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Repetition and Its Types in Short Story Context

A paper

submitted to the Department of English , College of Education for
Human Sciences , University of Babylon, in fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of bachelor in English language

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2023 **A. D**

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

{..وَمَا تَوْفِيقِي إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ وَإِلَيْهِ أُنِيبُ }

صدق الله العلي العظيم

[هود الآية: ٨٨]

Dedication
To My Family

Acknowledgments

First and foremost, I thank Allah the Almighty, for giving me the strength and Ability to reach this stage. Special thanks go to my supervisor ,Prof.Dr. Dunya Ijam(PH.D) for her effort and help to achieve this research. She deserves all the Gratitude from me. I would like to give thanks to my family as a whole for their endless support.

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Abstract

This study tackles repetition and its types in short story contexts. Repetition is a literary device that involves using the same word or phrase over and over again in a piece of writing or speech. The current study tries to answer the questions of the meaning of repetition and how repetition can be used as stylistic devices in the data and what is the most prominent type of repetition employed in the data. The study aims at revealing the concept of repetition in English, showing how repetition is used as stylistic devices in the data and identifying the most prominent type of repetition that employed in the data. It is hypothesized that repetition is a stylistic devices with various types used to reveal the occurrence of words as to make meaning clear, different types of repetition are used in the data to show the theme of the story and the most prominent type of repetition is anaphora.

Chapter One :Introduction

1.1 Problem of the Study

Quirk et al. (1985) refer to repetition by the term 'reinforcement'. Repetition is a literary device in which a writer intentionally repeats the same word or phrase for effect. The current study tries to answer the following questions:

1. What is repetition ?
2. How can repetition is used as stylistic devices in the data?
3. What is the most prominent type of repetition employed in the data?

1.2 Aims of the Study

The study aims at:

1. Revealing the concept of repetition in English.
2. Showing how repetition is used as stylistic devices in the data.
3. Identifying the most prominent type of repetition that employed in the data.

1.3 Hypotheses of the Study

It is hypothesized that:

1. Repetition is a stylistic devices with various types used to reveal the occurrence of words as to make meaning clear.

2. Different types of repetition are used in the data to show the theme of the story.
3. The most prominent type of repetition is anaphora.

1. 4 Procedures of the Study

To achieve the aims of the study and to verify its hypotheses, the following procedures have been followed:

1. Reviewing the literature about repetition and its types.
2. Explaining what is the meaning of each type of repetition and what is the function of repetition.
3. Analysing how types of repetition in the selected short story are achieved .

1.5 Limits of the Study

The study is limited to the analysis of repetition and its types in short story context .

1.6 Value of the Study

It is hoped that the results of this study will be of value to all those concerned in the field of linguistics and teachers whom want to know more information about the subject .

Chapter Two : Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

Repetition is a literary device that involves using the same word or phrase over and over again in a piece of writing or speech. Writers of all kinds use repetition, but it is particularly popular in speech where a listener's attention might be more limited. In such circumstances, it can add emphasis and catchiness. Repetition is a favored tool among orators because it can help to emphasize a point and make a speech easier to follow. It also adds to the powers of persuasion. Studies show that repetition of a phrase can convince people of its truth. Writers and speakers also use repetition to give words rhythm. As with other devices such as rhyme, consonance, and assonance, repetition adds musicality to a piece of text and makes it more pleasing to listen to. Repetition sometimes cannot be avoided in conversation. Repetition helps the speakers of a language to develop and maintain a conversation or speech and one of the mostly employed communication strategies by both native and non-native speakers . Several scholars have defined repetition from similar or different perspectives:

Cudden (1982:564) defines it as “an essential unifying element in nearly all poetry and much prose”.

Gray (1984:172) defines it as “a vital part of the language of literature both in verse and prose”.

Hawthorn's definition (2000:301) is: “a key means whereby the technical rate of redundancy is increased in a work”.

2.2 Repetition : Origin

Palmer (1981:88) uses the noun repetition to describe something that is repeated over and over, like the repetition of singing the alphabet song several times a day to help young children learn the letters. "Repeat" comes from the Latin word *repetere*, meaning "do or say again." It can be a very effective tool in public speaking, such as the repetition of "I have a dream that one day . . ." in Dr. Martin Luther King.

Language is valued other than for its usefulness for imparting information or meanings; repetition may convey no new information, but it has an aesthetic force and works on the reader in complex ways (Hawthorn, 2000:297). Often, repetition is not without some significance: even when it is artificial, repetition is regarded as "one of the fundamental devices of art" .

