

A Study of *Five Point Someone* with Reference to its Diction

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ABSTRACT

Research has tried to evaluate the *Five Point Someone* in the light of diction. Researcher has covered many points to evaluate the novel's diction. These points are: the language used in the novel is characterized by short sentences, mischievous behaviour of the students is also explained in a very sophisticated way with the use of standard vocabulary, the modern slang used by the present generation has been adopted in the novel, words adopted from Indian languages, name of vegetable and edible thing and quite a lot of dishes in these different languages have been mentioned, the college dialect used by the students has many aspects, abbreviations form an important component of the students' speech, repetition of words to stress the importance, certain unique expressions have also been used, local dialect, words and sentences which need to be stressed are used in italics, humorous instances have been sprinkled throughout the novel, special structure of the sentence for giving the special attention, sort of word throughout the novel, idioms and leave the sentence half way to present a lively college life. Researcher evaluated the novel with the help of these points.

1. Introduction

Chetan Bhagat is rock star of modern Indian English novel. Bhagat has written many novels till today. Bhagat wrote on the state of young generation by giving expression to their feeling, aspirations, problems, thinking, and above all raising their voice in the present time. He never tried to impose their views on the society or he said that his art is not for the sake of morality. The author's novel has become a block buster and one of the bestsellers of English novels in India. Bhagat uses bundle of verities in the diction in his novel and so that his novel is very popular. Author uses extraordinary diction in the *Five Point someone*.

2. Diction

Dictionary meaning

- The term diction signifies the types of words, phrases, and sentence structures, and sometimes also of figurative language, that constitute any work of literature. A writer's diction can be analyzed under a great variety of categories, such as the degree to which the vocabulary and phrasing is abstract or concrete.
- Diction, the choice of words used in a literary work. A writer's diction may be characterized, for example, by *ARCHAISM, or by *LATINATE or Anglo-Saxon derivations; and it may be described according to the oppositions formal/colloquial, abstract/concrete, and literal/figurative. For the specific * CONVENTIONS of diction in poetry.

3. Diction in the *Five Point Someone*

The language used in the novel is characterized by short sentences. Some examples of this type of novel are: "The class fell silent again" (Bhagat 10). "No that is not..." Alok said (Bhagat 50). "Really? And you don't go" (Bhagat 58). "I didn't

choose, Alok left," I reminded her (Bhagat 69). "Tell me again" (Bhagat 99). etc...

It is remarkable that the mischievous behavior of the students is also explained in a very sophisticated way with the use of standard vocabulary. It is a common practice in the modern novelists to use words and sentences from foreign as well as Indian languages in their works.

One of the unique factors of the novel is its diction. The modern slang used by the present generation has been adopted in the novel, which is quite captivating. In the very opening chapter of the novel, Bhagat makes the reader realize this fact in the ragging scene. "... Baku, A lungi-clad human toothpick, and just as smelly is my guess"(Bhagat 2).

There are various features of the kind of diction used in the novel. Apart from the dialect used in modern day colleges, there are words adopted from Indian languages like- Hindi. There is a hoard of Hindi words. Some of them are- "Lungi", "Kurta- pajamas", "Listen yaar", "Bindi", "Salwar- kameez", "Gharaayamerapardesi...", "ha", "Beta", "Ma", "Sari", "Bhaiyya", "Didi", "pajamas" and "Roopkunwar". Sanskrit words have also been used by author in the novel like "Mantra."

Name of vegetable and edible thing and quite a lot of dishes in these different languages have been mentioned, like- "Bhindi masala", "Roti", "dal", "Raita", "Pulao" "Parantha", "Salad", "Samosas-chutney", "Idli - sambhar", "Rajma- chawal", "Paneer", "matar - paneer", "kheer" and "ladoos."

The college dialect used by the students has many aspects like- abbreviations, repetition of words and certain exceptional expressions. These aspects have been discussed below.

Abbreviations form an important component of the students' speech. The common words used by them are abbreviated. They use 'C'mon' for come on, 'ManPro' for manufacturing Processes, 'Prof' for professor, 'ApMach' for applied mechanism, 'sci-fi movies' for science fiction movie, 'ads' for advertisement, 'FluMech' for fluid mechanics, 'C2D' for Cooperate to dominate, 'JIT' for just in time, 'RAC' for refrigeration and Air- conditioning, 'Cs', 'Ds', 'GPA' etc...

Another feature of the college dialect is repetition of words to stress the importance like- 'I m so-so sorry.', 'I am really, really, really sorry', 'crap, crap, crap and more crap all the time', 'something something', 'very very good', 'happy happy', 'yes yes', 'goody-goody', etc...

