.1%) and IND (15.9%), while SING does not coincide with the other British postcolonial English and has a rather low frequency of the alternative realizations in contrast to the other two varieties. Moreover, PHI demonstrates a higher frequency of other modals (14.4%) than SING (11.8%) and seems to coincide with IND and HK more than SING does.

The distribution pattern of non-distinct forms demonstrates a degree of divergence between the four varieties. The variety that attests the highest frequency of non-distinct forms is SING (36.1%), followed by HK (29.4%), IND (26.9%), and PHI (26.2%). It is essential to take the high frequency of non-distinct forms in SING into consideration when evaluating the use and non-use of the MS in the different varieties. As mentioned in section 2.1.3, the mandative clauses that can be interpreted as either an indicative form or a mandative subjunctive are classified as non-distinct forms. This means that the high frequency of non-distinct forms in SING, and also the other varieties, may indicate that there may be cases of the MS that are not accounted for due to the ambiguity of establishing which syntactic realization it has. This is especially related to the collective nouns *government*, *parliament*, *couple*, and *congress* which occurred frequently in all four subcorpora, especially in SING (see section 5.3). Thus, this suggests that the frequency of the MS would have been higher for all varieties if we had treated these ambiguous cases as the MS rather than non-distinct forms, and therefore, explains the high frequency of non-distinct forms in all varieties.

Figure 2 visualizes the results presented in Table 4, and shows the distribution pattern of the mandative clauses for each variety more clearly. The figure shows that HK and IND have a similar distribution pattern. However, even though the MS and non-distinct forms have the highest frequency in all varieties, the distribution pattern of all mandative clauses is more even in IND and HK in contrast to SING and PHI. There is a greater difference between the use of the MS and the other syntactic variants in PHI and SING than in IND and HK, signifying that PHI and SING have a stronger preference for the MS, while IND and HK are more prone to produce the indicative, *should*-periphrasis and other modals.



**Figure 2:** The distribution of mandative clauses in four GloWbE subcorpora (%).

## 6.2 Secondary analysis: Distribution of mandative triggers

The previous section provided an overview of the distribution pattern of the MS and its alternative realizations across four different Asian Englishes. Moreover, it gave an insight to the similarities and differences in how the mandative clauses are distributed across the varieties and to what extent the distribution pattern of the mandative clauses within each variety differed. The aim of this subsection is to expand on the previous section and answer the second research question of this thesis, which involves investigating the role the mandative triggers play in the distribution of the mandative clauses in the four varieties. As mentioned in section 5.1.3, previous studies have shown that the lexical items, or the mandative triggers, play a significant role in the frequency of the different mandative clauses (Övergaard 1995; Hoffman 1997; Crawford 2009; Waller 2017). In other words, triggers that occur frequently with the MS are considered strong triggers, while triggers that demonstrate a low trigger effect are considered weak. This thesis has followed Hundt's (2018) selection of strong mandative triggers, but intends to expand on her study by investigating how the mandative triggers behave with mandative clauses other than the MS and *should*-periphrasis. This subsection will initially investigate the distribution of the MS and its alternative

realizations across six triggers for all the varieties, followed by the tendencies for each Asian variety.

**Table 5:** Distribution of the mandative subjunctive and the total of the alternative realizations across six mandative triggers in four GloWbE subcorpora. Raw and absolute frequencies (%)

<b>TRIGGER</b>	<b>TOTAL SUBJ</b>	<b>TOTAL OTHERS</b>	<b>% SUBJ</b>
<b>Demand</b>	157	190	45.2%
<b>Order</b>	76	187	28.9%
<b>Propose</b>	59	265	18.2%
<b>Recommend</b>	77	286	21.2%
<b>Request</b>	164	165	49.8%
<b>Require</b>	135	219	38.1%

Table 5 presents the distribution of the MS and the total of the other syntactic variants across all the lexical triggers. We see that there are certain mandative triggers that demonstrate a strong preference for the MS in GloWbE. *Request* produced the highest rate of the MS with 49.8% followed by *demand* (45.2%) and *require* (38.1%). The lexical triggers that produced a higher rate of the alternative realizations than the MS were *recommend* (21.2%) and *propose* (18.2%), while the trigger *order* (28.9%) is in an intermediate position between the other mandative triggers clauses, which indicates that specific triggers are stronger than others. Hence, the results indicate that the lexical triggers play a significant role in the choice of mandative clauses. In the following section, a comprehensive distribution of the mandative triggers within each Asian variety will be provided in Table 6.

As already displayed in Table 4, all varieties demonstrated a high frequency of the MS, but some varieties differed more greatly from the others. Table 6 is a supplement to Table 4, emphasizing the distribution for each mandative trigger. The distribution pattern of the mandative subjunctive has a similar tendency across all varieties, but there are some deviating instances that merit mention. The mandative triggers that most regularly coincide with the MS are *demand*, *request*, and *require* across three of the four varieties, PHI, SING, and HK, which reflects the results in Table 4 as well. However, it is important to remark that

