

LECTURE NO. 3

24.05.2024

HELLO EVERYONE!

What are the four types of discourse?

We read:

1. Description
2. Narration

Let us continue:

3. Exposition

Exposition is the third type of discourse. Exposition is used to convey background information to the audience in a relatively neutral way. In most cases, it doesn't use emotion and it doesn't aim to persuade.

Examples of discourse exposure are definitions and comparative analysis.

What is more, exposure serves as an umbrella term for modes such as:

Exemplification (illustration): The speaker or writer uses examples to illustrate their point.

Example

Michael Jackson is one of the most famous artists in the world. His 1982 album 'Thriller' is actually the best-selling album of all time - it has sold more than 120 million copies worldwide."

Exposition discourse is used to inform or to convey the message. It doesn't use emotions and it doesn't try to persuade. It's neutral and objective.

An exemplification essay is an essay about an example. You illustrate things using an example.

"Cause/Effect: The speaker or writer traces reasons (causes) and outcomes (effects).

Example

I forgot to set my alarm this morning and I was late for work.

*

Comparison/Contrast: The speaker or writer examines the similarities and differences between two or more items.

Example

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone is shorter than Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.

*

Definition: The speaker or writer explains a term, often using examples to emphasise their point.

Example

Rock is a type of popular music originating in the late 1960s and 70s and characterized by a heavy beat and simple melodies. One of the most famous rock songs is 'Smoke on the Water' by the English band Deep Purple."

The definition discourse is an example of expository discourse.

*

Problem/Solution: The speaker or writer draws attention to a particular issue (or issues) and offers ways in which it can be resolved (solutions).

Example

Climate change is possibly the biggest issue humanity has ever faced. It is a largely man-made problem that can be solved by the creative use of technology.

*

4. Argumentative discourse:

Argumentation is the fourth type of discourse. The aim of argumentation is to persuade and convince the audience of an idea or a statement. To achieve this, argumentation relies heavily on evidence and logic.

Lectures, essays and public speeches are all examples of the argumentative mode of discourse.

Take a look at this example - an excerpt from Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous speech 'I Have a Dream' (1963)."

All these examples that come after exemplification, cause and effect, comparison and contrast, definition, and problem and solution, are classified under expository discourse (exposition) because they reveal information in a relatively neutral way. Don't be confused.

What are the three categories of literary discourse?

There are three categories of literary discourse - poetic, expressive, and transactional.

1. Poetic discourse

Poetic discourse is a type of literary communication in which special intensity is given to a text through distinctive diction (such as rhyme), rhythm, style, and imagination. It incorporates different poetic devices to emphasise the poet's expression of feelings, thoughts, ideas or description of events and places. Poetic discourse is most common in poetry but it is also frequently used by writers of prose.

Let's look at this example from the tragedy *Macbeth* (1606) by William Shakespeare:

*To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the last syllable of recorded time;
And all our yesterdays have lighted fools
The way to dusty death. Out, out, letter candle!
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury
Signifying nothing.'*

In this soliloquy, Macbeth mourns the death of his wife, Lady Macbeth, and ponders the futility of an unfulfilled life. The use of literary devices and poetic techniques, such as repetition, metaphor and imagery, evokes strong emotions.

What is the difference between rhyme and rhythm?

Rhyme is the identical sounds at the end of the lines of poetry.

Rhythm is the music of poetry.

Rhyme: القافية

Rhythm: الموسيقى أو الإيقاع المتعلق بالبحر الشعري

Metaphors: *Life's but a walking shadow; a poor player; It is a tale.*

*

2 . Expressive discourse

Expressive discourse refers to literary writing that is creative but not fictional. This writing aims to generate ideas and to reflect the author's emotions, usually without presenting any facts or arguments.

Expressive discourse includes diaries, letters, memoirs, and blog posts.

Consider this example from *The Diary of Anaïs Nin* (1934-1939):

'I was never one with the world, yet I was to be destroyed with it. I always lived seeing beyond it. I was not in harmony with its explosions and collapse. I had, as an artist, another rhythm, another death, another renewal. That was it. I was not at one with the world, I was seeking to create one by other rules.... The struggle against destruction which I lived out in my intimate relationships had to be transposed and become of use to the whole world.'

