

Khemmika Sunsern 2010: An Analysis of the Figures of Speech in the Youth Literary Works: A Case Study of the Nai-In Award Winning Literary Works. Master of Arts (Applied Linguistics), Major Field: Applied Linguistics, Department of Linguistics. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Tassanalai Burapachee, Ph.D. 207 pages.

The objectives of the study are to deal with: 1) the types of figures of speech found in the youth literary works 2) the frequency of use of each figure of speech in the works 3) the cultural and social values in Thai society as reflected through the works.

The data are collected from 7 Nai-In Award winning youth literary works: “The Angle Girl” by Dara Rai, “The Purple Orange” by Dao Kra Jai, “The Castle of Kratai Chan” by Chan Chao, “The Little Garuda” by Koi Nuch, “The Non Magical Prince” by Preeda Akkarachanchot, “The Coffee Orchard Girl” by May Noinavej and “The Adventures of Maj Cha Nu” by Keetakarn. The research adopts Chumsai Suwanchompu’s treatment of figures of speech as the basis for the analysis of the data and the classification of figures of speech found.

The findings reveal that there are 11 figures of speech in the works under study. They are 1) onomatopoeia 2) rhetorical question 3) simile 4) metaphor 5) hyperbole 6) personification 7) oxymoron 8) allusion 9) paradox 10) synecdoche and 11) metonymy. Moreover, the works are considered to reflect the cultural and social values of the Thai society, for instance, Buddhism and Thai society, Thai ways of living in the countryside, folk wisdom and the traditions of the Thais in the south.

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