



People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
University of Saida, Dr. Moulay Tahar
Faculty of Letters, Languages and Arts
Department of English Language and Literature



The Representation of power and Politics in James Joyce's Ulysses

A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of *Master in literature and civilization*

Presented by:

Mr. Fetati Mohammed El Amin

Supervised by:

Dr. A. Bouaricha

Board of Examiners

Dr . Z. M. Boudlal	(MCB) Chair Person	University of Saida
Dr. A . Bouaricha	(MCB) Supervisor	University of Saida
Dr. L. Bessadet	(MCA) Examiner	University of Saida

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Declaration of Originality

I hereby declare that this submission is my work and that, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material that has been accepted for the qualification of any other degree or diploma of a university or other institution.

Date: 20/06/2024

Name: Fetati Mohammed El Amin

Signature: *amina* ..

Dedication

First and foremost, most thanks to ALLAH for giving me the strength and health to realize this work I wish to dedicate my graduation and this success to the great man who longed to see me graduate, to the one embraced by the earth before his wish was fulfilled - my grandfather Fetati Slimane To the secret of my strength and determination, may God have mercy on him.

To my parents Djallal and khaddidja , and my family

To all My uncles and aunt Mohamed, Tayab, Mostapha, Abdelhalim, Rgia, Alhora

Special thanks is dedicated to my friends .

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Abstract

This study employs a qualitative content analysis approach to provide an in-depth, critical examination of the themes of power and politics in James Joyce's seminal novel *Ulysses*. The complex and symbolic nature of *Ulysses* presents a challenge in understanding the author's nuanced commentary on these weighty themes, which this research seeks to unravel. The methodology involves a scrutinized reading of *Ulysses* with a focus on the characters, plot, and symbolism, in addition to a literary criticism analysis drawing from existing scholarly works. The research also undertakes a comparative analysis with the historical and political contexts of Joyce's time, providing a deeper, more critical understanding of the author's incisive critique of power structures and political systems. The key findings reveal that *Ulysses* offers a sophisticated portrayal of the power dynamics, particularly the struggle for influence and self-determination between the novel's central characters, Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus. Joyce's innovative use of the stream-of-consciousness technique sheds light on the characters' complex motivations and the manipulation of power and language. Furthermore, the study shows that the novel's exploration of time and space emphasizes the characters' intricate relationships while, it also reflects a broader political commentary. Hence, the research suggests that Joyce's satirical critique of Irish politics in *Ulysses* encourages readers to critically examine the implications of power structures and the use of language in the political sphere. The current study provides a comprehensive, critical analysis of the themes of power and politics in *Ulysses*, illuminating Joyce's unique literary style and his profound, thought-provoking commentary on the human condition.

Keywords: *Ulysses*, stream of consciousness, James Joyce, Power and Politics, Leopold Bloom

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General Introduction

General Introduction

James Joyce's *Ulysses* has captivated readers and scholars for almost a century due to its innovative use of language, stream-of-consciousness technique, and profound exploration of the human experience. At its core, *Ulysses* delves into the themes of power and politics, examining how power structures shape the lives of its characters and the social landscape of Dublin.

The research explores the intricate world of *Ulysses* through the lens of power and politics. It analyzes the various forms of power and examines Joyce's critique and satire of political systems, and the power structures that impact our lives. The study endeavors to conduct a meticulous examination of the novel to explore the innovative use of the stream-of-consciousness technique. This research project seeks to critically examine the complex interplay of power dynamics and political frameworks that permeate the rich tapestry of James Joyce's landmark novel, *Ulysses*. At the heart of this inquiry lies a desire to elucidate the myriad ways in which power structures - be it social, political, or cultural - shape the lived experiences of the novel's characters and the broader societal landscape of early 20th-century Dublin. Accordingly, three sub-questions were formulated in order to attain valuable, reliable and valid answers:

A .. How do the various forms of power and power structures shape the lives of the characters and the social landscape of Dublin in *Ulysses*?