Moreover, repetition is described as a vital part of language in general, and of the rhetorical language especially, due to the fact that it involves any unit of a text such as sounds, morphemes, words, phrases, and sentences as well. Repetition is the recurrence of some unit of language. However, it may not be a full repetition: the recurrence may be just in content (in meaning) and this is particularly what is meant by 'semantic' repetition. Repeating the same or almost the same meaning may be attained through more than one way, such as 'synonymy', 'paraphrasing', and 'reflexive pronouns' (Ibid.)

2.3 The Definition of Repetition

According to Tannen (1989:46), repetition is a natural phenomenon used to perform various functions in interactional discourse. Repetition is a common feature of speech; it is at the heart of how discourse is created and an essentially poetic aspect of language. Repetition is a phenomenon that occurs quite naturally in conversational speech. When considering the question of why there is repetition in conversation, it categorizes the several purposes which repetition simultaneously serves into production, comprehension, connection, and interaction. To begin with production, repetition gives the speaker time to formulate their next expressions so that the speech is fluent all the time. Turning to comprehension, Tannen (1989: 49- 50) argues that the redundancy in speech enables less dense discourse and repetition facilitates comprehension. The connection function means that repetition has also a referential and a relation purpose in discourse that shows how new expressions and ideas relate to earlier ones. As a literary device, repetition is the process of repeating certain words or phrases in order to make an idea more memorable and clear. Repetition is used in speeches, literature, and poetry, and can be applied to a word, a line, a phrase, or even a full sentence. Repetition signals to

readers, “Hey, listen, this is important!” In a way, you are calling attention to the importance of the line and giving it emphasis. (Watt, 1957:77-78)

Repetition is a literary device that involves intentionally using a word or phrase for effect, two or more times in a speech or written work. For repetition to be noticeable, the words or phrases should be repeated

within close proximity of each other. Repeating the same words or phrases in a literary work of poetry or prose can bring clarity to an idea and/or make it memorable for the reader. For example, in the statement “What you own ends up owning you,” own is repeated in two different ways. This repetition gives greater clarity to the meaning of the statement as a whole. Consumers often believe that they have power over what they acquire since they own it. However, the power of ownership over things is misleading in that often our things have power over us. What we acquire can limit and influence our lives in negative ways, such that our things are owning us. Therefore, repetition in this statement creates a clear meaning of the concept as well as making it memorable for the reader. (Swan, 1995:485)

As far as the purpose of repetition in literature is concerned, it has three specific functions that the writers and poets have in their minds when they use repetitions.

1. The first one is the stress upon some point so that it could reach its intended audiences. 2. The second is to create intended impacts on the audiences by repeating the same phrase such as “I have a dream” in the speech of the same title by Martin Luther King. This repetition also serves the purpose of persuading the audience or readers.

3. The third is to use repetition for melody and rhythm. It happens mostly in poetry though some prose writers such as Charles

Dickens have used repetitions in prose for rhythm (Ibid)

2.4 Types of Repetition : The Semantic Level

According to Quirk et al. (1985:89) ,there are many different types of repetition:

2.4.1 Anaphora. Anaphora is the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of several successive clauses that have different endings. This is such a popular tactic in oration that it appears in two of history's most famous speeches Martin Luther

King's "I have a dream" speech and Winston Churchill's "We Shall Fight on These Beaches" address.

Example: "It rained on his lousy tombstone, and it rained on the grass on his stomach. It rained all over the place."

The Catcher in the Rye by JD Salinger

2.4.2 Epistrophe. The counterpart to anaphora, this involves repetition of the last word or phrase across successive phrases clauses or sentences.

There is a good example in the Bible: "When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things."

2.4.3 Symploce. This is a combination of anaphora and epistrophe. That means one word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of a line and another at the end. Bill

Clinton once used in this example: “When there is talk of hatred, let us stand up and talk against it. When there is talk of violence, let us stand up and talk against it.”

Example:

"The yellow fog that rubs its back upon the window-panes,

The yellow smoke that rubs its muzzle on the window-panes..."

“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” by T.S. Eli

2.4.4 Antanaclasis. From the Greek for “bending back,” this is the repetition of a word but using a different meaning each time.

For example :

Benjamin Franklin used it once when he said: “Your argument is sound, nothing but sound.” In the first instance, he implies the argument is solid; in the second, that it’s just noise.

