

ABSTRACTS

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Research Articles

THEORY, HISTORY AND LITERARY CRITICISM

Stand-up Comedy as Contemporary Live Theatre

Idowu James Adekunle

Abstract:

Stand-up comedy is a new subgenre of comedy that widely watches across the globe. It is a form of aesthetic performance that elicits laughter and also brings succour and mirth to its audience. Its therapeutic mode, although temporal, gives a thorough and sound approach to life's issues in a mild way. Stand-up comedy show has been proven to be one of the major components of pleasurable shows. However, many scholars viewed stand-up comedy as mere entertainment and humorous show without taking a deeper look at its theatrical performance. Therefore, this paper examines stand-up comedy as a contemporary live theatre. Besides, it investigates the dialoguing conversational techniques of characters, paralinguistic features of the stage play and the use of music, symbolism, caricature, subtle irony, humour, blazer costume, improvisation and interactivity in a bid to show stand-comedy as a contemporary live theatre. Schechner's Performance, Freudian and Jungian psychoanalytic theories were used to analyse the aesthetic unique performances of the stand-up comedians. The purposively selected stand-up comedian for stage show is Klint De Drunk (Ahamefula Igwemba) and supported by Basket Mouth (Bright Okpocha). Live digital discs of performance recordings of Klint De Drunk were used. Data were subjected to performance and literary analyses.

Keywords: stand-up comedy, live theatre, humour, aesthetics, comedians

Fiction and Self-Knowledge: Daniel Mendelsohn, *An Odyssey. A Father, a Son and an Epic*

Florica Bodiştean

Abstract:

This study analyses Daniel Mendelsohn's recent work *An Odyssey. A Father, a Son and an Epic* through the connection between its two main levels: autofiction, which deals with the father-son psychoanalytic relationship, and the metatext of the *Odyssey* read as a narrative of searching the depths of human relationships. The distribution of the factual material according to this connection illustrates the function of literature to act like a mirror for our confusing and incomprehensible experiences. The pragmatic theory of the narrative formulated by Paul Ricœur in *Temps et récit*, according to which fiction becomes a mediator of self-knowledge, is invoked in relation to how the text handles the evolution of the father-son relationship.

Key words: rewriting, autofiction, metatext, identity, self-knowledge, refigure

A Case of Mutilation: Translating Hemingway (and his life) in Communist Romania in the 1960s

Dan Horațiu Popescu

Abstract:

The paper is a case study, part of a larger and older research project on the reception of modernist American literature in the cultural press of communist Romania in the 1960s. If the 1950s were the toughest years, in terms of censorship and physical atrocities, the 1960s could be considered the *milder* ones, while also anticipating the *enlightened* 1970s. We have been analyzing the Romanian cultural press as going beyond the role of an interface between an *écriture* terminal and a network of readers: firstly, via translations, more or less accurate, secondly, through interviews and memories from journalists, fellow-writers, friends, family members, as reproduced from publications belonging mainly to the Eastern / Communist Bloc (Cuba included). Our research is also based on investigations run in the archives of the former secret police, the infamous Securitate. The relation between censorship and ideology, between institutionalized and self-censorship is underlined, as well as their effect in the act of literary translation. Our paper focuses on Hemingway as a result of him being the most popular representative of the Lost Generation at the time, in the countries of the former Soviet Bloc. The main text we had in view was *How Do You Like It Now, Gentlemen?* by Lilian Ross.

Keywords: Hemingway's reception, communist Romania, censorship, ideology

Representation of Angel-in-the-House in *Bleak house* by Charles Dickens

Shaghayegh Moghari

Abstract:

This article intends to examine the female characters of Esther Summerson and Ada Clare in *Bleak House*, written by Charles Dickens in Victorian period. In fact, the author has tried to revisit this novel as a case in point to discuss how female characters in Victorian society, who were depicted typically in this Victorian novel, were labeled as "angel in the house". This work will actually analyze the concept of "angel in the house," hegemonic patriarchy, Esther Summerson, Ada Care, and Lady Dedlock as Esther's foil. At the end, this article will discuss how in the Victorian male-dominated society women were easily manipulated by their male counterparts both in society and at home under the label of "angel in the house".

