ملخص

A glimpse of the exploitation of Africa in Joseph Conrad's "heart of darkness": the use of Halliday's transitivity analysis in unraveling ideologies

لمحة عن استغلال أفريقيا في "قلب الظلام" لجوزيف كونراد: استخدام تحليل العبور لهاليداي في كشف الإيديولوجيات

Un aperçu de l'exploitation de l'Afrique "au cœur des ténèbres" de Joseph Conrad: l'utilisation de l'analyse de transitivité de Halliday pour démêler les idéologies

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شهدت الأمم الإفريقية في الفترة الاستعمارية مدابح فادحة ارتكبتها النخب الامبريالية وتحملت شعوبها معاناة كبيرة من القهر والعنصرية مما تسبب في تلاشي هويتها واغترابها. وكانت هويتهم تتلاشى متغرب قسرا. تم تصوير أعمال الإمبرياليين واستغلالهم لأفريقيافي فترة ما بعد الاستعمار في أعمال أدبية مختلفة لتسليط الضوء على الحقائق المخفية ووصف الوضع الوحشي والفوضى التي عاشها أدبية مختلفة لتسليط الضوء على الحقائق المخفية ووصف الوضع الوحشي والفوضى التي عاشها أفازوانة في ذلك الوقت. كانت "قلب الظلام" لجوزيف كونراد واحدة من أكثر الأعمال الأدبية وضوحًا الأفارقة في ذلك الوقت. كانت "قلب الظلام" لجوزيف كونراد واحدة من أكثر الأعمال الأدبية وضوحًا للأفارقة في ذلك الوقت. كانت "قلب الظلام" لجوزيف كونراد واحدة من أكثر الأعمال الأدبية وضوحًا للجدل تجاه موقفه الحقيقي في موضوع الإستعمار وشدة العنصرية بترك آراء معارضة ومثيرة للجدل تجاه موقفه الحقيقي في موضوع الإمبريالية. استخدم الكاتب عددًا لا يحصى من التراكيب اللغوية لكشف نواياه ووصف الأحداث المختلفة للقصة. لذلك يمكن الكشف عن أيديولوجية الكاتب من خلال تحليل اختياراته اللغوية. جاء الأسلوب الوظيفي باستراتيجيات مختلفة لتحليل الكاتب من خلال تعلي من التراكيب الكاتب من خلال معارضة ومثيرة الكاتب من خلال معارض المريالية. استخدم الكاتب عددًا لا يحصى من التراكيب الكاتب من خلال تحليل اختياراته اللغوية. جاء الأسلوب الوظيفي باستراتيجيات مختلفة لتحليل الكاتب من خلال تحليل اختياراته اللغوية. تعتبر إستراتيجية العبور وتحليل منتها منه الرادي من أكثرها استخدامًا في الخطاب الأدبي من خلال وصف الورات اللغوية. تعتبر إستراتيجية العبور وتحليل مقتطف أدبي من "قلب الظلام" الخطاب الأدبي من خلال وصف الوراقة تطبيق إستراتيجية العبور وتحليل منا أذلي من ألم الغربي المريناية والغوني من ألم الخوية ما ألخوية. كونراد واحد علي من أكثرها منتخدامًا في الخطاب الأدبي من خلال وصف الحيان الغوية. معتبر إستراتيجيات مخان أوي المان الخوية كونراد. تحاول الكشف عن أيديولوجية المؤلف تجاه الإمبريالية والعنصرية في إفريقيا مع الجوزيف كونراد. تعاول الكشف عن أيديولوجية المؤلف تجاه الإمبريالية والمين يا ويريني من التراري النه مان الخوية. كان الخوية من الغوية ما معن أيديولوجية الموني ما الخلوم، ما ألمونية الم ألمون ما معارية في أفرية ما الخوي والغ ما وي

تدربس الأدب كنقطة انطلاق في تحليل الخطاب الأدبي لتسهيل قراءة الطلاب للنصوص المختلفة وتحفيز مهارات التفكير النقدى لديهم. الكلمات الدالة: الأدب في فترة ما بعد الاستعمار؛ الأسلوبي؛ امبريالية؛ إيديولوجية؛ تحليل العبور؛ العنصرية.

