

Abstract

The narrators of *Wuthering Heights* have different status in their narrative discourses. The narrators' stances are important as the stances reveal the structure of the story and are related to the degree of narrative reliability.

This study explores the structural narrative of *Wuthering Heights* and demonstrates that the narrators take the role of reporters of events which they either participate in or are absent from and also consider the status and narrative performances of the main narrators, and some of the minor narrators. The research argues that the different status of the narrator results in the discrepancies of information told by the narrators and leads to the issue of questionable story telling and reliability of the narrators themselves. The certainty of the narrators will be examined through narratological frameworks: Genette's (1980) Narrative Levels and Simpson's (1993) Speech Representation and Modality.

This research present that the different status of narrators can be defined into the classification of Narrative Level. The chain of events collected by the narrators, which is analyzed though Simpson's (1993) Speech Representation, demonstrate that the narrators of *Wuthering Heights* are dependent and use subordinate narratives to make their creative story complete and reliable. The shift of narratives is processed under the narrator's edition, which suggests the sense of reliability of the narrators. Moreover, the linguistic theory Modality reveals that the narrators are sometimes confident in their narratives; at other time, they also reveal hesitation in their knowledge of what they tell.

This research, through structural studies and language analysis, asserts that the narrators in *Wuthering Heights* possess different degrees of reliability and certainty: the main narrators Lockwood and Nelly Dean are the most unreliable because they are most distant from the actions of the story.