Abstract

In general, the literary devices are a collection of universal artistic structures that are so typical of all works of literature frequently employed by the writers to give meanings and a logical framework to their works through language. When such works are read by readers, they ultimately recognize and appreciate them. Because of their universality, they also allow the readers to compare a work of one writer to that of the other to determine its worth. They not only beautify the piece of literature but also give deeper meanings to it, testing the very understanding of the readers along with providing them enjoyment of reading. Besides, they help motivating readers' imagination to visualize the characters and scenes more clearly.

Introduction

This study deals with an analytic study on literary devices used in Shakespeare's play: Hamlet. In this study, the researcher examines the devices which are important in any literary work. The main purpose and concern of this study is to add another perspective look to the enormous existing body of the literature review. The audience or the reader expects to receive wisdom and pleasure by adopting the dramatic devices which help in unity and probability of the drama. They should pay attention to the auditory material of a play. In fact, all aspects of sound should be taken into consideration. For example, one should pay attention to the repetition, rate, and quality of sound. Also, the visual aspects of production should be taken into consideration. Shakespeare is the most popular dramatist of the Renaissance. He is known not only to his age but to all ages. Shakespeare
produced 37 plays and his career has been divided into four periods. In the period of tragedies, he wrote many plays like Hamlet, King Lear, Macbeth and Othello. Shakespeare's language is highly poetic, beautiful and powerful. This is because of his comparison, imagery, puns and word play.

**What is a literary device?**

A literary device is a technique used by a writer to convey a message. Shakespeare used many different literary devices in his plays, and this research will discuss some examples found in Hamlet. This research discusses repetition, metaphor, simile, anadiplosis, anaphora, allusion, archaic, analogy, kairos, hendiadys, personification, meter and soliloquy.

**Repetition**

Repetition: the repeating of words for emphasis.

Hamlet: I humbly thank you; well, well, well.

Hamlet: Words, words, words.

These two quotes use a repetition of a single word three times for emphasis.

**Metaphor**

Metaphor: a comparison between two things (that does not use 'like' or 'as'). Hamlet: Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer

The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,

Or to take arms against a sea of troubles, and by

Opposing end them?

In this quote, Hamlet compares his troubles to a sea. This tells us that Hamlet sees his troubles as vast, large, and seemingly endless, much like a sea.

Hamlet: who would fardels bear, to grunt and sweat under a weary life, but that the dread of something after death, the undiscover'd country from whose bourn, no traveller returns.
Hamlet compares death to an undiscovered country. This comparison tells us that Hamlet sees death as something unknown or foreign.

Another implied metaphor is when Hamlet explains that he has little value for his miserably saddened life, thus little fear of losing it from an encounter with a ghost. When Horatio worries about his friend approaching Old Hamlet's ghost, Hamlet notes: Why, what should be the fear? I donot set my life in a pin's fee; (Hamlet, Act 1, Sc. 4, lines: 67-68).

What Hamlet means is that the cost of a pin (an insignificant cost as pins are usually sold many at a time for one price) is worth more than Hamlet's life, or so he feels in his tragic circumstances of a dead king and father and an abominably remarried Queen and mother.

Also, there is another example for this device: "Doth make the night laborer with the day?" (line: 77).

Marcellus uses this metaphor to explain the difference between day and night that means both work together. In fact, here he is referring to the preparations of warriors for war, which is a twenty-hour operation.

Simile

Simile: a comparison using the words 'like' or 'as'

Hamlet: A little month, or ere those shoes were old with which she follow'd my poor father's body, like Niobe, all tears.

This quote compares Queen Gertrude to Niobe, a character from Greek mythology. The gods killed Niobe's children and she wept bitterly, unlike Queen Gertrude who did not seem to show much emotion for the death of her husband, Hamlet's father.

Claudius: His beard was as white as snow.

In this quote, Claudius is talking to himself about Hamlet's father, who he murdered. He compares the beard of Hamlet's father to snow because of its white color.

Gertrude: These words, like daggers, enter in mine ears.
Hamlet's cruel words to his mother are more than she can bear. Gertrude compares the words to daggers because they hurt her feelings like daggers might hurt her body.

**Anadiplosis**
Anadiplosis: ending a phrase with a word and starting the next phrase with the same word.

Hamlet: To die, to sleep; 
To sleep: perchance to dream.

One phrase ends with 'to sleep' and the next phrase begins with the same set of words: 'to sleep'. This literary device creates a flow and connection between the two phrases.