Abstract

In the colonial period, the African nations witnessed tremendous massacres from the elites. They endured great suffering in terms of oppression and racism, and their identity was fading and westernized coercively. In the post-colonial period, the imperialists' acts and their exploitation of Africa were portrayed in different literary works to shed light on concealed facts and describe the brutal situation and chaos of the Africans at that time. Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness" was one of the most conspicuous literary pieces on that topic. It described the cruelty of colonialism and the intensity of racism with leaving opposing and contentious opinions towards the real position of the writer in the topic of imperialism. The writer used a myriad of linguistic structures to reveal his intentions and describe the different events of the story. Therefore, the ideology of the writer can be detected by analyzing his linguistic choices. The functionalist stylistic came up with different strategies of analyzing literary discourse through describing the linguistic choices. Transitivity is among the most used ones in literary discourse. This paper deals with applying Halliday's transitivity strategy to analyze a literary excerpt from Joseph Conrad's "Heart of Darkness". It attempts to detect the author's ideology towards imperialism and racism in Africa with bearing upon the language used in the discourse. The results revealed that Conrad was only stating the bitter truth by unveiling the real identity of the imperialists and depicting the suffering of the colonized people. As implications, it was suggested to implement transitivity in teaching literature as a stepping stone in literary discourse analysis to facilitate the students' readability of different texts and trigger their critical thinking skills.

Keywords: ideology; imperialism; post-colonial literature; racism; stylistics; transitivity analysis.

Résumé

Pendant la période coloniale, les nations africaines ont été témoins de massacres énormes de la part des élites. Ils ont enduré de grandes souffrances de l'oppression et de racisme, et leur identité s'estompait et s'est occidentalisée de manière coercitive. Dans la période postcoloniale, les actes impérialistes d'exploitation de l'Afrique ont été décrits dans de différentes œuvres littéraires dans lesquels les faits cachés sont élucidés et la situation brutale et le chaos des Africains sont décrits. «Au cœur des ténèbres» de Joseph Conrad est l'une de ces

œuvres. Il décrivait la cruauté du colonialisme et l'intensité du racisme. Son a utilisé une myriade de structures linguistiques pour révéler ses auteur intentions et décrire les différents événements de l'histoire. L'analyse de ses choix linguistiques permet de cerner sa position idéologique. La stylistique fonctionnaliste et la transitivité permettent de décrire ces choix linguistiques.

Cet article traite l'application de la stratégie de transitivité de Halliday pour analyser un extrait littéraire du "au cœur des ténèbres" de Joseph Conrad. Il tente de détecter l'idéologie de l'auteur vis-à-vis l'impérialisme et le racisme en Afrique en se référant au langage utilisé dans le discours. Les résultats ont révélé qu'il ne faisait qu'affirmer la vérité amère en dévoilant la véritable identité des impérialistes et en dépeignant les souffrances du peuple colonisé. Comme implications, il a été suggéré de mettre en œuvre la transitivité dans l'enseignement de la littérature comme un tremplin dans l'analyse du discours littéraire pour faciliter la lisibilité des différents textes par les élèves et déclencher leurs capacités de pensée critique.

Mots clés: idéologie impérialisme; l'analyse de transitivité; littérature postcoloniale; racisme; stylistique.

