

STYLISTICS WITHIN EFL CONTEXTS: POINTS TO PONDER

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Abstract

This presentation aims to offer a thought-provoking idea on how literary texts can promote EFL learners' communicative competence as well as enhance their critical thinking skills. With the ultimate goal of emphasizing quality education in mind, the presenter adopts the idea that literature plays an essential role in EFL contexts. Generally speaking, there are three main merits for a literary education program; namely, developing learners' scope of literary understanding and critical judgment for aesthetic purposes, presenting a broad spectrum of the ideals as expressed in the world's great works, and improving all aspects of the comprehension process: affective consideration; readiness consideration; and so on. Providing learners with literature experiences is, therefore, central to effective instruction.

Adopting this view, the presentation seeks some convincing answers to the following questions:

-How can EFL practitioners maximize the effectiveness of utilizing literary texts to promote students' communicative competence and enhance their critical thinking skills?

-How can EFL practitioners maximize the effectiveness of utilizing literary texts through utilizing a stylistic approach?

To exemplify these issues, the presenter will discuss a short story written by Thomas Wolfe: 'The Far and the Near', whilst employing her proposed procedure for discussing literary texts within EFL contexts.

To end with, it is hoped that this presentation will be of genuine interest and use to the practitioners within the field of teaching English as a foreign language from all over the world.

Abbreviations

EFL: English as a Foreign Language.

Presenter's Bio:

Suhair Al Alami holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Aston University, UK, and another PhD in Linguistics from Ain Shams University, Egypt. Dr Al Alami works as an Assistant Professor at Al Ghurair University, Dubai. Dr Al Alami has received awards for both her teaching and research from Al Ghurair University. Dr Al Alami has both presented papers at many international and regional conferences and contributed a wide range of papers to various international journals. In addition, Dr Al Alami serves as a co-editor of TESOL Arabia *Perspectives*, and a member of TESOL Arabia publications' committee.