

Stylistic Analysis Of A Poem “The Garden” By Andrew Marvell

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Abstract

The purpose of the research article is to analyze the selected poem of Andrew Marvell from a point of view of stylistic. The stylistic analysis is done under three levels and points of language, such as phonological, morphological, and semantic. The first is the phonological level of language, in which the researchers have focused on three main literary devices, i.e., alliteration, assonance, and consonance. Second is morphological level of language; the focus has been on prefixes and suffixes. The last level, which is the semantic level of language, main focus has been on exploring metaphors, imagery, and symbolism in the poem “The Garden.” These features have more connections with each other which has been found in the poem of Marvell. These features help in exploring the literal meaning and hidden meaning in the context. The current research is very helpful to the readers and the audience for understanding of the concept which the Marvell want to convey to the readers. The poem helps in differentiating the common language of the daily use and the poetic language used by Marvell. Marvell has unique way of using diction to gain the attention of the readers and use different literary devices to maintain the versatile writing style.

Key words: Alliteration, Imagery, Metaphors, Morphological, Phonological, Semantic,

Introduction

Literature mainly practices language to convey thoughts and ideas for communication. On the other hand, linguistics is the scientific study of language and its structural development. It is about how people learn language and how they use it. Within this framework, stylistics is a subfield of linguistics. It aims to focus on identifying and categorizing various elements of the text. Similarly, poetic stylistics specifically explores particular poetic works to find out their new and unique features. The term 'style' is derived from the Latin word 'stylus' which refers to the way of writing something. According to Leech (2014), style is a way of speaking and writing a literary text. Further, style is the way of using poetic and figurative language. The poet may use various words, forms, and structures of a sentence, poetic devices, emotions, and thoughts for their audience or readers. Style may show the personality and behavior of the poet or writer. Leech and Short (1981) further explain that the style of the poet and author may vary according to the context. Style is the study of writers' individuality and way of thinking to portray literary works.

Stylistic analysis is a part of applied linguistics. It explores various features of a text to find different or intended meanings and themes. It is important to point out the individuality, belief, and thoughts through the use of language of the poet and writer. Carter & Stockwell (2008) say stylistics aims to explore analyzing, defining, and refining linguistic methods. For instance, at the phonological, semantic, morphological, and syntactical level. Stylistic analysis is a valuable approach to evaluating the writers' words, language, and character more than the text or the poem itself. It also differentiates literary language and the language of daily use depending on the level of understanding.

This research is beneficial for educators and specifically researchers in English literature and language. Stylistics analysis focuses on literary understanding of the text as well as helping the students to enhance their language skills. It focuses on both the artistic and linguistic elements of texts. This research aims to focus on comprehensive stylistic analysis of “The Garden,” written by Andrew Marvell. The analysis is at three levels, i.e., phonological, semantic, and grammatical. It means analysis of sound patterns, meaning, and structural choices within the selected poem. It reveals how these linguistic and stylistic analyses enhance the theme and aesthetic experience. The objective is to explore the use of Marvell's language and its impact on the reader.

Introduction of the poet

Andrew Marvell was born in 1621 in Yorkshire. He is a British poet and is known for his political satire. He has made a significant contribution to the metaphysical poetry. His education was from Trinity College, Cambridge. His work reflects intellectual accuracy and emotional depth. Marvell's poetry explores most often the theme of love and desire, such as in his famous work “To His Coy Mistress,” where he highlights the tension between desire and restraint. He has talked about time and mortality, political philosophy, metaphysics, satire, wit, isolation, loneliness, nature, and gardens in his poems. His works also revolve around spirituality and religious themes. These themes contribute to the rich language and thoughts in Marvell's poetry. It makes it more engaging and deeply resonant with the experience of humans.

