

The Narrator's Mind in the Folk Tales of Samad Behrangi and Charles Perrault Based on the Kerbrat-Orecchioni Model

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Abstract

Cognitive linguists believe that language reflects the fundamental characteristics of the human mind. In addition, the presence of the language user can be revealed by employing linguistic methods on his utterances. This has led linguists, including Kerbrat-Orecchioni, to analyze the symptoms of the narrator's mental activity. Kerbrat-Orecchioni, a French linguist, believes that the narrator has two main paths to choose from in his words: an objective discourse in which there is no sign of himself; and a mental discourse in which his presence is implicit or explicit. The use of adjectives in statements is one of the methods which gives objectivity to the presence or absence of the narrator. Our aim in this article is to investigate and study the mental characteristics of adjectives in six folk tales, compiled and rewritten by Iranian writer Samad Behrangi and the 17th century French writer Charles Perrault. To achieve this goal, we identified the traits used in these stories based on the Kerbrat-Orecchioni classification and examined their subjective or objective nature. The results obtained from the research carried out in three stories from each of the authors studied, show that not only are these stories different from each other in terms of narration, but also while the French stories were subjective, the Iranian stories were objective.

Keywords: Samad Behrangi, Charles Perrault, objective discourse, mental discourses, adjectives, folk tales.

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