B.. How does Joyce's critique and satire of political systems and power structures impact the narrative and themes of the novel?

C. In what ways does Joyce's innovative use of the stream-of-consciousness technique serve as a vehicle for interrogating and subverting dominant power relations in *Ulysses*?

On the basis of the research questions, the following hypotheses were put forward:

A .Ulysses seems to delve deeply into the complex interplay of power dynamics and political frameworks that permeate the lives of its characters and the broader social landscape of early 20th century Dublin.

B .Joyce's strategic use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, appears to serve as a means for him to critically examine and subvert dominant power structures within the novel.

C .The novel's portrayal of gender, sexuality, and the intersection of nationalist, imperialist, and colonial discourses might reflect Joyce's critique of the nuanced ways in which power is negotiated, challenged, and reconfigured within the narrative

Through a multifaceted analysis, this study will explore how Joyce's innovative use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, serves as a vehicle for interrogating and subverting dominant power relations. Additionally, the research will investigate the novel's portrayal of gender, sexuality, and the competing nationalist, imperialist, and colonial discourses, in order to shed light on the nuanced ways in which power is negotiated, challenged, and reconfigured within the narrative. By engaging with these complex themes and methodological approaches, this project aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the intricate relationship between form and politics in Ulysses, ultimately revealing the novel's profound and enduring significance as a critical commentary on the human condition.

This research project lie in the multifaceted and interdisciplinary nature of the inquiry. Addressing the proposed research questions and hypotheses would require a deep engagement with critical theory, postcolonial studies, feminist theory, and other interdisciplinary frameworks, in order to navigate the complex intersections of power, politics, language, and identity. Additionally, the novel's innovative formal qualities and the historical context of early 20th century

The research is divided into three chapters, each focusing on a distinct aspect of power and politics in Ulysses. The first chapter will introduce the concept of power dynamics in the novel, exploring the various forms of power that shape the characters' lives and the social structures of Dublin. In the second chapter, we will delve deeper into the characters and their struggles for power, analyzing how Joyce utilizes character analysis and the stream-of-

consciousness technique to explore the inner lives of Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus. Finally, in the third chapter, we will examine Joyce's political commentary and satire, discussing his critique of Irish politics, gender politics, and the influence of language as a tool of power.

This research project offers a critical examination of the complex interplay of power structures and political frameworks that permeate James Joyce's seminal novel, *Ulysses*. Through a multifaceted analysis, the study explores how Joyce's innovative use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, serves as a vehicle for interrogating and subverting dominant power relations.

Chapter Two Power Struggles Within this chapter, we will explore further into the characters and their power struggles, scrutinizing how Joyce employs character analysis and the stream-of-consciousness technique to delve into the inner workings of Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus. We will assess how these characters maneuver through the power hierarchies and political frameworks of Dublin, and their reactions to the trials and hindrances they encounter. The chapter is structured into four main sections. Firstly, the Introduction will offer an overview of the chapter, introducing key concepts and themes related to characters and power struggles in *Ulysses*. Following this, the Character Analysis of Leopold Bloom will delve into his background, motivations, and relationships with other characters, exploring how he navigates power structures and political systems in Dublin. Similarly, the Character Analysis of Stephen Dedalus will analyze his character, motivations, and relationships, as well as his responses to challenges and obstacles within the political landscape of Dublin. The third section will focus on the Stream-of-Consciousness Technique in *Ulysses*, examining how Joyce utilizes this innovative technique to delve into the inner lives of Bloom and Dedalus, revealing their thoughts, feelings, and perceptions.

Finally, it summarizes the key points of the chapter, underlining the significance of understanding characters and power struggles in *Ulysses*. aims to provide a comprehensive exploration of the characters and their interactions with power dynamics in Dublin, showcasing Joyce's use of character analysis and stream-of-consciousness technique to illuminate the complexities of Bloom and Dedalus., readers will gain a deeper insight into the characters' navigation of political systems and power structures in the novel.