In her diaries, Nin reflects on her feelings of being a woman and an artist in the 20th century. She wrote this passage in preparation for leaving France at the start of World War Two. We can read her sense of the disconnection between her intense inner world and the violence of the outer world. This example is a trademark of expressive discourse, as it delves into personal ideas and explores inner thoughts and feelings.

Expressive discourse is a kind of discourse in which you express your opinion and thoughts or talk about your emotions and feelings.

*

3. Transactional discourse

Transactional discourse is an instructional approach that is used to encourage action. It presents a non-ambiguous plan that is clear to the reader and is usually written in an active voice. Transactional discourse is common in advertising, instruction manuals, guidelines, privacy policies, and business correspondence.

This excerpt from the novel *The Midnight Library* (2020) by Matt Haig is an example of transactional discourse:

'An instruction manual for a washing machine is an example of transactional discourse:

- 1. Put washing detergent in the drawer*
- 2. Push the power button to switch on the power*
- 3. Select the suitable automatic programme*
- 4. Select the suitable delay wash programme*
- 5. Close the top lid*
- 6. Finish washing'*

This is a clear plan - a list of instructions. Haig uses transactional discourse as part of his work of fiction in order to add realism to the relative part of the story.

Where do we see manuals and guidelines?

In machines, like how to use the microwave.

Where do we find privacy policies?

On Facebook and other websites and applications.

Discourse - key takeaways

- Discourse is another word for any kind of written or spoken communication. It is any unit of connected speech that is longer than a sentence, and that has a coherent meaning and a clear purpose.
- Discourse is crucial to human behaviour and social progress.
- Critical discourse analysis is an interdisciplinary method in the study of discourse that is used to examine language as a social practice.
- There are four types of discourse - Description, Narration, Exposition, and Argumentation.
- There are three categories of literary discourse - Poetic, Expressive, and Transactional.
- Discourse appears in Literature (both poetry and prose), speeches, advertisements, diaries, blog posts, definitions and verbal conversations.

Let us move to Discourse and literature:

Discourse and Literature

What is discourse?

Discourse is written or spoken words. It is communication that describes thought through language in everyday life and literature.

Foucault famously defined discourse as "**Systems of thoughts composed of ideas, attitudes, and courses of action, beliefs, and practices that systematically construct the subjects and the worlds of which they speak.**"

This all-encompassing definition helps readers understand discourse on the broadest level. But, when it comes to literature, it's slightly different. It refers to speech or writing that deals with subjects formally. Sentences are longer and more complex. Readers won't find colloquialisms like slang words in formal discourse.

Systematically: بشكل منظم

The subjects: people

Colloquialisms: slang words

The discourse of literature is different from discourse in general. Literature discourse is formal. In literature, we don't find colloquialisms.

Discourse Definition

Discourse is the dialogue in literature. It is any form of written communication, often seen through conversations between characters and descriptions of the setting. Often, these are long and detailed sentences that provide information about a character's background, the setting, or other critical information that will inform the reader's perspective.

Setting: time and place

The setting gives us background information about the place and the time and the characters. We see this a lot in drama.

Writers use discourse to tell their stories. This might be through a conversation between two characters, the narrator's description of what's going on, or simple descriptions of the setting, time period, and more. Readers can explore the different types of discourse common to literature, from novels to poems.

Narrative discourse is totally different from poetic discourse.

In this course, we will study three different types of discourse: narrative (short story and novel), poetic (poetry), and dramatic (drama).

The word "discourse" comes from the Latin meaning "a running about." Scholars related this to the movements of language and its natural flow. In literature, discourse is the formal arrangement of words. It refers broadly to all language and all forms of communication, written or spoken. This means small acts of communication and large, more complicated ones. There are several different types of discourse, all of which writers depend on to convey information. Explore them below.