His most famous works are “to his coy mistress” and “the garden”. One poem is based on love and time; the latter is about celebrating nature and the search for peace in the fast life. The story of “the garden” revolves around the relationship between

humans and the world. The poet explains the outdoor beauty and its spiritual renewal. The diction of the poem contains metaphors, imagery, and an understanding of a human being's experience.

Moreover, Marvell's political career further enhances his literary work because of his infusion of social and political issues in his literary work. His unique style and voice have a great impact on English literature.

Introduction of "The Garden"

"The Garden" is a poem written by Andrew Marvell in the 17th century. It is based on the relationship between nature, the human spirit, and solitude. It is a reflection of Marvell's mastery of catching the attention of the readers and the audience. In the poem, Marvell talks about paradise and the beauty, simplicity, and tranquility of nature and the world. The poem is famous for its rich, deep diction and metaphysical themes. Marvell's poem "The Garden" revolves around the ideas of love, mortality, and happiness, which encourage readers to reflect on the meaning of existence and the power of nature.

Levels of language in stylistic analysis

There are various levels of language in stylistic analysis. The current research will explore three levels of stylistic analysis, including phonological level of language, semantic level of language, morphological level, and syntactical level of language.

1. Phonological level

According to Crystal (2008), the phonological level of language is the study of sounds and their systematic process of organization. It focuses on the study of sounds, syllables, stress patterns, words, phrases, and sentences. In essence, it involves the arrangement of sounds within a language.

2. Morphological level

The morphological level of language deals with the formation of words and structures (Booiji, 2007). It analyzes how morphemes combine to form complex words. This level explores processes such as derivation and prefixes or suffixes addition to the base words.

3. Semantic level

This level of language focuses on meaning, i.e., interpretation and importance of choice of word, phrases, and sentences. Saeed (2016) further elaborates that it examines the construction of meaning, such as literal meaning and associated meaning. Semantics examines the relationship between words and their context.

The research aims to analyze Andrew Marvell's poem "the garden" in order to highlight and identify the literary and linguistic elements. The goal is to explore the beautiful language and writing style of Marvell. Additionally, it focuses on finding the uniqueness of the poem from other literary works.

Literature review

According to Ogidefa (2009), style refers to writing sticks. It is a stick-shaped device usually used on the display of a computer to input the command. It is also known as a writing technique. Mugair & Mahadi (2014), in their research, explore two primary concepts like style and stylistics. He says stylistics is a linguistic device, and style is the individuality of the writer's writing style. In stylistics, style means a decision made in a language by its users. The writer used it according to the context. In stylistics, the readers study varieties of a language. So, literary stylistics refers to the different characteristics of literature and the style of the authors. Literary stylistics include various topics like textual analysis, i.e., metaphors, speech, demonstration, and analysis of texts, authors, and genres. Moreover, stylistics covers the connection between language and its function in literary and nonliterary analysis (Batool & Lodhi, 2003).

Stylistics is useful for learners of the language. The learners may acquire literary proficiency and language proficiency at the same time. Stylistics and its tools and procedures of linguistics aid a rational to interpret the literary texts of linguistic data. Leech (2014) explains that style deals with the written and delivered manner of literary text. Most of the time, the writers use lyrical and figurative language to maintain uniqueness in their style. For instance, Tie Xenia (2015), in his stylistic analysis of Maya Angelou's poem, highlighted a similar aspect, i.e., themes and features of language. Which highlighted Maya's uniqueness of language and themes like black subjugation.

The current research is about the stylistic analysis of a poem "The Garden" by Andrew Marvell. It has been analyzed on three levels of language: phonological, morphological, and semantic. Stylistic analysis has been done by various authors, but this aspect and the poem are additions to the literature. In previous literature, research by Sohail Qamar (2015) has analyzed a novel named *Black Beauty* by Anna Swell in which the focus of the writer was on form, structure, and meaning, as well as sound punctuation and dashes. Similarly, in other research, styles, forms of the poet or the writer, and stylistic techniques at different levels have been discussed. It gives literary sequence and cohesion to the writers writing.

