

## Investigating AI Imitative Capabilities: A Comparative Genre Analysis of Reddit and ChatGPT-4 Spouse Appreciation Posts

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### ABSTRACT

*ChatGPT-4 has been a helping tool for its users in various fields and contexts. Among these, a recurring topic of inquiry is AI's ability to mimic human language, particularly appreciative sentiments. In this study, we explore the current capabilities of ChatGPT-4 at mimicking human appreciatory language by comparing its prompt-based generated texts to the appreciative posts of married individuals on Reddit, specifically subreddit r/Marriage. Using Swales' moves analysis as the working framework, we determined and then labelled moves found in the Reddit posts as we examined them as a genre and compared them with AI-generated posts. Findings revealed that ChatGPT-4 imitated 11 out of the 13 moves present in the Reddit posts. Furthermore, five categories of obligatory moves were established to better distinguish between the texts. ChatGPT-4 was observed to have more clearly obligatory moves and was more consistent in following a certain sequence than texts written by a human being. Additionally, ChatGPT-4 generated texts had a higher average word count and gave an impersonal impression due to its lack of the following moves: Description of Spouse, Description of Original Poster, and Relationship Background. With these findings, we recommend further linguistic studies on Reddit posts and other non-academic social media forms as a genre and the continuous use of genre analysis to circumscribe, more precisely, the AI imitative capabilities of human natural language and its implications to future applications.*

*Keywords: artificial intelligence; ChatGPT-4; imitative capabilities; Reddit; moves analysis*

## INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in recent years has elevated its presence in everyday life and diverse contexts (Anderson & Rainie, 2018; Dwivedi et al., 2023). Among these tools is ChatGPT—whose statistics reported an impressive 100 million weekly users a year within its release (Malik, 2023)—a language processing model that can easily generate human-like writing, such as essays, articles, and academic papers, and summarize large sums of texts across different languages (Xu et al., 2021; Zaitzu & Jin, 2023). However, despite its growing relevance and application in varying fields, the concern of AI technology and its capability (particularly imitative) to exceed human abilities and the extent to which it achieves "linguistic novelty" remains debatable (McCoy et al., 2021). To understand if AI, for instance, ChatGPT, can mimic real human language, it is necessary to systematically compare its product with actual human linguistic output. In this study, we propose genre analysis as a tool to effectively understand AI's imitative capabilities, defined as a chatbot's (ChatGPT-4) capability to adapt a writing style and vocabulary—in this context, the structure and contents of the selected spouse appreciation posts on Reddit (Hutson & Schnellmann, 2023). Notably, as the intention behind engaging in online discourse is often distinguished by the platform and genre, we will utilize the definition of genre under the tradition of English for Specific Purposes (ESP), which proposes that a genre is a compilation of communicative events whose members share some set of communicative purposes (Bawarshi & Reiff, 2010) and Swales' (1990) moves analysis which identifies discursual units or, "moves" that serve various communicative purposes and observes their distinct structures that make up the genre. Furthermore, Swales' moves analysis evaluates the AI's ability to express and adhere to the rhetorical and structural expectations derived from the Reddit posts and has been proven to be a useful tool for analysis as it has been used as a guiding framework in studies concerning genre analysis on social media platforms such as Twitter and Amazon (El-Zohiery, 2019; Skalicky, 2013). These tools are deemed appropriate grounds for observation, considering the inability of AI to exhibit a consciousness of its own (Goff, 2023).

Moreover, the continuous evolution of technology has fostered increased social media usage worldwide, consequently expanding the public domain and providing abundant data for AI applications. A prime example of this is Reddit. Reddit is an openly accessible platform that has been increasingly used as a data source for various research due to the datasets it offers from its "subreddits" or community in-groups; it is a significant platform in the diverse social media landscape with over 430+ million posts created within more than 100,000 active communities globally (Proferes et al., 2021; Reddit, 2022). Furthermore, Reddit has an open Application Programming Interface (API) system that allows programmers to create third-party tools and extensions that make seamless retrieval of data possible; in comparison to other social media platforms such as Twitter, Reddit's subreddit structure makes finding relevant research data easier, removing word limits on posts and offering a qualitatively more expansive dataset, and thus aiding in employing monomodal textual analysis techniques such as content analysis (Proferes et al., 2021). For models like ChatGPT, the platform performs as a valuable data mining ground as the model is trained through exposure to a large corpus of text data, allowing it to learn patterns and relationships between words, phrases, and sentences and evolve to understand and generate responses that resonate with authentic expressions (Kalla et al., 2023).

We presented a prevailing genre evident in spouse appreciation posts within the r/Marriage Reddit community to observe ChatGPT's imitative capabilities. Specifically, we compared findings from moves analyses of curated spouse appreciation posts from r/Marriage and the

ChatGPT-4 generated responses on the concerned genre. The available literature on ChatGPT implies a gap in studying its imitative capabilities in texts highlighting human experiences, especially when its applications are highly sought after and debated. Therefore, we sought to investigate and contribute to the existing knowledge on ChatGPT's imitative capabilities and document the genre of spouse appreciation posts on Reddit.

