# Ideologies in Joseph Conrad's "Secret Agent": A Critical Stylistic Analysis

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## Abstract

This paper examines some of the ideologies expressed in the chosen novel by Polish-English novelist Joseph Conrad. The investigators utilize a recently developed field of stylistics known as Critical Stylistics, as introduced by Jeffries (2010), to reveal the points of view on the subject matter and the ways in which critical stylistic tools are employed to deceive concepts. The model consists of ten analytic tools that, when applied to the chosen data, demonstrate how the poet uses critical stylistic tools to propagate his ideas and sway his audience. The usage of ten tools as they relate to a specific subset of the data is discussed in this paper. . The findings of the qualitative and quantitative data analysis of the data show that all ten textual-conceptual analysis tools proposed by Jeffries' model are used in the selected novel, with varying degrees of tool utilization; some tools are used more frequently than others. The study discusses a novel by Joseph Conrad, "The Secret Agent" which uses all ten critical stylistic tools to warn against extremism, highlighting its negative effects on life and confirming incorrect assumptions about it, thereby highlighting various ideologies.

**Key words:**
Critical Stylistics, Critical Discourse Analysis, Ideology

## 1.The Background

This research falls under the category of critical studies since it utilizes a critical stylistic approach to analyze Conrad's "Secret Agent" and its extreme subject matter. The study of both literary and non-literary speech is referred to as stylistics, and it focuses exclusively on literary literature, according to Fischer-Starcke (2010). For this reason, stylistics is regarded as a subfield of linguistics that employs tools for linguistic study. Critical stylistics, sometimes known as CS, is one branch of stylistics that approaches text analysis critically. Jeffries(2007) created the term "Critical

Stylistics" in an attempt to examine how language both limits and enhances women's ability to live their lives in relation to the dominant discourses about the female form in society.

According to Jeffries (2014), CS is a group of textual conceptual functions that begin with Halliday's (1985) meta-functions of language and seek to establish some level of meaning between linguistic structure and function. More significantly, CS has been working on creating a set of tools to reveal hidden ideologies in texts.

The present study sets itself within the area of critical studies using a critical stylistic approach toward the concept of ideology in the selected novel Conrad's "Secret Agent". A critical stylistic analysis is preferred over a critical discourse analysis for such reasons as: the former offers linguistic tools that the latter does not. Besides, it merges notions of power and ideology which makes it more useful to detect the concept of ideology in the selected novel to approach the ideologies of the text producers. This serves as a strong justification for carrying out the current study on the subject. In spite of the fact that such a subject has been tackled by presidential speeches, press and media, and various types of studies, literary texts are rich in their ideological underpinnings that cover the subject.

The study focuses on Joseph Conrad's concept of ideology in "Secret Agent". Despite the existence of several critical stylistic studies undertaken by various researchers such as Evans (2016), Mohammed (2021), Fadhil (2022), and others, the selected novel has not studied from critical stylistics perspective. So, the current study seeks to fill that gap by addressing the following questions:

1-What are the critical stylistic tools available in the selected novel to interpolate the concept of ideology?

2-What are the existing novelist's ideologies in the selected novel ?

3-How the critical stylistic tools are set by writer to shape his ideology ?

So, this study aims at:

1- Identifying the critical stylistic tools available in the selected novel to interpolate the concept of ideology.

2- Detecting the most frequent novelist's ideologies in the selected novel .

3- Showing the critical stylistic tools that are set by writer to shape his ideology .

## 2.Critical Stylistics

Jeffries (2010, 2014, 2015) is the person who has most thoroughly mapped out the field of critical stylistics. However, it draws heavily from feminist stylistics and owes a great deal to Paul Simpson's (1993) work on ideology and point of view in texts. Ideology is significant because it embodies widely held, sometimes overlooked, yet possibly damaging views.

Jeffries combines stylistic analysis and critical discourse analysis in his method to language research, known as critical stylistic analysis. Since critical discourse analysis does not offer a sufficient set of analytical tools, it has arisen as a response. Fairclough (1989) acknowledges this fact by stating:

> *The present chapter is written at an introductory level for people who do not have extensive backgrounds in language study…The set of textual features included is highly selective, containing only those which tend to be most significant for critical analysis. (p.110)*

The term "critical stylistics" describes the stylistic practice of analyzing and following the ways in which language reflects social meanings. This style tendency has been greatly influenced by critical linguistics and critical discourse analysis (Norgaard et al., 2010). The majority of credit goes to Lesley Jeffries' work, which builds on CDA research by using a variety of analytical techniques to help identify connections between language, power, and ideology (Fairclough, 1989). Still, it expands upon Widdowson's (1998) criticism of the field. By using a range of language analytical techniques to identify the ideologies that underlie both literary and nonliterary works, critical stylistics aims to provide an answer to the question "what the text is doing". Additionally, the framework is based on Halliday's notion of grammar as critical linguistics and social semiotics. Olaluwoye (2015) claims that CS is a stylistic instrument used in linguistic study to look at the ways in which language expresses social meanings. Jeffries (2007) is credited with developing this technique in an attempt to understand:

A) Discussions on the societal predominance of the female body.

