



Turn-Taking Strategies in the Hot Ones Show with Zayn Malik

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Article Info

Abstract

Keywords: Conversation analysis, Talk show, Turn taking.

This study examines a conversation by analyzing the dynamics of turn-taking within it. The focus of the study is on a talk show from the Hot Ones program, featuring guest star Zayn Malik, posted on the YouTube channel. A qualitative approach is used to explore how the host and guests manage turn-taking to facilitate effective communication. The theoretical framework of Sacks et al. (1974) serves as the foundation for this study. The findings reveal the following turn-taking strategies: starting up (17), holding the floor (22), interrupting (12), overlapping (1), yielding the floor (2), and taking over (1). The analysis of turn-taking, particularly the prevalence of holding the floor, highlights key conversational strategies in talk shows. Through detailed examination of the video podcast data, new insights into the structure and dynamics of conversation, including various turn-taking strategies, are uncovered.

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INTRODUCTION

Conversation becomes something that cannot be separated from social life. The term conversation is now increasingly widespread and developing. Through conversations, people can discuss, dialogue, and argue to obtain information, entertainment, and even solve a problem. The study of conversation is conversation analysis. Conversation analysis studies how to organize and sequence social interactions or conversations in everyday life (Liddicoat, 2022). When people have conversations, there are rules we consciously or unconsciously follow. More broadly, through conversation analysis, people can discover the assumptions and meaning of a conversation in everyday life. People can understand a conversation's meaning and message by studying conversation analysis. Apart from that, by analyzing a conversation, people can find patterns or rules we often use, such as how to start and end the speaker's topic and respond to someone.

Conversations occur when there are changes or turns in speaking between the interlocutors. In conversation analysis, the term turn-taking is used to understand patterns in interaction. Turn-taking is switching between speakers during a conversation and knowing how the speakers shift or change when it is their turn to speak (Rahayu et al., 2023). Turn-taking is important for people to learn so they can understand how to organize and maintain the topic of conversation during the conversation process. Besides, when people are having a conversation and have insight into turn-taking, it will be easy for them to achieve the goals of their conversation. (Tsuraya, 2020). Turn-taking is important in conversation analysis because turn-taking patterns can be analyzed easily. A conversation activity that unconsciously uses a turn-taking strategy is a talk show.

Talk shows can be a source of data that can be used for conversation analysis research. A *talk show* is a program that contains discussions on a particular topic. Talk shows are conducted through a question-and-answer or interview between the host and the guest (Parsadanova, 2020). The exchange of views and the answering of hosts and guests become a core part of the talk show program. The topic carried by the host is usually determined depending on who the guests invited to the talk show. Turn-taking knowledge is necessary to understand conversation patterns between presenters and guests. Therefore, the presenter and guests can exchange dialogue, exchange views, or discuss according to the specified topic without misunderstandings or getting out of line with the conversation. Turn-taking can give people insight when speaking to avoid misunderstandings because, with turn-taking, people will pay attention to rules and patterns when discussing a topic. In a talk show, the presenter needs to bring the direction or flow of the conversation topic to align with the goal.

Conversation is crucial and will always happen in society. The existence of conversation analysis studies can provide insight into the public to understand the order and rules in conversation. In conversation analysis, turn-taking strategies are ways to determine the conversation sequence and how to start a topic well. In practice, turn-

taking can be found in talk shows. The host runs talk shows by inviting guests to discuss topics that are usually related to the guests. Turn-taking is used in talk shows because it functions as a turn, holding and redirecting the person to whom the conversation can proceed according to the topic being discussed. Apart from that, understanding turn-taking also serves to avoid misunderstandings and understand conversation patterns.

This study aims to discover the structure of conversation analysis, especially turn-taking in talk shows. Conversations between hosts and guests can increase knowledge about the patterns and rules of a conversation. Apart from that, by analyzing conversations, especially turn-taking, the reader can develop speaking skills to start and end dialogue by creating active communication interactions. By analyzing conversations in talk shows, the reader can gain insight into the dynamics of conversations and then apply them to everyday life.

