

Explanations for data set of French novels (Paige, *Technologies of the Novel*)

This data set, used only in chapter 7 of *Technologies of the Novel*, was established using Yves Giraud and Anne-Marie Clin-Lalande, *Nouvelle Bibliographie du roman épistolaire en France, des origines à 1842*, 2nd ed. (Freiburg: Editions Universitaires, 1995). Because this bibliography inventories and classifies a wide variety of epistolary material (e.g., letter manuals, first-person novels addressed as a “letter” to a friend or protector of the narrator’s), many items were eliminated from consideration prior to the constitution of this file. Others, included in this file, were subsequently excluded from calculations according to the categories of exclusion prevailing in *Technologies of the Novel* (col. G)

Additional epistolary items encountered in the course of research were added in (these were few in number; see below, col. D)

Columns

C: Number

A simple ordinal numbering of each year’s novels that does not correspond to the numbering of Giraud and Clin-Lalande.

D: Giraud/Clin-Lalande

Is the work included in the Giraud/Clin-Lalande bibliography? (Y/N)

F: Title

Minimally abbreviated

G: Reason for exclusion

Most should be self-explanatory. “Non-plotted” means that in my estimation there is not enough plot to justify considering the work as a novel. Note, however, that in some calculations I include non-plotted “observational” novels (see col. N).

H: Length in words (x 1000, rounded)

I: Mode

rw=real-world

mar=marvelous, i.e., containing unquestioned supernatural material (alternate-world)

J: Temporality

con=contemporary

his=historical

M: Characters:

Nobodies

Somebodies=strong Aristotelian

L: Truth posture

fact=pseudofactual

fact based=said to be based on a true story

fact iron=pseudofactual pretense used ironically

fact equ=equivocal pseudofactual pretense

fict=invented

ind=indeterminate

keyed=contains either an actual key as paratext or the paratextual assertion that real, known people are hiding under the characters' names

paro=parodic pseudofactual affirmation; applies only to alternate-world novels

transposed=paratextual assertion that a true contemporary story has been transposed into a different temporal frame

M: Truth place

Indicates where the truth posture (L) is found. (Indeterminates, having no explicit indication of truth status, are left blank.)

title=main title

sub= generic subtitle

pref=prefatory material

post=postface or other remarks following text

mis=mismatch between the name or gender of a first-person narrator and the name or gender of the indicated author

N: Genre

Explanations can be found in *Technologies of the Novel*, chap. 7.

L1=love plots

L1s=sentimental love plots

L2=worldly/courtly seduction

O1=Observer narratives with at least a minimal amount of plotting

O1f=Subset of O1 in which the observer is a foreigner

O2=Observer narratives; discrete letters on different subjects with no overarching plot. (Note that I do not consider these works novels, but they do figure in a few calculations in Chapter 7.)

O2f= Subset of O2 in which the observer is a foreigner

O2f-s=Subset of O2f, published as a serial

OL=novels mixing the observer conceit with love plots. Calculations usually include these with L1 novels

D=Didactic novels

E=Novels of education

X=Other (includes erotic or pornographic works)

AN=Texts (novels and non-novels) to which a letter collection is appended as an annex

O: Type

1=one correspondent's letters

2=letter exchange between two correspondents

3=letter exchange between three or more correspondents

Emem=epistolary memoir (a memoir told as a series of letters to one correspondent)

J=journal format

1P, 3P suffix=letter collection contains a narrative coda in first or third person