2.4.5 Antistasis. When antanaclasis goes so far as to incorporate opposite meanings it is antistasis. It’s visible in another example attributed to Franklin: “We must, indeed, all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately.” Here the two meanings unity and victory on the one hand and defeat and death on the other could not be more contrary.

Example: “We must, indeed, all hang together or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.” Benjamin Franklin

2.4.6 Negative-positive restatement. Another useful formula for oratory, this involves making a similar statement twice first negatively, then with a positive twist. A famous example comes from John F. Kennedy, who implored: "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

Example: "The tragedy of old age is not that one is old, but that one is young." The Picture of

Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde

2.4.7 Epizeuxis .This is the simple repetition of a single word or phrase in immediate succession.

Take this example from Macduff in William

Shakespeare's Macbeth: "O horror, horror, horror!"

Example: "The horror, the horror." Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

2.4.8 Framing: is a type of repetition when it is arranged in the form of a frame, namely, the initial parts of a syntactical unit, in most cases of a paragraph, are repeated at the end of it.

For example :

- "No wonder his father wanted to know what Bosinney meant, no wonder." Framing makes the whole utterance more compact and more complete. Framing is most effective in singling out

paragraphs. It is more often met in poetry though we can find a great deal of it in emotive prose as well. This type of repetition can comprise any part of text - a sentence a paragraph, a page. Its extreme case is when it starts from the title and comprises to whole text.

The title and the last sentence of the text are the same.

2.4.9 Root repetition. In root-repetition it is not the same words that are repeated but the same root. For example : -Who shall watch the watchmen themselves

in this type of repetition we deal with different words having different meanings

(“watch” – verb and “watchmen” – noun.

2.4.10 Chain repetition. This type of repetition smoothly develops logical reasoning for the subject. It is a type of repetition when the end of one clause (sentence) is repeated in the beginning of the following one.

For example: Failure meant poverty, poverty meant squalor, squalor led, in the final stages, to the smells and stagnation of B. Inn Alley.

In this case loading of each word involved in chain repetition gradually increases.

There are three main types of repetition, according to the way it occurs: semantic, formal, and full. (Al Ameedi,2011:9)

1-Semantic Repetition

It means the recurrence of some unit of language. However, it may not be a full repetition: the recurrence may be just in meaning and this is particularly what is meant by ‘semantic’ repetition. Repeating the same – or almost the same – meaning may be attained through more than one way, such as ‘synonymy’, ‘paraphrasing’, and ‘reflexive pronouns’.

1.1. Synonymy

synonyms mean words whose meaning is the same – or almost the same, for

example:

- And there they were, the gifts, all sorts of wonderful things, mixed-up piles of presents; only, as I disentangled the mess, I saw that my stocking was empty; it hung limp; not a thing in it; and under and around it – nothing.

Here, as it seems, the writer uses four synonymous expressions: ‘empty’, ‘hung limp’, ‘not a thing in it’, and ‘under and around it – nothing’ in order to reinforce the idea of emptiness. However, a noteworthy matter is that there is almost no exact synonymy: there are very little words that have exactly the same meaning. Moreover, though certain words could be synonymous, they are such only in certain contexts, not in all other contexts .(Al Ameedi,2011:10)

1.2. Paraphrasing

Paraphrasing can be defined as “the repetition of meaning with a change of expression, for example:

- I had never seen a murderer ...the taker of life.

1.3. Reflexive Pronouns

Reflexive pronouns are nine in number: myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, oneself, ourselves, yourselves, and themselves. The reflexive pronoun is coreferential with some preceding noun. Such pronouns are added to sentences for the sake of emphasis.

- It's quicker if you do it yourself.
- -The house itself is nice, but the garden is small.

2. Formal Repetition

‘formal’ repetition is meant the repetition of form i.e. repeating some unit of language – mostly a word – just in form, that is, with a different meaning ,for example:

- Why does this little boy have to wriggle all the time? Other boys don't wriggle.

Here, ‘boy’ is not coreferential with ‘boys’, yet it is obviously attains coherence within the utterance. One common literary device that well illustrates formal

repetition is known as ‘pun’ which is defined as “a play on words” (Al Ameedi,2011:10)

3. Full Repetition

4. The third type of repetition occurs when words or larger linguistic units are repeated both in form and meaning. This is the commonest type of repetition. -

Tyger, Tyger, burning bright,

In the forests of the night (Al Ameedi,2011:10)

2.5 The Phonological Level

The phonological level deals with repetition of sounds (or phonemes). There are several schemes of sounds repetition, the commonest of which are: alliteration, assonance, and consonance(Christidis,2002:78)

1. Alliteration

The successive repetition of consonant sounds in the stressed part of a word.