The finding will ensure structured interactions and reduce misunderstandings during dialogue in any context. Several journal articles that have discussed turn-taking in them are those written by Langerfeld (2023), Munalim et al. (2022), and Skantze (2020). All three discuss the turn-taking mechanism with conversational objects. The analytical theory used by the three journals uses the ground theory of Sacks et al. (1974) and Schegloff & Sacks (1973). Langerfeld (2023) has a research objective to explore how turn-taking is regulated in the context of the FOMC discourse in turn allocation through next speaker selection/self-selection. Munalim et al. (2022) examine the patterns of unanswered and unanswerable questions in a Philippine faculty meeting and propose a turn-taking model that considers the indirectness of the Filipino high-context communication style. Meanwhile, Skantze (2020) comprehensively reviews previous research on turn-taking mechanisms for conversational systems and human-robot interactions to provide an in-depth understanding of the current state of research and map future research directions to aim for instinctive communication between humans and machines. All three analyze actual conversation/interaction data from meeting transcription recordings or conversation/robot systems.

The difference that can be found in the three journals is the context studied. Langerfeld (2023) at the FOMC meeting, Munalim et al. (2022) at the Philippine faculty meeting, and Skantze (2020) on conversational systems and human-robot interactions. In addition, the methods used in these three studies are Langerfeld (2023) and Munalim et al. (2022) use descriptive qualitative analysis, while Skantze (2020) uses a comprehensive literature review. Different focuses Langerfeld (2023) looks at turn-taking arrangements with formalist expressions, Munalim et al. (2022) look at the indirectness of answers, and Skantze (2020) more generally discusses various models and challenges of turn-taking.

In addition to the journals above, two journals covering turn-taking mechanisms are also found in the journals Vranjes, J., & Bot, H. (2021) and Shi, B. (2023). Vranjes, J., & Bot,

H. (2021) focused on analyzing turn-taking mechanisms in psychotherapy sessions mediated by interpreters using a multimodal approach. The method used is qualitative video data analysis, which combines various modalities such as speech, gestures, and eye movements. The study aims to understand how turn-taking is managed in complex situations involving interpreters and map the specific challenges. Therefore, Shi, B. (2023) focuses on a literature review of research on turn-taking in general. The object uses the WeChat application to find the mechanism and characteristics of the WeChat language. The purpose is to provide a comprehensive overview of the current research status and developments in understanding turn-taking mechanisms. The similarities between the two are that they discuss the topic of turn-taking in conversation/interaction and use a qualitative approach in data analysis. In contrast, the differences lie in the context and analysis. Vranjes, J., & Bot, H. (2021) focus on the specific context of mediated psychotherapy to understand the particular challenges of turn-taking with interpreters, while Shi, B. (2023) is a literature review that aims to map the development of turn-taking research as a whole.

In short, these five papers use qualitative data analysis to provide in-depth insights into the turn-taking mechanism in various conversational/interactional contexts, whether in meetings, conversational systems, human-robot interactions, or mediated conversations. A conversation is an interaction between two or more people to obtain information. Conversation has a field of study, namely conversation analysis, one of the linguistic studies. Handika et al. (2022) describe conversation analysis as an influential linguistic approach to classify good interaction practices in conversations with others. CA is done so that people know how to speak well with others. Ismaliyah (2015) highlights that conversation analysis is used to analyze oral interactions. So, the main focus is to analyze oral interactions or conversations in detail. As a result, conversation analysis examines how people's conversations or interactions are organized and structured in order to determine how participants manage turns of speech in conversations. According to Heritage (2001), three characteristics are found in an interaction: understanding the follow-up actions indicated by the ongoing action, the production of the action itself, and its interpretation by the previous speaker.

This approach provides insight into the various strategies and mechanisms used in conversation, such as non-verbal cues, intonation, timing, and so on. By analyzing these details, CA helps us understand excellent and effective interaction practices in conversation to prevent misunderstandings or communication breakdowns. As a result, CA is considered a very influential approach in linguistic research, especially in studying the phenomenon of conversation and oral interaction.

Nevertheless, Conversation Analysis (CA) is divided into several interrelated branches or important elements. The following outlines the main branches in CA: Turn-Taking, Adjacency Pairs, Pre-sequences, Repair, and Overall Organization.

Turn-Taking analyzes how participants in a conversation take, maintain, and give

turns to speak (Sacks et al., 1974). This includes mechanisms such as speaker selection, interruptions, and the distribution of speaking turns. Adjacency Pairs examine how utterances in a conversation are organized into pairs of related utterances that are expected to appear in sequence (Schegloff & Sacks, 1973). Pre-sequences analyze how participants show preference or dispreference for a particular action through the way an utterance is delivered (Pomerantz, 1984), or how they might preface a request. Repair analyzes how participants handle comprehension issues or production errors by making repairs (Schegloff et al., 1977). Lastly, Overall Organization refers to the broader structure of the conversation and the exchange within a specific form of communication.