**Anaphora**
Anaphora: repeating the same word at the beginning of each phrase.

Polonius: Doubt thou the stars are fire; 
Doubt that the sun doth move; 
Doubt truth to be a liar; 
But never doubt I love.

The word 'doubt' is repeated at the beginning of each phrase except for the last phrase. The point of this literary device is to repeat the things to doubt to build correlation, and then emphasize in the last line that his love cannot be doubted.

**Alliteration**
Alliteration: the repetition of the same sound or letter in words.

There are many examples of the repetition of words with the same letter in Hamlet.

O, 'tis too true! 
Bare bodkin 
Single spies 
Bad begins

Marcellus tells Horatio about the ghost in these lines. Shakespeare here uses alliteration to intensify the effect of horror of the Ghost. The letter 'w' is repeated here in this line as: "with us to watch."
"Therefore I have entreated him alone,  
With us to watch the minutes of this night." (lines: 26-27)

**Allusion**

Allusion: references to other symbols, stories, and pieces of literature.

There are two main types of allusion in Hamlet: allusion to Christian symbols and stories and allusion to Greek and Roman mythology.

**Hamlet:** The spirit that I have seen.

"The fair Ophelia. -Nymph, in thy orisons / Be all my sins remembered"(a nymph is a mythological entity, or mythological allusion).

As an allusion, Polonius notes that he once acted the part of Julius Caesar and was stabbed by Brutus. This is an historical allusion to the Roman Emperor, Julius Caesar, and one of his assassins. The allusion also provides foreshadowing of what will come because it will be the way that Polonius dies: Hiding in Gertrude's room behind a curtain ("arras"), Hamlet stabs him believing him to be a traitor in Queen Gertrude's room. I did enact Julius Caesar; I was killed i' the Capitol;

Brutus killed me. (Hamlet, Act 3, Sc. 2, lines: 98-99).

Other lines in Hamlet:

" In the most high and palmy state of Rome,  
A little ere the mightiest Julius fell,  
The graves stood tenantless and the sheeted dead,  
Did squeak and gibber in the Roman streets."  
(lines: 113-117).

Horatio uses a notable literary device, allusion. In these lines, he alludes to the assassination of Julius Caesar, while comparing this Ghost's arrival to that of the eruption of the graves. Here "palmy" means growing and flourishing robustly. He refers to the time when the imperial Rome was at its full glory, and became a huge empire with the rise of Julius Caesar. The murder of Caesar caused a turning point in the history of Rome. Then, it was
followed by a series of events, finally leading to utter chaos and disorder.

**Archaic**

Shakespeare has used several archaic words, as was the tradition at that time. A few examples are given below:

BARNARDO. "Tis now strooktwelf. Get thee to bed, Francisco.

FRANCISCO. For this relief much thanks. 'Tis bitter cold And I am sick at heart. (lines: 7-9).

The words "Tis, Strook, Twelf" are all archaic words. In fact, the very first scene is full of archaic words, as they were common during the Elizabethan period.

**Analogy**

An analogy is a comparison in which an idea or a thing is compared to another thing that is quite different from it. It aims at explaining that idea or thing by comparing it to something that is familiar. Horatio compares the situation of the preparation of war with that of chaos in Rome when Julius Caesar was killed, as he states, "A little ere the mightiest Juliusfell " (114). That is why it is exactly like the chaos prevailed in Denmark following the assassination of King Hamlet, while the same situation has been demonstrated as Shakespeare puts it that the "heaven and earth together demonstrated. Unto our climatures and countrymen" (lines: 124-125).

**Kairos**

Kairos is a rhetorical device that means appropriate time for an action. The character of Horatio is a complete example of this device, as he is not only studded with philosophy but also knows everything about what is metaphysical like the ghost, as he first terms is merely a fantasy; but when he sees it again, he approves its arrival. Then his colleagues Marcellus and Bernardo also approve it. That is why they coax him,

" Though art scholar speak to it, Horatio " (line: 43).
Hendiadys
Shakespeare used a rhetorical device hendiadys in which an author expresses a complex idea by joining two words with a conjunction. It is found in the words, "gross and scope."
"But in the gross and scope of mine opinion" (line: 67).
The objective of using hendiadys in the first scene is to make the scene more verbose, so that the complexity of the situation could pose a serious challenge to the audience.