B) The integration of these feminist principles into the prevailing narratives.

The fact of the broadest variety of analytic toolkits is CS's most significant contribution in this regard. Because stylistics and CDA share the goal of identifying the power structures and ideologies present in discourses, this suggests that the field should be considered distinct from CDA and perhaps fall under the purview of critical linguistics studies. It is said that CS has nothing to do with politics in this context. All texts are, in fact, ideologically based, whether on purpose or unintentionally.

Nevertheless, CS intends to use the set of analytical toolkits to find embedded ideologies in texts and discourses (Jeffries, 2010). Norgaard (2010) believes that the concept is useful for comprehending how language is used to convey social meanings. Critical stylistics has many of the same objectives as Simpson (1993). A framework known as critical stylistics combines stylistics and critical linguistics (henceforth referred to as CL). Its main concern is the ideas that are hidden in every given written works. So, critical stylistics' job is to inform readers to underlying ideas. But CL and CDA also pointed to this stylistic feature. CDA and CL are closely related, despite the fact that CDA is commonly used as an umbrella term for the two (Norgaard et al., 2010).

According to Simpson's (1993) demonstration, when a text creator conducts linguistic analysis to understand ideological perspectives, whether in literary writings or not, they seem to adopt certain readings' strategies while hiding others. It is essential to go behind the surface of language in order to comprehend how these stylistic choices impact the meaning of the relevant text.

## 3.Tools of Critical Stylistics

This section includes Jeffries's (2010) list of basic analytical tools for every sort of text. However, each tool is presented with a brief definition

- **Naming and Describing**

Jeffries (2010a) examines how language enables a text producer to characterize a referent in identifying and describing (naming hereafter). The choice that a text producer makes between, for example, "protestor" and "rioter" tells the reader something about their attitude toward a referent (Beaton-Thome, 2013). According to Jeffries (2007), names used to make references are "one of the potentially most influential choices any writer makes" (p. 63).

Reisigl and Wodak (2001 pp. 44-46), contending that noun selections affect readers' views of the subjects being discussed, refer to them as "referential strategies" .

- **Representing Actions/Events/States**

Representing actions, events, or states puts the emphasis on the verbal component of the clause, where the verb choice affects how readers and listeners interpret the information given (Jeffries, 2010a). Halliday's (2004) transitivity model is used in this study. It shows how "speakers encode in language their mental picture of reality" (Simpson, 1993, p.88) by examining how the "goings-on" of reality are expressed in the clause. This mental image is known as the "process," and it can have up to three different parts: the process itself (represented by the verb phrase), the participants (expressed by the noun phrases participating in the process), and the conditions (expressed by the adverbial and prepositional phrases involved in the process).

- **Negating**

Negating examines the portrayal of "non-existent versions of the world" through literature (Jeffries, 2010a, p. 106). It is a technique for creating imaginary worlds (particularly through narrative) to support and strengthen an ideology, such as fear, desire, or belief, in the reader. It conjures up both good and bad realities (Jeffries, 2016).

- **Equating and Contrasting**

According to Jeffries (2010a), equating and contrasting examines how texts present various entities as either equivalent to or opposed to one another. Equating is accomplished by relational mechanisms and the juxtaposition of noun phrases (Jeffries, 2014).

- **Exemplifying and Enumerating**

The two ways of presenting lists in English are exemplifying and enumerating. Exemplification is obvious when objects are used to illustrate a category without any pretense of comprehensiveness. Enumerating includes making exhaustive, itemized lists that are presented as complete (Jeffries, 2014).

- **Prioritizing**

Prioritizing takes into account how the structure of a clause works to highlight certain information while putting other information in the background (Jeffries, 2014). Jeffries (2010a) states that there are various ways to prioritize information in

English sentences, each of which has the effect of making some portions of a sentence stand out more than others. She also adds that there are three ways to prioritize elements in English: through the organization of the information structure, changes to the structure of the clauses, and subordination.

- **Assuming and Implying**

Assuming and implying are related to the pragmatic and semantic concepts of presupposition, respectively. Presupposition and implicature are ways to convey meaning that goes beyond what is expressly expressed in a statement. The inference of an implied meaning requires the reader or listener to recognize that a speaker or hearer has communicated an "additional" meaning by saying something that, on the surface, appears to be in some manner uncooperative. Presupposition has a variety of recognizable triggers. Existential presuppositions are those that come from specific noun phrases, while logical presuppositions come from a wide variety of triggers. The formers come from noun phrases that imply the existence of the referent by using the definite determiner, such "the result of the triumph of cultural feminism in academe" (Jeffries, 2014, p.415). Existential presuppositions are a powerful form of naming since they not only contain presumptions about a referent. But they also believe it to be there.