Research work done by Aatika Asad (2020) has analyzed a novel by Mohsin Hamid named *A Beheading* in which she has done stylistic analysis on two levels, i.e., the lexical level and the morphological level of language. The current research has also explored three levels of language in the analysis, i.e., phonological level, morphological level, and semantic level. These features of stylistics have been used to show the inner beauty and thoughts of the poem explained in the poem. On a phonological level, the focus is on the sounds. It includes alliteration (repetition of the sounds in the same line of the poem or the text). The sound can be found in the initial, middle, or end of the words of the same stanza. Next is consonance, in which the sound repeated must be a consonant sound, and in assonance, the repetition of the sound must be a vowel sound. On a morphological level, the focus is on the formation of words. Furthermore, Leech and Short (1981) explain that style is how the writer or poet uses vocabulary in context. On a morphological level, the researchers have focused on affixation and vocabulary. Affixation is

a type of word formation in which the words have been formed through adding suffixes and prefixes. Suffixes are the group of letters added at the end of the words, forming a new word. For example, adding -full to the word fruit can make a new word fruitful. Andrew Marvell has used it frequently in his poems and other works. Prefixes are also groups of letters that must be added at the beginning of the words, such as when pre- is added to plan so it becomes preplan. At last, the semantic level. Semantic in linguistics refers to the meaning of a word. On a semantic level, the researchers have focused on metaphors, imagery, and symbolism. Metaphors is a literary device in which two unrelated things are compared, but imagery deals with descriptive language, which means how the writers and poets use descriptive language in the writing to maintain their uniqueness. The analysis section of the research shows and helps in understanding the notion and thought of style and stylistics on various levels of language.

Data collection and methodology

The researchers have used a qualitative approach to analyze the levels of language, i.e., phonological level, morphological level, syntactic level, and semantic level. The data for the stylistic analysis has been collected as the famous poem of Andrew Marvell. The name of the poem is "The Garden". The selected poem has been analyzed on four levels of language. The themes of the poem include nature, isolation, hope, and human life.

Most of the data were related to themes like nature, hope, and human life. At the end, the researchers analyzed the selected poem at four levels. The four levels include phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic. On a phonological level, the researchers explore alliteration, assonance, and consonance. In the morphological level, the researchers focused on prefixes and suffixes. At the last but not least semantic level, the researchers focused on literary terms like metaphor, imagery, and symbolism. The researchers have constructed the meaning from the perspective of the language of the selected poem.

Analysis of the selected poem "The Garden"

This section has stylistically analyzed the poem "The Garden" at four different levels.

1. Phonological level
2. Morphological level
3. Semantic level.

1. Phonological level in "The Garden"

The phonological level of language includes sounds that form rhythmic language and repetition of some sounds in the form of words, clauses, phrases, and sentences. The analysis of phonological level includes alliteration, which refers to the repetition of the same sounds, and assonance, which means usage of similar vowel sounds. Consonance refers to the repetition of similar consonant sounds.

A. Alliteration

Alliteration is a literary device that refers to the repetition of the similar initial sounds in the poem. It is mostly found in the same lines of the poem. Alliteration is also known as a cluster because of the sounds present in the form of clusters. According to Bradford (2005) alliteration is the repetition of cluster sounds that must be consonant in the same line or in single phrases and sentences. Marvell has used alliteration in his poem "The Garden" more artistically. In the poem, alliteration is present when similar sounds are frequently repeated or used in the same line of the same stanza. Andrew Marvell's uses alliteration in most of his famous works, including "The Garden", to create rhythmic and musical quality in the poem. It makes the poem more enjoyable to read. It draws attention to the specific phrases and words. Most of the time, it helps in highlighting and enhancing descriptive language and engagement of the audience.