Chapter Three delves into Joyce's political commentary and satire, exploring his critiques of Irish politics, gender politics, and the influence of language. Through the use of

satire and irony, Joyce challenges the prevailing power dynamics and political systems in Dublin, shedding light on their absurdity and contradictions. The chapter is structured into four sections: Introduction: Providing an overview of the chapter, introducing the central concepts and themes related to political commentary and satire in *Ulysses*. Joyce's Critique of Irish Politics Analyzing Joyce's satirical take on Irish politics, scrutinizing how he lampoons the political institutions and personalities of his era.

The discussion will focus on how Joyce exposes the absurdities and inconsistencies within Irish politics, while also questioning the dominant power structures in Dublin. Gender Politics in *Ulysses* Exploring Joyce's examination of gender politics in *Ulysses*, delving into his criticisms of patriarchal power dynamics and gender norms prevalent during his time. The analysis will highlight Joyce's challenges to conventional notions of masculinity and femininity, as well as his exploration of the complexities and contradictions within gender identities. Power and Language in *Ulysses* Investigating Joyce's exploration of the power of language in *Ulysses*, examining how he utilizes language to challenge established power structures and political systems in Dublin. The discussion will focus on Joyce's subversion of prevailing ideologies and discourses, emphasizing the role of language in shaping perceptions and experiences.

In conclusion, this chapter aims to consolidate the main ideas discussed by emphasizing the significance of comprehending political commentary and satire in *Ulysses*. Through a detailed analysis, readers will gain a more profound insight into Joyce's critical views on Irish politics, gender dynamics, and the influence of language. By the conclusion of this chapter, readers will develop a heightened awareness of the intricate layers of Joyce's political critique and his strategic use of satire and irony to question the prevailing power dynamics and political frameworks in Dublin.

Chapter one

Chapter one : Power Dynamics in "Ulysses"

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Chapter One

1.1 Introduction

This chapter analyzes and discusses the most important elements related to the author James Joyce, including his life and works. A thorough examination will be conducted to analyze the intricate interplay of power dynamics and political structures in the novel 'Ulysses.' Moreover, an exploration will be conducted to uncover the symbolic portrayals of power and politics. This chapter aims to shed light on the political systems that were relevant during the period in which James Joyce wrote 'Ulysses.'

Life and Works of James Joyce

James Joyce is renowned for his innovative approach to language and his exploration of novel literary techniques, such as interior monologue, the use of a complex system of symbolic parallels, and the creation of new words, puns, and allusions in his works, particularly *Ulysses* (1922) and *Finnegans Wake* (1939). James Joyce spent most of his adult life in Trieste, Italy, Zurich, and Paris, despite growing up in Dublin. He was the eldest of 10 siblings, and his father struggled to maintain a steady income. In 1904, Joyce began living with Nora Barnacle, whom he later married in 1931. Nora served as the inspiration for the character Molly Bloom in *Ulysses*, and together they had two children: Giorgio, born in 1905, and Lucia, born in 1907.

Among Joyce's most significant works are the collection of short stories *Dubliners* (1914) and the novels *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (published in 1916), *Ulysses* (1922), and *Finnegans Wake* (1939). At the age of six, Joyce was sent to Clongowes Wood College, a Jesuit boarding school often referred to as "*the Eton of Ireland*." However, his father's financial instability led to the family's descent into poverty, forcing Joyce to leave Clongowes in 1891. He then spent two years at home, attempting to educate himself with the help of his mother.

In 1893, Joyce and his brother Stanislaus were admitted to Belvedere College, a Jesuit grammar school in Dublin, without having to pay fees. Despite excelling academically and being elected president of the Marian Society twice, Joyce left the school under a cloud due to his loss of faith in Roman Catholicism. He enrolled at University College, Dublin, which at that time was run by Jesuit priests. During his time there, he focused on studying languages and dedicated his spare time to extracurricular activities. He extensively read various books, especially those that were not recommended by the Jesuits, and actively participated in the Literary and Historical Society of the college.