**Table 6:** Mandative triggers across four GloWbE subcorpora. Raw and absolute frequencies (%)

TRIGGER	GloWbE PHI			GloWbE SING			GloWbE IND			GloWbE HK		
	Subj	Other	% Subj	Subj	Other	% Subj	Subj	Other	% Subj	Subj	Other	% Subj
<b>Demand</b>	52	36	<b>59.1%</b>	38	46	<b>45.2%</b>	39	48	<b>44.8%</b>	28	60	<b>31.8%</b>
<b>Order</b>	15	51	<b>22.7%</b>	13	36	<b>26.5%</b>	32	45	<b>41.6%</b>	16	55	<b>22.5%</b>
<b>Propose</b>	20	55	<b>26.7%</b>	19	63	<b>23.2%</b>	6	75	<b>7.4 %</b>	14	72	<b>16.3%</b>
<b>Recommend</b>	21	62	<b>25.3%</b>	18	79	<b>18.6%</b>	20	70	<b>22.2%</b>	18	75	<b>19.4%</b>
<b>Request</b>	45	35	<b>56.3%</b>	44	40	<b>52.4%</b>	31	49	<b>38.8%</b>	44	41	<b>51.8%</b>
<b>Require</b>	41	45	<b>47.7%</b>	35	54	<b>39.3%</b>	26	63	<b>29.2%</b>	33	57	<b>36.7%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	194	284	<b>40.6%</b>	167	318	<b>34.4%</b>	154	350	<b>30.6%</b>	153	360	<b>29.8%</b>

even though HK has the same strong triggers as PHI and SING, the overall rate is still lower, especially for the mandative trigger *demand*. An interesting finding is related to the distribution pattern of the mandative triggers in IND. IND seems to deviate from PHI, SING, and HK in that it does not display an equally high co-occurrence of the same mandative triggers, but rather produces a high frequency of the trigger *order* instead of *require*. Another important discovery is related to the trigger *propose* in which IND produces a considerably lower proportion of the MS than the other Asian varieties. Thus, the results reveal the Asian varieties produce a high rate of the MS with the same triggers, with the exception of IND. IND seems to deviate from the other varieties by producing higher instances of the MS with certain triggers that are considered weak in the other varieties.

	GloWbE-PHI						GloWbE-SING						GloWbE-IND						GloWbE-HK					
TRIGGER	Subj	Should	Ind	Oth. m	Non-dist	Total	Subj	Should	Ind	Oth. m	Non-dist	Total	Subj	Should	Ind	Oth. mod	Non-dist	Total	Subj	Should	Ind	Oth. mod	Non-dist	Total
<b>Demand</b>	52 10.9%	3 0.6%	6 1.3%	9 1.9%	18 3.8%	88 18.4%	38 7.8%	2 0.4%	6 1.2%	6 1.2%	32 6.6%	84 17.3%	39 7.7%	20 4.0%	5 1.0%	6 1.2%	17 3.4%	87 16.7%	28 5.5%	6 1.2%	9 1.8%	9 1.8%	36 7.0%	88 17.2%
<b>Order</b>	15 3.1%	6 1.3%	5 1.0%	32 6.7%	8 1.8%	66 13.8%	13 2.7%	4 0.8%	5 1.0%	23 4.7%	4 0.8%	49 10.1%	32 6.3%	10 2.0%	5 1.0%	27 5.4%	3 0.6%	77 15.3%	16 3.1%	3 0.6%	12 2.3%	34 6.6%	6 1.2%	71 13.8%
<b>Propose</b>	20 4.9%	11 2.3%	21 4.4%	13 2.7%	10 2.1%	75 15.7%	19 3.9%	20 4.1%	15 3.1%	13 2.7%	15 3.1%	82 16.9%	6 1.2%	13 2.6%	25 4.7%	23 4.6%	14 2.8%	81 16.1%	14 2.7%	21 4.1%	22 4.3%	21 4.1%	8 1.6%	86 16.8%
<b>Recommend</b>	21 4.4%	13 2.7%	5 1.0%	0 0%	44 9.2%	83 17.4%	18 3.7%	6 1.2%	10 2.1%	1 0.2%	62 12.8%	97 20.0%	20 4.0%	16 3.2%	4 0.8%	4 0.8%	46 9.1%	90 17.9%	18 3.5%	17 3.3%	4 0.8%	5 1.0%	49 9.6%	93 18.1%
<b>Request</b>	45 9.4%	1 0.2%	5 1.0%	5 1.0%	24 5.0%	80 16.7%	44 9.1%	5 1.0%	1 0.2%	7 1.4%	27 5.6%	84 17.3%	31 6.2%	9 1.8%	6 1.2%	10 2.0%	24 4.8%	80 15.9%	44 8.6%	6 1.7%	2 0.4%	9 1.8%	24 4.7%	85 16.6%
<b>Require</b>	41 8.6%	6 1.3%	8 1.7%	10 2.1%	21 4.4%	86 18.0%	35 7.2%	8 1.7%	4 0.8%	7 1.4%	35 7.2%	89 18.4%	26 5.2%	8 1.6%	14 2.8%	10 2.0%	31 6.2%	89 17.7%	33 6.4%	7 1.4%	7 1.4%	15 2.9%	28 5.5%	90 17.5%
<b>Total</b>	194 40.6%	40 8.4%	50 10.5%	69 14.4%	125 26.2%	478 100%	167 34.4%	45 9.3%	41 8.5%	57 11.8%	175 36.1%	485 100%	154 30.6%	76 15.1%	59 11.7%	80 15.9%	135 26.8%	504 100%	153 29.8%	60 11.7%	56 10.9%	93 18.1%	151 29.4%	513 100%

**Table 7:** Distribution of the mandative subjunctive and each alternative realization by trigger. Raw and absolute frequencies (%).