Andrew Marvell uses alliteration in the poem "the garden". The garden is considered to be a lyrical poem. Alliteration in the poem has been used to emphasize the maintenance of rhythm and musicality. Similarly, it creates uniqueness and versatility in the poetry. The alliteration used in the poem is as follows:

Some single (line 4)

Short shade (line 5)

Their toils (line 6)

Fair found (line 9)

Fond flame (line 19)

These trees their (line 20)

What wondrous (line 33)

Alliteration is a literary device. It is the repetition of the same sound in the same lines of the poem. Those sounds must be repeated in a sequence close to each other. This technique is very crucial in the poems. Alliteration maintains the musical touch in the poems and their verses. It is a well-arranged pattern in writing poetry. Andrew Marvell has used frequently used alliteration in the selected poem, especially words like some single (line 4), short shade (line 5), their toils (line 6), fair found (line 9), fond flame (line 19), these trees their (line 20), and what wondrous (line 33). It shows how artistically he used alliteration to maintain the coherence and rhythm of the poem.

B. Assonance

Assonance is a literary device. It refers to the repetition of a vowel sound. Assonance must be placed closer to each other. It is also used for mandating the musical quality and to enhance the rhythm of the poetry. According to Abraham et al. (2012), assonance unifies most of the phrases and sentences of the text to establish mood and catch the reader's attention. It also depends on the themes, which helps in a good auditory experience of the poetry or text.

Andrew Marvel used assonance, which refers to the repetition of vowel sounds. These vowel sounds must be used repetitively in the same line of the stanza. Marvell has used it as an expert in the poem. Some instances are as follows:

1. **How vainly men themselves amaze (line 1);** The repetition of 'a' vowel sounds in 'vainly' as well as 'amaze' shows the presence of assonance in the poem.
2. **And their uncessant labors (see line 3);** In this line, the sound 'a' is used repetitively in 'and' and 'labors'.
3. **While all the flowers and trees do close (line 8);** The repetition of the sound 'o' in words like 'flowers', 'close', and 'do'.
4. **Fair Quiet, have I found thee here (line 10);** 'I' sound has been repeated twice in the line number 10 of the poem, such as 'quiet' and 'I'.
5. **Mistaken long, I sought you then (line 12);** The repetition of the vowel sound 'o' in words, i.e., 'long', 'sought', 'a', and 'you', is indicating the presence of assonance in the lines and poem.
6. **Little, alas, they know or heed (line 25);** The vowel sound 'e' is used as an assonance in words such as 'they' and 'heed'.

In the selected poem, Marvell used assonance sounds and repetition of vowel sounds. He has used the sounds in an order to create an effective rhythm for the audience and readers of the poem.

C. Consonance

Consonance is a poetic and literary device usually found in poetry as well as prose. It is the repetition of similar consonant sounds in the same line and same stanza of a poem. The repetition of the sound can be found in the initial, middle, and end of the word. Consonance helps in producing musical, rhythmic, and unity in the themes of the poem.

Consonance in the poem named "the garden" by Andrew Marvell is a crucial literary device. It has been used to enhance the diction, musicality, and themes of the poem. Andrew has used it frequently in his poems and the current poem. It contributes to the tone and rhythm.

1. **Vainly men themselves amaze (line 1):** 'm' sound in the words such as 'men' and 'themselves' is used repetitively. It shows the literary device of consonance in the poem. The sounds in the mentioned words produce a reflective tone and highlight the futility of human efforts.
2. **To win the palm, the oak, or bays (line 2):** The 'w' sound in a word such as 'win' and the 'b' sound in a word such as 'bays' is an instance of consonance. Its emphasis is on the nature of accomplishments and signs of victory in the poem.
3. **Crowned from some single herb or tree (line 4):** The repetition of the consonant sound 'r' in the words 'crowned', 'herbs', and 'tree' produces the rhythm and its flow, which links the concept of achievement and nature.
4. **fond lovers, cruel as their flame (line 22):** The 'l' sound is used repetitively in words like 'lovers' and 'flame' in line 22. It enhances the intensity of emotions, emphasizing the destructive and passionate nature of love.
5. **How could such sweet and wholesome hours (line 70):** In this line, the presence of the 'h' sound in the words 'hours' and 'wholesome' makes a sense of positivity, which makes a harmonious connection with the surroundings.