He held a deep admiration for Henrik Ibsen and even learned Dano-Norwegian to read his works in their original language. At the age of 18, shortly after his birthday, he had an article titled "*Ibsen's New Drama*" published in the London Fortnightly Review. The article was a review of Ibsen's play "*When We Dead Awaken*." This early accomplishment solidified Joyce's determination to pursue a career as a writer and convinced his family, friends, and teachers that his decision was justified. Joyce's early life was marked by financial instability and difficult circumstances. His father, John Stanislaus Joyce, was a charismatic and talented man but struggled to maintain a steady income. He held various jobs throughout his life, but his financial irresponsibility, coupled with his alcoholism, led to a constant state of poverty for the family.

As the oldest child, Joyce felt a great burden to succeed and lift his family out of their dire situation. Despite the challenging circumstances, Joyce displayed exceptional academic abilities and was recognized for his intelligence and talent. Clongowes Wood College, located in County Kildare, Ireland, was a prestigious Jesuit institution known for its rigorous academic curriculum and disciplined environment. It provided Joyce with a structured and supportive educational setting, which influenced his formative years and shaped his intellectual and artistic development.

However, the financial struggles continued to plague Joyce's family. His father's reckless behavior and financial mismanagement resulted in mounting debts and constant financial instability. These circumstances deeply impacted Joyce's upbringing and influenced his later works, which often explored themes of poverty, social inequality, and the impact of societal pressures on individuals.

Joyce's experiences of growing up in poverty and witnessing the deteriorating conditions of his family's life would later find their way into his literary works. His acclaimed

novel "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man" draws heavily on his own childhood experiences and reflects the struggle of an artist to break free from societal and familial constraints.

Overall, Joyce's early life was marked by financial hardship and adversity, but it also fueled his determination and shaped his unique perspective on the human condition, which he would later explore in his literary masterpiece. Joyce challenged his difficult situation and suffering with his creativity in the field of literature, creating a new kind of writing that made his work special.

In 1915, at the beginning of World War I, there was a sense of rejection towards James and his family. Initially, he gave private English lessons and began writing the early parts of the novel "*Ulysses*." He faced a financial crisis but received assistance from Miss Edith Rockefeller, amounting to 23,000 pounds sterling. He suffered from various eye diseases, including inflammation and pain, which led him to undergo more than 25 surgeries from 1917 to 1930. Joyce experienced periods of complete blindness due to his eye conditions, yet this did not prevent him from writing and creating. On the contrary, it increased his creativity.

On June 16, 1904, romantic feelings developed between Joyce and Nora Barnacle. Their relationship lasted for 27 years until they officially married in 1931. Joyce left Ireland and went to Italy due to concerns about his safety following his marriage to Nora. During his time in Italy, he faced difficulties due to his daughter's illness and his dire financial situation. He took up a teaching job at his new residence.

Despite all the challenges he faced during the earlier period of his life, after marrying Nora and moving to a new environment and a different place from where he grew up, several changes began to occur in his life. He entered the world of teaching and became a professor at Berlitz School in Vienna, Austria-Hungary.

Joyce, as a valued writer with a love for literature and thought, started writing short stories in 1905 to enhance his knowledge and creativity. Later, in 1906 and 1907, they moved to Trieste, where James and Nora had two children, Giorgio and Lucia. James also found a job in a bank affiliated with Rome, but he quickly grew tired of it and couldn't adapt to it. He was in a better state and started considering a new novel titled "The Dead." Going back to the year 1909, Joyce returned to Ireland to publish the novels he had written, but he failed and couldn't accomplish that.