In subsection 6.1, I introduced the distribution of the five types of mandative clause across the four Asian varieties, visually displaying the varieties' tendencies in their use of the different mandative clauses (Figure 2). The results revealed that HK and IND have a similar and an even distribution pattern of the five types of mandative clause, in contrast to SING and PHI, which demonstrated higher frequencies of the MS and greater discrepancies between the different realizations. A more detailed distribution of the five syntactic realizations is presented in Table 7, this time providing an overview of the distribution pattern for each mandative trigger.

In the case of PHI, we established in the previous section that it has a considerably higher occurrence of the MS than the other three varieties. Interestingly, the results also demonstrated that the generation of the MS occurs with a specific set of triggers in all four varieties (*demand, request, require*) with the exception of IND (*demand, request, order*). This shows that the realization of the MS is not evenly distributed across the six triggers. Table 7 displays that this pattern occurs for alternative realizations as well.

In the case of *should*-periphrasis, PHI and SING generally produce few instances of the syntactic variant. *Should* in PHI is the syntactic realization with the lowest frequency (8,4%) across all four Asian varieties. Similar to the situation of the MS, there are only two triggers that seem to generate the majority of the *should*-periphrasis; *recommend* (2.7%) and *propose* (2.3%). SING exhibits a similar trend to PHI in the distribution of *should*-periphrasis (9.3%), and a similar distribution applies to the remaining realizations, with the exception of the MS, as established in section 6.1.2. However, some differences are evident in the case of the mandative triggers. Even though both PHI and SING have a relatively equal rate of the different syntactic variants, the difference lies in how the triggers behave in the two varieties. *Propose* generates the majority of *should*-periphrasis in SING (4.1%). PHI, on the other hand, does not produce as apparent results for its triggers.

IND and HK produce the highest frequencies of *should*-periphrasis, with IND demonstrating the greatest preference for the syntactic variant. The distribution of *should* is more evenly distributed across the six triggers in IND, indicating that the realization of *should* in IND is not as lexically conditioned as in the other English varieties. However, IND shows some similarities to PHI in having a high frequency of *should* with the mandative trigger *recommend*, but differs from the other varieties in that *demand* provides the highest frequency of *should*. In the case of HK, the variety generates *should*-periphrasis more frequently than PHI and SING, but less frequently than IND, placing HK in an intermediate position. Interestingly, the *should*-periphrasis in HK seems to coincide with the mandative triggers

*propose* (21) and *recommend* (17) in the majority of the instances. This demonstrates that HK has more in common with PHI and SING in mandative triggers generating the periphrastic *should*. Similar to PHI and SING, *propose* seems to govern the most *should*-periphrasis in HK followed by *recommend*. In sum, the results indicate that the mandative triggers behave differently with the *should*-periphrasis in IND than the other varieties, and that the mandative triggers in the other three varieties behave more similarly.

Another finding is related to the distribution of the indicative. There is an even distribution of the indicative between PHI (10.5%), HK (10.9%). However, IND (11.7%) has a slightly higher frequency level, while SING (8.5%) shows the lowest rate. The most central finding is related to how the mandative triggers behave differently across SING and PHI varieties. The mandative trigger *propose* in PHI coincides with the indicative in 21 (4.4%) out of 50 instances indicating its strength in generating the realization in PHI. In SING, both *propose* (3.1%) and *recommend* (2.1%) seem to be strong triggers of the indicative, while *request*, *demand*, *require*, and *order* appear to be weak triggers of the indicative in both varieties. The same applies to IND and HK, where *propose* is clearly the strongest trigger of the indicative. However, IND demonstrates signs of having more than one mandative trigger generating this syntactic variant: Both *propose* (4.7%) and *require* (2.8%) appear to produce many instances of the indicative in IND. Thus, the results show that *propose* is the strongest mandative trigger in producing the indicative across all four varieties. However, IND is different from the other varieties in having many instances of the indicative with *require*, which is considered a weak trigger of the indicative in the other Asian varieties.