Our primary objective was to describe the imitative capabilities of ChatGPT-4 on spouse appreciation posts on Reddit. We concerned ourselves with the following propositions: (1) the structural patterns in terms of moves that are identified from the selected spouse appreciation posts, (2) the structural patterns in terms of moves that are identified from the prompt-based ChatGPT-4 generated responses, and (3) the imitative capabilities exhibited by the ChatGPT-4 generated responses on the selected spouse appreciation posts.

To briefly expound on our methodological approach, we described the imitative capabilities of ChatGPT-4 on spouse appreciation posts on Reddit by first examining the present moves in these posts. Seventy-five spouse appreciation Reddit posts were selected for the study, with the primary basis for selection relying on the number of upvotes or engagement, entailing the contribution of the post in a conversation within the subreddit (Reddit, 2023a). Moreover, the selected posts should not have any images attached to them and should be uploaded only by April 2023, as the current knowledge cutoff of ChatGPT-4 is set to this date (Field, 2023). Upon selection, a genre is established based on the moves and structural patterns observed. Afterwards, the genre established was used to analyze the ChatGPT-4 generated responses that were prompted to imitate the posts.

Most importantly, we only focused on spouse appreciation. Any other relationships that do not involve marriage are excluded from the scope. Furthermore, the source of posts is limited to one Reddit community, r/Marriage, which employs an advanced filter for posts tagged under "Spouse Appreciation." Meanwhile, the chosen software for our study is ChatGPT-4, as it has been noted to outperform its free version, ChatGPT, and shows a higher capacity for empathy (Brin et al., 2023).

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### SPOUSE APPRECIATION

Social media has become a prominent platform for expressing love and affection in romantic relationships. According to Van Ouytsel et al. (2016), social networking sites have played a significant role in simplifying the process of individuals seeking information about potential partners and smoothen communication. These platforms have enabled users to share their romantic relationship experiences through pictures and displays of affection with a wide online audience.

With this, Lenhart (2015) conducted a study indicating that a substantial percentage of individuals (47%) view social media as a platform for expressing appreciation toward their partners, with 12% expressing these sentiments frequently. In fact, Vogels and Anderson (2020), in an October 2019 survey, reported that 48% of U.S. social media users in committed relationships used these platforms to share or discuss aspects of their relationship or dating life. This indicates a prevalent use of social media as a tool for relationship communication and expression. Furthermore, the role of social media in romantic relationships extends to the broader user base, with Vogels and Anderson (2020) reporting that 81% of social media users sometimes see others posting about their relationships and 46% claim that this happens often.

Research on spousal appreciation posts on social media is apparently limited. While the role of social media in the marital relationships of distant spouses (Akanle et al., 2021), military spouses (de los Santos, 2015; Sherman et al., 2016), and celebrity spouses' interactions (Oke, 2023) have been explored, the appreciative sentiments of spouses as expressed in their social media appreciation posts have to be further unpacked, especially using a linguistic lens. Textual analyses of spouses' posts need to be conducted, and genre analysis could be a potential tool.

#### GENRE ANALYSIS

In the ESP tradition, a genre is a compilation of communicative events whose members share some set of communicative purposes (Swales, 1990). This purpose forms the genre's rationale, shapes the discourse's structure, and influences content and style. In the same vein, genre analysis is framed as an approach that examines language to identify unique communicative purposes and analyze structure.

Our study focuses on the analysis of an online genre within social media. Social media, encompassing platforms like message boards, blogging, microblogging, social networking sites, media-sharing sites, and instant messaging services, has a global user base of 4.95 billion, constituting 61.4% of the population (Carr & Hayes, 2015; Kemp, 2023). Shi et al. (2020) contribute to the expanding research on social media genres by identifying "Blog Genres" and "SNS Genres." Specifically, "SNS genres" are those that are found within "SNS" or "social networking services", which are acknowledged as virtual communities fostering profile creation, interaction with friends, and connections based on shared interests (Kuss & Griffiths, 2011).

Furthermore, examining texts, SNS reveals diverse genre findings. For instance, an analysis of WeChat university recruitment posts suggests that the genre reflects talent pursuit, serves as PR, and surpasses print media complexity (Feng, 2019). Conversely, a study on LinkedIn summaries found that the genre lacks a distinct schematic structure, allowing personalized arrangement (Bremner & Phung, 2015). Whilst the presented literature covers a fraction of internet genres, ample opportunities for investigation exist across platforms.

Meanwhile, on Reddit, an analysis by Moriarty and Mehlenbacher (2023) revealed that the "Ask Me Anything" (AMA) and "Science Discussion" (SD) forums in r/Science aim to disseminate research, maintaining rhetorical purposes while adapting to platform changes. Conversely, Signorelli (2017) observes the venting genre in r/FatPeopleStories, providing a platform for sharing personal experiences. Lastly, Ibrahim (2023) genre analysis of r/UTM highlights students using posts for support, emphasizing nuanced communicative purposes within online genres, particularly on Reddit.