Then, one of his old friends came to him and revealed a secret from the past, confessing that he had feelings of love, interest, and affection towards his wife, Nora. Of course, this news was not easy for Joyce to handle. It was a shock and a sense of betrayal, which, in turn, became a significant theme in his writings and novels. In 1915, when Italy declared war, Joyce was forced to go to Zurich, where he worked as a private English language tutor. He began working on the famous novel "Ulysses," which caused a great sensation in the literary world from its release to this day. In Paris, Joyce worked on the novel "Finnegans Wake," which was published in 1939.

Despite Joyce's suffering and his eye-related illness, he found out that his daughter, Lucia, was suffering from a mental illness. He tried various ways to find a cure for her, but unfortunately, there was no escape. Finally, he placed her in a mental hospital. James Joyce said: "A man of genius makes no mistakes. His errors are volitional and are the portals of discovery (quoted from James Stephen Atherton,(2024,p179/143).

Joyce in this quote means that "A man of genius" does not lament his mistakes but rather embraces them as opportunities for growth and learning. He understands that errors are stepping stones and setbacks that can provide valuable lessons in life. In other words, mistakes are the foundation of creativity. When you make a mistake, you discover solutions, analyze things logically, and develop creative ideas.

He embodied this concept in his novel "Ulysses," where he depicted the challenges and difficulties he faced throughout his life. From the beginning, he experienced poverty and came from a socially disadvantaged family. He also dealt with partial blindness, which at times was total, and the mental illness of his daughter. Additionally, he made mistakes in his writing career as well as in his personal and social life.

Under these circumstances and obstacles, an ordinary individual might have been driven to the point of suicide. However, Joyce was not ordinary; he possessed an ambitious and strong willed personality. These experiences shaped him into a resilient individual and an exceptional writer. Through his mistakes, he overcame adversity and became a renowned author in the literary world.

What sets Joyce apart is that his readers can sense the injustice and difficult circumstances he endured through his writings. Therefore, it can be said that mistakes are what should transform you for the better and make you stronger. In this vein, Michel Foucault

said: "I don't feel that it is necessary to know exactly what I am. The main interest in life and work is to become someone else that you were not in the beginning."

Uchegbu (2019, para. 1,p.12) quoted Foucault as saying, "I don't feel that it is necessary to know exactly what I am. The main interest in life and work is to become someone else that you were not in the beginning." .The citation from Uchegbu (2019) discussing Michel Foucault's quote introduces a stimulating concept regarding personal development and self-evolution. Foucault proposes that the central objective in both life and career should revolve around transforming into a different individual, indicating an ongoing journey of change and enhancement.

According to Michel Foucault (1992), the primary focus in life and work should be on the process of becoming someone different from who we were initially. He suggests that the pursuit of self-discovery and self-transformation is more valuable than clinging to a static sense of identity.

This idea implies that embracing change, exploring new possibilities, and challenging preconceived notions about oneself are essential aspects of personal and intellectual development. Here we find a similarity between the two statements in that they both encourage learning from mistakes and moving forward with a strong character and a different approach by surpassing all errors.

1.2 Introduction to Power and Politics in Literature

George Orwell said: "Power is not a means; it is an end. One does not establish a dictatorship in order to safeguard a revolution; one makes the revolution in order to establish the dictatorship." (Orwell, 1984, pp. 219-220). In other words the power, in its fundamental sense, is not merely a means to achieve selfish goals and personal interests, but more than that. Those who seek to attain it employ various methods and techniques, including revolutions and tactics, to appeal to the common people.

However, once they reach it, they attempt to overthrow and establish their control over the vulnerable. Orwell sees power as an objective for many who aim to serve their personal interests and indulge in tyranny. The theme of power has been widely explored by writers and authors, captivating the attention of readers. "Power is not a means; it is an end. One does not establish a dictatorship in order to safeguard a revolution; one makes the revolution in order to

establish the dictatorship” (Orwell, 1949, p. 273), delves into the true nature of power, its attainment, and the implicit meaning it holds, as well as its consequences.

