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Writing and Sentence Style Analysis in The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho

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Abstract

In *The Alchemist*, Paulo Coelho inspired people how to follow their dreams by telling a Shepherd's brave and mystical story. The novel attracts readers and brings them into the shepherd's journey to figure out what treasure he is looking for. What this book portrays just what an alchemist does, transforming "lead to goad". Page after page makes readers understand that every great thing starts from a simple thing, and finally it "leads" readers to their true personal "goal" in life. Similarly, every great book is built on every single word and grammar structure, thus this study focuses on analysis the grammar and usage in this book. This study identifies Paulo Coelho's writing style by analyzing and examining what kinds of sentence structures, sentence patterns, moods, verb tense and common voice Paulo Coelho uses in his novel, *The Alchemist*. In this study, a new approach to style analysis is used. The method employs traditional diagraming or the Reed-Kellogg system to map out a depiction of Paulo Coelho's writing, which turns out to be an illuminating way to visualize a writer's style. The results show that Paulo Coelho mostly used complex, indicative sentences in the simple past tense and active voice.

Purpose

A person with good taste in car will not only appreciate the exterior but also focus the detail components of the car. Similarly, a person who is seeking a great command of literary study should also dig deeper into the language, not only for its semantic but also for its uniquely secret formula, the sentence structure. As the saying goes, "The devil is in the details." Understanding these details empowers readers with a different vision to explore the literature. It enables forensic linguists to investigate a crime. It facilitates computational linguistics to create artificial intelligence. Most importantly, it is these details that amplify our ability to see human complexity, and broaden our intellectual horizons.

Sentence Patterns

P1: S+BE+ADV(Time or Place)

P2: S+BE+SC(PA)

P3: S+BE+SC(PN)

P4: S+LV+SC(PA)

P5: S+LV+SC(PN)

P6: S+ITV

P7:S+TV+DO

P8: S+TV+IO+DO

P9: S+TV+DO+OC(Adj)

P10: S+TV+DO+OC(Noun)

Verb Tenses

Simple past

Simple present

Past progressive

Present progressive

Voices

Active

Passive

Moods

Indicative

Imperative

Conditional

Subjunctive

Sentence Structures

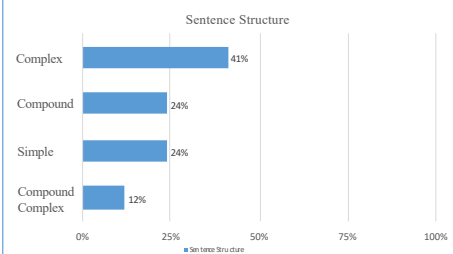
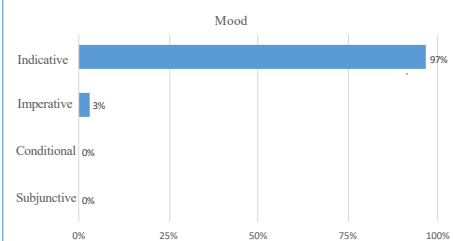
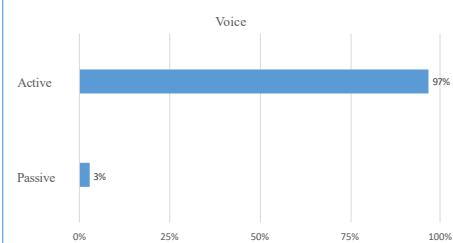
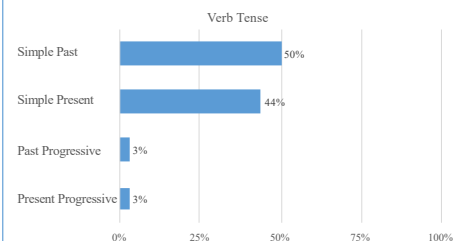
Complex

Compound

Simple

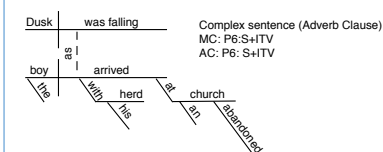
Compound Complex

Results

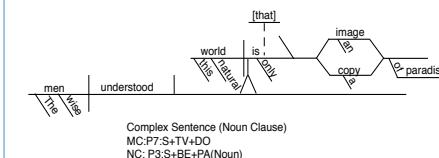


Sentences Diagram

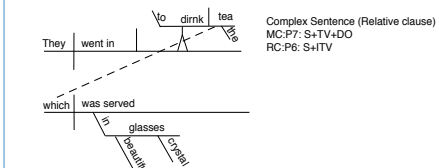
Dusk was falling as the boy arrived with his herd at an abandoned church.



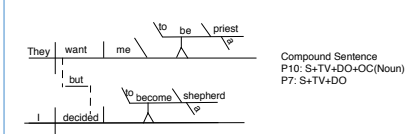
The wise men understood that this natural world is only an image and a copy of paradise.



They went in to drink the tea, which was served in beautiful crystal glasses.



They want me to be a priest, but I decided to become a shepherd.



They come in search of new things, but when they leave, they are basically the same people they were when they arrived.

