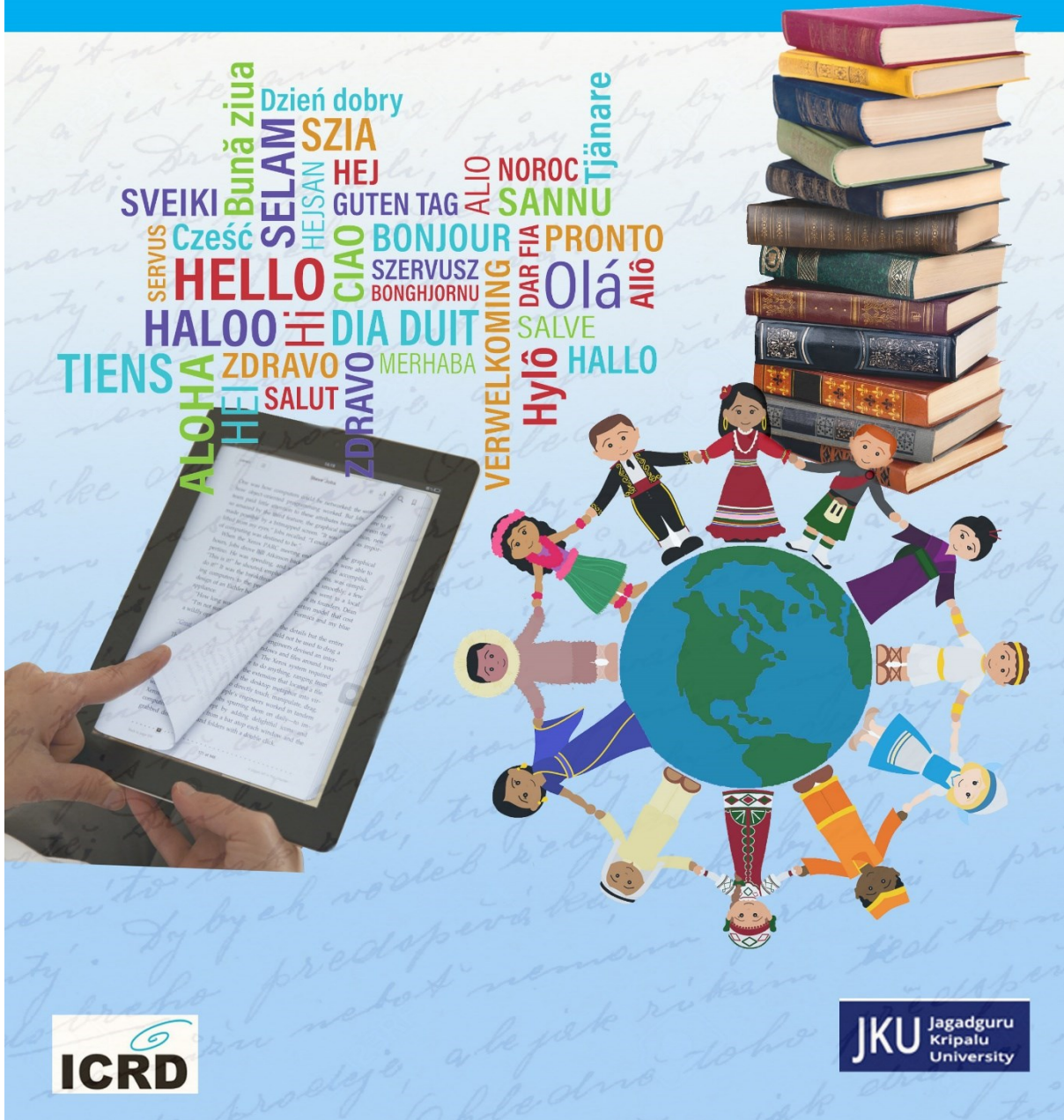


Abstracts of 8th International Conference on Language, Literature & Linguistics 2021





**Abstracts of the
8th international conference on
language, literature & linguistics 2021**

26 July 2021

Online Conference

Published by

International Center for Research & Development, Sri Lanka

info@theicrd.org

<https://languages3000.com/>

Not for sale

Digital Publication

July 2021

ISBN 978-624-97941-0-8



@ICRD July 2021
All rights reserved.

8th International Conference on Language, Literature and Linguistics 2021

Conference Convener

Dr. Prabhath Patabendi
International Center for Research & Development, Sri Lanka

Academic Chairperson

Dr. S. Ramaratnam,
Vice Chancellor, Jagadguru Kripalu University, India

Keynote Speakers

Prof. (Dr.) Jagdish Batra
Professor, Head of English Language Centre
O. P. Jindal Global University, India

Dr. Kristian Van Haesendonck
Associate Professor
University of Sanya, China

Organizer

International Center for Research & Development (ICRD)

Conference Partners

Jagadguru Kripalu University

Unique Conference Canada

Conference Faculty

Dr. Ramaratnam, Vice Chancellor JK University, India

Prof. Donathan Brown, Rochester Institute of Technology, New York

Dr. Lesley Ljungdahl (Australia)

Prof. Mylene A. Manalansan, De La Salle University, Philippines

Dr. Brown, Charles Allen, Hokkaido University, Japan

Prof. (Dr.) Jagdish Batra, O.P. Jindal Global University, India

8th International Conference on Language, Literature and Linguistics 2021

Scientific Committee

Prof. Donathan Brown (USA)