Example: “She sells seashells by the sea-shore.”

2. Assonance

The vowel sounds are repeated.

Example: “Hear the mellow wedding bells...” — “The Bells” by Edgar Allan Poe

3. Consonance

The repetition of consonant sounds in successive or closely connected words. The difference between consonance and alliteration is that alliteration is at the beginning of the word (so “Peter Piper”), but consonance can be anywhere in the word.

Example:

I'll swing by my ankles.

She'll cling to your knees. As you hang by your nose, From a high-up trapeze.

But just one thing, please,

As we float through the breeze,

Don't sneeze. — “The Acrobats” by Shel Silverstein

Chapter Three: Data Analysis

3.1 Introduction

This section is devoted to the collection and description of the selected data under the study. It also presents the analysis of some selected examples from the story under the study.

3.2 Data Selection

Forty extracts have been selected from the story which is called **The Lottery** by Shirley Jackson which is about 'The Lottery' that is the best-known story of the American writer Shirley Jackson. Published in the *New Yorker* in 1948 and collected in , the story is about a village where an annual lottery is drawn. However, the fate of the person who *draws* the 'winning' slip is only revealed at the end of the story in a dark twist.

It is used to examine the theoretical framework developed for analyzing the selected data in this chapter since these extracts contain clear words that contain the use of different types of repetition . The extracts of the current study are not chosen in random, but each extract contains type of repetition.

3.3 *Repetition* in **The Lottery** by Shirley Jackson

1. Speak quietly -murmur

In this extract, the writer used synonyms ,that mean words whose meaning is the same – or almost the same ,for the sake of highlights his idea in the story.

2. June 27th was clear and sunny.

The lottery had to be started on June

In these two sentences the writer used symploce which is a combination of anaphora and epistrophe. That means one word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of a line and another at the end .The writer used this type to emphasize his idea which is the time of lottery.

3.The morning of June 27th was clear and sunny.

It could begin at ten

O'clock in the morning.

Here in the above sentences we see that the writer used symploce to express and emphasis his idea .

4.The whole lottery took less than two hours.

The lottery took two days and had to be started on June.

The lottery was conducted.

This excerpt contains Anaphora that is the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of several successive clauses that have different endings. The writer used this for the sake of make his idea clear to the reader.

5.the square, between the post office and the bank, around ten o'clock.

It could begin at ten O'clock

In this excerpt we see that the writer used epistrophe, which means repetition of the last word or phrase across successive phrases clauses or sentences ,to emphasize what he wants to say about time

6.Some places faded or stained.

Here the writer used paraphrasing to highlight his word and make them easy to understand so he uses the paraphrasing which means the repetition of meaning with a change of expression.

7."My daughter draws with her husband's family"

In this sentence we have an alliteration that a successive repetition of consonant sounds in the stressed part of a word to make it easier to the reader to remember the idea.

8. Root-repetition which is not the same words that are repeated but the same root. For example in the excerpt that used by the writer :

The villagers kept their distance, leaving a space between themselves in the village

9.It's not the way it used to be."

"People ain't the way they used to be."

Here in the above except the writer used framing which is a type of repetition when it is arranged in the form of a frame, namely, the initial parts of a syntactical unit, in most cases of a paragraph, are repeated at the end of it. He used the types of repetition to emphasize his idea.

10.The villagers kept their distance, leaving a space between themselves

Here we the reflexive pronoun .The reflexive pronoun is coreferential with some preceding noun.Such pronouns are added to sentences for the sake of emphasis.The following table clearfies what is mentioned :

Table (1) Types of Repetition in the Data

Line number	Words	Typeof Repetition
1	Speak quietly -murmur	Synonyms
2	June 27 th was clear and sunny. The lottery had to be started on June	Symploce
3	The morning of June 27 th was clear and sunny. It could begin at ten	Symploce

	o'clock in the morning.	
4	<p>The whole lottery took less than two hours.</p> <p>The lottery took two days and had to be started on June.</p> <p>The lottery was conducted.</p>	Anaphora
5	<p>the square, between the post office and the bank, around ten o'clock.</p> <p>It could begin at ten</p> <p>o'clock</p>	Epistrophe
6	Some places faded or stained.	Paraphrasing
7	Village -villager	Antanaclasis
8	The villagers kept their distance, leaving a space between themselves	Reflexive pronoun
9	, Mr. Graves, followed him, carrying a three-legged stool, and the stool was put in the center of the square	Symploce
10	Summer -summer day-Mr.Summers	Antanaclasis
11	"Open the papers. Harry, you open little Dave's.	Anaphora