Genre analysis and its application to linguistic discourse hold an important role in identifying and examining the structural and communicative aspects of various textual genres confined to their specific contexts. Therefore, we offered a proposition on the potential of genre analysis in investigating the humanness of ChatGPT-4 by adopting Swales' moves analysis in analyzing the Reddit posts and texts generated by ChatGPT-4. By employing genre analysis, we may aid in proliferating newer frameworks for communicative settings aside from the pedagogical applications of ESP and towards texts with different patterns of organization rather than one "common-core pattern" (Dudley-Evans, 2000). Furthermore, employing genre analysis may also aid in future research on AI text generation and its advancing proficiency in imitating human language by providing a framework upon which to base.

## CHATGPT

GPT, the foundation of the AI chatbot ChatGPT, is a generative language model created by OpenAI. These models generate natural texts resembling human language consistency and coherence (Ray, 2023) and possess pre-training and fine-tuning capabilities. During pre-training, GPT learns to predict the next word in a text sequence, enhancing its understanding of language structures for coherent and contextually relevant text generation (Hassani & Silva, 2023).

In November 2022, OpenAI released ChatGPT, a language model trained on diverse datasets for tasks like question response and code formulation (Su & Yang, 2023). It utilizes the GPT-3.5 architecture, with a paid version featuring GPT-4. Currently, ChatGPT boasts its ability to interact with its users, aiding them in completing tasks and actions limited to the chatbot's capabilities. ChatGPT's text generation process is pivotal and aligns with its key features (Hassani & Silva, 2023). The underlying mechanism relies on the GPT model, with variations based on the specific GPT version in use. For instance, the free version employs GPT-3.5, limiting text inputs with a specified timeframe, while the paid version utilizes GPT-4, accepting both text and image outputs, offering more extensive parameters (Haleem et al., 2022; Ray, 2023).

GPT -4 surpasses its predecessor in capabilities, limitations, training data diversity, and efficiency. While GPT-3.5, trained on a wide range of texts in 95 languages with 175 billion parameters, exhibits limitations related to interpretability and potential biases, as highlighted in studies (Hassani & Silva, 2023). Alternatively, OpenAI highlights GPT-4's superior problem-solving accuracy due to its broader general knowledge, surpassing the current ChatGPT version in higher percentiles among test-takers (OpenAI, 2023). In comparison to GPT-3.5, GPT-4 stands out as the most effective model for intricate tasks demanding creativity and sophistication.

## CHATGPT CONTENT CREATION

Since ChatGPT's launch, numerous studies have explored its validity, ethical considerations, and potential applications in education, programming, and business. However, limited literature has investigated its imitative capabilities with a focus on comparing responses generated by ChatGPT to human-written academic texts, particularly essays and research articles. In a recent study by Herbold et al. (2023), ChatGPT-4 outperformed students' essays in structure, scoring about one point better on average. However, the study noted a deficiency in the content of ChatGPT-generated essays, with a low rating in factual correctness. While ChatGPT was coherent and impressively resembled the articles by human academic researchers, the sources used in the generated responses were inaccurate and fictitious (Ariyaratne et al., 2023). This finding is crucial since to unpack ChatGPT's or any AI tool's imitative capabilities, both AI-generated texts and human-generated outputs must match not only their structural aspects but also content accuracy. Johansson (2023) also emphasized the ChatGPT's potential as a tool but noted limitations in its current capabilities, stating that the generated text closely resembles human writing but falls apart upon closer examination.

On the other hand, papers that explored creative texts, which emphasized the presence of storytelling and personal experiences (Nicholes, 2017) rather than facts, are even fewer, which are necessary to test the imitative capabilities of ChatGPT. One pioneering study by Hutson and Schnellmann (2023) tested how ChatGPT-3 accurately mimics human-created poems through poetry analysis and found that the system can generate correct grammar, measured meter, and poetic technique easily when prompted to write a poem. However, similar to the findings in academic texts, ChatGPT's content creation is limited. For example, in writing about nature, the



generated text lacks depth, featuring trivial language and devoid of interactions with nature. To illustrate this, when the AI tool was instructed to pen a poem mimicking the style of the poet John Keats, Hutson and Schnellmann (2023) claimed that the generated poem is “lacking in the wistfulness and wonder” as compared to the Keats’ actual poetry that creatively utilized the words “drow’d,” “poppies,” and “hook,” which signify mortal demise, alongside the juxtaposition of “barred clouds,” “soft-dying,” and “stubble plains” with the oxymoronic “full-grown lambs,” the singing of the hedge crickets, and the twittering of the gathering sparrows, which poetically depict the “tension between life and death.” Hamat (2024), in investigating human poetry and the poetic outputs of AI, also pointed out clear differences between the two, with lexical density as the only exception exhibiting close similarities. These findings echo Markowitz et al.’s (2023) claim that ChatGPT-generated texts thus far have been found to be “inherently false and more analytic, more emotional, more descriptive, and less readable” (p. 21), perhaps detached from real human experience. Therefore, our study is motivated by the need to further understand how AI produces texts that are reflective of human experience, particularly in the online discursive realm, more specifically, how these experiences are structurally arranged and form a genre unique to Reddit spouse users.