Dr Lesley Ljungdahl (Australia)

Dr. Ramaratnam (India)

Prof. Brinda J. Mehta (USA)

Prof. Reito Adachi (Japan)

Dr. Mar Galindo Merino (Spain)

Prof. Shobha Shinde (India)

Dr. Dale Konstanz (USA)

Prof. Bas Aarts (United Kingdom)

Prof. Akemi Matsuya (Japan)

Dr. Ahmed Elnimeiri (UAE)

Prof. Manalansan Mylene (Philippines)

Prof. Dr. Gunawan Suryoputro (Indonesia)

Prof. Jagdish Batra (India)

Dr. Charles Brown (Japan)

International Center for Research & Development

DISCLAIMER:

All views expressed in these proceedings are those of the authors AND THEREFORE THE AUTHORS HOLD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VIEWS CONTAINED IN THIS PUBLICATION and THE PUBLISHERS do not necessarily represent the views of, and should not be attributed to, Unique Conferences Canada, International Center for Research & Development and Jagadguru Kripalu University.

The publishers do not warrant that the information in this publication is free from errors or omissions.

The publishers do not accept any form of liability, be it contractual, tortuous, or otherwise, for the contents of this publication for any consequences arising from its use or any reliance place on it.

The information, opinions and advice contained in this publication may not relate to, be relevant to, a reader's particular interest.

Portions of this publication are copyrighted. Except as permitted under the Copyright Act, the copyrighted parts may not be copied or reproduced by any process, electronic or otherwise, without the specific written permission of the copyright owners. Neither may information be stored electronically in any form whatsoever without such permission.

International Center for Research & Development

www.theicrd.org

Table of Contents

	Topics of the Abstracts	Presenting Authors	Page No.
1	The World as Archipelago? Reading Spanish American Literature in the 21 st Century	Dr. Kristian Van Haesendonck	8
2	Postmodernism and Literature	Prof. (Dr.) Jagdish Batra	9
3	Written Production: Which criteria are useful for measuring the Linguistic Level and the Level of Text Difficulty?	Chrysovalantou Kapeta, PhD	10
4	A Biopolitical Analysis of Juli Zeh's <i>Corpus Delicti</i>	Alexandra Juster	11
5	Connecting the dots; how sustained autonomous inquiry can lead to conceptual change concerning the importance of cultural pluralism.	Lynsey Mori and Dean Williams	12
6	A review on the SKILL Intervention on Narrative Ability of Children with Developmental Language Disorder	Jianrong Zhao	13
7	Automated Scoring Models with Artificial Intelligence for Chinese Undergraduates' Augmentative Essays	Xiaoyi Tang	14
8	Vietnamese non-canonical objects	Thu Trang HO	15
9	Sophocles' King Oedipus: A Buddhist Talk in Drama Form	Newton Ranaweera	16
10	A Corpus Stylistic Study of Mind-Style in William Faulkner's Sanctuary	William Collins	17
11	A Study of Multidimensional Violence in Life of Trans Individuals as Depicted in Bengali Cinema with Special Reference to Kaushik Ganguly's ' <i>Nagarkirtan</i> '.	Alankrita Bhattacharya	18
12	Developmental profiles of Narrative Skills for Chinese school-age Mandarin-speaking Children	Junjing, Zhuo	19

	Topics of the Abstracts	Presenting Authors	Page No.
13	Forms and Functions of Graphicons in Facebook Private Conversations Among Young Filipino Users	Dyea Dolot	20
14	A Comparative Study of Carver’s “Popular Mechanics” and Hughes’ “Early Autumn” in Minimalistic Narratives	Xia Hou	21
15	Using Ancient Myths to Tackle Today’s Reality – Zeus in Fiona Benson’s Vertigo and Ghost	Simon Kim	22
16	Multi-dimensional Gender Perspective in Historical Narrative Structure of A.S. Byatt’s <i>Possession: A Romance</i>	Yingying Fan PhD	23
17	Methods in Language Studies: the use of letters in narratology and literature studies.	Dr. Monica Mastrantonio	24
18	Developing English-Speaking Skills through Socratic Questioning in Online Synchronous Learning	Dr. Kurt S. Candilas	25
19	Play as one of coping mechanisms of the isolated individual in Richard Matheson’s I Am Legend and its film adaptations	Artur Skweres	26
20	Emerging Netspeak Word Choices in Social Media on Filipino Pop Culture	Camille Monderin	27
21	Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Strategies in Daily Lesson Plans of Oral Communication Teachers and their Alignment to Standards in Curriculum Guide	Dr. Darwin D. Bargo	28
22	Narrative Techniques and Visionary Insight in the Work of Robert Lais Stevenson	Dr. Saed Jamil Shahwan	29

KEYNOTE SPEECH

The World as Archipelago? Reading Spanish American Literature in the 21st Century

Kris Van Haesendonck
University of Sanya, P.R.C.