2. Morphological level

Morphology is the study of word formation in linguistics, and the morphological level of language in research deals with the exploration of prefixes and suffixes in the selected poem.

a. Suffixes

Suffixes are a set of or groups of letters that could be added at the end of the word for modification of its meaning. They are used to change the tense, degree, or part of speech of the word and provide extra context. Suffixes in the selected poem "the garden" are given below:

1. **Crowned from some single hers or tree, (line 4).**

The suffix -ed in crowned shows the completion. It is a past participle. The completion means the action has been completed and the state of honor has already been achieved, i.e., the beauty of nature.

2. **Does prudently their toils upbraid; (line 6)**

A suffix -ly has been used with the word prudent.

3. **Withdraws into its happiness: (line 42)**

In line number 42, a suffix -ness with happy has been used. The happiness indicates a state of inner peace and connection to nature.

4. **Yet it creates, transcending these, (line 45)**

5. **And as it works th' industrious bee (line 69)**

The suffixes -ing and -ous indicate quality, and the whole word is transcending and industrious. Industrious shows the hardworking nature of the bee and its productivity towards the natural world.

6. **How could such sweet and wholesome hours (line 71)**

Suffix-some is used by the poet in the word wholesome, which conveys a meaning of healthful, emphasizing the positive nature.

These suffixes present in the language of the poem contribute to the exploration of the natural world's beauty and the happiness found in it.

b. Prefixes

Prefixes are the sets and groups of letters which can be added at the beginning of the word for modification of its meaning. It is used to change the meaning of a word in many ways, like for negation, repetition, and changing its degree. Prefixes in the selected poem are given below:

1. **And their uncessant labors see (line 3)**
The prefix un- in the word uncessant shows the negation, which means endless. It's emphasized is the human labor present in nature.
2. **Insnared with flowers, I fall on grass (line 40).**
In the line number 40, a prefix in- is used, which denotes being entangled in something. It indicates that the speaker is inspired by the beauty of nature.
3. **Withdraws into its happiness: (line 42)**
The prefix with in withdraws shows a sense of separation. It means a retreat from the world into joy and happiness. It emphasizes the escape in the garden away from the societal pressure.
4. **Annihilating all that's made (line 47)**
The prefix an- in annihilating suggests a removal, which refers to destruction. It is an act of erasing and removal, highlighting the thought of the garden that is apart from the natural world.

In these lines of the poem, prefixes show the depth in the meaning of the words and themes. Each prefix improves the understanding of the reader and the audience.

3. Semantic level

Semantics is a branch of linguistics. It deals with the meaning and interpretation of meaning words in literal and context. The research aims to explore metaphors, imagery, and symbolism in the selected poem.

a. Metaphor

A metaphor is a literary device. It makes and creates the comparison between unrelated things. It suggests that both things are similar and must be considered as one. The comparison conveys deep meaning and thought in a powerful language. It is a powerful tool in literature. It allows the poet to express his feelings in an imaginative way.

Metaphors in the poem "The Garden" are highlighted and analyzed in the next paragraph:

1. **Crowned from some single herb or tree, (line 4).**
The crown represents honor and fulfillment. Which focus on the simplest aspects of nature.
2. **The mind, that ocean where each kind (line 43)**
Mind is compared to an ocean in the underlined metaphor of the poem. This explains the depth and limitlessness of the thoughts and ideas. The metaphor suggests that the mind is as deep as an ocean.
3. **To a green thought in a green shade. (line 48)**
Green thought has been presented as pure ideas. It shows clarity and tranquility in nature and how humans achieve it.
4. **Here at the fountain's sliding foot, (line 49)**
Fountain shows renewal and rebirth, and it is a source of life. It beautifies the garden.
5. **Waves in its plumes the various light. (line 56)**
Plums represent wings. Wings suggest freedom and beauty.