- **Hypothesizing**

The process of constructing textual meaning through hypothesizing is crucial because it gives the reader or listener access to the author's point of view on the subject at hand. For instance, Fairclough (1989) notes that newspaper articles frequently convey data as categorical pronouncements devoid of modalities, presenting what may be hypotheses as truth (Jeffries ,2007).

- **Presenting Other's Speech and Thought**

The analysis of how others are presented in voice, cognition, and writing examines how text creators use quotations from others. When interpreting the words and ideas of others, loyalty is a necessary consideration. For instance, intonation cannot be captured in a written speech presentation, and we can never directly access another person's ideas. Text producers can also be deceptive, when determining how directly to display speech and thinking quotations (Jeffries, 2010a).

- **Space, Time and Social Representation**

This tool uses deictic expressions to place a text's speaker within a certain place, time, and social dimensions. Place, time, and personal deixis are examples of deictic expressions. Deictic information serves a crucial role in communicating the meaning of an utterance, and its absence renders the statement incomprehensible (Abdul-Majeed, 2016).

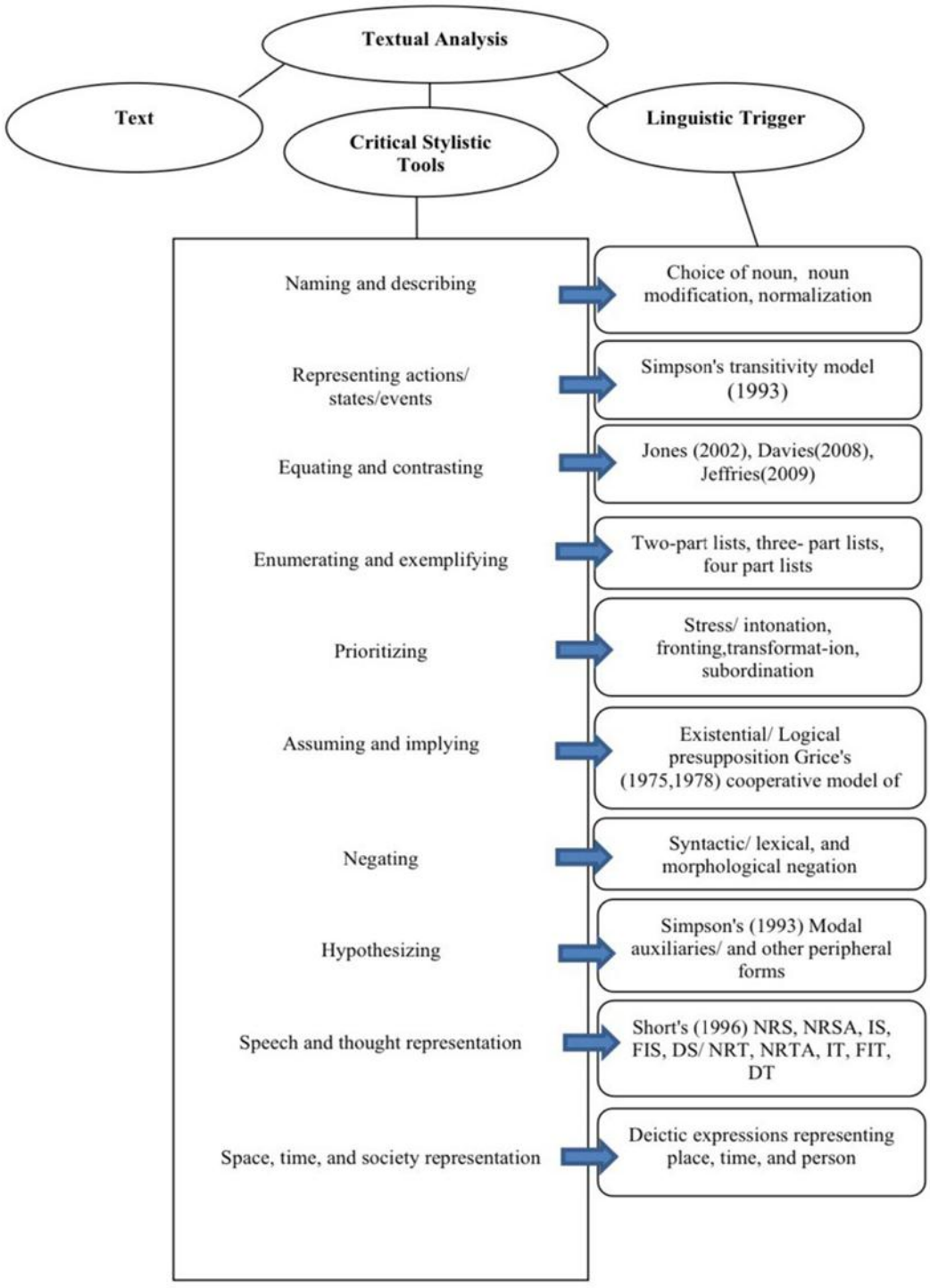


*Figure 1:* Conceptual Framework

## 4.Ideology

According to Olaluwoye (2015), critical stylistics claims that all texts—intentionally or unintentionally—have an ideological impact. This means that the field is devoted to uncovering and analyzing concealed ideologies that underlie both writing and speech. It offers a range of analytical techniques that enable the analyst to

reveal hidden ideas in texts in an unbiased manner. Critical stylistics, in contrast to CDA, has succeeded in its primary objective of providing a more comprehensive and scientific foundation for an analytical tool (Olaluwoye, 2015).The researcher adopts this definition because it is more suitable for data analysis.

It is crucial to understand that all stylisticians, or discourse analyzers and linguists, see discourse as ideologically packed (Jeffries, 2010). Consequently, it wouldn't be overstated to say that this latter aspect is seen as an essential component of every debate. Naturally, this does not imply that the term "ideology" is inherently linked to politically driven objectives and self-serving motives, as it is understood in political circles and the media (Jeffries, 2010).

While not all ideas are created equal, it's crucial to remember that some can be harmful, while others might be moral or virtue-based, and still others might just be the result of societal constraints (Jeffries, 2010). It is crucial to stress that ideas and, by extension, ideologies, are a part of every debate. Thus, one may contend that ideologies are expressed through language and can do so explicitly or indirectly. There are a number of contradicting definitions of ideology. For example, Bloor and Bloor's 2007 definition states that ideology is a set of beliefs or attitudes maintained by members of a certain social group.