How can the archipelago be used as a concept and tool for literary and cultural studies? Taking Spanish American literature as a case study, I will reflect on the ways the archipelago has been used as a spatial metaphor across disciplines, ranging from architecture to politics. Within the context of globalization, transnationalism and increased migratory flows (especially from Latin America to the US), the traditional view of Spanish American literature as a canon of texts confined to the Spanish-speaking part of Latin America is difficult to uphold. I will argue that the archipelago allow us to approach Spanish American literature from a more fluid perspective than a classical (national/regional) viewpoint, especially in light of the current debate on “World literature”, without jeopardizing the importance of the particular context in which it emerged. Finally, I will also briefly address some of the limitations that come with an archipelagic approach to literature.

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Postmodernism and Literature

Prof. (Dr.) Jagdish Batra

Professor of English, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, India.

Despite its glaring contradictions, Postmodernism continues to be valued as a cultural theory with the teachers and students in universities all over the world spending much time on unravelling the complex warp and woof of this construct which many refuses to believe as a theory. The surprising aspect of it is that even though articulated first as a descriptive paradigm to denote the bypassing of Modernism in a historical timeframe, it soon got accepted as a prescriptive matrix in various disciplines like arts, architecture, sociology, politics, economics, philosophy, literature, etc. In this presentation, apart from taking up the philosophical and theoretical aspects of Postmodernism, I focus on how it functions in the field of literature. Both the stylistic and thematic aspects of literature, mainly fiction, have been taken up, citing examples from Indian English Fiction which has gained popularity in the contemporary world. Of particular interest are the linguistic and narratological aspects as also the sub-genres of popular fiction, history and myth-based fiction in the present globalized world with its economic concerns. Besides, I try to evaluate these tendencies and their impact on culture with some guesswork regarding their future.

Written Production: Which Criteria are useful for Measuring the Linguistic Level and the Level of Text Difficulty?

Chrysovalantou Kapeta, PhD,

Department of Italian Language, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Nowadays, it is very important for scientists to find out those criteria that are based on which the linguistic level and the degree of Readability of a produced text can be measured and evaluated. For this reason, 316 texts were chosen randomly produced by Greek candidates of Italian Language for the exams of the Greek State Certificate of Italian Language regarding the period May 2015 and November 2016. After selection, the above were manually digitized in Word format 2010 and measured in the Read-IT tool (Dylan Tool). The data processing and factor analysis were done with the SPSS.24 software which shows that the Greek users B1 and B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages produce texts per level of language learning and degree of difficulty that are differentiated through features intertwined with vocabulary, grammar and syntax, like appropriate or inappropriate language, spelling, textual coherence and cohesion.

Keywords: *Measurement, validity, criteria, level, readability, reliability, fairness*

A Biopolitical Analysis of Juli Zeh's *Corpus Delicti*

Alexandra Juster

University of Córdoba, Spain

Corpus Delicti by Juli ZEH depicted in 2009 a dystopian totalitarian system legitimating itself by the apparently noble purpose of guaranteeing to all citizens the perfect health and the longest possible life without pains and fear of illness and disease within a peaceful environment, free from pollution. The price to pay is the loss of individual freedom as well as of intellectual and emotional identity. The State's reason justifies the control not only of all the physical bodies, but also of the individual's soul. *Corpus Delicti* delivers a dystopian example of biopolitical philosophy and State's management, which, only 11 years later, is no more dystopian, but seems to have come true with the Covid-19 crisis which is still impacting the world. There is no doubt that the philosophical approaches to biopolitics of Michel Foucault and Giorgio Agamben shine through this work. Foucault's sociological research is reflected in *Corpus Delicti*'s corporeality insofar as the whole State's system is based on the physical bodies, which are submitted to constant notification obligations about personal health data (urine values, blood pressure, sleeping and nutritional values, sports performance) and controlled in every single step in their daily life (cleanness of the housing, prohibition of drug consumption such as cigarettes and alcohol, prohibition to move outside disinfected areas and to get married with people who don't have a compatible immunology system), whereby all these rules relate to physical functions, physical movement, hygiene and reproduction. For Foucault modern biopolitics is born with the politization of life and health linked to the postulate of improvement: improvement of human health, improvement of living conditions, improvement of the human species itself, making the save guard of human life and mass murder under the Holocaust both possible. Agamben looks at Foucault's biopolitical conception from a more juridical angle, claiming the figure of "Homo Sacer" as the central figure of lethal biopolitics, the man whose existence is in the in between field between law and "non law", who is not worth being sacrificed for holy purposes and who can be put to death without the author of the crime being sanctioned. The extreme form of "Homo Sacer" is represented by the nazi concentration camps between 1939 and 1945. *Corpus Delicti* shows tracks of both philosophers waving them into the story.

Keywords: *health dictatorship - biopolitics - Covid-19*

Connecting the dots; How Sustained Autonomous Inquiry can lead to Conceptual Change Concerning the Importance of Cultural Pluralism.