Power is considered as a comprehensive and ideological goal. The author states that some individuals who seek power will do anything to obtain it, solely for personal purposes and using oppressive methods under the guise of revolutions and collective movements. This indicates the danger of power becoming detached from goodness, as it leads to injustice and tyranny due to the elevated status it grants to the person who possesses it, allowing them the freedom to act. In reality, noble power should be bound by regulations and principles.

Dictatorship is a reaction to corrupt power, as Orwell (1949) suggests that revolutions can take a reverse course by turning into oppressive and corrupt regimes against the people, once power falls into the hands of an irresponsible person who is driven by greed and deceit. In this regard, Orwell (1949) indicates that

“the pursuit of power, in one way or another, can contribute to the corruption of the principles upon which revolutions are built. Power is not a means of oppression, but a way to achieve the interests of the people and to obtain justice for those who have been wronged” (p. 273).

Such an approach suggests that those who possess power may surrender during the times of weakness or betrayal depending on the actual socio-economic and political situation. The ambiguity surrounding power, as presented by Orwell, urges us as readers to explore the purpose behind the pursuit of power and the consequences it brings when used for personal or public interests. It also highlights the burden and responsibility that result from its misuse.

The manipulation and distortion of facts throughout history, as well as in literature, are often depicted in novels that revolve around deceit and lies employed by cunning individuals to attain power and attract followers. This manipulation and deception mislead people and contribute to the confusion of the noble objectives for which power was originally established.

The pursuit of power can have a significant impact on individuals and societies that go through stages of power. This quote directs us to contemplate the psychological effects on those who suffer from corrupt power that oppresses and deprives them of their rights. In this

regard, "Power in literature is a reflection of the human condition, a constant struggle for control and dominance" (James, 1912, p. 123). Following this line of thought, an in-depth analysis demonstrates the intimate relationship between the love of power and human nature, which literature speaks about. Hence, Joyce sheds light on the dynamics of power, considering that power reflects human conflicts and the actual truth of humans after attaining power.

Literature is the effective and successful means that reveals the truth of power and its ramifications. In this context, power refers to dominance and control over others. Joyce states that power is not merely a literary subject in novels, but it goes beyond that. It can be viewed as a reflection of influence and human existence. Indeed, Authors tend to analyze human psychology and delve into social roots, and the human desire for control.

The expression "the constant struggle for control and dominance" illustrates the power struggle in literature throughout different periods in history. The study of literature examines the dynamics of power in all its forms, such as political power, social hierarchy, and personal relationships. These conflicts are often portrayed as ongoing battles, revealing the human instinct to seek power and control over others.

One of the strongest examples that demonstrates the power of literature is Shakespeare's play *Macbeth* 1606. In this play, the protagonist resorts to abandoning his humanity and betraying others in order to reach the throne. The play reveals the negative impact of power, the conflicts it generates, and the catastrophic consequences that follow. Macbeth's struggle for control over Scotland illustrates the intensity of human desire for power and the audacity individuals may reach to attain it.

The power struggle in literature is not limited to individual characters; it extends to the division between societies. Novels such as "1984" by George Orwell and "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley analyze impoverished societies that contribute to distorting the nature of power through oppression and manipulation. These works serve as warnings, shedding light on the potential dangers of unchecked power and the injustice it imposes on freedoms.

Furthermore, Literature delves into the depths of societies through class and gender, which have a direct relationship with power. In Charlotte Bronte's novel "Jane Eyre," it speaks about society's control over women and their confinement by the force of authority. Nevertheless, Jane defies this notion and demonstrates the opposite, asserting her independence from ruling

and familial control. Literature sheds light on social inequality and sparks discussions about social justice.

James Joyce's quote suggests that power in literature is not just a trivial subject, but an important aspect of human life. By studying power struggles, authors delve into human nature and explore the positive or negative effects of power on individuals and societies. Literature invites readers to analyze power structures and reflect on the ethical consequences of power.