Through an in-depth analysis of these elements, CA helps us understand effective interaction practices in conversation, which are essential for preventing misunderstandings or communication breakdowns. As a result, CA is considered a very influential approach in linguistic research, particularly in the study of conversation and oral interaction. In this paper, however, the author will focus primarily on turn-taking.

In turn-taking, several strategies facilitate the analysis of conversation sequences and their components. These strategies include:

1. **Taking the Floor:** This refers to the time when the first speaker or the next speaker takes over their turn. It consists of the following elements:
 - **Starting a Conversation (Starting Up):** This can be done with hesitation (hesitate start) or clear speech (clear start). Sacks et al. (1974) explain, “Starting up is one way of accomplishing the transfer from non-talk to talk” (p. 718), meaning that starting a conversation signals the transition from silence to speech.
 - **Taking Over:** This refers to a speaker taking over the speaking turn, often initiated with a conjunction. Coulthard (2007) states, “A listener can take over the speaking turn by using a conjunction to link his or her contribution to the previous speaker’s” (p. 63).
 - **Interrupting:** This occurs when the next speaker feels the previous speaker’s message has been sufficiently conveyed, prompting them to take over the turn. Sacks et al. (1974) describe interruptions as “a violation in the turn-taking organization” (p. 719).
 - **Overlapping:** In this case, the next speaker predicts that the previous speaker will soon yield their turn, and thus they take over the conversation. Jefferson (2004) explains, “Overlap is a systematic, recurring feature of conversation, not a dereliction or sign of trouble” (p. 43).
2. **Holding the Floor:** Schegloff (1987) explains, “Holding the turn involves techniques through which current speakers can reserve the right to extend their turn constructional unit in progress” (p. 210). In other words, holding the floor means the speaker continues their turn and maintains control over the conversation.
3. **Yielding the Floor:** Yielding the floor refers to the act of giving the turn to the next speaker. Duncan (1972) states, “Yielding the floor is the final portion of a speaker’s turn and may function as a signal for the other person to take a turn” (p. 286).

Therefore, the author aims to use the conversation analysis theory by Sacks et al.

as the basic theory of this study. This theory is used to analyze data from Hot One's podcast program with Guest Star Zayn Malik in the context of turn-taking.

METHODS

The authors use qualitative methods to identify and analyze data. Qualitative research is often employed in studies that focus on collecting and clarifying non-numerical data to understand societal phenomena (Adodeyin, 2020). This approach is highly beneficial for analyzing and identifying the data required for this paper. Specifically, the interview segment in the talk show will utilize qualitative methods to deepen the insight into conversational interactions. The authors will collect and analyze specific parts of the conversation using this method, focusing on turn-taking strategies. By applying conversation analysis with qualitative methods, the process of understanding conversational dynamics becomes more accessible. For example, during a conversation between a host and a guest, the researchers can identify strategies for managing the flow of conversation. The data for this research comes from YouTube videos of talk shows, which provide real-time examples of conversation structure. The qualitative method is essential for examining the dialogue structure and recognizing recurring patterns within these interactions. In this paper, the use of qualitative methods is highly effective for studying, identifying, and analyzing data from talk show videos. Moreover, this method is particularly suitable for the research object—the Hot Ones talk show. The video in question features a conversation between the host and guest Zayn Malik, uploaded in April 2023. With a runtime of 21 minutes and 15 seconds, the video serves as the ideal material for analyzing turn-taking. The qualitative approach is well-suited to examine the turn-taking strategies in this video, and the next stage of the research will involve a detailed description of the findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents a result and discussion of the research. This chapter is divided into several subheadings covering conversational analysis resulting in turn-taking rules, turn-taking strategies, and discussion of each part. This chapter focuses on the patterns that arrange how participants in a conversation exchange speaking turns, providing insights into the structured nature of real-life communication.