Lynsey Mori¹ and Dean Williams²

Kyoto University of Foreign Studies, British and American Studies Department, Japan¹ and Notre Dame Jogakuin Junior and Senior High School, English Department, Japan²

Cultivating an independent, intellectual, and supportive society is part of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) 2008 reforms in English education in Japan. An increasingly interdependent global society creates an irrevocable force requiring the transformation of the English as an Additional Language (EAL) classroom to a student-centered community of inquiry which will allow all Japanese students to think, communicate, and function more effectively and autonomously. The MEXT reforms are only one aspect of a new cultural pluralism or cosmopolitanism in Japanese education which recognizes that intercultural understanding is vital to solving the pressing challenges of the 21st century. A concrete curricular example of that reform trend is the introduction of Kieran Egan's "Learning in Depth" (LiD) program in selected schools. In the EAL classroom, LiD can cultivate sustained conceptual inquiry that allows collaborative knowledge building, an enterprise in which the natural heterogeneity of the learning community is seen as a strength and not a weakness. Harnessing learning and stimulating a self-interpreted ownership and responsibility of the wisdom gained during the school years, LiD portfolios provide powerful and generative testimonies that can be continually explored and drawn upon throughout the students' lives. Tolerance and understanding of diversity are achievable only through true conceptual change. The LiD portfolios demonstrate a dynamic relational conception of, and profound engagement with, the various topics that can make a positive contribution to that epistemological goal. In the context of Japan, education needs to be transformed to a system capable of developing human resources by fostering thinking, judgement, and creative expression in all young learners. For this to happen, teaching practices and curricular patterns cannot be seen as sacrosanct, but instead they must continually evolve with the times so that the students can fully participate in our rapidly changing global society and not remain mere spectators.

Keywords: *Autonomy, conceptual change, school reform, cosmopolitanism*

**A review on the SKILL Intervention on Narrative Ability of Children with
Developmental Language Disorder**

Jianrong Zhao; Jin Xue

School of Foreign Studies, University of Science and Technology, Beijing, China

Oral narratives are a commonly used, socially, and academically important means of communication. It plays a crucial role in organizing social experience, improving social interactive abilities, and constructing academic discourse and literacy. Narrative skills bridge literacy development with cognitive and social abilities and are common for Children with Developmental Language Disorder who have difficulties in oral narratives (DLD). Narrative deficits affect their development in language, cognition, and social skills. Therefore, children with DLD have amplified intervention needs. The present study reviews how intervention via the Supporting Knowledge in Language and Literacy (SKILL) program can improve linguistic skills related to the comprehension and production of narration. The review covers theoretical basis, teaching methods, and efficacy of the SKILL intervention program. The results suggest that the SKILL intervention has positive effects in improving narrative skills. Implications for intervention on Chinese children with DLD are also discussed.

Keywords: *children with language learning difficulties; narrative ability; language teaching; intervention research*

Automated Scoring Models with Artificial Intelligence for Chinese Undergraduates' Argumentative Essays

Xiaoyi Tang, Jin Xue

School of Foreign Studies, University of Science and Technology Beijing, China

With the flourishing development of corpus linguistics and technological revolutions in the past few decades, automatic writing scoring systems have been quite intensively improved. Many studies have been carried out on this topic and several automatic essay scoring systems have been set up recently. However, linguistics features that can predict second language writing quality are reported inefficiently in models existed. Moreover, much attention has been paid to linear relationships between linguistic features and human raters' scores with non-linear relationships being ignored. The purpose of this study is to set up automatic scoring models for Chinese EFL learners' argumentative essays based on the computational tool Coh-Metrix and technologies of artificial intelligence. In the present study, Coh-Metrix and Python machine learning platform scikit-learn and PyTorch were adopted to demonstrate the most predictive linguistics features for writing quality in terms of both analytic and holistic scales. Two automatic scoring models were constructed with Bayesian Ridge Regression and Artificial Neural Networks. Results suggested that automatic essay scoring model 2 with Artificial Neural Networks was of more predictive power in terms of six scoring scales than automatic scoring model 1 with Bayesian Ridge Regression. Automatic scoring model 2 exploring non-linear relationships between linguistic features and human raters was more efficient in capturing Chinese undergraduates' argumentative essays.

Keywords: *Automated scoring models; Linguistic features; Coh-Metrix; Chinese undergraduates*

Vietnamese non-canonical Objects

Thu Trang HO

Graduate Institute of Linguistics, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan

The large class of action verbs based on the presence versus absence of an object which follows the given verbs can divide into intransitive verbs (e.g: *ngủ* ‘sleep’, *ngồi* ‘sit’, *đi* ‘go’ or *đến* ‘come/arrival’) and transitive verbs (e.g: *ăn* ‘eat’, *viết* ‘write’, *mặc* ‘wear’ or *làm* ‘make’). In Vietnamese, some intransitive verbs are used as transitive verbs, thus, termed “semi-transitive” (e.g.: *ngủ giường* ‘sleep on the bed’; Lit. sleep bed) (Ho, 2018; Nguyen, 1997a; 1997b). The object *giường* ‘bed’ in this V-N compound word formation belongs to conditional objects (i.e., the condition includes location, time, or reason) in Ho’s (2018) book. He concludes that this kind is mostly inconsiderable because of its small number. In this paper, first, I show that these “semi-transitive” verbs have the same grammatical properties as unergative verbs.

In Zhang’s (2018) study, such kind of object (e.g.: *giường*) is known as colloquial, termed a “non-canonical object”. Building on her research on non-canonical objects (NCOs), the paper aims at providing the syntax of NCOs in Vietnamese with a comparison of NCOs in Mandarin Chinese (MC). I argue that Vietnamese NCOs, similar to MC, indicate instrument, time, manner, location, and so on instead of theme. I employ the basic layers of projections in Ramchand’s (2008) argument structures to give explanations of the syntactic position of Vietnamese NCOs. The paper, thus, claims that the syntactic position of Vietnamese NCOs is the complement of an unergative verb. Instead of generally discussing non-canonical arguments, the paper not only addresses non-canonical arguments in the postverbal but also points out their exact syntactic position in the sentence.