Keywords: "angel in the house", Esther Summerson, Ada Clare, Victorian society, *Bleak house*, patriarchy, women

Stylistically Disempowered Masculinity in Shepard's *Buried Child*

Ali Aghaei
Samira Sasani

Abstract:

This paper aims to discuss masculinity in Shepard's *Buried Child*. Shepard's plays have often been viewed as geared significantly towards a male audience, and seen to be filled with concepts which reinforce masculine ideology. The aforesaid point provided the motivation for an investigation into

Shepard's work based mainly on linguistic factors to draw a conclusion about the workings of masculinity in the aforementioned play. To achieve the said goal, two excerpts were chosen: the first excerpt illustrates the dominance and power of one female character, Halie, over the male characters, and the second portrays Shelly's significant supremacy (who is the only other female character) in comparison to the male characters. Each excerpt consisted of turns which were numbered for ease of reference. Each turn was then analyzed using the stylistic tools of politeness, impoliteness, and speech act theory in conjunction with various masculinity theories. For politeness, Brown and Levinson's model was employed, while for impoliteness, Culpeper's ideas were put to use, and Searle's speech act theory provided the last piece of the stylistic puzzle. The results of the linguistic analysis were utilized to make easier the analysis done through traditional masculinity theories such as Connell's model of gender.

Keywords: *Buried Child*, masculinity, politeness, impoliteness, speech act theory

Acceptions de l'espace dans le discours diurne / nocturne dans l'œuvre de Mircea Eliade

Nicolae Șera

Acceptions of the space in the diurnal/nocturnal discourse in Mircea Eliade's works

Abstract:

The present study investigates the manifestations of the sacred and the profane in Mircea Eliade's work. More precisely it analyses the ways in which space is depicted, focusing on various spatial variants, such as the concepts of *house*, *center*, *limits*, etc., in light of the sacred / profane duality that is specific to Eliade's work. Mimeticism, camouflage and disguise are some features of Eliade's fantastic literature, as well as the subtle game of simultaneously showing and hiding something. At the level of discourse, these aspects are translated by coding the information so that later it can be decoded partly by the author, partly by the reader.

Keywords: discourse, sacred, profane, space, center, limit

LINGUISTICS, STYLISTICS AND TRANSLATION STUDIES

L'utilisation des applications Microsoft Teams, Edpuzzle et LearningApps dans l'enseignement du français scientifique et technique

Cristina Ana Măluțan , Adina-Irina Forna

Using Microsoft Teams, Edpuzzle and LearningApps in Teaching Scientific and Technical French

Abstract:

Lately, more and more learning applications and online learning tools are being used for teaching French as a foreign language. Moreover, today's pandemic context somehow forces us to use these online teaching tools to keep contact with our students. This article will focus on three online learning tools that provide the teachers of French as a foreign language the necessary tools to create learning

activities for their students. The example we used is the subject of *Social Media* which is a very appealing topic for the 1st year students of Computer Science Faculty within the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca. The learning apps we will use for exemplifying are Microsoft Teams, Edpuzzle and LearningApps. The learning objectives established at the beginning of the course were understanding the vocabulary related to the social media, the grammar structures such as *l'impératif* for the technical vocabulary or the specific language used in science, and the status of the social media nowadays. In order to attain these objectives, we will show how to create teaching activities related to the subject of *social media* using these learning apps. With the interactive activities on these online platforms we will facilitate the development of the CEFR language competences (listening and reading, understanding, spoken and written production) and we will offer examples of playful and interactive activities to make the acquisition of these language structures more attractive and include them in the technical and scientific language.