## METHODOLOGY

This qualitative study used corpus-based linguistics as a main approach, which has already been employed in examining online content (Abas et al., 2023; Liu & Bakar, 2024). Also, corpus-based approaches have been utilized extensively in genre analysis (Duan & Wei, 2021; Hüttner et al., 2009; Rutherford, 2005). They have been found to be effective in uncovering discursual moves of a genre (Upton & Connor, 2001), which is the chief goal of the study—to compare the moves found in the human-produced texts with the moves expected to be found in ChatGPT-generated content, and thus inspect AI imitative capabilities. Hence, we built two corpora: the first was the r/Marriage subreddit, human-generated appreciatory posts of spouses, and the other was the corpus of appreciatory posts generated by ChatGPT-4. In total, 150 posts were evenly split between Reddit spouse appreciation posts and ChatGPT-4 generated posts. This sample size was inspired by a previous study by Skalicky (2013) on the genre analysis of the Amazon shopping website discourse community. He obtained his data set through convenience sampling based on his own purchase history and included the products listed under the “bestsellers” section of the website. Skalicky (2013) further explained that he wanted to study “community-preferred” (p. 86) examples. Hence, he set a minimum threshold of at least 20 votes for each product he studied, which resulted in a final dataset of 71 products with “most helpful positive” and “most helpful critical” categories for each product. We took inspiration from this method by choosing the most liked or upvoted posts in the community. Two phases were employed to collect the sets of data. Phase I was post-curation, and phase II was post-generation. Upon completion of all data in this study, moves and structural patterns were identified from both sets through the Move Analysis by Swales to answer the first and second research problems, while a comparison between each result concluded the third problem.

## DATA COLLECTION

### POST CURATION

This phase primarily concerned the collection of data for the Reddit spouse appreciation posts. To capture the genre of spouse appreciation posts, extant data collection was employed. The collection was confined to the Reddit platform, specifically the r/Marriage community, with posts tagged under “Spouse Appreciation.” This was chosen as the source of data as it is in the Top 1% of Reddit communities in terms of size, with 683,000 members as of November 20, 2023 (Reddit, 2023b). A total of 75 posts were selected through the purposive sampling technique.

With this, three primary conditions were observed. (See Table 5 for a sample Reddit post):

1. The posts should have the highest number of upvotes within the community.
2. The posts should be uploaded on or before April 2023, as the knowledge cutoff of ChatGPT-4 is only until the aforementioned date (Field, 2023).
3. The post should have no image attached to it.

### POST GENERATION

This phase concerned the collection of 75 ChatGPT-4 generated responses specifically prompted according to the context of the selected Reddit posts. To maximize the accuracy of the responses, The Persona Pattern by White et al. (2023), a prompt pattern identified when working with large language models (LLMs) like ChatGPT, was used as a guide in constructing prompts. This technique instructs the system to act as a “persona” to assist in contextualizing the response it will generate. To do this, the first statement of the prompt should be “Act as persona X...” wherein “persona X” has a specific set of attributes to elicit. With that, all prompts for this study started with the phrase, “Act as a Reddit user writing an appreciation post for your spouse...” Meanwhile, the succeeding phrases depended on the context of each selected Reddit post. Thus, the study utilized a sum of 75 prompts, all of which started with the same phrase and then followed by clauses constructed according to the Reddit post it was based upon. As an example, we created the prompt “Act as a Reddit user writing an appreciation post for your spouse who included you in her budget.” (See Table 5 for the Reddit post it was based upon).

It is also important to note that no fine-tuning was involved in the generation of prompts to capture ChatGPT-4's imitative capabilities at its basic level. All ChatGPT-4 generated posts were generated within a span of 9 hours spread across three batches, each with 20-35 posts. Moreover, a duration of 1 hour was allotted for post-generation, followed by a 3-hour increment before moving on to the next batch. This is structured after ChatGPT-4's usage cap, which, as of January 5, 2024, has a rate limit of 40 messages per 3 hours (OpenAI, 2024). Additionally, all posts are generated in separate chats to ensure that the structure of posts is uninfluenced by each other due to ChatGPT's autoregressive nature, which predicts the next word or token in a sequence based on all the words or tokens that have come before it (Kelk, 2023). Lastly, posts shall only be generated once per chat; if any generation errors (such as incomplete responses) occur, the current response shall be negated and regenerated in a new chat. Therefore, authentically highlighting ChatGPT-4's imitative capabilities.

## ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

Considering ChatGPT's nonhuman nature and its consequent inability to exhibit its consciousness (Goff, 2023), analyzing its generated responses heavily around its contextual background is inappropriate. Therefore, the study employed the ESP approach to genre analysis with its focus on both contextual and linguistic elements of texts (Ötügen et al., 2021). Moreover, it relates these elements to specific discourse communities, which Swales (1990) describes as a group of individuals with a broadly agreed set of common goals and exhibits mechanisms of intercommunication among its members, characteristics which the r/Marriage community manifests.