Ideology is described by Hodge and Kress (1993) as a systemic set of concepts that stem from a certain point of view. The term "ideology" is broad and includes both science and metaphysics. To van Dijk (1995, p.21) “ideology is not only as a system of ideas but specific basic frameworks of social cognition with specific social structures and specific cognitive and social functions”. Positive and negative ideologies are both possible. It represents social and cognitive representations. Ideologies are a particular kind of cognitive belief that is kept in long-term memory. Members of groups or ideological communities socially accept these views (Van Dijk, 2015).

It is important for critical discourse analysts to understand that most group members' discourse is motivated by their ideologies. Without even recognizing it, people regularly have those attitudes and beliefs. On the other hand, a belief can occasionally be upheld consciously, and a single word could be seen as an ideological component. Abrams and Harpham (2011) define ideology as the collection of attitudes, notions, and ways of thinking and acting that people employ to understand and justify the world they live in. One of the hardest ideas in the social sciences is ideology, which hasn't yet been given a satisfactory definition. This is because ideology is inherently multifaceted and bears a wide range of congruent meanings (Cassel, 1996). Ideology literally translates to "the study or knowledge of ideas" (Eagleton, 1991,p1), having originally meant the scientific study of man's thoughts. Later, however, it grew to refer to the systems of ideas themselves (Eagleton, 1991)

## 5.Methodology

- **Research design**

According to Creswell (2014), a research design is a strategy or plan that researchers employ to respond to the research questions that are supported by their philosophies, methodologies, and procedures. Advanced research designs include

qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods studies. The qualitative research approach is used to carry out the current investigation. By exploring and understanding the meaning that individuals or groups attach to a social or human issue.

Creswell (2009) defines qualitative research as the research process that comprises formulating study questions and methods, collecting data from participants' environments, analyzing the data inductively, moving from details to general themes, and creating interpretations of the relevance of the findings.

Conversely, Bryman (2012) characterizes the quantitative method as a research approach that prioritises quantification in the collection and examination of data. Calculations are required in quantitative research. To support or refute competing knowledge assertions, it comprises obtaining data such that it may be assessed and statistically processed (Williams, 2007).

In order to have a comprehensive knowledge, the mixed technique involves gathering the components of the qualitative and quantitative approaches (Johnson et al., 2007). According to Neuman (2014), this collection makes both approaches complete and supportive of one another, producing "richer and more comprehensive" study. In order to have a thorough knowledge of the data and findings, the researcher for this study uses a mixed technique of data analysis.