Introduction

In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, literature was no longer regarded as a simple aesthetic tool since it also became a source of several ideologies (Moramollu, 2016). In other words, literary works were mirroring different political, social, and cultural events. In post-colonial literature, many literary pieces tried to elucidate the elusive incidents in the period of colonialism. "Heart of Darkness" triggered many debates about the author's ideology that concerns racism and imperialism. The analysis of such a piece of writing is strongly connected with the language used in the literary discourse. In this respect, Fowler argued, "Linguistic codes do not reflect reality neutrally; they interpret, organize, and classify the subjects of discourse. They embody theories of how the world is arranged: worldviews or ideologies". (1986, p.27)

Therefore, decoding the linguistic structures would lead to revealing the authors' ideologies towards a particular idea. This process should mainly be manifested through extracting the linguistic choices of the writer that were used in the literary discourse since "...language is a resource for making meaning, and meaning resides in systemic patterns of choice" (Halliday; Matthiessen, 2014, p.23).

Functionalist stylistics provided different strategies that help in sorting out the linguistic choices of the author, which would allow the reader to analyze the implicit intentions that are present in the discourse (Canning, 2014).

Halliday's transitivity was introduced in the theory of systemic functional grammar; it is a framework of analysis that classifies the semantic choices of the language user which in turn reflect ideologies. In this respect, Fowler explained that "Since transitivity makes options available, we are always suppressing some possibilities, so the choice we make - better, the choice made by the discourse – indicates our point of view, is ideologically significant" (1991, p.71).

This paper attempts to unravel Joseph Conrad's ideology towards the imperialists' and racists' events that happened during colonialism. It also tries to prove the interconnected relationship between literature and linguistics. This will be attained through the use of the functionalist stylistic strategy of transitivity on a literary excerpt that is extracted from 'heart of darkness'.

1. Literature review

1.1. Post-colonialism and literature

In post-colonialism, literary texts were employed as instruments to expose different concealed facts that happened during the colonial era. In this respect, Boehmer stated, "Nationalist movements have relied on literature, on novelists, singers, and playwrights, to hone rallying symbols of the past and the self through which dignity might be reasserted. The well-known image of the oppressed speaking out of silence has meant a willed intervention by colonized people in the fictions and myths that presumed to describe them"(2005, p.5-6). In other words, many literary works revealed the author's ideologies about that specific period by shedding light on elusive events.

Joseph Conrad's work of "Heart of Darkness" was one of these literary pieces. It tackled the themes of imperialism and racism by transmitting messages that received several interpretations. Some literary critics considered Conrad's work as a mere description of what happened during colonialism; however, some of them including Achebe, claimed that Conrad was himself a racist since his work was trying to justify the racists' and imperialists' acts (Cartler, 1997).

These different interpretations made it clear that post-colonial literature reflected social and cultural facts that were expressed in an artistic and implicit way that resulted in creating several debates and contradictory opinions. In this concern, Abu-Shomar pointed out, 'The post-colonial literary tradition, thus, consolidates the idea of interconnectedness between culture and literature and how the category of literature has become a sort of cultural artifact that conveys particular messages or reflects 'appropriate' social and cultural beliefs" (2013, 22). Thus, the interpretations of literary messages would give a clue about the ideology of the writer towards a particular act or event.

1.2. Expressing ideologies in literary discourse

In literature, writers chose different words and structures to express their intentions. This linguistic process creates a strong connection between literature and ideology since it is hard to separate language from the historical, social, and cultural contexts (Chen; Li, 2011). In this respect, Thompson stated that "The theory of ideology invites us to see that language is not simply a structure which can be employed for communication or entertainment, but a social historical phenomenon which is embroiled in human conflict" (1984, 2). Therefore, language is not only an instrument of everyday communication but it is also a mean of both expressing cultural and ideological views of events.

In literature, the interpretation of literary texts from an ideological perspective is regarded as part of the reader's perceptions, in other words, it's the reader who decides whether the interpretation of a given literary piece would be realized for its aesthetic part or an ideological one (Potocco, 2009). Hence, it's the reader's external experiences that determine which side a literary piece would take. However, the case of post-colonial literature is idiosyncratic; it was considered as inevitably connected to power relations and politics which entail the presence of ideologies. In this regard, Abu-Shomar asserted that "The post-colonial literary tradition, thus, consolidates the idea of interconnectedness between culture and literature and how the category of literature has become a sort of cultural artifact that conveys particular messages or reflects 'appropriate' social and cultural beliefs." (2013, p.22). Therefore, post-colonial literature is usually interpreted from an ideological perspective to get the intended meaning of the discourse.

