# Study on the Interpersonal Functions of Hemingway's Novel Language

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Abstract: Language is the carrier and medium of interpersonal communication, and it bears various functions in interpersonal communication. Interpersonal function is one of the important theories of Systemic Functional Grammar. Language is an important symbol of human activities, which carries various functions of meaning. Language can fill the meaning and communicative function that the speaker wants to convey, and it can also imply more dimensions and levels of meaning. In complex communication process, language can fully reflect the speaker's attitude, position, emotional motivation and other meaningful potentials. Language can produce various communicative functions such as reasoning, judgment and comprehensive rating through communication. Through the dialogue of characters in the novel Hills like White Elephants, this paper analyses the function of interpersonal functional mood, and reveals its influence on the relationship between characters and the meaning of communication, which helps us to understand the deep meaning of Hemingway's language.

#### 1. Introduction

Hemingway became the most influential writer in the first half of the 20th century because of his unique literary language. His works are unique in style, clear and unique in language style, and the selected creative perspective is memorable. Many of Hemingway's long works have become classics in the literary world. Hemingway always cherishes ink as gold. In his every work, the description of characters and environment is simple and clear, but simple language does not make the transmission of meaning discolored. Hemingway's style of language leaves a lot of space for readers' imagination. According to Hemingway's language orientation, readers can see one image after another of tough men. At the same time, readers can experience the meaning of life in the simple dialogue of characters. The interpersonal function of language can fully reflect the potential of meaning in communication. Language is an important medium for the expression and maintenance of human social relations. The choice of mood can show the relationship between the speakers. The mood system is the main language resource to realize the meaning of interpersonal communication. The structure of the article is shown in Figure 1.

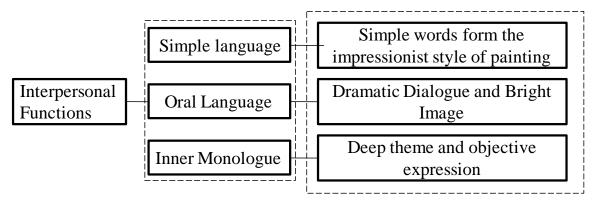


Figure 1: The structure of the interpersonal functions

# 2. Language features in Hemingway's novels

# 2.1 Simple language is rich in deep emotions

The language of Hemingway's novels is simple, and this unique "iceberg style" language form is actually formed by the language expertise of many excellent novelists. In Hemingway's novels, many things and scenes are the most common in real life, the form is very simple, many pictures are the most common pictures. It is precious that the novelist is the real reflection and display of these pictures and plots. Ernest Hemingway's fiction is full of more emotional factors. The language is concise but not simple. His emotions often adopt a hidden approach, leaving more imaginative space for readers. By exerting their imagination, readers can better experience the core ideas and enrich the essence of the works. Hemingway, in the same way, enables readers to form a simple but emotional artistic propaganda effect, which is conducive to the effective enhancement of artistic appeal.

# 2.3 Oral language enhances readers' emotional experience

In Hemingway's novels, the language form is very colloquial. For the expression of deep thoughts and feelings, Hemingway also used very concise language rather than gorgeous and delicate words. This colloquial language often gives readers a fresh feeling, but its artistic effect of language is stronger. Although Hemingway's novel language is plain, it has been selected and refined. In his novel writing, he often uses ellipsis to screen out some selective words. For complex relationships, he hides them in colloquial dialogues. This understanding needs to be read carefully and logically. If we neglect the simplest dialogue, we may feel that the relationship between the characters is confused. Through this colloquial dialogue, Hemingway makes the language of the novel simple but not shrinking. In colloquial language, some complex relationships are sorted out and the relationship between characters is more orderly. The reader feels very lively and interesting when he reads the plot. Because they are in the dialogue, the reader's experiential emotions are enhanced.