In ESP, the genre is defined as a class of communicative events with shared communicative purposes acknowledged among experts in the parent discourse community, which subsequently determine the foundation of the genre's structure and influence its organization, content, and style (Swales, 1990). By this definition, communicative purpose is seen as the primary distinctive feature of a genre (Ötügen et al., 2021). Meanwhile, moves are defined as functional units in a text that collectively fulfil the communicative purpose of the genre (Biber et al., 2007). These moves may contain multiple elements called steps that work in combination to realize said moves and primarily function to achieve the purpose of the move to which it belongs.

Following these principles, we employed Casal and Kessler's (2023) steps in performing a rhetorical move-step analysis on the r/Marriage Spouse Appreciation Posts genre. Specifically, it involved:

1. Development of a Cohesive Move-Step Model through an understanding of the genre's communicative purpose and identifying recurring rhetorical actions that may form as moves and steps through the close analysis of content, structure, and linguistic cues.
2. Coding Rhetorical Segments through applying the developed model and utilizing a top-down approach wherein moves are identified through the basis of content in hopes of refining the framework and coding processes.
3. Assessment of the Move-Step Framework through inter-coder agreements on the sequence and identified move-steps using simple percentage agreements to validate the findings presented and increase reliability.

To answer the research questions, the move-step analysis was promptly executed on both the ChatGPT-4 Generated Spouse Appreciation Posts and the Reddit Appreciation Posts. Upon completion of both analyses, expected findings, including identified moves, a move's frequency of post appearance, the total count of appearance, rate of appearance, sequence, and post word count, which collectively make up the distinct structural pattern of each dataset, were closely compared to describe ChatGPT's imitative capabilities. Moreover, to determine the classification of obligatory moves, we propose the following tiers (see Table 1 for reference).

TABLE 1. Obligatory Move Classification

Rate	Classification
0.00 - 0.24	Not Obligatory
0.25 - 0.49	Obligatory but Infrequent
0.50 - 0.74	Obligatory but Supplementary
0.75 - 0.99	Obligatory
$\geq 1.00$	Clearly Obligatory



Due to the literature gap on the criterion that constitutes an obligatory move, we propose five tiers with approximately 0.24 increments, which utilize a move's rate of appearance, which was derived from the average of each move's total count of appearance throughout the 75 samples as a structural basis of their classification. These classifications were formulated to identify moves that may appear in establishing an ideal genre and address the variability of the frequency in which these moves may occur across the posts.

## ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Accordingly, with no human participants involved in our study, the research encompasses negligible risks. Furthermore, as emphasized in the methodology, Reddit posts were selected without personally identifiable information to respect the privacy of contributors. This goes hand in hand with the assumption that their public posting means a level of consent within the community. Additionally, while the research accepted posts involving vulgar and explicit language, it filtered out any potentially defamatory content to ensure that ChatGPT-4 would generate responses with appropriate content still aligned with the appreciative nature of the post. Finally, responsible data handling and storage were emphasized to prevent unintended consequences. We aimed to avoid unintended consequences such as privacy violations, data misuse, and ChatGPT-4 generating harmful content. By choosing Reddit posts without personal information and assuming public posts meant consent, we protected contributors' privacy. Responsible data handling ensured the data was only used for the study and not misinterpreted, keeping everyone's privacy and well-being safe. The collected data was utilized exclusively for our study's intended purpose, and measures were implemented during the data analysis to ensure no misinterpretations. This will uphold the well-being and privacy of all stakeholders involved.

## RESULTS

### IDENTIFICATION OF MOVES

The table below illustrates the moves we identified for both Reddit and ChatGPT-4 through moves analysis. Each move was identified based on its purpose of use in the text (e.g., Abridge and Edits for summaries and revisions).

TABLE 2. Moves Identified Through Move Analysis

<i>Name</i>	<i>Description</i>
Abridge and Edits (AAE)	The OP includes segments such as TLDRs, edits, and updates.
Acknowledgement of Readers (AOR)	The OP greets readers, expresses gratitude, and encourages them to share experiences.
Appreciatory Sentiment (APS)	The OP expresses affection towards their spouse through direct addressing, description of relationship dynamics, and the use of appreciatory phrases.
Cheers and Salutations (CAS)	The OP uses closing expressions and/or salutations to conclude their post.
Contextual Narrative (CON)	The OP narrates the circumstances prompting their appreciation post.
Description of Original Poster (DOP)	The OP indicates their own gender, age, family background, physical appearance, occupation, and interests.
Description of Spouse (DOS)	The OP indicates their spouse's gender, age, family background, physical appearance, occupation, and interests.
Editable Bracket (EDB)	The OP includes editable segments in their post.

Inclination to Post (ITP)	The OP articulates their desire to compose the post.
Mention of Future (MOF)	The OP shares plans with their spouse and children.
Point of Reflection (POR)	The OP shares insights on relationships and on their partner's efforts
Relationship Background (REB)	The OP explains their marriage duration, number of children, and living arrangements.
Section Indicator (SEI)	The OP delineates sections within the post, such as Title, Background, and Main Post.
Support for Subreddit (SFS)	The OP shares their support for the subreddit.
Title (TIE)	The OP includes the title in their post.