1.3. The use of systemic functional grammar in literary analysis

The theory of systemic functional grammar was introduced by Halliday; it carries the idea that language has a functional meaning that is related to the social context. In this theory, he considered that language can have three functions that he called met functions which are ideational, interpersonal, and textual. The first one is concerned with representing the experiences of the language user, the second one is linked with establishing and maintaining relationships, and the last one is about the linguistic organization of discourse. (Canning, 2014).

The most used met function in the analysis of literary discourse is the ideational one. It consists of describing the inner and outer world of the language user by extracting his/her linguistic choices and classifying them into the system of transitivity. (Halliday; Matthiessen, 2014).

Halliday defined transitivity as a "...set of options relating to cognitive content, the linguistic representation of extra linguistic experience, whether of the phenomena of the external world or of feelings, thoughts and perceptions" (1967, p.199).

More *specifically*, Halliday assumed that people's experiences emerge from the actions that happen in the environment when they are interacting, sharing, reacting, and from what happens inside them as feeling, sensing or thinking. He added that, what happens inside the person is more difficult to infer than the explicit actions that exist outside of him/her. However, what the person feels is usually a reaction to what happens outside. Thus, the person's actions mainly the linguistic and grammatical choices they make can give a clue about their feelings or thoughts. In this regard, Halliday and Matthiessen mentioned that our experiences can be represented by six types of process which are part of the transitivity system, namely: material, mental, behavioral, verbal, relational, and existential (2014). These types are illustrated in figure 1.



Figure 1: Process Types of Halliday's Transitivity

Source: Halliday, M, and Christian M.I. Matthiessen. 2014. Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar. 4th ed., Routledge, New York.

Material process is related to the several actions and events that are present in all types of discourse; whereas, mental process is linked with the internal part of the language user, like feelings, emotions, and thoughts. The participant in material process 'actor' can be called 'agent' when he/she is literally the one who does the action, or it can be labeled 'medium' when the actor is not directly involved in the action; the receiver of the action is called 'goal'. Similarly, in mental process, the 'senser' can take the form of an agent-senser or medium, and what is sensed, felt, and thought is called 'the phenomenon' (Halliday; Mathiessen, 2014).

Besides, transitivity includes a behavioral process that takes place when the language user is describing an entity behaving in a certain way; the participant in this process is named the 'behaver'. Concerning verbal process, it is connected with the direct and indirect speech of the entity that is mentioned in the discourse. In this type, the 'sayer' is the speaker, and the 'target' is the receiver of the message that was sent by the 'sayer'. Relational process takes two forms: identification and attribution. The first mode is about identifying the entity by mentioning directly his/her identity, and the participants are called 'identified' as the one that was given an identity and the 'identifier' which represents his actual identity. The second mode is concerned with describing an entity by the use of adjectives in both spoken and written discourse. The participants are labeled 'carrier' that is the described entity, and 'attribute' which is the actual description of the entity. The last process type is the existential one;

it tackles the presence or existence of something in the process; the participant in this case is called the 'existent' (Morley, 2000). In addition to the process types, there are many circumstantial elements in the transitivity system that can be part of any of the mentioned processes. These elements are divided into nine main types (extent, location, manner, cause, contingency, accompaniment, role, matter, and angle). These types are identified and illustrated in table1.