Keywords: *Vietnamese, non-canonical objects, unergative verbs*

Selected References

-
- Ho, L. 2018. *Cấu tạo từ tiếng Việt hiện đại* (Word formation in modern Vietnamese). Hanoi: Khoa-học Xã-hội.
Nguyen, D. H. 1997a. *Vietnamese Tiếng Việt không son phần*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
Nguyen, D. H. 1997b. Vietnamese Verbs. *Mon Khmer Studies* 25: 141 – 159.
Ramchand, G. C. 2008. *Verb meaning and the lexicon: A first phrase syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Zhang, N. N. 2018. Non-canonical Objects as Event Kind- Classifying Elements. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 36: 1395 – 1437.

Sophocles' *King Oedipus*: A Buddhist Talk in Drama Form

Newton Ranaweera

PhD Candidate, OISE, University of Toronto, Canada

This article discusses the underlined relationship between some selected Buddhist concepts and the central theme in Sophocles' *King Oedipus*: the truth of suffering, a key concept in Buddhism. Additionally, being truthful, exploring truth within, cause and effect and dedicating one's life for the betterment of the many are some of the other significant concepts in Buddhism. The article claims that Sophocles' performance of Oedipus legend, which he uses as an effective communicative strategy (the subjective matter), is a Buddhist talk in drama form on the truth of suffering. Sophocles presents Oedipus as an emblem, a flag of suffering. Then he unfurls and hoists this flag visibly, higher in the sky in his talk so that his listener/reader can visualize suffering, which we deliberately submerge but often emerges. However, the article does not claim that Sophocles has had any direct influence from the Buddhist tradition. Instead, the article keeps a space open for the reader, if interested in, to find proofs for such a bold claim.

A Corpus Stylistic Study of Mind-Style in William Faulkner's *Sanctuary*

William Collins

Nagasaki University, Japan

Stylistics investigates how formal linguistic and semantic patterns, conceptual metaphor, pragmatics, and discourse architecture interact to enable the activating consciousness of the reader to access the text world and fictional minds in a work of literature. Recent research in corpus stylistics has shown how quantitative evidence of key words and semantic fields combined with close reading can yield valuable insights into the mind-style of author, narrator and characters, enhancing our understanding of the cognitive processes involved in reading literature.

The discourse architecture of William Faulkner's *Sanctuary* is complex enough to allow subtle blurring between commentary, description and character delineation provided by the neutral unaligned narrator and that provided through the thought processes and impressions of a specific character.

This study uses UCREL Semantic Annotation System (USAS), a part of the web-based text analysis tool Wmatrix. USAS allows the automatic semantic analysis of uploaded texts, and the findings of this study will be based on such analyses of the narrator and Benbow passages. The study investigates the following research questions: (1) What can quantitative corpus analysis of key semantic fields, followed by close reading of the resulting data, tell us about the mind-style of the narrator and of Horace Benbow? (2) To what extent do the narrator and Horace Benbow share key semantic fields and what do continuities in key semantic fields tell us about character differentiation between the narrator and Benbow? (3) What do conceptual metaphors found in the overused semantic fields reveal about the mind-style of the narrator and Benbow?

Keywords: *Corpus-stylistics cognitive-poetics*

A Study of Multidimensional Violence in Life of Trans Individuals as Depicted in Bengali Cinema with Special Reference to Kaushik Ganguly's 'Nagarkirtan'.

Alankrita Bhattacharya

Department of English, Rabindra Bharati University, India

'Nagarkirtan' gives a detailed account of the journey of Puti, a gender nonconforming individual at preoperative stage who intends to get Sex Reassignment Surgery done. This paper would offer an analysis of Transphobia as well as Intra-community violence by studying the domination-submission dynamics within the 'Guru-Shishya' tradition that is prevalent within Transgender communities in India with special reference to Kaushik Ganguly's national award-winning film, 'Nagarkirtan'. Puti gets cheated by her cisgender gay boyfriend, gets mocked by her father for crossdressing, and is finally compelled to run away from her house. Madhu, Puti's present love interest is confused about his feelings for a transwoman. He has internalized homophobia. Also, within the transgender community, where Puti has acclimatized, she gets slapped for eating Chinese food without the Guru's consent. She is forced to elope with Madhu because she was convinced that other members from the community would be inconsiderate about her romantic feelings for Madhu. Also, there is a myth in India, that numerous cisgender men merely 'pretend' to be transgenders for alms. It is seen at the end of the movie that, Puti fails to pass the test of legitimacy of her claim, of being a transgender (because she was not a transgender by birth). A group of transgenders strip her off in public, beats her up, hands her over to police, where she finally commits suicide due to psychological trauma. Silent bystanders were shamelessly clicking videos of the brutal incident. The aim of the paper is to establish that if gender is not a binary, it is also not as unidirectional as binary plus one. 'Trans' is a term that should not be put under singular umbrella. Even the transgender communities sometimes fail to comprehend the diversity of the term 'trans' that might include crossdressing, hermaphroditism, pseudo hermaphroditism etc.