- **The model of the study**

The textual conceptual model developed by Jeffries (2010) is adapted in this study, because the current study is a critical stylistics one. Jeffries (2010,pp1-6)states that Critical stylistics aims "to give the reader a clear set of analytical tools to follow in carrying out the critical analysis of texts".

Textual-conceptual functions (TCFs) are tools used to capture a text's conceptual meaning, while the term 'textual' refers to the language system's resources used to produce this meaning. According to Jeffries (2014a) the analyst's role is to understand how texts present world perspectives to readers, helping them adapt their ideological perspectives to align with the producers' viewpoints. The researchers apply the critical stylistic tools which are realized by particular linguistic triggers to identify the ideology of extremism. The ten tools that make up Jeffries' concept of critical stylistics are called analytical tools. All the ten tools, listed below, are applied to the chosen data in the study.

The crucial stylistic tools of naming and describing, representing actions, states, and events, equating and contrasting, exemplifying and listing, prioritizing, assuming and implying, negating, hypothesizing, space, time, and society representation, and speech representation .

- **Data selection**

The researcher chose this novel to reveal the ideologies, and the reason behind the researcher choosing such a novel is the limited number of linguistic studies within this genre, which prompted the researcher to settle on choosing this novel. In addition, the researcher chose this novel to deal with the event “The Secret Agent” by

the writer Joseph Conrad, the well-known Polish-English novelist, and it is classified as one of Conrad's political novels, "The Secret Agent", particularly, after the 9/11 attacks in 2001 and the recent suicide bombings in Europe, the Secret Agent has gained newfound fame in the US, notably because of its theme of extremism, terrorism and the violence it portrays. The book chronicles the time from the 1880s to the beginning of the 20th century when European society was troubled by the threat of dynamite-throwing anarchists.

## 6.Data analysis

The practical application of the research is the main topic of this section. It describes the analytical techniques that were employed and uses the framework to look over the pertinent data. It specifically examines "The Secret Agent" by Joseph Conrad in a perspective of critical stylistics. It also provides and analyzes the investigation's findings, emphasizing the ways in which the novel's stylistic components support its themes and narrative strategies. Conrad's complex structure of quotations is a remarkable literary device that offers profound insights into the motivations behind radicalism in society as well as the thoughts of his characters. Conrad creates a rich psychological patterns that reveals the underlying thoughts, motivations, and struggles of his characters by thoughtfully choosing and incorporating quotations into his story. These quotes frequently operate as windows into the characters' innermost thoughts and feelings, revealing their aspirations, fears, and ideological conflicts.

**Extract (1)**

> *"Madness alone is truly terrifying, inasmuch as you cannot placate it by threats, persuasion, or bribes" (SA, pp. 16)*

**A-Tools and triggers analysis**

This quotation encapsulates the contradictory nature of extremism, in which reasoned approaches fall short of tackling the underlying roots of illogical violence. The goal of ideological purity is criticized by Conrad.

**Table (1): Tools and triggers of extract 1 in Joseph Conrad's The Secret Agent**

| NO | UTTERENCE | TOOL | TRIGGER |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | *"Madness alone is **truly** terrifying, inasmuch as you cannot placate it by threats, persuasion, or bribes"* | Implying | Violating the maxim of the quality |

In the context of the sentence, the word "truly" serves as an intensifying adverb, emphasizing the absolute nature of the terror caused by madness. By using "truly," the author is underscoring that the fear of madness is genuine and profound, beyond any doubt or comparison.

**B-Textual Ideological Meaning**

Ideology is found in the Nature of Madness: it is portrayed as an uncontrollable and irrational force that exists outside the domain of regular human interaction and reason. It is fundamentally chaotic and unpredictable. Threats, persuasion, and bribery are ineffective against madness. This demonstrates the limitations of society and authority processes when dealing with irrationality. Fear and Powerlessness, the real terror of lunacy is its inability to be controlled. This instills a strong fear of losing control and the ability to handle or minimize hazards. The concept of something that cannot be reasoned with or controlled evokes existential concerns about human frailty and the limits of logic. The passage may be making an implicit reference to the fragility of human conceptions of order and sanity. It implies that lunacy poses a serious threat to the very foundations of social stability and personal security. In conclusion, the ideological textual meaning of the extract centers on the dreadful character of lunacy due to its resistance to control and reason, emphasizing human vulnerability and the limitations of conventional means of persuasion.

**Extract (2)**

*"All idealisation makes life poorer. To beautify it is to take away its character of complexity it is to destroy it" (SA, pp. 19).*

**A- Tools and triggers analysis**

This quotation highlights the dangers of reducing intricate social reality to dichotomous beliefs. It captures the interplay between the terrorist and the government. Conrad seems to argue that any attempt to impose beauty on reality is a form of falsification that strips away its true nature.