*

Types of discourse:

The four most common and commonly cited types of discourse are:

Narration: the voice that presents the story to readers or listeners. It is the commentary that engages the reader and inspires them to keep reading. The more interesting it is, the more likely the reader will be compelled to continue reading.

You can find narration in movies where we have a narrator telling us a story, or in short stories and novels. The narration is the hook that keeps you interested.

Exposition: used to inform the audiences about background information. These are facts that aren't up for interpretation or seek to change the audience's mind. This kind of discourse is unbiased and uses a neutral tone. For example, telling readers what time it is when a particular chapter of a book starts or what the weather is like.

هنا لدينا صوت حيادي غير منحاز

Description: uses images and encourages the reader to imagine experiences as if they were living them. This type of discourse is incredibly important in creative writing if the author wants to set the scene and convince the reader of it.

Description: وصفي

We see this type of discourse in novels and short stories.

Argument: used to try to convince another person about an idea. It uses logic and reasoning. The writer makes claims, backs them up, and ideally sways the reader or listener to a specific way of thinking. This kind of discourse is seen in political speeches, academic papers, and other sources.

Each type of discourse is used for a different purpose. The argument is used for political speeches because you want to sway the reader's viewpoint and make him believe in your ideas.

There are also several other types of discourse that are also interesting to consider:

Expressive: reflects what the writer is feeling or thinking. It generates ideas and is usually not concerned with facts.

The discourse of exposition uses facts, but the expressive is about feelings.

Transactional: is used when the writer wants to take a less-literary and more instructional or didactic approach to writing. The writer usually uses the active voice. It appears in advertisements and business meetings.

Transactional discourse is instructional and didactic. Instructional means that it shows you how to do something. We see it in advertisements and business meetings. Didactic means it tells you how

to behave and how to act.

*

Poetic: uses rhythmic language and rhyming words to appeal to the reader's emotions and convey experiences. Often uses imagery, figurative language, and other techniques familiar to poetry.

☞ Rhythm means the music of poetry. It's related to the beats.

☞ Rhyme has to do with the ending of lines of poetry. Rhyme means identical sounds at the end of verses.

Look at the following lines from **Sonnet 18** by Shakespeare:

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?

Thou art more lovely and more temperate:

Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date;

☞ Figurative language means simile, metaphor, allusion, etc.

*

Examples of Discourse in Literature

***She Walks in Beauty* by Lord Byron**

In this well-loved Byron poem, readers can find a great example of poetic discourse. It was written after Byron met his cousin, Mrs. John Wilmont. Her beauty so moved him that he immediately went home and wrote this poem about her. The poem uses **iambic tetrameter** throughout much of it as Byron describes the woman's awe-inspiring beauty.

I will read the poem for you:

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes;
Thus mellowed to that tender light
Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

He's talking about the physical beauty of his cousin.

• **She walks/ in beau/ty, like/ the night [four feet]**

• **Of cloud/less climes/ and star/ry skies;**

Cloudless climes: cloudless climates

Starry: full of stars

He imagines a clear night with no clouds and full of stars,

- And all that's best of dark and bright
- Meet in her aspect and her eyes;

Aspect: physical appearance

In line 3 and 4, he describes her face saying that her face has this mixture of brightness and darkness. Maybe she's white and her eyes are very dark.

- Thus mellowed to that tender light
- Which heaven to gaudy day denies.

Mellow: ripe

Tender: soft

Gaudy: too shiny, very bright

The last line means "which heaven denies to gaudy day". The normal order is reversed. This is poetic discourse.

Her face is too young. He compares the light in her face to the sky or heaven. He says that the light in her face is soft compared to the light of the bright day. She's more beautiful than the sky because the light on her face is very soft and tender. The heaven is not able to give this soft brightness that she has on her face. Even the heaven is incapable of giving this mixture of brightness and darkness that this woman has. She's incomparable.

Figures of speech:

✓ In line number 1, we have a *simile* in "like the night of cloudless climes".

✓ In line number 2, we have *alliteration* in "cloudless climes" and "starry skies".