Keywords: *Guru-Shishya Tradition, Transphobia, Intra-community violence*

Developmental Profiles of Narrative Skills for Chinese School-age Mandarin-speaking Children

Junjing, Zhuo; Jin, Xue; Panpan, Li; Jianrong, Zhao

University of Science and Technology Beijing, School of Foreign Studies, 30 Xueyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing, China

Narrative is an important skill for children's daily communication and school performance. In alphabetic languages, the characteristics and developmental patterns have been well established. However, narrative features for Chinese Mandarin-speaking children are less characterized. Mandarin Chinese has distinctive linguistic features from alphabetic languages. Thus, there is a vast necessity to characterize narrative skills for Chinese Mandarin-speaking children. In the present study, oral narrative samples from 150 Chinese Mandarin-speaking children from grade 2 to 6 were measured, and analyzed at macrostructure (story grammar and story structure) and microstructure (lexis, syntax and cohesion) levels. Lexis was measured by mental state words and number of different words (NDW). Syntax was measured by altogether ten types of complex Mandarin Chinese syntactic structures and the mean length of the five longest utterances (MLU5) and mean length of utterances (MLU). Cohesion was measured by conjunctions. General narrative skill was also examined by the rating rubric derived from Test of Narrative Language (TNL). The present study reveals a significant grade effect on microstructure (i.e., NDW, mental state words, MLU5, MLU, and conjunctions) and macrostructures (story grammar and story structure). However, the most significant increment fell either between grades 2 and 3, or between grades 3 and 4. The results indicate there is no such a linear growth curve for narrative skills. Research findings are insightful for defining developmental features of narrative ability for Chinese Mandarin-speaking children.

Keywords: *narrative skills, narrative development, Chinese Mandarin-speaking children*

Forms and Functions of Graphicons in Facebook Private Conversations Among Young Filipino Users

Dyea Dolot

Centro Escolar University, Manila, Philippines

Since its release in 2011, the use of Facebook Messenger in the Philippines has grown over time. Understanding the pragmatic functions of graphicons such as emojis, images, memes, videos, GIFs, emoticons, and stickers has become increasingly relevant as they have become extensively integrated into textual messages on Facebook, especially in group chats. The aim of this study was to investigate the forms and functions of graphicons used by young Filipino users (ages 18-31) on Facebook group chats. The datasets were extracted from the corpora, ten Facebook group chats over a three-month period, and analyzed using language-focused computer-mediated discourse analysis. According to the findings of this study, emoji was the most widely used graphicon by young Filipino users on Facebook, while sticker was the least. There were eleven (11) graphicon functions identified: mention, reaction, riff, tone modification, action, narrative sequence, response, sharing, replacement, complement, and attention. It was also discovered that a graphicon could serve as one or more functions in a conversation. Tone modification was the most commonly used function, while narrative series was the least; however, there were different most commonly used functions in different forms graphicons. 'Tone modification' was the most commonly used function for both emojis and emoticons, 'sharing' in images and videos, 'action' in GIFs, 'attention' in memes, and 'mention' in stickers. Because of the significantly increased use of online communication, this study may provide insight into how people may use these graphicons in their everyday conversations.

Keywords: *graphicons, pragmatic functions, emojis, emoticons, GIFs, memes, stickers, images, videos, language use*

**A Comparative Study of Carver’s “Popular Mechanics” and Hughes’
“Early Autumn” in Minimalistic Narratives**

Xia Hou¹, Noritah Omar²

¹*Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia; College of Foreign Languages,
Zhoukou Normal University, Henan, China*

²*Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400 UPM Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia,*

American writer Carver’s short story “Popular Mechanics” is considered to be one of the representative works of the American minimalist literary school in the 1980s. Thirty years before its publication, the American Harlem Renaissance represented Hughes “Early Autumn” has the characteristics of minimalism. This paper utilizes Charles May’s Minimalism Theory and Micheal J. Toolan’s narrative concepts as the research method to compare the selected texts. The two works are similar in terms of ambiguity in title selection, de-plot processing and scene narrative function and reader-centered external focalization. However, “Popular Mechanics” seems to be more concise in the aspects of plot, theme with intertextuality and parody to create richer meanings.

Keywords: *"Popular Mechanics"; "Early Autumn"; Minimalism; narrative*

**Using Ancient Myths to Tackle Today's Reality – Zeus in Fiona Benson's
Vertigo and Ghost**

Simon Kim

French Language and Literature Department, Korea University, South Korea

Winner of the Forward Prize and Shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize, Fiona Benson's 2019 book of poetry *Vertigo and Ghost* strikes its readers by its violence, by the rage it exudes. Constituted of two parts, the book bares with a deeply intimate voice the testimony of a woman of these days. Dealing with domestic violence, rape and sexual harassment, the 26 poems of the first part of the book describe a reality that has become more broadly denounced in recent years only. Yet the tour-de-force of Fiona Benson is to use familiar figures from the Classical Mythology of the Ancient Greeks, and most particularly Zeus, known in the ancient lore as a "womanizer". But in Benson's poems, the godly figure is that of an assaulter, a sex-addict, and a rapist. The poems alternate between different voices, that of Zeus himself and that of his victims, Danaë, Semele, Io, and others. By making use of the mythological figure of Zeus, Fiona Benson hits a double target: giving a new light to the myth itself, and highlighting the mythological proportion of the problems that women face today. This presentation thus aims at analyzing the poems from *Vertigo and Ghost* in the light of this double interpretation. Furthermore, it intends to observe how myth (mythos) as a narrative tool can be used to tell and show realities in ways the usual language (logos) cannot, and remain relevant in the context of our contemporary cultures. The same way Zeus is a master of transformation and metamorphosis, we shall see how the myths help us to change or transform ourselves in the way of social and cultural improvement.