12	the lottery had been lost long ago	Alliteration
13	stool had been put into use even before Old Man Warner, the oldest man in town‘	Alliteration
14	Children ‘ child, childhood	Root-repetition
15	Mr summers ‘ summer season	Root-repetition
16	Man-men	Root Repetition
17	Baxter, held the black box	Alliteration
18	Mr. Summers and Mr. Graves made up the slips of paper and put them in the box, and it was then taken to the safe of Mr. Summers' coal company	Symploce
19	He's broke his leg, hasn't he?	Symploce
20	"Dunbar." Several people said. "Dunbar. Dunbar".	Symploce
21	"Horace's not but sixteen vet." Mrs. Dunbar said regretfully. "Guess I gotta fill in for the old man this year." "Right." Sr. Summers said. He made a note on the list he was holding. Then he asked, "Watson boy drawing this year	Epistrophe
22	"Seventy-seventh year I been in the lottery," Old Man Warner said as he went through the crowd. "Seventy-seventh time."	Anaphora
23	Lottery in June, corn be heavy soon.'	Symploce

	First thing you know, we'd all be eating stewed chickweed and acorns. There's always been a lottery"'	
24	"You didn't give him time enough to take any paper he wanted. I saw you.	Symploce
25	"Make them take their chance!"	Alliteration
26	"My daughter draws with her husband's family;	Alliteration
27	Read -ready -already	Root repetition
28	Take -taken	Root repetition
29	Look at -look out	Antanaclasis
30	It had a black spot on It, the black spot Mr. Summers had made the night before with the heavy pencil in the coal company office. Bill Hutchinson held it up, and there was a stir in the crowd.	Anaphora
31	"Come on, come on, everyone.	Epizeuxis
32	"It's not the way it used to be." "People ain't the way they used to be."	Framing
33	"I'm drawing for my mother and me	Alliteration
34	"Seems like there's no time at all between lotteries any more." "Seems like we got through with the last one only last week."	Anaphora
35	"Go on. Janey, "There she goes."	Root repetition

36	"I wish they'd hurry," Mrs. Dunbar said to her older son. "I wish they'd hurry."	Epizeuxis
37	"you draw for the Hutchinson Family. You got any other households in the Hutchinsons?"	Anaphora
38	You'll have to go ahead and I'll catch up with you."	Symploce
39	The black box now resting on the Stool . The black box grew shabbier each year	Anaphora
40	"Seems like there's no time at all between lotteries any more" "Seems like we got through with the last one only last week."	Anaphora

Table (2) The Frequency and Percentage of Repetition in the Data

No	Types of repetition	Occurrence	Percentage	Reason
1	Anaphora	31	35%	The writer used this for the sake of make his idea clear to the reader.
2	Symploce	15	17%	The writer used symploce to express and emphasis his idea.
3	Alliteration	13	14%	The writer used repetition to emphasize his idea and to make his writing easy to remember

4	Epistrophe	10	11%	The writer used Epistrophe to emphasize what he wants to say about time
5	Root-repetition	8	9%	The writer used to show power of language
6	Antanaclasis	3	3%	The writer used this type to make his idea easy to understand.
7	Paraphrasing	3	3%	The writer used paraphrasing to highlight his word
8	Epizeuxis	2	2%	It used for the sake of emphasis the idea.
9	Framing	2	2%	The writer used the types of repetition to emphasize his idea.

Chapter Four: Conclusion

It is concluded that:

Repetition can be a powerful tool to make an audience savor words, understand a point, or believe in a cause so it is found that he balanced this technique so it didn't annoy readers; it enchanted them, and this proved the validity of the first hypothesis.

According to the percentage above of the frequency of repetition in the data, that anaphora, symploce, alliteration, and other types of repetition are employed in the data, this proved the validity of the second hypothesis.

Precisely anaphora is the highest type of repetition that is used in the data since the writer wants to focus on his idea so he uses anaphora which is the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of several successive clauses that have different endings.

Symploce also shows a high percentage which is 17%. It is used by the writer when he wants to concentrate on a special idea he uses it, it means a combination of anaphora and epistrophe. That means one word or phrase is repeated at the beginning of a line and another at the end.

Alliteration is used higher than other types of repetition, the writer used alliteration in his writing to make his writing easy to remember and since alliteration means the repetition of consonant sounds in the stressed part of a word so the writer used it.

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