| Туре | Sub-type | Question answered | Example | |
|-------------|------------|--|---|--|
| Extent | distance | How far? | He ran <u>three miles</u> | |
| | duration | How long? | He ran for three days | |
| | frequency | How frequently? He ran <u>every day</u> | | |
| Location | place | Where? He ran <u>in Toronto</u> | | |
| | time | When? | He ran <u>last year</u> | |
| | means | By what means? | He saved her <u>with a rope</u> | |
| Manner | quality | How? | She saved him <u>quickly</u> | |
| Manner | comparison | Like what? | She ran <u>like the wind</u> | |
| | degree | How much? | She loved him <u>more than anyone</u> | |
| | reason | Why? | She ran <u>because she loved to</u> | |
| Cause | purpose | For what purpose? | She ran <u>to raise money</u> | |
| | behalf | On whose behalf? | She ran <u>for her sister</u> | |
| | condition | Under what | In the event of fire leave the | |
| | condition | conditions? | building | |
| | default | Under what | <u>Without an agreement</u> , the plan will fail | |
| Contingency | | negative | | |
| | | conditions? | | |
| | concession | With what | Despite her help, the plan failed. | |
| | | concessions? | | |
| Accomp- | comitative | Who/ what with? | John ran <u>with Jane</u> | |
| -animent | additive | Who/ what else? | John wears mittens <u>in addition to</u> <u>his gloves</u> | |
| Role | guise | What as? | She spoke <u>as his mentor</u> | |
| | product | What into? | He was transformed <u>into a prince</u> | |
| Matter | matter | What about? | He warned <u>me about the film</u> | |
| Angle | source | According to whom? | <u>According to the lecturer</u> , the class is cancelled | |
| | viewpoint | From whose viewpoint/ perspective? | <u>To me</u> , he's an idiot. | |

Table 1: The Main Types of the Circumstantial Elements

Source: Fontaine, L. 2013. Analysing English Grammar: A Systemic Functional Introduction, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

According to Fontaine, these circumstantial elements are important in shaping meaning (2013). They provide more information about a given clause that is part of a particular process type. This mentioned linguistic organization of transitivity contributes in identifying the different author's ideologies "the transitivity model provides one means of investigating how a reader's or listener's perception of the meaning of a text is pushed in a particular direction and how the linguistic structure of a text effectively encodes a particular 'worldview'. This world-view will, of course, be that of the producer(s) of the text." (Simpson, 1993, p.96-97). Hence, the transitivity system can work as an effective strategy in the analysis of literary discourse.

2. Methods

A qualitative research design was used in this research. It was based on applying Halliday's transitivity system as a strategy to analyze an excerpt from Joseph Conrad's 'Heart of Darkness'. The analysis was focalized on the author's ideology that concerns the themes of imperialism and racism. This was realized by extracting the different linguistic choices of the writer from the excerpt and classifying them in the process types of the transitivity framework depending on the linguistic function of the character in each clause. For example, the different descriptions and identifications of the characters were placed in relational process; the actions and events of the story were put in material process; the feelings, emotions, and thoughts of the characters were organized in mental process; the behaviors that were attributed to the characters were presented in behavioral process.

In addition to mentioning the process types, the transitivity analysis included the linguistic (lexico-grammatical) roles of the participants (characters) in the clause which led to deciphering the author's perception towards a particular idea since "... systematic syntactic or lexical choices can throw a certain slant upon the presentation of 'reality', and hence be indicative of ideology."(Weber, 1989, p.94).

As mentioned beforehand, the circumstantial elements are part of the English clause and can be present in all of the mentioned processes with carrying the same meaning as well as the same function. However, some of them are present in certain processes more frequently than others and vice versa. The circumstantial elements reinforce the comprehension of various ideas that are mentioned in the text; for instance, stressing the importance

of a particular location, shedding light on the means and manners that were relied on by the characters in the story to perform a certain action or behavior, exposing causes and reasons of different actions and events, etc. Thus, in this study, these elements were identified by highlighting their contribution to the interpretation of the excerpt.