Keywords: on-line apps, teaching, French for Specific Purposes, social media, Microsoft Teams, Edpuzzle, LearningApps

The Language Community: Traditional Linguistic Communities in the Western Romania

Voica Radu-Călugăru

Abstract:

The language community creates a universe defined in terms of social analysis where linguistic phenomena reflect general rules of behavior. Most groups with certain stability – both small groups related through direct contact and modern nations, divided into smaller sub regions or professional associations and small local groups – can be considered as language communities if they present language features that demand a special study. Verbal behavior of such groups always represents a system. Communication of referential information means grammar, while communication of social information implicates a correlative systematic variation in the structure of language and in the social structure. The Western part of our country shows a distinct mosaic of linguistic communities who have contributed in preserving spiritual and cultural identity of ethnic minorities. Spiritual and cultural identity means *language* and *tradition*, preserved in various types of *language communities*.

Keywords: language community, bilingualism, acculturation, linguistic influence, linguistic code

Transacted Identities: Language and Self Negotiation in Interaction

Gabriela Ioana Mocan

Abstract:

The present article aims to investigate how identity occurs dialogically – and not only – in social interaction, with personal and social identity overlapping and influencing each other, and the social actors transacting themselves based on their external cues. Identity negotiation, concept that stays at the core of our study, looks at the ways in which, starting from a specific agenda and precise goals, individuals engage in the creation of mutual identities, while also attempting to put on a favourable self-presentation for their interlocutors. The theoretical framework underpinning the research is set by the sociolinguistic paradigm, and the major importance attributed to language in the identity negotiation process is demonstrated in the second part of our research. The contribution concludes with some tentative observations and directions for further research.

Keywords: language, culture, identity negotiation, social interaction, translation, sociolinguistics, code-switching

Confucius' Philosophy of *Zhengming* ("Rectification of Names"): Implications for Social Harmony in Africa

Mark Omorovie Ikeke

Abstract:

Social harmony is an imperative for the development of society. Without social harmony there is bound to be conflicts, violence, and social turmoil that impede the wellbeing of society. A key factor that can promote social harmony is when people live out the meaning of their names. This is what Confucius called *Zhengming* ("rectification of names"). For him the rectification of names implies every citizen living out the full import and meaning of their names and roles. Without rectification of names society will continue to be bedeviled by disharmony. Like many other societies the African continent is bedeviled with social disharmonies caused by poor leadership, bad governance, corruption and embezzlement of public funds, kidnapping and hostage taking, youth restiveness, illegal migration, environmental degradation, etc. It is difficult for there to be social harmony when citizens are experiencing social deprivations. The paper will use critical analytic and hermeneutic methods to examine the doctrine of rectification of names as proposed by Confucius. The paper will also apply this doctrine to the situation of social disharmony in Africa. The paper finds and concludes that there is need to use the ideas of *Zhengming* to mitigate social disharmonies in Africa.

Keywords: Confucius, *Zhengming*, "rectification of names", ethics, social harmony, Africa

Bilingualism – an Exclusive Benefits Package for Children?

Ana Maria Hopârtean

Abstract:

The present paper debates whether bilingualism is an exclusive advantage that children have when it comes to learning languages. After a theoretical overview of bilingualism, we discuss how age impacts language acquisition through the perspective of the critical period hypothesis. Adults and children are inherently different when it comes to acquisition and control of foreign languages. While adults have access to metacognitive resources, it is debatable whether these constitute an advantage in terms of language acquisition.

Keywords: bilingualism, adults, children, language acquisition, metacognition

The Problem of *Evil*

Part One: *Evil* in Philosophical Discourse

Iosif Riviş-Tipei

Abstract:

This article is the first in a series of three articles that endeavor to provide a short survey of answers to, and interpretations of, the problem of evil in philosophical, mythopoetic and religious discourses. The present article tackles the philosophical framework, tracing with broad strokes significant reflections on evil in the western world, from ancient Greek thought to the modern times. Interpreters discussed in the survey include such names as: Socrates, Plato, Descartes, Spinoza, Leibnitz, Kant, Hegel and Nietzsche.

Keywords: problem of *evil*, philosophical interpretations of *evil*, theodicy