

Analytical Philosophy and Its Relationship with the Literary Theories of Formalism and Structuralism

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Extended Abstract

Introduction

Considering the complex and “interdisciplinary” nature of literary theory, the contribution of each philosophical and epistemological field should be considered in the formation of a specific theory and its philosophical, theological, historical and political origins. When using them in the texts, the awareness of the goal, purpose and its constituent elements should be taken into consideration. Literary theories are the result of viewpoints, ideology, social and discourse classes of the theory’s owners. For this reason, theories are not “innocent” and “neutral”, rather they have specific insights and different purposes. In the interdisciplinary researches of recent decades, much attention has been paid to the relationship between philosophy and literary theories; however, the characteristic of this type of research has been the “general” and “unprecise” encounter with “philosophy” and “literary theory”. In this research, by adopting an interdisciplinary approach, it is shown that ‘literary theories’ can be divided into two types, which interact dialectically with ‘analytical’ and ‘continental’ philosophy. These types are further divided into European and other schools of thought. Theories such as reader reaction, phenomenology, psychoanalysis, etc., have a tendency towards “continental philosophy” (European) due to the interpretive and subjective approach, but theories such as formalism, structuralism and its subsets, such as narratology and structuralist anthropology, have affinity and overlap with analytical philosophy. The present article will show that analytical philosophy, through elements such as concreteness, objectivism, test-oriented, precision, repeatability and fixed results and distance from subjectivism and relativism, with “Russian formalism” and “Structuralism” overlaps and the key terms of the theories of formalism (dominant element) and structuralism (common patterns) are fundamentally related to Thomas

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Cohen's scientific-analytical approach and his key terms, paradigm and normative science.

Research methodology

By comparing the characteristics of analytical philosophy with some literary theories, including formalism and structuralism, the present research intends to show that there are similarities between analytical philosophy and theories focused on formalism and structuralism. It is written in a descriptive-analytical way using library resources.

Research findings

The present research shows that formalists and structuralists have some "experimental" tendencies. Adopting an objective and linguistic approach in the analysis of literary texts and paying attention to the concrete and tangible aspect of the literary work places them in the group of "empiricist" theorists. Formalists analyze the literary work through "objective experience" and "observation". From the perspective of formalism, it is the formal and concrete area of the literary work that causes the "literature" and "personality" of the literary work, and it is placed as a "scientific" and "accurate" criterion to determine the "literature" level of the work. It gives and can be searched and investigated only by "observing" and "experimenting" literary preparations. Moreover, "many empiricists... believe that justified beliefs about the world can be obtained only through observation and experimentation". Therefore, there are proven affinities for the relationships between analytical philosophy, Russian formalism, and structuralism, and through categorization, one can have a significant understanding of their origins, roots, and sources. In the current research, by adopting an interdisciplinary approach, attention was paid to the exact ratio of "analytical philosophy" and "theory of Russian formalism" and "structuralism". Analytical philosophy through elements such as concreteness, objectivism, test-oriented, formalism, precision, repeatability, measurability, fixed results, and avoiding relativism and fundamental subjectivity, with literary theories. Formalism, structuralism and its subcategories, narratology and structuralist anthropology, have some fundamental affinities. In the present research, while enumerating the common ratios of analytical philosophy and the aforementioned theories, it was shown that literary theories can be divided into two types, "analytical philosophy" and "continental philosophy". The present article, by defining the components of analytical philosophy, showed its relationship with theories such as Russian formalism and structuralism. It was also shown that in terms of philosophical sources, the key terms of the theories of formalism (dominant element) and structuralism (common mental patterns) were influenced by the scientific-analytical approach of Thomas Cohen and his key terms "paradigm", "image", which they are "normative science". It was also shown that literary theories and analytical philosophy have a relationship of influence and influence with each other, and literary theory is not simply considered as a "passive"

and “influenced” theory. From the point of view of this article, analytical philosophy (scientific, positivist, and experimental philosophy) interacts with Russian formalism and structuralism, has a dialectic and greater influence compared to other theories and approaches.

Keywords: analytical philosophy, paradigm, interdisciplinary, literary theory, formalism, structuralism, dominant element.

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