Personification
Personification is a term of a comparison in which a lifeless object is shown as if it is alive. For example:
"But look, the morn, russet mantle clad.
Walks o'ver the dew of yon high eastward hill."(lines: 165-166)
By the end of this scene, Horatio makes use of another literary device personification. He uses it by describing the arrival of dawn and says, "the morn, in russet mantle clad/ walks o'ver the dew of yon high eastern hill." We know that morning cannot wear or walk; however, here Horatio is using personification in order to depict the action and color of the rising sun in the morning.

Meter
Meter, though is a technical device, has strong relationship with the overall theme of a piece. Shakespeare is master in dealing with meter, and he has demonstrated his mastery in Hamlet by using iambic pentameter. For example:
Did squeak and gibber in the Roman streets
Is stars with trains of fire and dews of blood. (lines: 115-116)
He has used iambic pentameter, (five iambics in each line) here as stated above. This metrical pattern can be observed in the lines given above.

Soliloquy
A soliloquy is a literary device that is used to reveal the innermost thoughts of a character. Shakespeare uses soliloquies to expose fascinating insights into the thoughts and actions of
Hamlet and in doing so: the readers can grasp his character. The first soliloquy of the play, introduces the main theme for the rest of Hamlet's thoughts and actions, this soliloquy allows the audience to understand Hamlet's inner thoughts and that are repetitive throughout the play.

Secondly, Hamlet's famous soliloquy "to be or not to be" portrays him as a perplexed man, who is unsure of himself and often fluctuates between two extreme endings. In this soliloquy Hamlet reveals to the audience he is both suicidal and indecisive.

The third soliloquy indicates to the audience the unmasking Hamlet's character revolution into a murder. In this soliloquy the readers are able to conclude their idea of Hamlet's character which stimulates his thoughts of revenge and his procrastination. In the play Hamlet, written by William Shakespeare, literary techniques are used to expose compelling insights of the main character Hamlet. Hamlet's opening soliloquy is a remarkably telling and revealing speech that presents a theme of attitude that will supersede continuously throughout the play.

The main focus of this soliloquy is the rottenness of the King, Queen and the world in general, thus the audience gets there first glimpse into Hamlet's character. Through this speech the readers are introduced to Hamlet's depressed and sadden thoughts. This characteristic is emphasized though the opening lines of the soliloquy, "How weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable seem to me all the uses of this word" (Hamlet, Act 1, Sc.2, lines: 133-134). He saddened at the death of his father, whom he admired as a king and husband to his mother. His grief over his father's death is compounded by his mother's hasty marriage to Claudius. Hamlet believes that even a beast that has no power of reasoning, would mourn longer but she had not. The worst part is that he cannot tell them how he feels.

This soliloquy kindles an interest in the readers and provides a glimpse on Hamlet's thoughts while informing the audience of the history of his family's tribulations. In the next soliloquy, Hamlet calls on the audience 'the distractedglobe' to hear his vow.
to take revenge on his uncle. Now he promises to erase all the foolish lessons in order to remember the commandment of the ghost. The ghost that resembles his father has told him that King Claudius has murdered his father and his soul cannot rest until the revenge is taken. The audience here learns Hamlet's promise to make Claudius pay for this unnatural crime. Already the audience is excited at Hamlet's promise because it is giving them something to look forward. In the other soliloquy, Hamlet admits to the audience that he is a coward. So for his inaction like a day dreamer, he is chiding himself in this way. "O, vengeance!

Why, what an ass am!!

Then he is telling the audience about his new idea of justifying the credibility of the news provided by the ghost. This results in delay to reach his goal. Although heaven and hell urge him to take revenge, he must examine the truth through the play with the poison pouring scene. If his uncle reacts to the scene, he will be confirmed of his uncle's involvement in the murder. Now the audience have even more of a build up of what is to come.

In conclusion, it is clear from the above discussion that the audience is always being included in Hamlet's thinking process through the use of the soliloquies. Such involvement of the audience, helps the real meaning of the play shine through. It is clear from this study that an analysis shows what a piece of art means and how it means it. It shows the resources of literature are used to create the meaning of the text.

Therefore, I would like to call the literature majors for further descriptive, analytical, critical, comparative and historical studies of any literary work to clarify the hidden ambiguities in the works of others. I would like also to see literature majors devoting themselves to analytical studies of all the world literary works to understand the way ideas and feelings are talked about.

Finally, let the literature majors search for the aesthetic pictures hidden in the works of others to elevate their
understanding of the nature of things through a well developed faculty of imagination.
References
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II. Online References