Metaphor Analysis in the Novel Slow Man by John Maxwell Coetzee

Abd Al-Rahman Faraj-Allah Ibrahim Abd Al-Qader

ABSTRACT

This research explores metaphor as a trope of narrative in the Slow Man novel by J. M. Coetzee, 2005. The aims of this study are to identify the types and functions of metaphors in this novel. Data of the study are two speech events from the novel. The two speech events are selected on purpose as they are full of metaphors. The researcher utilises Leech’s and Short’s model of analysis. Tropes in general and metaphor in particular add an aesthetic and ornamented flavour to the narrative. There are other functions of metaphors, which are to stress key ideas and clarify certain concepts. The researcher has found that Coetzee in his novel Slow Man uses three types of metaphors: concretising, personifying, and synaesthetic. We read fiction not only to get new ideas, but also to enjoy ourselves by reading fiction. This is applicable in Coetzee’s fiction. He plays with linguistic and literary skills available to him.

Key words: Metaphor, Leech’s and Short’s model, Coetzee’s Slow Man.