The Impact of Literature On Linguistics: "A rabbit, an elf, and some horrorshow droogs"

Milak, Eldin and Baştuğ, Harun (2012)

Abstract

Main goal of the article is the establishment of common ground between two fields of language study; Linguistics and Literature, since the common links that connect these branches not only exist, but are strongly present in many areas of each field. However, they are misconstrued and underestimated, which leads to an incomplete understanding of both. We have used three main arguments, from a certain point of view, to gradually form a strong proof of the interdependency which governs the relation: contribution of Literature to the theory of Linguistics, contribution of Literature to specific branches, and contribution of Literature to Language. Using a considerate amount of written evidence, as well as exploring the history of both fields, it should be evident that the relationship which exists requires a different approach to studies. Saussure's demarcation might be idealized, as the synchronic primacy might not uphold in the present, as everyday written records are becoming closer to the level that spoken language has in the linguistic development process. This area may require more exploration. The result might be general, and need to be specified, so that it can be used in the field of ELT, as a manner of teaching foreign languages.