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Annotation: This article is devoted to show the use of children's language in fiction. This article discusses the significance of characterizing the particularities of the child characters such as their age, background, and personality.

Key words: fiction, children's language, chronological age, mental age, social age, baby talk, toddler language.

The use of children's language in fiction is an effective technique employed by writers to create well-rounded and relatable characters. Children's language in fiction is a reflection of their cognitive and linguistic development, and it plays a significant role in characterizing the particularities of the child characters such as their age, background, and personality. In this scientific article, we will discuss the significance of children's language in fiction, its types, and its role in character development.

Children's language in fiction is an essential aspect of storytelling as it helps writers to create realistic and relatable child characters. The language used by a child character in fiction can make a significant impact on how readers perceive and connect with the character. Children's language in fiction mirrors their cognitive and linguistic development, which can be used to reflect their age, education, socio-economic status, and regional background.

Children's language in fiction can be classified into three categories: chronological age, mental age, and social age. A child's chronological age refers to the number of years they have been alive, while their mental age reflects their cognitive and linguistic development. Social age, on the other hand, is determined by factors such as their social background, education, and experience.

Chronological age language: Children's chronological age language is characterized by inaccuracies, grammatical errors, and a limited vocabulary. Their language is usually straightforward and lacks complex sentences, making it easily readable and accessible to younger readers. Examples of chronological age language used in fiction can include baby talk, toddler language, and simple conversation.

Mental age language: Children's mental age language refers to their cognitive and linguistic development, which can vary widely from their chronological age. Children with a higher mental age tend to use more complex sentence structures, a wider vocabulary, and demonstrate a better understanding of grammar and syntax.

Social age language: Children's social age language is determined by their socio-economic background, education, and experience. Children from different regions, cultures, and social backgrounds may use different words, accents, and dialects, which can be used to reflect their social age language in fiction.

The language used by child characters in fiction plays a crucial role in character development. The language can be used to portray the character's personality, background, and experiences. For example, a child character who speaks in an upper-class accent may be perceived as wealthy and privileged, while a child character who uses dialect may be perceived as coming from a specific region or cultural background.

Furthermore, the use of children's language in fiction can also be used to create conflict or tension. For instance, a child character who speaks in a formal and sophisticated language may be ridiculed or criticized by other characters who perceive it as pretentious or arrogant. Conversely, a child character who speaks in simple language may be underestimated or dismissed by others as unintelligent or naive, driving the narrative tension in the story.

In conclusion, children's language in fiction plays a crucial role in character development. The language used by child characters reflects their cognitive and linguistic development and can be used to create relatable and realistic characters with different backgrounds, personalities, and experiences. The use of chronological, mental, and social age language in fiction can also be used to create conflict and tension, driving the narrative forward. Understanding the significance of children's language in fiction is vital for writers seeking to develop nuanced and well-rounded child characters.

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