# 2.3 The language of inner monologue highlights the subject thought

In Hemingway's novels, the inner activities of the characters are often described very carefully. This kind of inner monologue language can often highlight the real feelings of the characters. The writing technique of inner monologue is very common. It is not the novelist's intentional behavior, but a very natural action. Through internal monologue, the main idea of the novel is often more prominent. For example, in *A Farewell To Arms*, there are many descriptions of "What if she dies?"

This inner monologue, though used in many ways, does not seem repetitive. Through this inner monologue, the author describes the protagonist's inner anxiety. Through the indoctrination of inner monologue, readers can produce sympathetic emotional resonance. The central theme of the novel is clearer and more prominent, and the artistic effect is more obvious.

# 3. The interpersonal function of Hemingway's novel language--taking Hills like White Elephants as an example

# 3.1 Simple words form the impressionist style of painting

The Hills Like White Elephants begins with the following.

On the other side of the Ebro Valley, white hills fluctuate. On this side, there were no trees and the station was in the middle of the two railways in the sunshine, next to the station. It was a house shrouded in the sultry shadows. A series of curtains made of bamboo beads hung at the open door of the bar to keep flies away. The American and the girl with him sat at a table in the shade outside the house.

The pictures depicted here are as natural as those in the original life. There are no attempts to decorate, no extra pink, no colorful metaphors. Hemingway only reflects the facts, without explaining where they came and how they met, but the reader has already felt the negative side of life, such as the white ground, no trees, the house shrouded in the sultry shadow. A few words sketch a sketch for the reader, and many scenes are closely related to the characters' thoughts, personalities and emotions in the novel, which implies the fate of the characters. In order to make readers see rich things in empty places, Hemingway took the creation of picturesque characters and scenes as his basic means of creating literary works.

# 3.2 Dramatic dialogue and bright image

The novel The *Hills Like White Elephants* consists of dialogues, which revolve around the word "operation". When the hero comes to the station bar for a drink, there is such a dialogue.

"This wine is like licorice." The girl said, putting down her glass.

"It's all the same."

"Yes," said the girl, "everything is like licorice, especially those things that one has been looking forward to for a long time, just like absinthe."

These direct and clear dialogues have rich expressive force, which prompts readers to appreciate the psychological pressure and spiritual burden borne by girls. With the most frugal pen and ink, Hemingway expressed infinite content. As a woman, she needs love from her lover. She also wants to build a happy family, have children and enjoy the warmth of the family. But as the story develops, the reader learns that the man's emphasis on surgery is very simple. The phrase "operation is very convenient" was repeated five times.

### 3.3 Deep theme and objective expression

There is such a description in The Hills Like White Elephants.

The girl was looking at the outline of the mountains in the distance. The mountains were white in the sunshine, while the countryside was gray-brown and dry.

"They look like white elephants," she said.

"I've never seen a white elephant before," the man drank all his beer.

"You won't see it."

"I may have seen it," said the man. "It doesn't matter if you say I won't see it."

On the surface, the novel reveals their alienation of appearance and divinity; on the deep side, it reveals the terrible picture of indifference and cruelty in Western society, which is self-centered and people can't communicate with each other. This is the theme of Hemingway's short story. The woman felt that the "mountains like white elephants" which she saw and repeatedly mentioned were just symbols of the spiritual desert or psychological blankness between them.

### 4. Conclusions

In Hemingway's writing, he often borrows simple things to symbolize complex emotions, which are very common in daily life. Through symbolic techniques, the novel has been endowed with profound thoughts of ordinary things, thus forming a unique artistic effect of language. For example, in *The Old Man and the Sea*, the story language of the fight between the old man and the shark is simple and simple, but the story is vivid. The sea was undoubtedly the whole social background at that time. Although it had a beautiful side, it also had a dark and dangerous side. The struggle between the old man and the sea symbolizes the fight between justice and the old forces. By highlighting the courage of the elderly, it actually symbolizes praise for the power of justice. Through this tiny story, Hemingway reflects the essence of his powerful thought. He endowed this ordinary thing with profound thought, which is the unique charm of the novelist's language.

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