The metaphors in the poem add meaning to the poem and create a rich tapestry. It emphasizes themes like beauty, calmness, tranquility, and the connection of humans with the world. The poet invites readers to highlight his connection with nature and the world and the growth of inner peace.

b. Imagery

The imagery is present in the selected poem. It is used to explain the things in descriptive language. It creates vivid pictures for the experience of the reader. It appeals to the five senses of the human to imagine himself in the text or the poem.

Imagery in the poem by Andrew Marvell is given below:

1. **Crowned from some single herb or tree, (line 4).**
In this line of the poem, the poet has shown the visuals of a garden, which is filled with various plants. The emphasis is on the beauty and importance of plants and trees, even on a single herb. The idea of 'crowned' shows the beauty of nature. The imagery used is nature imagery.
2. **No white nor red was ever seen/ So amorous as this lovely green (line 4,5).**
Here in these lines, the poet has mentioned colors such as white, red, and green, which creates a contrast. The green represents life and love of nature. There is more emphasis on green, which has been linked to the emotional resonance. The colors mentioned show the use of color imagery.
3. **Love hither makes his best retreat (line 26).**
This imagery suggests a sense of refuge as well as safety present in the garden. This says that love flourishes in a peaceful and serene atmosphere without society and its pressure. This imagery is imagery of retreat.
4. **The luscious clusters of the vine/ Upon my mouth do crush their wine (line 35,36)**

This imagery represents taste and touch, suggesting the sweetness of grapes, and the word clusters crushing their wine evokes a pleasure of nature. This imagery is sensory imagery.

5. Annihilating all that's made/ To a green thought in a green shade line 47)

The imagery in the poem conveys the idea that humans sometimes escape to attain the state of pure thought, highlighting the power of nature. This is transcendental imagery.

c. Symbolism

Symbolism is a device in which something has been symbolized to represent a thing. For example, a word, character, or object. These objects convey deep meaning and ideas to express complex ideas and themes. Symbols in the poem are given below:

1. The Garden

The garden in a poem represents a state of peace, harmony, and beauty. The connection is with nature. It shows the escape from the chaos of the surroundings and building a relation with the divine.

2. Flowers and Trees

Flowers are the symbols of beauty and delicateness, while the tree is a symbol of strength and permanence. In the poem, Andrew Marvell used it together, which highlights the quality of life and endurance, but beauty is present in both the trees and flowers.

3. Fair Quiet

Quiet here in the poem symbolizes peace and calmness, which means serenity is not absent in the chaos but is present and growing with the time and natural setting.

4. The Fountain

The fountain represents renewal, rebirth, and purity. It is a kind of refreshment and motivation that nourish both the soul and body of a human

5. Solitude

Solitude in the poem symbolizes true fulfillment, and introspection in a human being comes from the inner self or through a connection with nature.

These symbols in the poem create rich meaning, and the poets' relations with the garden create peace and serenity that contrast with the natural world.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the researchers have analyzed the selected poem by Andrew Marvell with the help of stylistic analysis. Stylistic is a study of style. It helps the readers to analyze the literary text and interpret its language through levels of language. The current research has used three levels of language, i.e., phonological level, morphological level, and semantic level. There is repetition of sounds and meaning in these two levels, including the phonological level and semantic level, but in the morphological a prefix or suffix has been added to enhance the meaning and diction of the poem.

"The Garden" is about nature, love, the natural world, and society. It presents a contrasting theme of the garden as an escape from the chaos of society and finding peace and calmness in the solitude as well as rural life. The research problem of the current research is to find different features of stylistic in the selected poem. The answer has been found in the three levels of language in the poem.

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