



The Centre for Research on Children's and Young Adult Literature at the Faculty of Letters of the University of Wrocław has the honor to invite you to the 11th lecture in the series "International Voices in Children's Literature Studies"

Prof. Małgorzata Drewniak

What Can Stylistic Approach Add to Analysing Texts Across Media?



Stylistics is 'a sub-discipline of linguistics that is concerned with the systematic analysis of style in language and this can vary according to different factors' (Jeffries and McIntyre 2010: 1). It 'is practised in its broadest terms across the world, across all the fields of literary scholarship, genre, culture and period, and is increasingly used as the core discipline for further interdisciplinary encounters' (Lambrou and Stockwell 2007: 1). Traditionally, stylistic analysis was applied to literary texts – the 1996 seminal stylistics textbook by Mick Short is even

entitled *Exploring the Language of Poems, Plays and Prose*. However, nowadays contemporary stylisticians go beyond literature, proving that you can apply this approach to a range of texts – not only prose, poetry and drama, but also film, TV series, popular music lyrics, or advertising. 'To do stylistics is to explore language, and more specifically creativity in language use' (Simpson 2014: 3). In this talk, I would like to illustrate how useful stylistic analysis can be when it comes to children's and young adult fiction, on the example of two texts, in different media. I will first provide a sample analysis from the Ink trilogy by Alice Broadway. *Ink* (2017), *Spark* (2018) and *Scar* (2019) are set in a beautifully created dystopian world. I will give examples how this world is put in words, and how its characters are portrayed linguistically. My second text will be *Fate: The Winx Saga* (2021), a Netflix live-action young adult series, based on an earlier Nickelodeon animated children's series *Winx Club* (2004-2009, 2011-2019). I will illustrate how stylistic analysis can be used to analyse dialogue in a TV series. My aim is to show that such approach can be a helpful, additional tool for textual analysis.

Małgorzata Drewniak was awarded a PhD in Linguistics (stylistics) from Lancaster University in 2014. Her doctoral research focused on how the change of identity of fictional characters in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* TV series (1997–2003) is signaled in language. Her research interests include stylistics, pragmatics, and language of pop culture, especially television and film. She has published on the language of *Buffy*, Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), as well as on the language of narration in the paranormal romance series by Yasmin Galenorn. Language of advertising and branding is her more recent interest, and she has been working on a project on the language of luxury hotels. She is currently the Head of International College at University of Lincoln, UK.

DATE: 29 June 2022

TIME: 18.00 (CET)

VENUE: MS Teams: If you are interested in taking part in the lecture, please contact us by email by 27 June at the following address: justyna.deszcz-tryhubczak@uwr.edu.pl