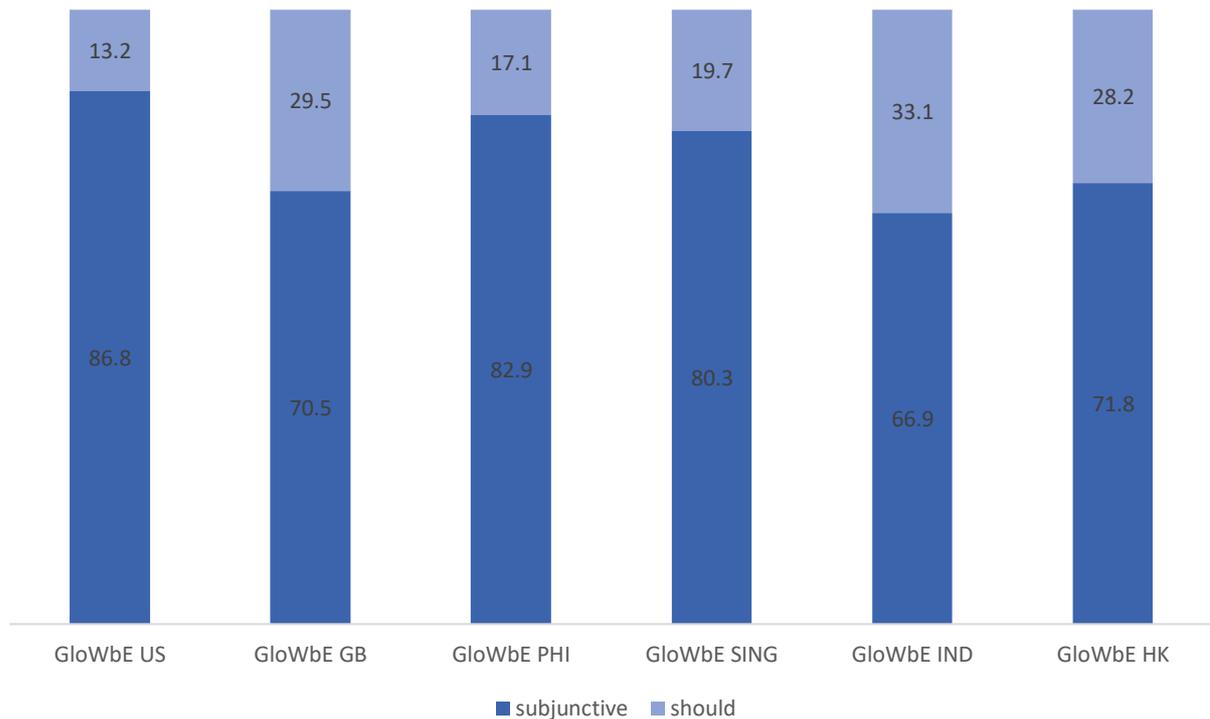
So far, the results demonstrate that IND differs from the other English varieties in how *should* and the indicative are distributed across the six triggers. However, with other modals, IND does not display any distinct trends and rather agrees with the other three varieties. What all the Asian Englishes have in common is that *order*, followed by *propose*, seem to be the strongest triggers of other modals. IND and HK distinguish themselves from the other two varieties to a certain extent in that *require* also appears to be a stronger trigger than the remaining weak triggers. This finding is not unexpected for IND as it displayed a similar distribution for the *should*-periphrasis. These results indicate that the mandative trigger *propose* is not only a strong trigger for other modals, but appears to be the trigger that generates the majority of the alternative realizations except the non-distinct forms. In the overall distribution of other modals, IND and HK produce the highest frequency. However, all varieties display higher instances of 'other modals' than *should*-periphrasis and the indicative.

Lastly, there is no major difference between the four varieties as concerns the realizations of non-distinct forms; they rather appear to demonstrate a parallel trend. In all varieties, the concentration of non-distinct forms is found with the trigger *recommend*, which is stronger in PHI than the other varieties. The other three varieties produce many instances of non-distinct forms with the triggers *demand*, *request*, and *require*, as well as a more even distribution of the mandative triggers than in PHI. The results also suggest that *recommend* is a stronger trigger for non-distinct forms than the MS across the majority of the varieties, placing the trigger *recommend* as the most frequent trigger of non-distinct forms.

### **6.3 Tertiary analysis: The mandative subjunctive and the periphrastic *should* across six English varieties**

The aim of this section is to respond to the third research question of this thesis, which intends to analyse the distribution of the mandative subjunctive and the periphrastic *should* in six English varieties in GloWbE: American English (AmE), British English (BrE), Philippine English, Indian English, and Hong Kong English. The purpose is to investigate to which extent the four Asian postcolonial varieties differ from or align with their matrilects, AmE and BrE. The data for AmE and BrE have been extracted from Hundt (2018) and will be the foundation for the comparison with the other four varieties. The comparison will be based on the distribution of the MS and the periphrastic *should*, thereby excluding the other alternative realizations from the analysis. However, there are previous studies which have investigated the other alternative realizations in AmE and BrE (Leech et al. 2009, Waller 2017), but since their studies use ICE and F-LOB data, a comparison between GloWbE and their chosen corpora would not be representative. Moreover, this study uses the same methodology and sampling method as Hundt (2018), and for that reason, the comparison between the varieties will be limited to the two syntactic realizations chosen for her study for reasons of comparability.

Figure 3 (see page 47) shows the distribution of the MS and *should*-periphrasis across six varieties in GloWbE. As Hundt (2018) anticipated, AmE has the highest rate of the MS with a 86.8% frequency level, followed by the variety of its former colony PHI (82.9%). PHI's affiliation with AmE confirms the prediction made for the two varieties.



**Figure 3:** Absolute frequencies (%) of the mandative subjunctives and the periphrastic *should* from six GloWbE subcorpora. GloWbE-US and GloWbE-GB have been extracted from Hundt (2018).