*Note. OP = original poster; TLDR = too long didn't read*

#### RANKING OF MOVES IN REDDIT

The table below presents the ranking and frequency of occurrence of moves established from the Reddit spouse appreciation posts. Thirteen moves extracted from spouse appreciation posts underwent analysis and were classified into four categories of obligatory moves according to their rate of move appearance (RMA). For the breakdown of these categories and their corresponding numerical equivalents, see Table 3.

TABLE 3. Ranking of Moves Present in the Reddit Spouse Appreciation Posts

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Moves</i>	<i>FPA</i>	<i>TCA</i>	<i>RMA</i>
1	CON	75	186	2.48
2	APS	58	87	1.16
3	TIE	75	75	1.00
4	POR	51	70	0.93
5	REB	27	39	0.52
6	DOP	25	27	0.36
7	AAE	18	23	0.31
8	DOS	17	21	0.28
9	ITP	17	19	0.25
10	AOR	12	13	0.17
11	MOF	8	8	0.11
12	SEI	4	5	0.07
13	SFS	2	2	0.03

*Note. FPA = Frequency of Post Appearance, the number of posts the move is present; TCA = Total Count of Appearance, the total number of times the move appeared; RMA = Rate of Move Appearance, the average frequency with which a move appears per post.*

As shown above, three moves, specifically CON, APS, and TIE, were classified as clearly obligatory moves, with respective RMA equivalent to 2.48, 1.16, and 1.00. Following closely, POR appeared as an obligatory move, demonstrating an RMA of 0.93. Consequently, REB was categorized as an obligatory but supplemental move, having a rate of 0.52, followed by DOP, AAE, DOS, and ITP, all falling under obligatory but infrequent moves, appearing with rates of

0.36, 0.31, 0.28, and 0.25, respectively. With the rest having an RMA of or less than 0.24, these were not considered obligatory moves. Regarding the move sequence, the most common sequence from the Reddit data set is TIE-CON-APS.

#### RANKING OF MOVES IN CHATGPT-4

In contrast to Table 3, Table 4 presents the ranking of moves established from the generated ChatGPT-4 spouse appreciation posts. Thirteen moves appeared in the ChatGPT-4 spouse appreciation posts. In terms of frequency of post appearance (FPA), Table 4 reports that the AOR, APS, CON, ITP, POR, SEI, and TIE moves are notably present in all 75 posts.

TABLE 4. Ranking of Moves Present in the ChatGPT-4 Generated Texts

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Moves</i>	<i>FPA</i>	<i>TCA</i>	<i>RMA</i>
1	CON	75	178	2.37
2	AOR	75	166	2.21
3	APS	75	147	1.96
4	POR	75	127	1.69
5	ITP	75	96	1.28
6	SEI	75	90	1.20
7	TIE	75	75	1.00
8	CAS	41	46	0.61
9	EDB	22	25	0.33
10	MOF	20	19	0.25
11	REB	6	6	0.08
12	DOP	3	3	0.04
13	DOS	1	1	0.01

*Note. FPA = Frequency of Post Appearance, the number of posts the move is present; TCA = Total Count of Appearance, the total number of times the move appeared; RMA = Rate of Move Appearance, the average number of times the move appeared per post.*

These seven moves are classified as clearly obligatory as implied by their RMA: 2.37, 2.21, 1.96, 1.69, 1.28, 1.20, and 1.00, respectively. Meanwhile, with a rate of 0.61, CAS appears to be the only move within the obligatory but supplementary tier. Additionally, EDB and MOF fall under the obligatory but infrequent category with rates of 0.33 and 0.25. The remaining three moves have all shown rates on or below 0.24, which classifies it under the not obligatory tier. On the other hand, the most common sequence from the ChatGPT-4 data set is the SEI-TITLE-AOR-ITP-CON-POR-APS pattern, with move EDB sparingly following thereafter in some posts.

#### COMPARATIVE OBSERVATIONS

Reddit and ChatGPT-4 exhibit and share the following moves: AOR, APS, CON, DOP, DOS, ITP, MOF, POR, REB, SEI, and TIE. Regardless of the rate of move appearance and occurrence, these moves are shared between the two platforms, constituting the structure of an appreciatory sentiment. It must be noted that there are specific moves that are unapparent in ChatGPT-4 and vice versa. Moves such as SFS and AAE are only observed in Reddit posts, whereas CAS and EDB are only observed in ChatGPT-4 generated texts.

Further, the average word count for the Reddit posts is 216 words. Conversely, ChatGPT-4's average word count is 359, which is 143 words greater than the average of Reddit. We also learned that the linguistic features of both platforms differ greatly, with Reddit posts often following a less formal structure in terms of grammatical design than ChatGPT-4. Consequently, ChatGPT-4 features frequent use of emojis and hashtags, which appeared in 26 posts and 18 posts, respectively, as we earlier reported in a short article, which is an offshoot this study (Arcenal et al., 2024). Furthermore, moves such as REB, DOP, and DOS appear only a total of ten times in ChatGPT-4. We surmise that ChatGPT-4 texts are highly impersonal, considering their lack of consciousness to come up with an intricate background (mention of sex, age, facts about the relationship, etc.) for the prompted persona it assumes; rather, they focused on narrating and describing the scenario provided.

