Towards a New Representational Linguistic Paradigm: Literary Dialect in Emily Bronte’s *Wuthering Heights* and Zora Neale Hurston’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God*

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Abstract

Though linguistics and literary studies have shown long established disparity, junctures between language and literature are concerns of both streams to end up with a satisfactory investigation of a literary text which enfolds different language varieties. By utilizing dialect in their literary creations, authors produce richer and more representative texts in terms of language and styles. British and American realist authors tended to blend the Standard English and its dialects to sharpen the distinction among their characters on different levels which enclose social class, cultural belonging and locality. The focus of this research is in the area of literary and linguistic studies of language in literature. Such examination is significant in order to investigate various shades of literary dialects in Bronte’s Wuthering Heights and Hurston’s Their Eyes Were Watching God. These authors came from two distinctive cultural locations, ethnicities and epochs yet; they shared the literary representativeness of peculiar communities and longed for authentic depictions of their linguistic, cultural and social attributes. This research endeavours to spot light on the nuances of their linguistic delineations with regards to the linguistic accuracy and the thematic implications of these dialects in sketching the fictional lines of their novels. Therefore, it offers a needed literary and linguistic examination of literary dialects in contrast to Standard English. The research approach adopted includes a qualitative analysis of data collected. It comprises historical undertaking of literary dialect evolution in the British and American contexts, biographical information about E. Bronte and Z. N. Hurston’s literary tendencies. It also holds linguistic and literary analysis of dialects. Finally, it suggests a concluding look at the cultural elements and their subjectivities in both novels. The findings from this research give facts that both novelists transgressed the literary conventions of their times and produced novels of acknowledged representativeness in terms of language, themes and cultural rendering of their communities’ identity. The main conclusions derived from this investigation show that although these novelists have different objectives, they keep their works within the circle of authentic portrayal and linguistic accuracy without distorting the artistic quality and the realistic requirements of their depictions.
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