



Original Article

Language, Literature and Culture in Contemporary academic discourse

Mr. Manav

Ph. D Research Scholar, Department of English,
Baba Mastnath University, Rhotic (Haryana), India

Manuscript ID: **Abstract**

JRD -2025(I)-170909

ISSN: 2230-9578

Volume 17

Issue 9(III)

Pp. 58-62

Sept. 2025

Historical perspective, tracing the link from early oral traditions to the development of writing, and notes the contemporary evolution of these fields, particularly with English emerging as a global lingua franca. Furthermore, the paper examines the emergence of Cultural Studies, an interdisciplinary field that examines concepts of power and ideology within society and challenges the historical division between high and low culture. The profound influence of the Internet is highlighted, as it acts as a transformative force accelerating the globalization of cultures, enriching language, and democratizing literary expression for marginalized voices. Finally, the framework of intersectionality is introduced to analyze how language, literature, and culture operate within systems of power, revealing how multiple identities (e.g., gender, race, class) shape human experience and challenging the notion of a universal human experience. Conclusively, studying these three elements together creates an interconnected framework essential for understanding human values, fostering inclusivity, and building a sense of humanity.

Keywords

Language, Literature, Culture, Interdependence, Interconnection, Cultural Studies, Globalization, Internet, Intersectionality, Power, Representation.

Submitted: 12 Aug. 2025

Revised: 22 Aug. 2025

Accepted: 20 Sept. 2025

Published: 30 Sept. 2025

Interconnection between language and culture

It is axiomatic to opine that both language and culture are interdependent on each other as one can't have meaning in absence of other. Language acquires its value when it is integrated with cultural elements and culture get its white spread recognition through language which express it more elaborately. Language plays a vital role in spreading elements of values and traditions of a culture as it is this language by which thoughts and ideas regarding a culture are expressed. It is very prominent to note that culture was its existence even before language came in existence to express it more freely. Language sets path for a culture to spread its legendary tales, customs and other traditional values worldwide. It is this language which makes whole world socialized and it is this culture which makes whole world connected to each other more deeply so in a way both culture and language are interdependent on each other. Moreover, Language is very much important because it helps in preserving culture as it is this language through which legendary cultural tales are passed from one generation to next generation. It also helps to transmit cultural knowledge of one generation to another. Language acts as a collective storage memory for a generation about their legendary tales, customs and other traditional values. Language acts as a spreading medium of knowledge of culture from one generation to another and it is this language which connects cultural values to each other and it helps an individual to understand the real cultural values of his past. It will be clear to say that both language and culture are interdependent and correspondingly important for each other as it is this language through which cultural values are preserved for a long period of time and it is this culture which brings changes time to time in the language.



Quick Response Code:



Website:
<https://jrdvrb.org/>



Creative Commons (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0)

This is an open access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/) Public License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work noncommercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

Address for correspondence:

Manav, Ph. D Research Scholar, Department of English, Baba Mastnath University, Rhotic (Haryana), India.

How to cite this article:

Manav. (2025). Language, Literature and Culture in Contemporary academic discourse. Journal of Research & Development, 17(9(III)), 58-62



Whenever culture of any particular community changes automatically it brings changes in language that society too because culture is always expressed through language and when culture changes language automatically changes. It can be said very firmly that both the language and culture are inseparable and there is no existence of one in absence of another.

Defining Language, Literature, Culture and their importance

In contemporary academy discourse language, literature and culture are not isolated domains but interdependent forces with language serving as foundation of communication, literature transforming language into creative expression and culture providing a social context that shaped and is shaped by both. It is very true to claim that all three domains language, literature and culture are interdependent and profoundly related to each other. Significantly Enough, Human language is not only biology related but also related on grounds of cultural intellectual and communication too. What distinguishes our ability to create meaning and express it through our language. There is no doubt in saying that all three culture, language and literature are deeply connected with each other as it is this culture which shapes a literature of a community and it is this language through which literature is expressed. Moreover, language is basically a system of communication which reflects how human thinks, perceives and interact with world. It is this language which helps a human being to express his ideas more freely and in an effortlessly way. It is a structured and organized medium of expressing scattered thoughts of a person in a meaningful language is very much way. Language is very much important for human beings because it helps them to share their views, ideas and new concepts with each other. Moreover, language is very important as it preserves our heritage for a long period of time and it is this language which creates unity among people. All those people who share a common language share common custom, rituals and thinking too which give them a sense of common identity due to which they always remain close to each other. What is more, literature is best understood as an artistic and imaginative use of language. Literature is commonly defined by most of the literary scholars as a collection of ideas and thoughts expressed in words. Literature is nothing but a written view of human mind in which a writer expresses his culture through his language. Literature is considered to be a very powerful medium through which culture is expressed by a writer in his own language. Basically, literature is reflection of language and culture express in it.