If we turn to the distribution pattern of BrE and the British postcolonial varieties, the results show some notable patterns. Previous studies (Peters 2009; Hundt 2018) have predicted that BrE will demonstrate the highest proportion of *should* out of all varieties of English. However, the data from GloWbE indicate differently. BrE seems to have increased its use of the MS to over two thirds of the total instances (70.5%). IND, on the other hand, appears to be the variety which has preserved the periphrastic *should* (33.1%) even more than BrE (29.1%), indicating their conservative position in the use of the MS. If we turn to another British postcolonial variety, SING, the results interestingly show that the variety's use of the MS does not adhere to that of its previous colonizer, but rather aligns more with AmE and PHI. The variety that seems to align with BrE the most is HK with a 71.8% frequency level, demonstrating that HK is the British postcolonial variety that adheres the most to the language of its previous colonizer. Hence, HK and PHI are the two Asian English varieties that align with their matrillect by remaining conservative in their use of the MS and *should*, while SING and IND show certain differences. IND is more conservative than its previous colonizer, while SING demonstrates greater innovativeness than its matrillect. A last and important remark is related to the overall tendency of the MS in all Englishes, which shows that it is

used more frequently than the periphrastic *should* in all varieties. This finding indicates an increase of the subjunctive not only in Englishes based on AmE, but also an increase in BrE and the British postcolonial varieties in general.

## 7 Discussion

The objective of this study was to examine the use of the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations in four Asian postcolonial Englishes in *The Corpus of Global Web-Based English*. Each research question will be discussed in light of relevant theory and previous studies (see chapters 2 and 3) on the mandative subjunctive in World Englishes. The following research questions were addressed:

**RQ1:** How frequently does the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations occur in the four Asian postcolonial varieties?

**RQ2:** What role do the mandative triggers play in the distribution of the mandative clauses in the four Asian postcolonial varieties?

**RQ3:** How does the distribution of the mandative subjunctive and *should* in the four Asian postcolonial varieties differ from or align with British and American English?

### 7.1 RQ1: The mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations in four Asian postcolonial varieties

The findings from GloWbE revealed that the Asian English variety that is more disposed to use the MS is PHI, confirming the hypothesis for this thesis and findings from previous studies on the MS in PHI (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020). According to Hundt's (2018) and Lemmetty's (2020) studies of the MS in ICE-PHI, the American postcolonial variety demonstrated conservative linguistic traits by preserving the linguistic norms of its previous colonizer. The same conclusions were drawn by Schneider (2011), who stated that the high frequencies of the MS in PHI "place it in close proximity to American English, in line with its history and normative orientation" (2011: 170). Hence, the results from GloWbE-PHI, a more up to date corpus than ICE-PHI, confirm and strengthen this statement demonstrating that PHI's affiliation with AmE does not seem to have changed much.

Another finding is related to the distribution of the MS in SING, IND and HK. In previous studies, SING has demonstrated a similar distribution pattern of the MS as PHI, and deviated considerably from IND and HK, which produced lower frequencies of the construction (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020). In my study, SING

revealed a similar distribution pattern of the MS as PHI, supporting previous conclusions drawn about the two varieties' use of the construction. However, in the case of IND and HK, GloWbE-SING deviates from GloWbE-IND and GloWbE-HK to a lesser degree than previous corpus studies based on ICE have suggested. As SING has maintained a generally high frequency of the MS, IND and HK have experienced an increase in their use of the MS in recent time. This finding is central and provides the field of corpus-based studies of World Englishes with new evidence of the linguistic development in IND and HK. A possible explanation of this type of increase in British postcolonial varieties has been discussed by Hundt (2018) who suggests that the upsurge of the MS in BrE and British postcolonial varieties may be a result of Americanisation in which "AmE serves as a hub variety for ongoing change across Englishes" (Hundt 2018: 23). However, researchers have also warned about explaining the increase of American linguistic traits in British postcolonial varieties as Americanization due to the difficulty of attesting whether this is the case or not (Algeo 1992; Hundt 1998; Vine 1999; Hundt 2018). Hence, it is difficult to arrive at a clear explanation for the increase of the MS in IND and HK, but the role of globalization and AmE influence must not be entirely disregarded.

In the case of the alternative realizations, the results revealed some diverging distribution patterns across the four postcolonial varieties. SING and PHI displayed the most similar and lowest distribution patterns across all alternative realizations, confirming previous research (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020). As previous studies have discovered, SING attest fewer instances of the indicative, *should*-periphrasis and other modals than IND and HK. These results indicate that HK and IND preserve the linguistic norms of their previous colonizer to a larger extent than SING. As for the non-distinct forms, SING demonstrated the highest frequency followed by HK, IND, and PHI. As mentioned in section 6.1.2, the high rate of non-distinct forms may indicate SING's preference for the MS over the other alternative realizations. According to Peters (2009), a possible explanation for SING's disagreement with its colonial parent and adherence with AmE may be due to the cooperative regional alliances between PHI and SING, such as the South-East Asian Ministers of Education Organization (2009: 251). However, Lemmetty (2020) challenges this claim and states that justifying SING's use of the MS with Peter's explanation seems somehow ineffective for a marginal grammatical category such as the subjunctive (2020: 62–63).