**Table (2): Tools and triggers of extract 2 in Joseph Conrad's The Secret Agent.**

| NO | UTTERENCE | TOOL | TRIGGER |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2** | *"**All** idealisation **makes** life poorer. To beautify it is to take away its character of complexity it is to destroy it"* | -Implying<br><br>-Transitivity | -Violating the maxim of quality<br><br>-Material action intentional |

In the sentence, the word "all" functions as a generalization tool, suggesting that every form of idealization, without exception, diminishes life. By using "all," the author makes a sweeping statement that encompasses every possible instance of idealization, asserting that any attempt to idealize life inevitably leads to a loss of its inherent richness and complexity. In the sentence, the word "makes" functions as a transitivity tool, indicating a direct causative relationship between idealization and the impoverishment of life. The use of "makes" suggests that idealization actively causes life to become poorer.

**B-Textual Ideological Meaning**

The author contends that idealizing life reduces its richness. By crafting an idealized picture of life, one removes the intricacies that make it fascinating and significant. Complexity is regarded as an inherent and valuable feature of life. The author believes that the actual essence of existence is its diverse nature. In this context, beautifying life means simplifying or sterilizing it to conform to an ideal. According to the author, this process destroys the original and nuanced parts of existence, eroding its true nature.

Overall, the passage encourages an awareness for life's intricacies and rejects simple, idealized depictions.

**Extract (3)**

> *"The terrorist and the policeman both come from the same basket. Revolution, legality—counter moves in the same game; forms of idleness at bottom identical" (SA, pp. 35).*

**A- Tools and triggers analysis**

Conrad contends that both parties are involved in a mutually reinforcing struggle that ignores fundamental problems while having different objectives. He criticizes the existing social order through the voices of his characters, revealing a profound disenchantment with modern socioeconomic institutions.

**Table (3): Tools and triggers of extract 3 in Joseph Conrad's The Secret Agent.**

| NO | UTTERANCE | TOOL | TRIGGER |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | *"The terrorist and the policeman both come from* ***the same basket. Revolution, legality—*** *counter moves in the same game; forms of idleness at bottom identical"* | -Enumeration | -Three items |

In the sentence, the phrase "the same basket. Revolution, legality—" serves as an enumeration tool by listing elements that are being equated or compared. The phrase "the same basket" suggests that the terrorist and the policeman, despite their seemingly opposing roles, originate from a similar context or share a commonality.

**B-Textual Ideological Meaning**

The text asserts that revolution and legality are "counter moves in the same game," implying that these seemingly opposing forces are interrelated and comprise a greater system or structure. By categorizing them as "forms of idleness," the text argues that neither revolution nor legality result in real change. Instead, they sustain the status quo or contribute to societal stagnation. The expression implies a cynical

attitude toward societal systems, with both radical and legal initiatives viewed as ultimately useless or shallow.

**Extract (4)**

> *"To break up the superstition and worship of legality should be our aim. Nothing would please me more than to see Inspector Heat and his likes take to shooting us down in broad daylight with the approval of the public. Such statements reveal a longing for a radical upheaval that, paradoxically, reinforces the cycle of violence" (SA, pp. 37).*

**A- Tools and triggers analysis**

In his conversation with Ossipon, the Professor advocates for a kind of violence that seems to arise from beyond societal confines, aiming to obliterate them entirely. To accomplish this, he seeks to sever the uniquely interdependent relationship between law enforcement and criminals. This relationship is illustrated by Inspector Heat's respect for thieves who value property in the same way that he, as a police officer representing the bourgeois establishment, does.

Table (4): Tools and triggers of extract 4 in Joseph Conrad's The Secret Agent.

| NO | UTTERANCE | TOOL | TRIGGER |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | *To break up the superstition and worship of legality* ***should be*** *our aim. Nothing* ***would*** *please me more than to see Inspector Heat and his likes take to shooting us down in broad daylight with the approval of the public. Such statements reveal a longing for a radical upheaval that, paradoxically, reinforces the cycle of violence.* | Hypothesizing<br>Hypothesizing | -Boulomaic<br>Epistemic |

In the sentence, the phrase "should be" functions as a hypothesizing tool, suggesting an ideal or proposed course of action rather than a definitive statement of fact. By using "should be," the author is presenting a recommendation or a desired objective: breaking up the superstition and worship of legality. In the sentence, the word "would" functions as a hypothesizing tool, indicating a conditional or imagined scenario. By using "would," the author is not stating a fact but rather expressing a

hypothetical situation ,one that reflects a desire or a potential outcome rather than a certain reality.