✓ In the last line, we have *anastrophe* because the order of words is changed.

Theme

✓ The incomparable beauty of his cousin.

The Diary of Virginia Woolf

In this example, readers can find expressive discourse. The author Virginia Woolf kept a diary, recording her personal recollections and

emotions in its pages. These are examples of her own ideas, presented for their own reasons. She is not attempting to sway anyone to her point of view or make a reader feel something specific. Here is a quote from her diary:

I enjoy almost everything. Yet I have some restless searcher in me. Why is there not a discovery in life? Something one can lay hands on and say "This is it"? My depression is a harassed feeling. I'm looking; but that's not it - that's not it. What is it? And shall I die before I find it?

From this paragraph, what do we know about Virginia Woolf? How does she feel?

She's looking for something but she doesn't even know what it is. She feels that there's something missing. She feels depressed and restless.

In these lines, she considers her emotions, tries to analyze them, and alludes to a deeper depression she can't shake off. Within expressive discourse, readers can find a writer's clear and unaltered thoughts.

What is an expressive discourse?

It is a discourse in which the writer expresses his feelings, opinions, and thoughts. An example of expressive discourse is diaries.

"I Have a Dream" Speech by Martin Luther King, Jr.

This incredibly famous speech is an example of narrative and argumentative discourse. King expresses his thoughts and those at the heart of the Civil Rights movement. He creates calls to action, hoping to inspire those listening to join him, as well as persuade those who disagree with him to change their minds. Here are a few lines:

"In a sense we've come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the "unalienable Rights" of "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

*

King's words are clear, mostly formal, and to the point. He has a specific message he's trying to spread, and he does not spend time adding in flowery language to obscure it.

His language is clear and easy to understand.

Do Writers Use Discourse?

Discourse is used whenever and however a writer addresses a topic. It takes many different forms, as described above, and is crucial for conveying one's experience. This might be through writing or through speech. Without communication, there would be no genres of literature nor any way for stories to be shared.

Romeo and Juliet Act I Prologue by William Shakespeare

The opening prologue is delivered prior to the actors entering the stage. It is spoken by the "Chorus." This is a group of people, or a single narrator, who, throughout this play, and in other Shakespearean works, introduced scenes, gave necessary background detail, and describe characters.

Prologue means introduction or introductory section

Prior: before, in front of

This paragraph is about two theatrical items: the chorus and the prologue.

The chorus provides a discourse that is not heard by the characters in the story. Their narrative discourse is critical to the reader, audience members, and understanding of what they're about to see. The prologue begins with the lines:

*Two households, both alike in dignity,
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.
From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;
Whose misadventur'd piteous overthrows
Doth with their death bury their parents' strife.*

Doth: does

Mutiny: rebellion

Fair: beautiful

What information does the chorus provide us with?

A conflict takes place between two families; Romeo's family and Juliet's family.

Where do they live?

In Verona in Italy

This is the first scene of Romeo and Juliet. The chorus is giving us information about the families of Romeo and Juliet that are fighting.

- **Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.**

So it's not just a normal fight; people are getting killed.

- **From forth the fatal loins of these two foes**

Foes: enemies

- **A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;**

A pair of stars: Romeo and Juliet

Romeo and Juliet kill themselves.

- **Whose misadventur'd piteous overthrows**

- **Doth with their death bury their parents' strife.**

With their death, the conflict between the two families stops.

The chorus in this prologue gives us background information and tells us when the action takes place and who dies.

The chorus provides exposition and other details about the characters who readers and audience members are about to meet and what's going to happen to them. This example of discourse also includes examples of foreshadowing, metaphor, and allusion.

The whole passage is an example of foreshadowing because we have heard about things that have not happened yet.

FAQS

Why do writers use discourse?

Writers use discourse in order to inform the reader's understanding of their written work. The different types of discourse discussed above are used to form the fiction or fictional world within poems, plays, novels, and short stories. Discourse also appears in diary entries, emails, letters, and other examples of written communication within contemporary life.