#### DISCUSSION

Through extensive coding, we found that Reddit and ChatGPT-4 each follow a distinct sequence. For Reddit, three moves are found to be consistent with a TIE-CON-APS sequence. These three moves appeared the most in order while succeeding moves were either shuffled or ended with APS; this may be due to the varying writing styles of OPs in Reddit (See Table 5 for reference).

TABLE 5. Sample Reddit Moves Analysis

<i>Frugal wife has me in her budget</i>	<i>Moves</i>
Frugal wife has me in her budget (TIE)	TIE
Long time lurker in this sub, and a recent discovery has me eager to start my first post here. (SFS)	SFS
My wife [F30] (DOS) and I [M30] (DOP) have been together 6 years married for 4 (REB). My lovely wife has been extremely frugal since the day I met her. She not miserly by any means but money, budgets, savings, investments are something she is pretty passionate about. (DOS)	DOS DOP
I on the other hand made some pretty poor financial decisions in my early 20s and have never been comfortable or good with money.	REB CON
Ive always let her take complete control over finances and weve been both happy with that arrangement. Well anyways, my story goes that every month we review the budget. She tells me what we spent and saved and all the rest.	POR ITP
She has this impressively massive Excel document she created when we moved in together years ago.	APS
This month, she is away on a work trip and extremely busy, so she sent me the Excel sheet and some instructions on how to do the budget for the month. It might seem weird, but in the 6 years weve been together, this is the first time	AAE
Ive actually done the budget without her. [...] (CON)	

Ive always felt so deeply appreciated by her but I never though too far into the financial aspect of it. (POR)

I guess I just wanted to share this because it gives me such a new deep appreciation for the woman of my dreams. (ITP) Ive seen her cry when weve gone over budget during tough times yet she has always put away money to make me feel special. (APS)

I cant believe how lucky I am. (APS)

Tldr: wife budgets gifts for me (AAE)

Contrarily, ChatGPT-4 follows an iterative order of moves, particularly a SEI-TIE-AOR-ITP-CON-POR-APS-CAS-EDB sequence (see Table 6 for reference).

TABLE 6. Sample ChatGPT Moves Analysis

Prompt	A Heartfelt Appreciation for My Amazing Spouse	Moves
Act as a Reddit user writing an appreciation post for your spouse who included you in her budget.	Title (SEI): A Heartfelt Appreciation for My Amazing Spouse (TIE)	SEI
	Hey everyone, (AOR)	TIE
	I just wanted to take a moment to share something truly special that happened recently, which made me appreciate my spouse even more than I already do. (ITP)	AOR
		ITP
	So, a bit of context: money matters have always been a bit of a sensitive topic for us, as I'm sure it is for many couples. We've had our share of ups and downs, trying to balance our budget with our dreams and responsibilities. It's never been easy, but we've always tried to communicate and work through everything together. (REB)	REB
		CON
		POR
	Recently, we sat down to go through our budget again, something we do periodically, but this time was different. My spouse had taken the initiative to completely overhaul our budgeting approach, and to my surprise, had included categories specifically tailored to my interests and needs. It wasn't just the generic stuff like groceries or utilities; it was the little things, like setting aside money for that hobby I've wanted to dive into but felt guilty spending on, or planning for a small getaway to a place I've mentioned wanting to visit. (CON)	APS
		CAS
	This gesture might seem small to some, but to me, it was monumental. It showed me how deeply my spouse listens, understands, and values my happiness and well-being. It wasn't just about numbers on a spreadsheet; it was a testament to the level of care, respect, and love that my spouse has for our relationship. (POR)	
	It's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day and forget to appreciate the incredible people we have in our lives. This act of kindness and thoughtfulness from my spouse reminded me of the importance of not just being loved, but feeling seen and understood. (POR)	
	To my spouse, if you ever read this: Thank you. Thank you for always being my rock, for your endless support, and for making me feel valued in every little thing you do. You've turned something as mundane as budgeting into a profound expression of your love for me, and I can't tell you enough how much that means to me. (APS)	
	To everyone else: Never underestimate the power of small gestures. It's those little things that can make a big difference in your relationships. (AOR)	



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Thanks for letting me share this moment with you all (AOR). Here's to appreciating the amazing people in our lives! (CAS)

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#Love #Appreciation #RelationshipGoals

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Many of the texts subscribe to the sequence; hence, ChatGPT-4 has a more coordinated succession of moves incorporated within the structure of the generated texts.

Reddit and ChatGPT-4 exhibit and share the following moves: AOR, APS, CON, DOP, DOS, ITP, MOF, POR, REB, SEI, and TIE. Regardless of the rate of move appearance and occurrence, these moves are shared between the two platforms, constituting the structure of an appreciatory sentiment. It must be noted that there are specific moves that are unapparent in ChatGPT-4 and vice versa. Moves such as SFS and AAE are only observed in Reddit posts, whereas CAS and EDB are only observed in ChatGPT-4 generated texts.