As for IND and HK, the varieties displayed the highest frequency and the most even distribution pattern of the alternative realizations. The high frequency of *should*, indicatives

and other modals confirm the observations made in previous studies (Schneider 2000; Peters 2009; Hundt 2018; Lemmetty 2020). However, the results presented in my study differ to some extent from those of Lemmetty (2020). The results from ICE-HK and ICE-IND in Lemmetty's study showed that the use of the MS in IND resembles that of HK, which is confirmed in GloWbE-IND and GloWbE-HK as well. However, in the case of the alternative variants, GloWbE-IND demonstrates a larger proportion of *should*, indicatives and other modals compared to GloWbE-HK, which seems to have decreased in its use of the alternative realizations. Lemmetty's findings from ICE revealed that HK had a higher frequency of the indicative (23%) than any other variety, while GloWbE-HK attested a considerably lower frequency (10.9%), in other words, a similar distribution as the other three postcolonial varieties. My findings suggest that IND preserves the linguistic norms of its colonial parent to a greater extent than HK and SING, and that a shift in the HK's use of the mandative clauses may have occurred. However, more data is needed in order to draw generalizing conclusions about the potential change occurring in HK, but the results from my study challenge Lemmetty's findings and reveal an increase in HK's use of the MS. Lemmetty (2020: 62) and Hundt (2018: 21) propose that HK's increase in its use of the MS and non-distinct forms can potentially be explained by the presence of Cantonese, which is a morphologically weak language. Thus, one may therefore expect HK to produce a higher proportion of the MS and non-distinct forms than the other alternative realizations, which the data from GloWbE confirm.

## 7.2 RQ2: The role of the mandative triggers

The second research question aimed at investigating the role the mandative triggers play in the distribution of the mandative clauses, first and foremost investigating whether lexical triggers and variety play a significant role in the distribution of the mandative clauses. The results from GloWbE showed that in all the postcolonial varieties combined, the lexical triggers *request* (49.8%), *demand* (45.2%), and *require* (38.1%) co-occurred with the MS more frequently than *order* (28.9%), *recommend* (21.2%), and *propose* (18.2%). My finding confirms previous studies on the same set of lexical triggers, which patterned themselves similarly to those of Hundt's (2018) lexical items. However, Hundt (2018) did not include an analysis of each English variety, but only investigated the combined distribution pattern of AmE, BrE, and IND. For that reason, this study intends to provide a more comprehensive analysis of the distribution pattern for each postcolonial variety in question in order to expand

on Hundt's study. The data revealed that PHI, SING, and HK produce the majority of the MS with the same lexical triggers (*demand, request, require*), but that the distribution pattern across the three triggers vary to a certain degree. IND, on the other hand, shows similar tendencies as the other three varieties in that *request* and *demand* also produce high instances of the MS, but the trigger *order* ranks at the top in contrast to the other three varieties in which *order* is found to be a weak trigger of the MS.

Moreover, in the case of the alternative realizations, the data from GloWbE revealed the same pattern as the results in Hundt (2018), in which *propose* and *recommend* co-occur with *should* most frequently in all varieties except IND. IND coincides with the other varieties in that *recommend* ranks as one the strongest triggers of *should*-periphrasis, while the trigger *demand* behaves differently in IND and is one of the strongest indicators of *should*. Another interesting finding is related to the behaviour of the mandative triggers with the indicatives, other modals and non-distinct forms. As Hundt (2018) only investigated how the triggers behave with the mandative subjunctive and *should*-periphrasis, the current study provides new data from GloWbE for the indicatives, other modals and non-distinct forms to expand on her analysis. The results revealed that PHI, SING and HK have a similar distribution of the alternative realizations, with *propose* being the strongest trigger for the indicative. *Propose* ranked high in IND as well, but the mandative trigger *require*, a weak trigger in the other varieties, also seemed to co-occur frequently with the indicative. The same distribution pattern was found with other modals, but the trigger *order* appeared to coincide with other modals at a similar range as *propose*. Lastly, the distribution of triggers for the non-distinct forms displayed a similar pattern as for the MS in which *demand, request, and require* ranked the highest.

The results of the MS and its alternative realizations reveal that the mandative triggers in IND seem to occasionally pattern themselves differently than the other three varieties which show a similar behaviour across the different triggers. This finding indicates that the lexical triggers are significant in the realization of the mandative clauses. Previous research (Peters 2009; Hundt 2018; Deshors & Gries 2020; Lemmetty 2020) draw the same conclusions about the significance and role of the lexical items. Hundt (2018) studied different predictor variables in order to investigate which variable determines the choice of the MS and *should*-periphrasis. My findings coincide with those of Hundt (2018), showing that the lexical triggers appear to be a stronger predictor than variety in the choice of the different mandative clauses. However, due to the deviations of the distribution pattern in IND,

one must not fully disregard the role of variety as a predictor variable in the distribution of triggers across Englishes.

### **7.3 RQ3: The mandative subjunctive and the periphrastic *should* across six English varieties**

The third and final aim the study was to investigate how the mandative subjunctive and *should*-periphrasis in the four postcolonial varieties chosen for the current study differ from or correspond to British and American use of the construction. As mentioned in section 6.3, the data for AmE and BrE was based on data from Hundt's (2018) study. As she only investigated the MS and *should*-periphrasis in GloWbE, an evaluation of the other syntactic variants is therefore not included. The results revealed a generally high frequency of the MS in all varieties, with AmE taking the lead, while BrE showed the lowest rate of this construction. As for the postcolonial varieties, PHI aligned with its matrilect and produced greater instances of the MS than *should*-periphrasis. This confirms Schneider's conclusions that the use of the MS in PHI who states that "in this small sub-area of grammar, Philippine English has fully taken over and internalized the American linguistic norm" (Schneider 2011: 169). SING, however, does not align with its matrilect BrE, but rather appears to follow the linguistic norms of AmE. IND and HK, on the other hand, produced the lowest instances of the MS, thereby showing a greater preference for the periphrastic *should* than SING. However, IND revealed a stronger preference for the *should*-periphrasis than its matrilect, a fact that has not been uncovered in previous corpus studies, confirming the conclusions drawn in previous research (Hundt 2018).