Literature gives a creative form to a language as writer uses creative language to express his culture more freely. Literature is very much important aspect which contains both language and culture in it. Literature is a powerful medium to preserve culture of a particular community. Through it customs and legendary tales are told by writers to the readers which even promote and make their culture more popular. Literature through moral stories raises questions regarding right and wrong, justice, social critic and it helps personal growth of an individual and it compels readers to think out of the box regarding their customs and ritual ceremonies. The very third important aspect which gives literature a proper base and inspires writers to write upon something is culture. It is very true to say that a culture of any community is base of its foundation values. Culture refers to shared system of values, beliefs, traditions and particular practices which are followed by every person of that community. People of a community are very much connected to their culture emotionally because it gives an idiosyncratic identity to them. Culture is very dynamic as it evolves as society adapts to new circumstances but it also helps in preserving traditional values. Culture gives sense identity to a person and he feels proud of himself that he belongs to a community which follows an astonishing culture. Moreover culture is very important part of person's life because it gives him a identity of being a part of a larger group. Culture helps an individual in recollecting and recounting with his ancestors as while performing any cultural ritual a person feels very proud of himself that he is in a way addressing his ancestors when a group of different people share same culture between them it forms a unity among them. It is clear to say that in contemporary scenario study of language, literature and culture has gained even a greater relevance and importance in understanding human moral values. Globalisation has interaction among different cultural groups making inter cultural communication more crucial and it helps in understanding traditional system of other countries too. While literature continues to serve as a platform for marginalised voice, on the other hand language helps literature in connecting with people and inspiring them too more quickly and easily. Language, literature and culture not academic concepts but very essence of what makes us human beings and what common things connects us too. Language gives power to communicate, literature allows us to immortalize imagination and culture provides us identity and communities. Their importance can't be ignored because they all together form foundation of civilizations and bridges gap between generations and most importantly, they create a sense of humanity among all human beings too.

Historical perspective on language, literature and culture

It is very true to claim that human history is inseparable and meaningless without knowing history of language, literature and culture. From earliest cave paintings and oral traditions and to written manuscripts of today's world all three elements language, literature and culture are deeply linked with each other. In bolting language developed as a primary tool for survival and to share views and development of language gave birth to literature through which cultural values were promoted by different authors. Language is believed to have originated millions of years ago possibly developed from imitating sounds produced by humans very first and slowly slowly they start communicating with each other through this language. In prehistoric society language is bolting was a tool to exchange



things but later language function as a survival mechanism for human beings. It allowed early human beings to communicate with each other and most importantly to share and express what they feel to each other. The earliest evidence of structured communication can be traced back to oral tradition in which myths and folk tales were passed generation to generation preserving their cultural heritage. What is more, a major turn came in language with development of writing around 3200 BC when Sumerians developed cuneiform which is world's earliest manuscript. Chinese letters and alphabets got popularity and with time writing developed very rapidly because it allowed ideas to travel across time and through writing ideas and philosophies got a major notice among readers. With advent of writing many great epics flourished like epic of Gilgamesh, Ramayan and Mahabharata etc. Later in medieval period interplay among language and literature and culture took a new turn. A lot of new Latin and Greek words were added in vernacular languages and works like divine comedy and Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury tales showed a rapid popularity among readers. A lot of new words were added in English language and Arabic emerged as a powerful cultural and literary language carrying both scientific texts and poetic traditions which were popular during Islamic golden age. Even more, in 21st century Language, Literature and Culture continue to evolve in unprecedented way. English has emerged as a global lingua franca facilitating cross cultural communication but also raising different concerns about linguistics diversity. With increased globalization demand of English speakers and English language has increased rapidly which proves that English language has become a utmost part of progress in contemporary world. Technological developments like AI have done a lot of progress due to which English language and its relevance in literature and culture has increased considerably and it has become very much mandatory for an individual to have a righteous knowledge of English language to compete with this competitive world.

