External evaluation in Roald Dahl's The BFG

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Abstract

There have been several significant changes in children's literature in the past few decades; one of them is the change in the narrative style. Roald Dahl is one of the most prominent authors of children's literature that displays this particular change in his works. Dahl is known to utilize a creative narrative style in his works, and this is also seen in one of his children's novels discussed in this research: The BFG (1982). This research thus aims at analysing one part of the narrative structure called external evaluation which shows the function of narrator in the story as well as the effects of the use of such narrative style on children as the target readers. Using Labov's theory of narrative structure and Genette's theory of narratology, the results of the analysis shows that Dahl utilizes the function of narrator in the external evaluations to help children as his target readers to get a better understanding of the story as well as to build a close connection with them, resulting in the more enjoyable reading experience for the children.

Keywords

Children's literature; narratology; narrative structure; external evaluation; narrator

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References


Once upon a time, there was a man who liked to make up stories. (2010, December 12). Retrieved November 6, 2019, from https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/commentators/once-upon-a-time-there-was-a-man-who-liked-to-make-up-stories-2158052.html


Communication Apprehension, Culture, little C, Big C, intercultural insertion, EFL learners, Individual Differences, Intercultural language learning, Self-Perceived Communication Competence, Test Accommodation, animation, archaeology, deconstruction, design-based research, discrimination, feedback, pedagogical characteristics, prejudice, religious culture, second language learning, stereotypes, teacher of English for computer science, writing, ‘Keris’

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The BFG was written in 1982. The idea for the story had begun several years before, with a sentence scribbled in one of Roald Dahl's Ideas Books. This list of words and the Ideas Books are now housed in the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre in Roald's home town of Great Missenden - and the Museum is also just down the road from a house that inspired the orphanage The BFG snatches Sophie from in the story. The BFG won the Federation of Children's Book Groups Award in 1982. In 1989 it was turned into an animated film featuring the voice of David Jason. More than 30 years later, The BFG remains a much-loved character. And of all his stories, Roald Dahl said that The BFG was probably his own favourite. The BFG first appeared in..