#### **7.3.1 Classification of four Asian postcolonial Englishes in Schneider's Dynamic Model**

As mentioned in section 1.1.1, the current study aims at discussing how the results from GloWbE reflect the developmental phases the four postcolonial varieties have reached in Schneider's Dynamic Model and whether the phases proposed in previous studies coincide with those of the current study. The main principle of Schneider's model is that "as a variety progresses along the developmental cycle, it becomes nativized and thus diverges, structurally, from its matrilect" (Hundt 2018: 22). In the case of the MS, GloWbE revealed some interesting findings that are worthy of discussion. The variety that adhered the most to its matrilect, was PHI, demonstrating the most apparent preference for the MS over the alternative syntactic variants. Hence, the results from GloWbE-PHI align with the conclusions

drawn in previous research (Peters 2009; Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018), which indicated that PHI has reached phase three, a nativization phase. Compared to the other three postcolonial varieties, PHI was the only one that displayed minor differences from previous corpus-based research. This confirms Schneider's claim about the Dynamic Model no longer being applicable to PHI due to the level of stagnation it has reached. Hence, my study reveals that further development of idiosyncratic features and innovations in the variety are unlikely. These conservative features were also observed by Bautista (2010), who refers to Peters' (1998) description of PHI's deteriorating progression as a "colonial lag" (2010: 21). However, Bautista predicted that this so-called "colonial lag" might disappear in the near future, but the results from GloWbE, a more up-to-date corpus, do not show any signs of PHI moving towards an endonormative orientation.

The second variety which showed high frequency of the MS was SING. In contrast to PHI, the results from GloWbE-SING did not seem to correlate with the BrE use of the MS and *should*-periphrasis. As mentioned earlier, SING rather seems to align with PHI and AmE use of the MS. This indicates that SING does not align with the linguistic norms of its respective matrilect, but rather seems to structurally deviate from it, as also discovered in Peters (2009), Schneider (2011), and Hundt (2018). The high rate of the non-distinct forms also seemed to be a distinct feature of SING compared to the other varieties. Hence, SING reveals clear signs of moving beyond phase three in Schneider's Dynamic Model and has entered an advanced level of endonormative stabilization, confirming Schneider's (2007, 2011) classification of the Asian variety. SING's divergence from its matrilect indicates a high level of innovation and a development of its own local norms characteristic of phase four in the Dynamic Model. Schneider (2007) and Pakir (2001) have also proposed that the level of homogeneity and distinctiveness in syntactic patterns may suggest a transition towards phase five: differentiation. However, even though my study of the MS, a narrow grammatical category, may confirm this transition, further research on other grammatical categories ought to be approached in order to verify this claim.

Previous research on IND's use of the MS and alternative realizations concluded that IND appears to be the postcolonial variety that aligns the most with its matrilect. Scholars (Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018) have therefore determined that IND has reached phase three in the Dynamic Model. Schneider (2007) previously questioned whether IND may be moving towards a phase four, endonormative stabilization, but due to the lack of stabilization and codification, he concluded that IND does not show clear enough signs of transitioning into endonormative stabilization. However, the results from GloWbE-IND in

Hundt's (2018) study of the MS revealed that IND has gradually progressed in terms of homogeneity and was therefore placed in a continuum of phase three and four. My study revealed similar results as Hundt (2018), thereby expanding on Schneider's (2011) findings from the Kolhapur Corpus. IND displayed a higher frequency level of the MS in GloWbE, confirming Hundt's (2018) findings. However, IND produced a lower rate of the MS than its matrilect. These results uncover that IND does not seem to fully align with its matrilect as hypothesized in previous studies (Bautista 2010; Schneider 2011; Hundt 2018), but rather seems to have established some of its own linguistic preferences. Whether a stronger maintenance and preference for the *should*-periphrasis and the other alternative realizations suggest a transition into phase four is challenging to ascertain through the study of mandative subjunctive alone, but a potential transition must not be fully disregarded. This transition should especially be considered due to IND's distribution pattern of the alternative syntactic variants and how they distinctively distribute themselves across the six mandative triggers.

As mentioned previously, previous research on the MS (Lemmetty 2020) has generally predicted that IND and HK would both align with their matrilect, but my study shown a different result, thereby challenging previous findings. The study has already established that IND does not fully adhere to its matrilect. In the case of HK, the results from GloWbE revealed that HK appeared to be the variety aligning the most with BrE. The MS and the alternative realizations distributed themselves relatively evenly in IND and HK, but HK seemed to align more in their use of the MS and *should*-periphrasis with their matrilect than IND. As mentioned in section 2.4.3, the conclusions drawn by Hundt (2018) and Lemmetty (2020) differed, but in a sense comply with Schneider's (2007) conclusion in which HK is placed between the phase two and three. My study revealed a lower rate of the indicatives in HK than Lemmetty (2020), demonstrating some divergence from BrE. Hence, the results from GloWbE-HK seem to comply with some of the features of phase three of the Dynamic Model, but has not developed strong enough idiosyncratic features in its distribution of the mandative clauses to determine a full transition to phase three in the Dynamic Model. Hence, the findings from my study correspond to Hundt's classification of HK.