Rise of Cultural Studies in English Language

It is true to claim that emergence of cultural studies starts from Britain where it emerged robustly and proved itself to be strong part of English literature. Cultural Studies refers to an interdisciplinary field of research which examines ways in which culture is understood in everyday practices. Cultural Studies is not simply study of a particular culture of any single community instead it goes on beyond high culture. It is basically an interdisciplinary approach which combines multiple academic disciplines like sociology, anthropology, history, linguistics and media studies too. It will not be erroneous saying that Cultural studies are combination of multiple academics which tries to find a ubiquitous connection between each other which makes it more important to understand this field. Most importantly, the major aim of cultural studies is to examine concept of power and ideology and how they are shown through different literary works. It says that society is majorly divided into two major sections have's and have's not and it tries to examine this system from point of view of oppressed people. English writers in their multiple works have shown that how people with power molest and oppress poor people. The concept of power and ideology has a great momentousness and it can be seen in language, literature and culture very well as there are many great thinkers like Karl Marx, Frederick Engels, Charles Dickens and Victor Hugo who have shown that how imbalance between haves and have's not creates a turmoil in a society so one must try to maintain a balance between this and it can be done very easily through literary works which will inspire people and will improve culture too. What is more, Emergence of culture studies developed concept of high and low culture too and proved that the both low and high culture are important part of human society. Before cultural studies most to the people use to follow only high culture and they use to think that people who are following low culture are of low value but contradictly when cultural studies came in emergence it very well proved that low culture is of great value and is equally important for society as High culture is. There are multiple writers who showed different side of low culture and stated that values, norms and traditions of low culture equally important as of High culture and people following low culture must get full respect too. Moreover, low culture represents voice of masses and that is the main reason of rapid expansion of aura of cultural studies in different academics because most of the people were from low culture and they took interest in cultural studies because very first it was cultural studies which represented a different and respectful side of people following low culture. Notably, Cultural studies brought many different concepts and changes in field of both language and literature. It introduced a new definition of structure in a literary work and emphasised to judging a literary work on different basis too not only on fixed parameters. Before cultural studies most of the critics used to judge a work on very different and weird basis as first of all they used to see whether work is written by writer of low culture or high one. Moreover every time style work was used to be compared with ancient writers and if any writer tried something different critics used to make fun of that work. Contradictly, Cultural studies introduces entirely a new concept of judging a work. It clearly states that a work must be judged on the basis of its cultural value means what changes the work has brought in the culture and what is its potential. It states that a literary work is up proved useful when it brings multiple changes in mind set of society by its unique context and themes. Cultural studies looks on how a text supports or challenges tradition value system and so called system of power in society. It also judges a work on the basis of reality means that how much the work is showing reality of a society and in this way cultural studies brought multiple changes in field of literature.

Literature as Cultural Expression



It goes without saying that literature is not only collection words but it is more than that. It is mirror of a culture and a vessel of human experience. Literature is presentation of human values, traditions and customs in a very elaborative way. From ancient oral traditions to contemporary digital narrative literature has served as a medium of exchange of cultural values. The greatest boon of literature to humanity is that human beings through literature can express their priceless and cultural values freely and more elaborately. Moreover, Human beings are always eccentric and mad behind their identity means they always want to create their unique Identity in a society. Culture is very deeply tied to an identity of a human being and whenever through literary works, writers express their culture they feel that they are expressing and talking about their own unique Identity. Literature truly serves as a medium of expressing cultural values to readers through storytelling, poetry and drama and by its communities preserve the language, tradition and history of their culture for a long period of time which make their tradition to live a long life. Prominently enough, for colonized people literature has truly worked as a great medium to express their feelings, horrible experiences and insults which they have gone through because of being a colonized. There have been many writers in English literature who have tried to recreate identity of colonized people and they have presented a totally different perspective of colonized people. Through literary works, writers reclaim their cultural identity by telling their own life experiences where they faced insults and humiliations because of being a colonized one. Through literature writers challenge the wrong representation of colonized people which is done by colonizers in which they have shown colonized people totally barbarian one but through literary works colonized writers have successfully portrayed totally different perspective of themselves. It is clear that literature truly serves as a medium of expressing culture of a society and literature has power to preserve tradition and to give a totally different and new perspective to a culture.

Role of Internet in spreading Language, Literature and Culture

At the outset, it is important to note that over years internet has played a crucial role in development of language, literature and culture too. It is true to say that internet has become one of the most transformative forces of 21st century by providing a digital space for interaction, creativity and expression. Internet has accelerated the globalisation of cultures, values, traditional systems and different views of people which they share with each other. Internet has very rapidly brought changes in different languages all over the world. The digital age has introduced infinite number of words in language by which one can use these latest words in their literary works easily. Internet has contributed to all languages in the world but the main language to which internet has contributed the most is English language. In today's modern era English language is spoken all over the world and today all types of communication in world are mostly done in English language. Internet has rapidly helped English language to be positioned number one language and mostly used language in the world. Interestingly, internet has introduced various new publication schemes in field of academics because of which writers now have not to rely on traditional publishing system more. Now they can publish their works easily on the Internet without help of any particular publisher. Internet culture has given rise to multiple new genres in literary field like web novels, FanFiction, flash fiction micro poetry and hypertext literature. In today's modern era most of the writers in this technological world are at expressing their works on the internet directly because of which they are getting a wide spread and popularity with the rapid speed. What is more, internet has brought multiple changes in all kinds of cultures propitiously. Through different digital platform like you tube, Netflix and social media cultures are circulating rapidly and everyone is keen to know about each other's culture more and more. online interactions have created a blend of different cultural identities due to which each and every individual is knowing about culture of another one. Now they all are respecting culture of each other. Internet has given power to people to express their views about their culture and any culture too. The greatest benefit of internet has been taken by marginalised and colonized people over the years. In today's modern world no one can suppress, insult and differentiate anyone on any kind of basis because by power of Internet one can upload about discrimination happened to him. So clearly internet has brought rapidly and vivaciously considerable changes in traditional cultural system too. So, it is clear that internet has undeniably become a powerful source and force in developing language literature and culture respectively. It enriches literature and language by introducing new vocabulary, opens fresh avenues for literary and creativity and ensures the global exchange of cultures. While it carries challenges like informality and cultural homogenisation, its role in fostering, inclusivity, democratizing, expression and preserving heritage is unprecedented. Internet has brought revolutionary changes in the field of language, literature and culture and it is because of internet that interest of all people in world has increased to know more and more about language, literature and culture of each other.

