

Investigating Narrative Techniques in Frank O'Connor's.....

Investigating Narrative Techniques in Frank O'Connor's "Guests of the Nation" in Terms of Labov's Natural Narrative Model: A Socio-Stylistic Study



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Abstract

Guests of the Nation is one of Frank O'Connor's personal experience short stories. It represents the Irish-English war era. As a real witness of the Irish rebellion, the narrator incarnates what he experienced like futility of war, conflicts, and betrayal in his story. The paper in question investigates the narrative components the narrator used to convey his story to the readers depending on an effective way by which the structure of his story is accurately set up. This structure is analogous to Labov's Natural Narrative model which classifies any well-told story into six components (Abstract, Orientation, Complicating Action, Evaluation, Result, and Coda) and this model is what, along with Hoey's Pattern as a helping linguistic tool, the study depends on in the analysis of O'Connor's Guests of the Nation.

Introduction

The present study investigates the narrative components in O'Connor's short story Guests of the Nation by using Labov's Natural Narrative Model. The study classifies the story into six sections which are the components of Labov's model: Abstract, Orientation, Complicating action, Evaluation, Resolution, and Coda. The study attempts to prove that Labov's Natural Narrative model is applicable and adequate to be applied on written narratives like O'Connor's one, since this model was made to be applied on oral narratives. But since O'Connor's Guests of the Nation is a story of its writer's personal experience (Natural Narrative), the model can be applied to it.

William Labov

William Labov (born in December 4, 1927) is an American linguist, widely regarded as the founder of the discipline of variationist sociolinguistics. He has