Moreover, James Joyce's quote from the novel *Ulysses* summarizes the idea that the power in literature is a reflection of the extent of transparency in human character through the desire for power and control after the struggles to attain it. It also reflects the dangerous repercussions of power and its consequences.

It can be deduced that Literature, both on a personal and social level, has perspectives and power imbalances that can lead to conflicts. For example, Jane Austen's novel (1813) "*Pride and Prejudice*" explores the dynamics of power between characters like Mr. Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet. Initially, Darcy uses his social power to dominate Elizabeth, resulting in misunderstandings and conflict.

Yet, as the story progresses, Darcy undergoes a transformation through events and realizes the value of love and equality. In the end, they transcend the power dynamics between them. This exploration of power dynamics in relationships in literature highlights human complexities and the potential for change.

Power in literature is not always portrayed straightforwardly . It can manifest in different ways, such as manipulation and psychological control. In Vladimir Nabokov's novel "*Lolita*"(1955) the protagonist Humbert exerts control over the young girl Lolita through manipulation and emotional coercion. The novel delves into the intricacies and dynamics of power within a complex relationship, exploring themes of desire and the abuse of power.

"Political language... is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind." (Orwell, 1946), is a critique of how political language can be used to distort the truth and make morally reprehensible actions seem acceptable. Orwell argues that political language can prevent people from understanding the reality of a situation and making informed decisions.

By using vague and abstract language, politicians can obscure the truth and prevent people from thinking critically about political issues. The quote highlights the dangers of political language and the importance of clear and truthful communication. This quote reveals to us the intricacies of political manipulation in literature and illustrates Orwell's portrayal of the dark side of using language for political deception. By studying several aspects mentioned by the author, we can gain insight into the fundamental meaning and proper understanding of politics in literature.

Orwell affirms that politics is designed to make lies appear as truth, becoming a tool to attract and gain the attention and support of people. Politicians and those in power often use such deceptive methods to distort the actual truth and cover up their mistakes. Their aim is manipulation and deception. Through novels, authors expose the deceitful tactics used in political discourse and urge readers to analyze the speeches they encounter. Works like George Orwell's novel "1984" challenge the validity of political language and shed light on the consequences of accepting political lies as truth.

Furthermore, Orwell (1946) suggests that political language justifies killing and violence through manipulation of speeches and the use of persuasive language to obscure lies. Governments often employ narratives of national security, liberation, or the greater good to legitimize acts of aggression or conflict.

By allowing acts of violence under the noble banner, political language seeks to garner popular support and suppress dissent. This aspect of Orwell's quote raises important questions about the role of literature in analyzing and critiquing the endorsement of ideas such as murder. Literature serves as a powerful means to expose the true consequences of war and violence. Works like Erich Maria Remarque's "All Quiet on the Western Front" or Kurt Vonnegut's "Slaughterhouse-Five" challenge the glorification of war and depict the human cost and ethical complexities often concealed by political language.

The quote "Politics is the art of the possible, the attainable — the art of the next best" by Otto von Bismarck highlights the idea that politics is about finding practical solutions and achieving what is possible, rather than striving for unattainable ideals. It suggests a focus on pragmatism and compromise in order to make progress and achieve the best possible outcomes in a given situation. This worldview is often contrasted with idealism or utopianism, which can be seen as less grounded in reality and less effective in achieving tangible results.

Literature is a platform that gathers different perspectives and political criticism. Authors delve into understanding political systems, shedding light on various challenges, achieving goals, and analyzing the underlying methods in the process of political decision-making.

The quote suggests that politics should not strive for perfection or absolute ideals, but rather revolve around the idea of overcoming constraints and complexities. In literature, this concept is reflected in the portrayal of characters who struggle with political problems, negotiate compromises, and confront gaps in political systems.

Through the Political scope, this approach serves as an ideology which aligns with the concept of pragmatism, which emphasizes practical solutions and recognizes the power in political decision-making. Pragmatism calls for focusing on achievable changes that have meaning and impact.