Keywords: *poetry, myth, gender, violence*

**Multi-dimensional Gender Perspective in Historical Narrative Structure of A.S. Byatt's
*Possession: A Romance***

Yingying Fan PhD¹, Hardev Kaur PhD², Diana Abu Ujum³, Hasyimah binti Mohd Amin⁴

*Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra
Malaysia, Malaysia*

Gender issues have always been the focus in literary research. How to solve the contradictions between the men and women and to establish a new type of relationship is a major concern for the whole society. This essay highlights the way A.S. Byatt's novel *Possession: A Romance* (1990) explored the gender issues in the framework of multi-layer narratives. Instead of using a single narrative line, Byatt employs multiple narratives in *Possession*, taking different historical periods of human development as narrative content. That are authorial narrator's contemporary narrative, Victorian narrative, ancient mythological narrative to investigate the women and men's living dilemmas, as well as the separation and union between the two sexes the novel presented. While concerning about gender issues confronted by each individual at different historical backgrounds, Byatt elaborately indicates that the androgynous gender relations is the best way to realize the union between body and soul in men and women. At the same time, the exploration of gender issues under historical narrative structure also records faithfully the social and historical changes in contemporary Britain.

Keywords: *androgyny; A.S. Byatt's Possession; gender; historical narrative.*

Methods in Language Studies: the use of Letters in Narratology and Literature Studies.

Monica, Mastrantonio.

Language and Related Literature, Visiting Professor, University of York, U K.

Letters are not merely literature pieces for curiosity and daily amenities used extensively in the past when there were not many options for distance-communication. Letters can be used in multiple fields of knowledge and disciplines, but they also offer extensive possibilities for interdisciplinary projects. The aim in this study is to show that much of the content of these letters are similar to issues that are common in today's societies. This method of reading and using them interactively is going to be called "organic method in Social Psychology" and is focused on presenting material in which past and present are equal rather than different. Although the letters that are going to be used in this study are more than a hundred years back in the past, the issues that portrait in them are very similar to the issues and struggles easily found in public writings nowadays. Although privately written – letters are public documents that offer valuable information to understand human relations. The three examples used in this study are: the letters of Lord Byron to his editor, the letters from Lady Mary Wortley Montagu to her former husband, the letters from Emily Dickson to her tutor. While analyzing the impact of these letters nowadays throughout these participative approach – much of the nowadays dilemmas of relating to a publisher, and ex-husband and a tutor are perfectly portrayed by these masters of literature.

Keywords: *methods, letters, literature, language, "organic"*

Developing English-Speaking Skills through Socratic Questioning in Online Synchronous Learning

Dr. Kurt S. Candilas

Dean, Arts and Sciences Program, Lourdes College, Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines

Online synchronous learning is a digital teaching platform that supports learning in the time of the pandemic. However, it provides less speaking participation for students. This study explores the effectiveness of Socratic questioning in developing students' English-speaking skills during their online synchronous class. This study used the Pre-experimental - one-group pretest and posttest design. Thirty-five (35) students who were asked for their consent participated in this study. The study was conducted in one of the classes in Purposive Communication in a private college in Cagayan de Oro City, Philippines, for the first semester of the AY 2020-2021. The instrument used in assessing students' English-Speaking Skills is the Student Oral Observation Matrix (SOLOM), taken from the Riverside County Seal of Multiliteracy (2008). The study used Paul's (2001) model of Socratic questioning. Based on the findings, through the lens and principles of reasons, Socratic questioning helped improve students' English-speaking skills in pronunciation, vocabulary, grammar, fluency, and comprehension. The result of this study confirms Paul's (2001) model of Socratic questioning, stressing that by working through an organized procedure of framing questions during discussions and other oral-related activities, learners are disciplined and trained to speak and reason. This finding, therefore, calls for the need of teachers to utilize Socratic questioning in their online synchronous learning to develop student's skills in speaking, which in turn enliven their active participation in the virtual class.

Keywords: *English-speaking Skills, Socratic Questioning, Online Synchronous Learning*

**Play as one of Coping Mechanisms of the Isolated Individual in Richard Matheson's
I Am Legend and its Film Adaptations**

Artur Skweres

*Department of English Studies, Faculty of Pedagogy and Fine Arts in Kalisz, Adam Mickiewicz
University, Poznan, Poland.*

The presentation will consider the situation of Robert Neville, the hero of Richard Matheson's *I Am Legend* and its three film adaptations: *The Last Man on Earth* (1964), *Omega Man* (1971), and *I Am Legend* (2007). As a result of the spread of a deadly virus, Neville finds himself to be the last human survivor of the plague – the remaining people were either killed or transformed into aggressive vampires. The characterization of Neville and other survivors, whom the hero no longer considers to be of the same species, differs in each of the adaptations yet both the resemblances and the dissimilarities between them lead to far-reaching conclusions. By applying the theories of Marshall McLuhan, the presentation will seek to demonstrate that the situation portrayed in the book and its film adaptations can be treated as a metaphor for the situation of an individual educated on printed media in the society which underwent gradual yet rapid changes under the influence of the electronic media. As will be demonstrated, one of the primary coping mechanisms of the visually-oriented person in the transformed, interconnected world which disallows privacy and obstructs individualism is to resort to play and games.