## 8 Concluding remarks

The objective of this study was to conduct a quantitative analysis of the use of the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations across four Asian postcolonial varieties: Indian English, Singapore English, Philippine English, and Hong Kong English. In order to investigate the study's research questions, a corpus-based trigger approach was chosen to perform the analysis using *The Corpus of Global Web-Based English* (GloWbE). The results from the quantitative analysis were additionally viewed and discussed in light of Schneider's Dynamic Model.

The findings from the preliminary analysis revealed that PHI and SING produced the MS more frequently than IND and HK, resonating with previous conclusions on the accordance between PHI and SING. In the case of HK, my study has been able to provide new evidence from GloWbE which suggests an increase in its use of the MS compared to results from previous corpus studies based on the ICE corpora. IND also revealed an increase in its use of the MS, confirming Hundt's (2018) findings from GloWbE-IND. Moreover, my findings revealed that IND deviates from the other varieties in its high preference for the alternative realizations which challenges previous conclusions suggesting that HK is the postcolonial variety that demonstrates the highest production of the alternative variants, especially the indicative.

The secondary analysis investigated the distribution of the mandative triggers across the four postcolonial varieties. The results revealed that the mandative triggers *request*, *demand* and *require* produced the highest proportion of the MS across all varieties except IND, which showed a higher co-occurrence of the MS with the trigger *order* rather than *require*. IND revealed diverging patterns in the case of the alternative variants as well. Thus, my study has been able to confirm conclusions drawn in previous research, which also revealed the high co-occurrence of the MS with the triggers *request*, *demand*, and *require*. However, I have been able to provide new evidence on the diverging distribution patterns of the mandative triggers in IND. My findings confirm previous conclusions made about the lexical triggers being the strongest predictors for the realization of the syntactic variants, but the results from GloWbE-IND have also established that the predictor variable *variety* must not be disregarded as a significant predictor in the choice of the different mandative clauses.

The tertiary analysis confirmed previous conclusions on the postcolonial Englishes and their alignment with their respective matrilect. The discoveries revealed that HK and PHI appeared to align the most with their matrilect. As revealed in previous studies and my own,

the distribution patterns in GloWbE-SING aligned more with AmE than BrE. Moreover, the assumption was that IND would display similar distribution patterns as its matrilect; however, the results from GloWbE showed that BrE has experienced an increase in its use of the MS compared to IND, which demonstrated higher frequency of the *should*-periphrasis than BrE. Thus, my study has presented new evidence to IND's linguistic conservatism which seems to go further than the other British postcolonial varieties, HK and SING.

Based on the results, PHI does not seem to have experienced any further development according to Schneider's Dynamic Model. This study has not been able to provide any new evidence for PHI advancing to phase four, but rather confirms its strong nativization features. In the case of SING, previous research has proposed a potential development towards phase five due its advanced level of endonormative stabilization. This study has provided more evidence for supporting the classification of SING as having reached phase five in Schneider's Dynamic Model. However, a broader selection of grammatical categories needs to be addressed, as the investigation of the mandative subjunctive alone does not suffice to draw clear-cut conclusions on the matter. IND has previously been placed at phase three in the Dynamic Model, but the results from the current study indicate a potential development towards phase four due the lack of alignment with its previous colonizer and development of some of its own linguistic preferences. Lastly, the placement of HK in Schneider's Dynamic Model has previously been challenging, as previous studies have indicated. However, the current investigation has strengthened the argumentation for HK belonging in an intermediate position between phase two and three due to the lack of idiosyncratic features and stabilization.

## **8.1 Limitations of the study and suggestions for further research**

My study has been able to confirm findings from previous research while also providing further evidence for the use of the mandative subjunctive and its alternative realizations in four Asian postcolonial varieties, thereby adding new knowledge to the field of World Englishes. However, the study has some limitations that are important to take into consideration in future corpus-based studies of the mandative subjunctive. Since the trigger approach as a method relies on manual post-editing, the accuracy of the data is prone to weaknesses and subjective miscalculations, and may therefore have affected the counting of the frequency level. Moreover, since a trigger-based approach of the MS has proven to be laborious when handling large scale corpora such as GloWbE, the present study found it

necessary to limit the data through further subsampling, to a sample of 100 concordances representative enough to draw firm conclusions about the whole population. However, it was a necessary measure for reasons of comparability with Hundt's (2018) data from GloWbE. Future studies may have to take this into account and explore larger samples for each mandative trigger.

For reasons of comparability, the current study focused on the same set of triggers as Hundt (2018). However, future studies should consider investigating a larger number of lexical triggers in GloWbE in order to explore further behaviour and the role of the triggers in the realization of the MS and its alternative realizations. Further limitations are related to the type of corpora chosen for the study. In terms of balance, GloWbE contains fewer text types than ICE, and it does not distinguish between spoken and written subcorpora. This lack of corpus organization may influence the representativeness of the data and has made it challenging to include an analysis of the effect of register and formality in the use of the MS and its alternative realizations. However, sixty percent of GloWbE is based on informal blogs and forty percent consists of other genres and text types such as newspapers, magazines, company websites and others. Thus, for further research it would be interesting to examine the use of the MS and its alternative variants based on this division in GloWbE as a point of departure to analyse the formality of the MS in World Englishes.

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