**B-Textual Ideological Meaning**

The extract represents a critical worldview against legal and institutional authority, advocating for the breakdown of society norms and the legal system. This viewpoint is consistent with anarchism in that it attempts to challenge and demolish established structures of power and authority. The reference of Inspector Heat, a character frequently associated with law enforcement, as well as the endorsement of public violence against opponents highlight anarchists' goal for radical change that disturbs the current quo. The contradictory observation of the cycle of violence demonstrates an understanding of the complexity and potential implications of such upheaval.

**Extract(5)**

> *"He told me it was going to be a demonstration against a building," said the Professor. "I had to know that much to prepare the missile. I pointed out to him that I had hardly a sufficient quantity for a completely destructive result, but he pressed me very earnestly to do my best " (SA, pp. 38).*

**A- Tools and triggers analysis**

The Professor's words indicate a sense of reluctance and concern over the insufficient quantity of the destructive material, yet he faces pressure to maximize the effectiveness of the missile despite these limitations. In the quote, the use of words subtly but effectively conveys the theme of extremism. The word "missile" directly indicates a weapon of destruction, typically associated with military or terrorist actions. It suggests a high level of premeditation and intent to cause significant harm. "Prepare" implies a scientific or methodical approach, highlighting the calculated nature of extremist actions.

**Table (5): Tools and triggers of extract 5 in Joseph Conrad's The Secret Agent**

| NO | UTTERANCE | TOOL | TRIGGER |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | ***He told me*** *it was going to be a demonstration against a building," said the Professor. "I had to know that much to prepare the missile. I pointed out to him that I* ***had*** *hardly a sufficient quantity for a completely destructive* | **Presenting Others'Thought**<br><br>**Hyopthesising** | **-Report speech**<br><br>**Boulomaic modality** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *result, **but** he pressed me very earnestly to do my best* | **Contrasting** | **-Conjunction "but"** |

In the sentence, the phrase "he told me" serves as a tool for presenting others' thoughts. This phrase introduces a statement made by someone else, allowing the speaker (the Professor) to convey information that originated from another person. In the sentence, the word "had" functions not as a hypothesizing tool but as an indicator of necessity or obligation. The phrase "I had to know that much to prepare the missile" implies that knowing certain information was essential or required for the speaker to be able to prepare the missile. In the sentence, the word "but" serves as a contrasting tool by indicating a shift from the speaker's initial concern about having insufficient quantity to achieve a completely destructive result to the other person's earnest insistence to proceed regardless. This contrast highlights the opposition between the speaker's practical concerns and the other person's determination, creating a sense of tension and emphasizing the pressure felt by the speaker.

**B-Textual Ideological Meaning**

The quote reflects an ideology that accepts or advocates the use of violence, notably terrorism or anarchy, to achieve its objectives. Despite reservations about its effectiveness, the Professor's readiness to design a missile for a demonstration against a building indicates an acceptance of violent measures to make a point or influence change. This is related with extremist beliefs that legitimize the use of destructive actions to achieve their goals.

## 7.The Quantitative Analysis

The frequency and percentage of occurrences for each textual-conceptual tool are determined using the following formula following a qualitative analysis and the application of the adopting model. This process validates or invalidates the hypotheses presented in Chapter One and supports the findings of the qualitative analysis:

$$\text{Percentage of occurrence} = \frac{\text{Number of occurrence}}{\text{Total number of strategies or devices}} \times 100$$

## 8.Discussion of Results

This table display the results of the quantitative analysis of the textual-conceptual tools in the novel supporting the qualitative analysis.

| No. | Critical Stylistics Tools | Fr. | Pr. |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Equating and Contrasting | 128 | 22.03% |
| 2 | Representing Actions /Events /States | 85 | 14.62% |
| 3 | Hypothesising | 80 | 13.76% |
| 4 | Naming and Describing | 69 | 11.87% |
| 5 | Negating | 54 | 9.29% |
| 6 | Representation Time ,Space, and Society | 45 | 7.74% |
| 7 | Exemplifying and Enumerating | 43 | 7.40% |
| 8 | Implying and Assuming | 29 | 4.99% |
| 9 | Prioritising | 25 | 4.30% |
| 10 | Presenting Other`s Speech and Thoughts | 23 | 3.95% |
| **Total** | | 581 | 99.95% |

The table above arranges the textual-conceptual instruments of Conrad's novel from the highest range to the lowest one.