Keywords: *play/games, McLuhan, I Am Legend, Matheson*

Emerging Netspeak Word Choices in Social Media on Filipino Pop Culture

Camille Monderin

Centro Escolar University, Philippines

The emergence of the Internet gave birth to a new form of language that is unique to the users of the network. Netspeak is the language of the Internet and has adapted the features of both speaking and writing, however, Netspeak has its own unique characteristics as well. This study aimed to find the emerging lexical patterns of Netspeak as used by Filipinos, the extent of use of Netspeak in three most popular social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) as well as various domains of pop culture (entertainment, politics, fashion and sports) and its implications to the language studies in the Philippines. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used in this study. The corpora of the study were gathered from two months' worth of social media activities focusing on the comments in the Facebook, Instagram and Twitter of selected public figures. Analysis of the data was done using computer-mediated discourse analysis. The findings showed that the emerging lexical patterns of Netspeak were abbreviations and homophones, and that social media platforms and pop culture domains affect the use of Netspeak features. The platform and domain that got the highest extent of usage of Netspeak lexical features were Twitter and Politics respectively. The results of this study will help in understanding the language that is used in the Internet as well as raise awareness that this kind of language exists.

Keywords: *Netspeak, word choice, lexical patterns, pop culture, social media accounts, Internet linguistics*

Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) Strategies in Daily Lesson Plans of Oral Communication Teachers and their Alignment to Standards in Curriculum Guide

Darwin D. Bargo

Centro Escolar University (CEU), Manila, Philippines

DepEd – Schools Division Office of Antipolo City

Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) is an approach that has been the subject of many practitioners and researchers in the field of language teaching and applied linguistics in many countries including the Philippines because of the recent changes and educational reforms including lessons and curriculum innovations. Anchored to the CLT theory, this study used quantitative-qualitative content analysis of the daily lesson plans of the Senior High School (SHS) language teachers teaching Oral Communication in Context (OCC). This aimed at identifying the activities by cluster, assessing which activities are CLT strategies, and determining their alignment to standards in the curriculum guide. Results revealed that the strategies used as classified through content analysis, and according to type and frequency included task-completion activity, opinion-sharing activity, mechanical practice activity, information-transfer activity, reasoning-gap activity, information-gap activity, communicative activity, information-gathering activity, fluency activity, accuracy activity, meaningful practice activity, and others. There are a number of strategies used that matched the CLT principles and features but vary on their respective percentages in each of the four phases i.e., Activity-Analysis-Abstraction-Application (4As) of the lesson. These CLT strategies were found to be aligned to the Department of Education's curriculum guide in terms of content standards, performance standards and assessment types. Implications of the findings to language teaching in the Philippines were drawn.

Keywords: *Communicative Language Teaching (CLT) strategies, lesson plans, alignment, standards in curriculum guide*

Narrative Techniques and Visionary Insight in the Work of Robert Larius Stevenson

Dr. Saed Jamil Shahwan,

Associate Professor, Department of English, Hail University, Saudi Arabia

One of the characteristics of language and literature is the use of narration. Narrative techniques provide deeper meaning for the reader and help the reader use imagination to visualize situations. Narrative literary techniques are also known as literary devices. Before we look too closely at narrative techniques, it's important to understand that literary elements in narratives include such things as the setting, plot, theme, style or structure, characters, and perspective, or voice of the story, since literary techniques are best understood in the context of one of these elements. Robert Louis Stevenson was a Scottish novelist, poet, essayist and travel writer. Through his works, he has contributed several classics to the world of children's literature. His best-known books include *Treasure Island*, *Kidnapped*, and *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. A unique element of Stevenson's works is the use of narrative techniques and visionary insights to express his ideas. Robert Louis Stevenson is a master of using foreshadowing in order to increase the suspense of the novel. Several clues are dropped to indicate the reader that treachery is ahead of the adventure seekers. In line with the theme of cultural unification through language development, Stevenson's narrative and visionary insight provides a good approach of cultural unification. Stevenson's narrative technique and visionary approach expresses cultural aspects in a manner that appeals to a diverse audience. Stevenson's technique of narration applies to the style and plot of the literary work. Common techniques relevant to style, or the language chosen to tell a story, include metaphors, similes, personification, imagery, hyperbole, and alliteration. Stevenson's works shows the appropriate approaches of incorporating these narrative elements in telling the stories. Common techniques relevant to plot include backstory, flashback, flash-forward, and foreshadowing. Common techniques relevant to narrative perspective, or who is telling the story, include first person, second person, third person, and third-person omniscient. Therefore, Stevenson's narrative techniques provide a strong guide on the use of literary and linguistics tactics for cultural unification.

Keywords: *Narrative, Language, Cultural, Unification*