3. Results and Analysis

The data of the literary excerpt (see appendixI) were analyzed and classified according to the type of each process of the transitivity framework (relational, material, mental, behavioral, and verbal). Participants, type of process, and type of circumstance that were selected by the author were identified and organized in different tables.

| Participant 1 | Process | Participant (2) |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| They | were dying | slowly |
| Carrier | Relational | Attribute |
| They | were not | enemies |
| Identified | Relational | Identifier |
| They | were not | criminals |
| Identified | Relational | Identifier |
| They | were | nothing earthly now |
| Carrier | Relational | Attribute |
| They Carrier | were Relational | nothing but black shadows of disease and starvation Attribute |
| They Carrier | were Relational | lying confusedly in the greenish gloom Attribute |
| These moribund Shapes Carrier | were Relational | free as air and nearly as thin Attribute |
| They | became | inefficient |
| Carrier | Relational | Attribute |

Table 2: Relational Process

Relational process aims to identify and describe the characters (participants). In this excerpt the focus is on the same character 'they' in each clause which refers to the colonized people. The different identifications and attributions that are present in this process stress the dreadful situation of the African people in the colonial period.

| Participant | Process (material) | Circumstance | |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| They Goal | were brought Material | from all the recesses of the costin all the legality of time contracts Location (place) | |
| They | were lost | in uncongenial surroundings | |
| Goal | Material | Location (place) | |
| They | were fed | in unfamiliar food | |
| Goal | Material | Manner (quality) | |
| which (the orbs) | died out | slowly | |
| Medium | Material | Manner (quality) | |
| They Goal | sickened Material | | |
| They | were allowed | to crawl away and rest | |
| Medium | Material | Location(place) | |

Table3: Material Process

Material process deals with extracting the actions and events that were mentioned by the author. In this excerpt, all the clauses that reflected the actions of the characters are employed in the passive voice. In other words, the first participant who is supposed to be the doer of the action is actually the receiver; thus, it is marked as 'goal' instead of 'agent' in the transitivity system.

The presence of the circumstantial elements is dominating the material process. The author used generally the circumstance of location with the type of 'place' as he used the circumstance of manner with its type of 'quality'.

| Participant | Process | Participant | Circumstance |
|--|--|---|--|
| (l) Agent-senser | glancing Mental | | down Location (place) |
| I Agent-senser | saw Mental | a face Phenomenon | near my hand Location (place) |
| The sunken eyes Agent-senser | Looked up Mental | at me Phenomenon | |
| I Agent-senser | Began to distinguish Mental | The gleam of eyes Phenomenon | under the trees Location (place) |

Table 4: Mental Process

Mental process represents the internal feelings and thoughts of the character including the use of the five senses. In table 4, the character (Marlow) used the same sense, i.e. sight. The character is classified as an agent-senser in the transitivity system which means he is the one who literally used the sense of sight in the several mentioned clauses. In this process, the circumstantial elements are again relied on, and they are mainly pointing at different locations.

| Tuble 5. Dena (Torul 1100055 | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| Participant | Process | Circumstance | | |
| The black bones Behaver | reclined Behavioral | at full length with one shoulder against the tree Manner (quality, means) | | |
| The eyelids | rose | | | |
| Behaver | Behavioral | | | |

Table 5: Behavioral Process

There are two clauses of the behavioral process. The behavior in this process is attributed to the character's body parts (bones, eyelids) instead of naming directly the character.

4. Discussion and Interpretations

The post-colonial literary work of "Heart of Darkness" was a source of several ideologies, especially with the themes of imperialism and racism. The linguistic choices of the writer were important in unmasking those ideologies. There were four process types in the transitivity analysis of the extracted literary excerpt: relational, material, mental, and behavioral.

Relational process was the dominating type in the literary excerpt. Since this process is based on describing and identifying characters, its overwhelming dominance in the transitivity framework proved that the scene was based on portraying the suffering of the colonized people. The author insisted on describing the characters using circumstances and physical appearance to highlight their bad situation and make the reader close to the image of these victims and stand against colonialism. In the identifying mode, it is noticeable that the author did not describe the characters directly by revealing their identity, i.e., slaves; he preferred to identify them by who they weren't (they were not enemies, they were not criminals). Thus, he used the identifying mode in the negation and this to victimize them more for denying any reason to be treated in that harsh way and to show the audience that these people did nothing to deserve such treatment.