1. Results and Discussion of the Research

Table 1. Results of the Research

No	Turn-Taking Strategies	Frequency
1	Starting Up	17
2	Holding the Floor	22
3	Interrupting	12
4	Overlapping	1
5	Yielding the Floor	2
6	Taking Over	1

Total: 55

Based on the conversation between Zayn Malik and Sean Evans, it is found that their conversation in the Hot Ones talk show resulted in many frequencies of the use Holding the Floor. It is because Zayn Malik is a slow talker which causes the use of many “um” or “uh” to maintain his turn in their conversation. The statement can be proven from the data that has been collected below:

1.1. Starting Up

Sean : *“Hey, what's going on everybody for First We Feast. I'm Sean Evans and you're watching Hot Ones.”*

Sean's opening line "Hey, what's going on everybody for First We Feast. I'm Sean Evans and you're watching Hot Ones." is counted as a "starting up" in turn-taking strategy. This strategy is used to initiate a conversation or introduce a new topic or interaction. In this case, Sean is introducing himself and the show (Hot Ones) to the audience. He is using an attention-getter ("Hey, what's going on everybody") and providing context about the show to open the conversation.

Sean : *"There we go! So, I'm always intrigued by songwriters who use poetry as an entry point to crafting lyrics. What impact does composing that way have on the final product?"*

Sean begins with a clear and appealing opener ("There we go!") to signal that he is about to speak. He then introduces his topic of interest, which is the impact of using poetry in songwriting. This strategy creates the context for their conversation, inviting his interlocutor to respond and interact with the new issue he has introduced.

Sean : *"So, as we mentioned years ago you moved to Pennsylvania to seek a life of simplicity. In what ways do you find gardening most rewarding and what would you say has so far been your greatest gardening achievement?"*

Sean initiates the conversation by bringing up a previous event ("as we mentioned years ago"), which leads seamlessly into a new topic. This creates the context and sets up the topic for discussion which are gardening and its benefits.

1.2. Holding the Floor

Zayn : *"Yeah, um... so, when we did the uh... uh, One Direction movie, um... Morgan Spurlock, he filmed a lot of the behind-the-scenes stuff that was used for the film and he directed it. Um... and he became pretty close to us, um... so, at the end of the filming process he brought us all the "present. Um... and he brought me, uh... signed, uh... Iron Man comic Stan—Stanley signed, uh... Iron Man comic which is a real, you know, um... amazing thing that I still have on my wall. Um... and yeah, just an amazing thing to tell your geeky nerdy friends who love comic books, you know, they—they definitely want that comic book from me. Um... none of them will have it at any point while I'm alive. So, um... they'll have to wait a while. Um... but yeah, uh... that was really cool, and I remember the boys being super like, pissed off about it too, because they didn't get as good gifts and he gave me this side Stanley comic. I was like, 'this is fucking sick'. Um... but, yeah, I—I love that, uh... that comic book. It's interesting that you... that you know about that."*

In this example, Zayn uses holding the floor as a turn-taking strategy to maintain control of the conversation and continue speaking without interruption. Zayn starts with fillers like "um" and hesitations such as "uh," which are used to maintain vocal continuity while thinking of what to say next. This helps in holding the floor by avoiding gaps in speech that could invite others to speak.

Zayn : *"Uh... yeah, it depends, um... on the occasion, you know, um... I don't like to just bump my music to—to people as they come over, you have to listen to my music, uh... but if—if I'm having like, um... a moment to myself where I'm listening to things, yeah, I listen to my own music quite a lot, yeah."*

Zayn makes use of fillers like "uh," "um," and "you know" to keep the discussion going as he gathers his thoughts. These spoken pauses indicate that he has not completed speaking and help to avoid interruptions from others. Zayn repeats words and corrects himself ("to—to people as they come over"), indicating that he is thinking about his response in real time. This repetition strengthens his grip on the floor by demonstrating that he is still working on his final answer.

Zayn : *"Going to a game with my granddad when I was real young and we used to have this amazing player that used to play for Bradford city as kind of like a charity thing, basically. He, uh... was too expensive for the club, but if they paid him his wages for the last, um ... season, they would have gone bankrupt as a club so he did it for free, because he loved the club so much and that's probably one of the coolest things, uh... like memory-wise for—for Bradford City, yeah, I think."*

Zayn gives a lengthy and accurate story of a personal memory, which obviously maintains the listener's attention for a while. This detailed storytelling keeps others from easily interjecting. The sentence is complex and includes several clauses and built details.

This complexity indicates that Zayn is still in the middle of the conversation and discourages others from interrupting. Moreover, The use of fillers such as "uh," "um," and slight pauses shows that Zayn is still thinking and has not finished his turn yet. These verbal cues signal to others that he is holding the floor and is not ready to yield it.