Equating and Contrasting is reported to be the most frequently used tool in Conrad's novel, appearing 128 times (22.03%), and expressing the concepts of extremism. From an ideological standpoint, it facilitates readers' understanding of the novel by illustrating extremism and its varieties in connection to other ideas. The novel's author uses the words and speeches of professionals in order to persuade the audience that the impact of extremist ideas on the person and his behavior. It is discovered that Conrad's novel made heavy use of the tool of representing actions, events, and states, appearing 85 times (14.62%), which is the second highest rate. In Conrad's novel, this tool's ideological effect is to use language choices to depict extreme. It may result in agreements amongst communities about violence and prejudice against particular groups, which may then cause problems within the community. Hypothesising reveals that this tool is used 80 times (13.76%) in novel published by the Conrad. It exposes the fictitious reality of extremism from an

ideological perspective. It is employed in Conrad's novel to highlight for readers the likelihood that overuse of extremism. The use of different extremist methods may affect their personal and professional lives, whether inside or outside the family. It is discovered that Conrad makes considerable use of the naming and describing technique in his novel, appearing 69 times (11.87%) in order to portray extreme ideas. This tool, in Conrad's novel, conveys negative attitudes about the idea of extremism through the nominalization, modification, and choice of noun. Negating in Conrad's novel, this tool is used 54 times (9.29%). In terms of ideology, it exposes the harmful aspects of extremism. It is employed in Conrad's novel to convey to readers the harsh truth that life is difficult and unenjoyably. Representation Time ,Space, and Society in Conrad's novel, this tool which represents space, time, and society is used 45 times (7.74%). This literary device is employed throughout the novel to highlight specific ideals related to location, time, and society. The novel uses it to portray extremism as a worldwide issue that might have an impact on everyone. Exemplifying and Enumerating this particular tool appears 43 times (7.40%) in Conrad's novel. It functions on the issue of comprehensiveness and completeness from an ideological standpoint. As a result, Conrad's book encourages readers to keep in mind the negative implications of extremism in all aspects of their lives as well as the deception .Implying and Assuming ,Conrad used the tool of 29 times (4.99%) Implying and Assuming throughout his novel. Conrad uses this device in his novel to highlight the beliefs that suggest and assume facts about extremism. It draws readers' attention to the reality that extremism is a worldwide phenomenon with detrimental effects. People should therefore be more conscious of their effects. Prioritising , Conrad used this tool 25 times (4.30%) in his novel. This tool is ideologically used by Conrad's novel to draw readers' focus on the subject matter that becomes more important through modifying the structure. Presenting Other`s Speech and Thoughts, this tool occupies the lowest rate since it occurs for only 23 times (3.95%) in Conrad's novel. It is interesting to notice that in Conrad's novel, there are 22 instances of giving others' speech and just one instance of presenting others' thoughts. This tool is used ideologically in the chosen novel to convey the veracity of the content and persuade the readers of the negative consequences of extremism.

## Conclusion

"The Secret Agent" by Joseph Conrad explores various philosophies and viewpoints on extremism, using characters and stories to reflect his own skepticism. Conrad employs nihilism and cynicism to criticize the destructiveness of extreme ideologies, and presents radicals as complex individuals with their own goals and contradictions, prompting critical thinking on extremism's motivations. The novel critiques the anarchist movement, portraying them as erroneous and insane individuals who commit violent crimes. It contrasts positive advancement with destructive fanaticism, arguing that radicalism causes turmoil rather than progress. Conrad critiques society through fanaticism, highlighting political system shortcomings, societal injustices, and corruption. The psychological underpinnings of

extremism are explored, highlighting feelings of helplessness, alienation, and personal grievances as symptomatic of deeper social and personal issues.

المستخلص

يتناول هذا البحث بعض الأيديولوجيات التي تم التعبير عنها في الرواية المختارة للروائي البولندي الإنجليزي جوزيف كونراد. يستخدم الباحثون مجالًا تم تطويره مؤخرًا من الأسلوبية يُعرف باسم الأسلوبية النقدية، كما قدمه جيفريز (2010)، للكشف عن وجهات النظر حول الموضوع والطرق التي يتم بها استخدام الأدوات الأسلوبية النقدية لخداع المفاهيم. يتكون النموذج من عشر أدوات تحليلية توضح، عند تطبيقها على البيانات المختارة، كيف يستخدم الشاعر الأدوات الأسلوبية النقدية لنشر أفكاره والتأثير على جمهوره. تتم مناقشة استخدام عشر أدوات من حيث صلتها بمجموعة فرعية محددة من البيانات في هذه الورقة. . تظهر نتائج تحليل البيانات النوعية والكمية للبيانات أن جميع أدوات التحليل النصي المفاهيمي العشرة التي يقترحها نموذج جيفريز تستخدم في الرواية المختارة، بدرجات متفاوتة من استخدام الأداة؛ يتم استخدام بعض الأدوات بشكل متكرر أكثر من غيرها. تناقش الدراسة رواية "العميل السري" لجوزيف كونراد ، والتي تستخدم جميع الأدوات الأسلوبية النقدية العشرة للتحذير من التطرف ، وإبراز آثاره السلبية على الحياة، وتأكيد الافتراضات غير الصحيحة حوله، وبالتالي تسليط الضوء على الأيديولوجيات المختلفة.

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