In Material process, the action verbs that were selected for the characters were extracted and classified in the system of transitivity. In the selected excerpt, the actors were not the ones who literally did the several actions since they are called 'medium' instead of 'agent' in the transitivity framework. Moreover, they were all put in passive voice so this was to portray the victims as weak and unable to take part in or change the circumstances in which they found themselves. More specifically, in the passive clause, the goal is emphasized and so brought closer to the reader/writer. In this case, Conrad wanted to make the reader feel the pain of these slaves which presents the idea of colonialism as negative in the eyes of the protagonist 'Marlow' that was in turn reflecting the ideology of the writer.

In mental process, it was deduced from the transitivity framework that the author employed only one type of it which is 'perception'; it refers to the character's use of one of his senses. In this excerpt, the sense of sight was employed in all the clauses of mental process. This implies that the writer presented Marlow as a witness to what was happening to portray to the readers the darkness of colonialism.

There were two clauses in behavioral process, in both of them the role of 'the behaver' was accorded to 'the slaves'. The reason behind this linguistic choice is that the author aimed to show their weakness and exhaustion from the rough tasks that were given to them. Obviously, the 'black bones' were not the ones who reclined against the tree but it's the slave. However, the writer intended to say that this person was so thin that you can see his bones. Thus, he used this language to make the reader react emotionally with the slave, in turn, hate the responsible of such cruel behavior, i.e., colonizers.

The absence of some process types can also indicate the intentions of the author. In this excerpt, there was no verbal process in the transitivity framework, which means the author didn't use direct or indirect speech with the characters. This denotes that the protagonist 'Marlow' was only witnessing the event and he was clearly taken aback to a high extent that he couldn't interact, ask, or say anything to those slaves. Marlow's role was to portray reality to the readers as it was. Also, he had the task of reflecting the writer's ideology, which was against the imperialists' and racists' acts.

Concerning the circumstantial elements, it is clear that among all its types, the author relied only on two of them: Location (place) and manner (quality and mean). These elements were used to foreground the place or situation of the slaves and their poor quality of life. They also help the reader to draw a clear picture of the unbearable situation of the Africans.

Conclusion

This paper investigated Conrad's ideology about imperialism and racism in his literary work "heart of darkness". It also aimed at revealing the role of the linguistic strategy of transitivity that is part of systemic functional grammar theory in the analysis and interpretation of literary discourse. The transitivity analysis of the selected literary excerpt proved that Conrad was innocuous since he was just portraying reality as it was in that period. He employed relational and behavioral processes to describe and scrutinize the imperialists' acts and the devastating situation of the colonized people who were turned into slaves. In mental process, Marlow was selected as the 'eye' of the author since he used in all the clauses the sense of sight. The

absence of speech in verbal process proved that Marlow was speechless from the situation that he was witnessing which in turn confirmed that he found the Africans in a chaotic condition. These results of the transitivity analysis that were based on extracting and classifying the linguistic choices of the author confirmed that Conrad victimized the colonized people and pushed the reader to react emotionally and to feel their suffering. Therefore, Conrad's work aimed at unraveling the real nature of imperialism and racism despite the repulsive and disturbing language that was chosen to describe the situation of the Africans. In other words, literature aimed at transmitting a bitter truth, as Foucault stated when describing literary discourse, "More than any other form of language it remains the discourse of "infamy": it has the duty of saying what is most resistant to being said-the worst, the secret, the most insufferable, the shameless" (2002, 174).

The effectiveness of the transitivity strategy in the analysis of literary discourse proved its contribution in triggering the readers' critical thinking skills since it pushes them to make the connection between the linguistic choices of the writer, the different ideologies, and the hidden intentions in the literary texts by synthesizing, analyzing, drawing conclusions, etc. Therefore, the transitivity analysis can be implemented in the teaching of students of literature to facilitate the readability and interpretation of the literary discourse.

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