1.2.1. Interruption

Sean : *“You know what? No problem. I think we*

*have—”*Zayn : *“You’ve got toothpicks?”*

Sean : *“—we’ve got some toothpicks, we’ve got some—”*

Zayn : *“Got out, anyway. It’s fine. Get off. Um, yeah, so it was just the... the love that have for comic books. That’s why I used that.”*

In this example, interruption is used as a turn-taking strategy, where Zayn interrupts Sean to interject his contribution to the conversation. Zayn interrupts Sean mid-sentence (“You’ve gottoothpicks?”) to fill his contribution or question, which in this case is about toothpicks. This action shows Zayn's desire to participate in the conversation and to express his thoughts or questions without waiting for Sean to finish his turn. After Zayn's interruption, the conversation shifts slightly. Sean attempts to continue his previous train of thought, but Zayn's interruption has already redirected the focus to a new topic—comic books and Zayn's love for them.

Zayn : *“Yeah, um... just remember playing that game for (inaudible) on the game but just obsessed with it and—and they’ve always like, kept up to date with that kind of stuff too, like, every year they bring out a new Pokémon game and it’s—”*

Sean : *“—the IP doesn't fall off.”*

Zayn : *“—no, not at all they—they just they hit hard every time, a little bit like this chicken wing. Um ... they know what they're doing, for sure.”*

Zayn is in the midst of explaining his ideas on the continuity and success of Pokémon games when Sean interrupts. This disrupts Zayn's narrative flow and abruptly redirects the conversation. Sean tries to continue or add to Zayn's thought with his own comment (“the IP doesn't fall off”), which can be considered an interruption because it abruptly inserts his opinion before Zayn has concluded his own.

Sean : *“Well, you know what? You heard it here first and look at you Zayn! Taking on the wings of death, living to tell the tale and now there's nothing left to do—”*

Zayn : *“—no milk!”*

Sean : *“—but roll out the red carpet for you. Zero milk, no milk all the way through. This camera, this camera, and this camera let the people know what you have*

going on in your life.”

Zayn adds, “—no milk!” while Sean is still speaking. This unexpected interruption in Sean's phrase breaks his thought and temporarily shifts the focus to Zayn. The timing of Zayn's interruption gives little space for Sean to naturally stop, implying that Zayn did not wait for Sean to finish his statement before responding.

1.2.2. Overlapping

Zayn : “*Yeah, I think this one's nice got nice flavor to—*”

Sean : “*Yeah, it does but a little heat—*”

Zayn : “*A little bit of, bit—*” Sean & Zayn : “*Yeah.*”

In this example, overlapping is used as a turn-taking strategy, specifically illustrating how speakers can simultaneously contribute to the conversation without a clear pause or interruption. The overlapping “Yeah.” creates the same opinion or conclusion, indicating that both speakers agree on one idea of the topic (like the flavor and heat of the food item they are discussing).

Yielding the Floor

Sean : “*Oh, you're growing chilies?*” Zayn : “*Yeah, I do grow chilies.*” Sean : “*How's that been going?*”

Zayn : “*I've been growing a lot of Scotch Bonnets and...*” Sean : “*Uh—*”

Zayn : “*... A lot of Carolina Reapers.*”

Sean asks Zayn about his experience with growing chili plants: “How's that been going?” which indicates his interest and perhaps readiness for Zayn to take his turn.

Sean : “*Zayn, I know that you don't do many interviews, we're very appreciative to have you here today and I have a feeling that you wouldn't be here unless you had something very important to share. With your brain and mouth on fire, what is it you can tell us about the new album?*”

Zayn : “*Um... the new album is just a very different sound, um... to anything that I've ever put out before. It's just really raw, um... and honest, and I hope people get that when they listen to it. Um... I hope they get some insight into, you know, how I'm feeling and the things I've been going through over the last six, seven years while I've been writing this record. Um... and that's the most important thing for me, I think, I just want people to really feel like they get a connection with—with the record.*” In this case, Sean demonstrates control over the conversation by deciding when to yield the floor and directing the topic of discussion. After that, Sean uses a question directed at Zayn (“What is it you can tell us about the new album?”) as a way of transitioning the conversation.