Substantially, Reddit and ChatGPT-4 have similar and contrasting moves. We argue that the moves present in both contexts are crucial to delivering the intended message of the text. Furthermore, it can also be argued that ChatGPT-4, having similar moves to Reddit, offers a basic narrative of an appreciatory sentiment, such that it includes fundamental elements of an appreciatory post in Reddit (e.g. Introduction, Body, Conclusion), as opposed to the genuineness of a Reddit post, such as the inclusion of backstories and histories of the subject, written by a human being with profound experiences. In line with this, results suggest that the posts from Reddit provide more context of the OP's situation as the most prominent, clearly obligatory move. This tendency of Reddit's posts to offer more context resonates with Signorelli's (2017) findings, where sharing detailed experiences regarding users' concerns or frustrations is central in r/FatPeopleStories, which was identified to have a venting genre.

## CONCLUSION

With the increasing use of social media, several public domains such as Reddit have been expanding, offering themselves as a valuable data mining ground for AI software, and an emerging genre within this platform is spouse appreciation posts. Thus, using the tenets of Swales' moves analysis in evaluating 75 Reddit appreciatory posts and 75 ChatGPT-4 generated posts, we were able to identify the structural patterns of these posts and circumscribe them as a genre.

The analysis of appreciation posts from r/Marriage has shown that there are 13 different moves present in them, observing that the most common sequence of these moves is TIE-CON-APS. Meanwhile, in the ChatGPT-4 generated texts, 13 moves were also found, mostly applying SEI-TIE-AOR-ITP-CON-POR-APS-CAS-EDB sequence. We compared these findings and found that the Reddit spouse appreciation posts and ChatGPT-4 generated texts have 11 moves in common. However, each set of corpora also has two unique moves; SFS and AAE are only present in Reddit, while CAS and EDB are present in ChatGPT-4.

Regarding the unique moves in Reddit, we assert that SFS was not present in the ChatGPT-4 generated texts as the system was not specifically instructed to mention any form of support towards the subreddit. Furthermore, the OPs indication of their appreciation for the subreddit comes from their own experiences of liking the posts as they scroll through the page, implying that ChatGPT-4's ability to adopt a persona is limited based on the prompt it was given and does not exhibit other experiences outside of the prompt. In other words, the unique moves found in the subreddit corpus signify AI's inability to fully capture human natural language. Moreover, in terms

of the appearance of AAE, the move is unique to Reddit posts as Reddit allows users to edit their content after posting for the purposes of clarification and reaction towards the number of engagements on their posts. Also, TLDRs were not evident in ChatGPT-4 generated posts as it is assumed that ChatGPT-4 prioritizes appreciatory sentiments over slang.

Meanwhile, the use of CAS in the ChatGPT-4 texts may imply that its system, without training or direction from its users, simply follows a design of letter format or the Introduction-Body-Closing structure, with its closing in the form of cheers or the variations of CAS move observed in the texts. Furthermore, in the ChatGPT-4 dataset, it is assumed that the presence of EDB is associated with the fact that ChatGPT-4 intends to accommodate the user's requests in the most convenient manner possible, in this case of spouse appreciation posts, providing editable sections for the users to input their Reddit usernames.

On the other hand, ChatGPT-4 has more clearly obligatory moves and consequently uses a defined sequence. In contrast, due to the diverse writing styles of OPs in Reddit, most of its moves were shuffled, creating a less established sequence. Finally, with the lack of appearance of DOS, DOP, and REB, all of which are moves that intend to further contextualize and personify the relationship and actors involved in the depicted scenario, ChatGPT-4 leaves what we describe as an “impersonal impression,” which is when there is little to no intimate integration of oneself within the text and thus implies a lack of emotional depth, arguably because of the AI's lack of consciousness to state personal information. Such a scenario illustrates the palpable limitations of AI's imitative capabilities.

In conclusion, findings show that ChatGPT-4 can imitate most of the moves in Reddit spouse appreciation posts. However, they are more consistent in following a specific sequence for each generated text and are less personal than texts written by a human being, given the unique moves that were not mimicked by AI-generated outputs. Such an observation raises a crucial query as to the AI-generated texts' “linguistic novelty.” While at a glance, AI-generated appreciatory posts structurally copy human-produced texts, a closer inspection of the functional moves and the repetitive and defined sequence of these moves in ChatGPT-4 corpus uncovers the AI's limited imitative capabilities. These conclusions provide valuable insights into the current state of the imitative capabilities of ChatGPT-4, contributing to the existing literature on how AI mimics human language and illustrating the use of Swales' genre analysis as a framework for analyzing non-academic texts. Therefore, we recommend further research on the imitative capabilities of AI, especially in non-academic social media forms, using genre analysis. Finally, the findings of this study suggest AI developers formulate strategies to reconfigure AI algorithms anchored on moves of varied genres in human-generated texts, which may enhance AI's imitative capabilities.

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