Intersectionality and Representation

It will not be erroneous claiming that literature, language and culture are not only simple mediums of communication but also deeply embedded within power structure and social reality. The term intersectionality was coined by Kimberle Crenshaw to describe different kinds of discriminations faced by people on different basis like gender, race, class and sexuality too. The representation of intersectionality refers to how group and identities are portrayed within discourse and how literary works show intersectionality faced by a common man. Together this framework allows a scholar to examine how literature, language and culture have historically marginalized certain groups while simultaneously offering avenues for resistance and empowerment. Importantly enough, literature serves



as a powerful space where experiences of diverse communities are voiced and it reveals how multiple identities intersect with in literary characters and narratives. Writes from post-colonial and minority traditions like Tony Morrison, Arundhati Roy have clearly shown how gender, race and class interact to shape a human experience. It has been proved multiple times by many different authors that literature is a powerful tool by which one can express how people are represented erroneously on the basis of intersectionality. Moreover, intersectionality in a literary works represents and also challenges notions of universal human experience that much of Western literary cannon assures. It gives a new and unique Identity and voice to a marginalized and any other person who has been discriminated on the basis of intersectionality. Tradition ideas and tales very firmly claim that all human beings share same kind of experience and differences but intersectionality very clearly tells that every individual is discriminated in its own idiosyncratic way. Intersectionality means a person is discriminated on the personal grounds and every individual has its own different experience of intersectionality. It can be winded up very clearly that intersectionality and representation have become indispensable tools in understanding how literature, language and culture operate within system of power. intersectionality clearly provides a powerful lens for understanding representation in human language, literature and culture. By revealing how identity such as gender, race, class discriminate an individual it challenges the notion of a singular or universal human experience. Language becomes more than just a medium of communication and representation shaped through intersectional awareness it ensures that intersectionality is understanding of human expression making literature and cultural discourse more inclusive and diverse in every possible way.

Conclusion

Conclusively, it can be said very promptly that study of language, literature and culture in contemporary academy discourse demonstrates how deeply these fields are interwined with each other. Language is not merely a tool of communication but a carrier of literature and culture too and literature is not only artistic form but a mirror of society too which reflex the true picture of society. Culture provides and in-depth context which gives both language and literature on independent meaning. In today's globalized world academic discourse recognizes that none of elements can be examined in isolation instead compels that all these must be studied as a part of interconnected framework. So it is clear that by approaching them together contemporary scholarship opens a space for multiple voices, challenges dominate narratives and reaches human knowledge more and more.

References

1. Pope, Rob. *The English Studies Book: An introduction to language, literature and culture*. 2nd ed. Routledge, 2002. pp 16-18
2. *Baltic Journal of English Language, Literature and Culture*. Edited by Monta Farneste, University of Latvia, 2014.
3. Kramsch, Claire. *Language and culture* Edited by H.G & Widdows on Oxford Introduction to language Study. 1998. pp 7-12
4. <https://www.allresearchjournal.com/archives/2020/vol6issue1/PartD/9-7-15-298.pdf>
5. Hartley, John. *A short history of Cultural Studies*. SAGE Publications, 2003, pp. 14-18
6. Eagleton, Terry. *Literary Theory: An Introduction* of Minnesota press, 1996, pp. 15-20
7. Ahmadi, M.R (2018). The use of technology in English language learning: A literature review. *International journal of research in English education*, pp. 115-125
8. Akbarov, A. and Tamkoscic A. (2016) Impact of social networks and technology on English language learners. *Journal of Linguistic inter cultural education*, pp. 7-28
9. Collins, Patrica Hill. *Intersectionality as critical social theory*. Duke university Press, 2019, pp. 4-8