1.2.3. Yielding the Floor

Sean : “*Oh, you're growing chilies?*”

Zayn : *"Yeah, I do grow chilies."*

Sean : *"How's that been going?"*

Zayn : *"I've been growing a lot of Scotch Bonnets and..."*

Sean : *"Uh—"*

Zayn : *"... A lot of Carolina Reapers."*

Sean asks Zayn about his experience with growing chili plants: "How's that been going?" which indicates his interest and perhaps readiness for Zayn to take his turn.

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In this case, Sean demonstrates control over the conversation by deciding when to yield the floor and directing the topic of discussion. Sean then uses a question directed at Zayn ("What is it you can tell us about the new album?") as a means of transitioning the conversation.

1.2.4. Taking Over

Zayn : *"That's very fruity."*

Sean : *"And it has kind of like a... fresh apple taste—taste up front, almost."*

In this example, Zayn initiates the conversation with the observation, "That's very fruity." This sets the topic of discussion, likely referring to a taste or flavor profile they are experiencing. Sean then uses taking over as a strategy by immediately continuing from Zayn's comment without waiting for Zayn to fully conclude or explicitly offering Sean a turn. Sean starts with "And it has kind of like a... fresh apple taste—taste up front, almost." This continuation shows how speakers can smoothly take control of the conversation flow by building upon the initial observation.

2. The Comparison of the Results

The most significant results from this research indicate that Zayn dominated the

conversation because of his ability to maintain the flow and his eagerness to participate. In addition, this research examined the length and frequency of turns, and they revealed that Zayn made longer and more frequent turns than the host. This research also found topic shifts in the conversation, with the subject moving from music to personal life and back again. These results emphasize how crucial speaker dominance, frequency and length of turns, subject changes, and communication implications are to understanding conversation dynamics. This research emphasizes the importance of speaker dominance, duration and frequency of speaking turns, topic changes, and their implications for communication. It also offers new insight into the turn-taking techniques used in Hot One's Show with Zayn Malik.

CONCLUSION

This study examined turn-taking strategies in a conversation between Zayn Malik and Sean Evans on the Hot Ones talk show, revealing critical insights into their interaction dynamics. The most frequent strategy observed was "Holding the Floor," primarily attributed to Zayn Malik's speaking style, characterized by the frequent use of fillers. "Starting Up" was the second most common strategy, predominantly used by Sean Evans, demonstrating effective interview management. The presence of "Interrupting" and "Overlapping" suggested a dynamic, interactive exchange, while the low frequency of "Yielding the Floor" and "Taking Over" indicated a well-structured interview. These findings contribute to our understanding of conversational dynamics in media interviews and offer a framework for analyzing the balance between interview structure and natural conversation flows in talk show settings.

Despite these insights, several limitations should be acknowledged. The study's focus on a single interview limits the generalizability of findings. Cultural considerations were not extensively explored, and non-verbal cues were not thoroughly analyzed. The unique format of the Hot Ones show may influence turn-taking strategies in ways that differ from traditional interview settings. Additionally, the study did not consider how the presence of cameras and the knowledge of being recorded might affect participants' behaviors. The limited theoretical framework could benefit from incorporating broader communication theories for a more comprehensive analysis. Despite the limitations, this study paves the way for future research. Comparative analysis across multiple episodes of Hot Ones or similar talk shows could identify patterns and variations in different guest-host interactions. Cross-cultural examination could provide insights into how cultural factors influence conversation dynamics in media settings. Incorporating analysis of non-verbal cues alongside verbal strategies would offer a more comprehensive understanding of turn-taking negotiation in televised interviews. Longitudinal studies could reveal patterns in communication style development while comparing turn-taking strategies in Hot Ones to those in more traditional interview formats could highlight the influence of unique show elements. Studies examining audience perception, technological impact, gender dynamics, and power dynamics could contribute valuable insights to media training and public speaking education. An interdisciplinary approach incorporating insights from psychology, sociology, and media studies could provide a

more holistic understanding of turn-taking in media interviews, inspiring a new wave of research in this field.

By addressing these areas, future research can build upon this study's findings to develop a more comprehensive understanding of turn-taking strategies in media interviews. This knowledge can inform media training, improve interview techniques, and enhance our overall understanding of effective communication in public-facing dialogues. The study's results emphasize the importance of speaker dominance, duration and frequency of speaking turns, topic changes, and their implications for communication, offering new insight into the turn-taking techniques used in the Hot Ones Show with Zayn Malik. As media continues to evolve and shape public discourse, understanding these subtle yet crucial aspects of communication becomes increasingly essential for both media professionals and the general public.

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