Alok uses the word 'damn' when the first result is declared and talks about it. Author notes here that "I think Alok picks up a word and uses it too much, which ruins the effect. There were too many 'damns' in his dialogue" (Bhagat 22).

Certain unique expressions have also been used like: 'racing - vacing', 'pay- day', 'tch -tch', 'huffing and puffing', 'Uh-huh', 'brain drain', 'drop-shrop', 'itsy-bitsy', 'Whassit', 'Nah', etc....

Some of the sentences quoted by the students exemplify the local dialect- "Listen yaar," Anurag started as Ryan cut him short" (Bhagat 6), "Great Gotta go now" (Bhagat70). Some modification did by the author in the word and uses it like : 'No....o.', 'mummeeeee', 'Whassit', 'grandma-ish', 'okay-ish' etc....

Apart from all these some words and sentences which need to be stressed are used in Italics like- "Priya has *Terminator* on, Rayan said"(Bhagat14). "... *bhindi masala* in to the plate" (Bhagat21), "So you *love* us then Ryan aah?" (Bhagat39). "Why the hell should *I apologize?*" (Bhagat63). Etc.. The notice of Disco and the key tenets of C2D whole write in italicize. Three whole chapters are written in italicize fonts to give special focus as well as portray its important in the novel.

A number of humorous instances have been sprinkled throughout the novel. For example, there is one incident in the novel that Hari is not able to speak when someone look in his eyes and asks a question. He is not able to speak in each viva of his semester. In third year, professor Cherian's subject viva he wants to perform well and get A grade. Ryan suggests him to drink vodka and then attain viva. Conversation between professor Cherian and Hari is humorous.

"So, what is the Japanese system for manufacturing that lowers inventories?" Prof Cherian started as usual without any greetings or pleasantries.

"Good morning, sir" I said.

"Good morning, Hari. Now answer the Question"

"Good morning, sir" I said again, to kick-start my brain.

"That is fine, Hari. Now answer please, if you don't mind."

"Sir, the Japanese inventory lowering system..." I began... (Bhagat 152-53)

In this novel author uses the special structure of the sentence for giving the special attention like: '... just-out-of-the-bed...', '... one-sari-in-five-years...', '... under-the-elbow-policy.', '... I-will-cry-any-moment...', '... she-plus-two-glasses-of-vodka...', '... do-not-disturb-me...', '... me-trying-to-make-out...' etc.... It is the part of the college student's vocabulary.

In this novel he uses the word '*twenty*' many times like: '*twenty times*', '*twenty second*', '*twenty minute*'. etc... He frequently usessame sort of word throughout the novel like : 'eh', 'Aw', 'Shshh', 'Wha..', 'Ouch', 'yeah', 'Uh..', 'Uh-huh', 'aah', 'Huh', 'hmm...', 'ha', 'Shh...', 'en', 'Wow', 'Nah', 'Hmmm', 'shhh...', 'Oops...', 'ah'. This is the modern trend to use such words in the novel.

Some idioms like: 'to and fro', 'bare-naked feet!', 'goof off', 'Iraqis ate crow', 'buzz off', 'kicked our butter', 'backed off' etc. can also be found in the novel. Use of pet names in the novel like : 'Itchy Rajesh', 'Fasto', 'Gotta', 'loafer', 'Tiger', 'Cry-Baby', 'Mugger', 'Traitor', 'Sissy'. Etc. can also be noticed throughout the novel.

Author uses the technique to leave the sentence half way to present a lively college life: "... It was not such a big..." (Bhagat 157). "Sir, the Japanese inventory lowering system..." (Bhagat 152). "But my point is..." (Bhagat 148). "And you know the sofa springs are coming out..." (Bhagat 123). "Venkat, I have certain responsibilities..." (Bhagat 91).The novelist has given importance to diction. The unique diction of the modern students in campus is vividly captured.

4. Conclusion

Diction is the vital part of the novel. Author is vividly captured the unique diction of the present time. Bhagat uses the diction in such a way that readers are mesmerised. He utilises various aspect of the diction to draw the things which he desires to do for instance: short sentences, use of standard vocabulary, modern slang, words adopted from Indian languages, name of vegetable and edible thing and quite a lot of dishes in these different languages, abbreviations form, repetition of words to stress the importance, unique expressions, local dialect, words and sentences which need to be stressed are used in italics, special structure of the sentence for giving the special attention, sort of word throughout the novel, idioms and leave the sentence half way to present a lively college life. Author uses the simple language.

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