

Firbasian Non-thematic Layers and the Communicative Purpose of the Writer (examples of specific aesthetic patterns revealed in fictional texts)

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Abstract

The present study draws particularly on the research carried out by Jan Firbas in the sphere of the theory of functional sentence perspective. Firbas introduced the existence of the thematic and the rhematic layers in a text. The operation of these layers is closely linked with the communicative purpose expressed by the writer, the aesthetic function of individual communicative units, and it also determines the writer's communicative strategy. The aim of the present treatise is to use the non-thematic layer of the analyzed text to reveal an aesthetic pattern which represents the communicative purpose of the writer.

Keywords: functional sentence perspective, non-thematic layers, communicative purpose, communicative strategy, aesthetic pattern, undulation