Discourse can be written or spoken. An example of written discourse is poems, plays, novels, short stories, emails, letters, and diaries.

What is the concept of discourse?

Discourse is defined as communication in written or spoken language. In

literature, it is any way that communication is delivered. It could be through diary entries, letters, dialogue within a poem, narrative description within a longer novel, and more.

*

What is the meaning of discourse in linguistics?

In linguistics, discourse is defined as the organized segments of language that are used to construct sentences and create meaning.

Short Story: "The Bridge" by Franz Kafka.

Now, let us move to a short story entitled '*The Bridge*' by Franz Kafka.

The Bridge

I was stiff and cold, I was a bridge, I lay over a ravine. My toes on one side, my fingers clutching the other, I had clamped myself fast into the crumbling clay.

Ravine: a river

He makes the bridge as a human being. This is personification. The bridge is personified; it can speak and talk and think. The bridge has feelings. It doesn't have a name.

How does the bridge feel? The bridge is cold and stiff. Maybe he is lonely. He feels pain because of his toes and his fingers.

The tails of my coat fluttered at my sides. Far below brawled the icy trout stream. No tourist strayed to this impassable height, the bridge was not yet traced on any map.

What extra information do we know about the bridge?

He wears a coat and the coat has two tails and it's falling on either side.

Beneath the bridge, there is water and it's icy. So it's winter. The bridge is very high above the stream and it's in a place where there are no people. Not even a tourist can pass by or cross over the bridge. The bridge is located in an isolated area.

What does the fact that it was not yet traced on any map tell us?

Nobody thinks about the bridge because people don't know about its existence. It doesn't even exist on any geographical map. That's

why the bridge feels lonely and isolated.

So I lay and waited; I could only wait. Without falling, no bridge, once spanned, can cease to be a bridge.

What is the importance of a bridge?

To help people move from one side to another. It connects two different areas.

The bridge is marginalized. Nobody knows about its existence. It has no identity. It feels unknown and therefore it has no function. What is the point of being a bridge if you can't help others to move from one side to another? Can a bridge be important by itself, without doing its function?

If a bridge had the ability to speak, what would it say? This is what the short story is about.

A bridge would be bothered because it carries people. Sometimes it even carries transportation. A bridge must be very strong to carry people. A bridge is very supportive. It is the backbone of two areas.

“Without falling, no bridge, once spanned, can cease to be a bridge.” This sentence is very different from the previous sentence. In the earlier sentence, the bridge was waiting. Who was it waiting for? Is it waiting to be acknowledged on a map in order to have tourists coming by? Is it waiting for travellers to come and cross over him from one side to another? Is it waiting to be recognized and acknowledged by people?

“Without falling, no bridge, once spanned, can cease to be a bridge.” It means I'm still functional because I'm still a bridge. Since I didn't fall down to the stream, I'm still a bridge whether with people or with no people. There is an internal conflict within the bridge itself. On the one hand, it is waiting for people and expecting people to recognize it. On the other hand, it says it is still a bridge even if there are no people to cross it.

The first paragraph is asking the question: What is the purpose of my life as a bridge? Does my existence have value in connection to other people? Or am I valuable alone by myself?

If someone feels like a bridge, how would he/she feel?

When we describe someone as a bridge, it has very negative connotations; it means they are dependent and taken advantage of by other people, and they may be opportunistic and materialistic. It can have multiple meanings. If someone is a bridge, they might do a lot of tasks without being thanked for it.

If this bridge-like person decides to stop being a bridge, would people around him be happy? How would they react?

The person they have taken advantage of for so long has now rebelled against the situation, so the people in their circle would not be happy anyone because they can't take advantage of him.

In a negative context: The bridge might mean weakness. *Someone is a bridge*; he is being exploited by someone.

We will continue next time.

Thank You

...



Page:

مؤسسة العائدي للخدمات الطلابية

Group:

مكتبة العائدي - التعليم المفتوح - قسم الترجمة



مكتبة العائدي: المزة- نفق الآداب

هاتف: 011 2119889

موبايل + واتساب: 0941 322227