This approach acknowledges the complexities of political systems, the diversity of interests, and the need to find common understanding and make concessions for the public good. Furthermore, it reflects the practical aspect of politics, emphasizing the need for effective options and settlements to overcome social problems in a clear manner. A scrutinized analysis of this approach, one can explore its impact on political philosophy and examine how literature interacts with political themes through the portrayal of characters struggling with political systems.

The examination of power and politics in literature explores the intricate connection between fictional narratives and their impact on political dynamics. Literature, especially fiction, has the potential to sway politics by addressing topics that may be difficult to discuss directly.

Novels and other fictional works can convey messages that question the existing order, challenge the silence enforced by those in authority, and humanize marginalized communities. An example of this is in the book of Harriet Beecher Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" (1852) which is recognized for strengthening opposition to slavery and playing a role in its abolition.

Conversely, political writing disguised as nonfiction can also generate significant influence, as demonstrated by historical instances such as the impact of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion" and "The Global Impact of the Protocols of the Elders of Zion: A Century-Old Myth" (2019). Further examples can be found in the incidents that happened during

European anti-Semitism in addition to the role of news coverage in the Gulf of Tonkin incident, which escalated American military involvement in Vietnam.

The ability of literature to blur the distinction between fact and fiction, along with its potential to question established narratives, highlights its impact on political discussions and societal transformations. By presenting alternative viewpoints, fictional works can shape public opinion, challenge societal norms, and contribute to broader social and political changes. (Idris, 2016). Furthermore, the exploration of power and politics in literature unveils the complex interplay between fictional narratives and their impact on political dynamics.

Literature possesses the capacity to challenge established hierarchies, interrogate sources of authority, and bring empathy to marginalized groups, thereby shaping public perspectives and playing a role in societal changes. In summary, these literary analyses provide deep understanding of the complex interconnections among power, politics, and human behavior. They encourage readers to reflect on the moral dimensions of power dynamics and the far-reaching effects of its manipulation in individual and collective settings.

1.3 Power Structures in "Ulysses"

Power has been regarded as an outcome of different aspects which overlap and develop to reach a certain level of impact. These aspects may be in various forms including the military, economic, political and socio-cultural. Hence, power can be divided into multiple structures which can be colonial, patriarchal, religious, cultural, linguistic and communicative.

1.3.1 Colonial power

We can highlight an impelling expression from the book of Ulysses in which Joyce claims through the character of Stephen that "History (...) is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." episode 2 "Nestor" (Joyce, 2010). This passage summarizes one of the main themes of the novel, which is the exploration and critique of history and its impact on personal consciousness.

A deep analysis of the novel "Ulysses" reveals that it can serve as a reliable and valid source of historical evidence about the colonial era. It can also be a credible reference that shows the struggle of the Irish people in their attempt to restore independence and fight for freedom and independence. Therefore, James Joyce gained a significant place in the context of Irish national identity and the colonial experience. The events of the novel take place in

1904, during a long period of Irish colonization, and it was published in its entirety in 1922, the year of the establishment of the Irish Free State.

The novel alternates between these two periods and illustrates the complex experience of being an Irish person in the late colonial period. Anderson's idea of the imagined community is relevant to this discussion, as the concepts of "nation," "identity," and "traditions" are entangled and influenced by the period of Irish colonization.

Ulysses provides an example of Joyce's exploration of Irish identity, revealing the limitations of narrow-minded nationalism or rooted Irishness and shedding light on specific scenes that interact with themes of nationality and colonialism. In *Ulysses*, we discover Joyce's nuanced relationship with Irish nationalism and British colonialism. Stephen Dedalus, a young man, expresses his disillusionment with history. By referring to history as a "nightmare," he indicates that the past, with its societal and political burdens, haunts him. The use of the word "awake" signifies a desire to break free from the constraints imposed by history.

Furthermore, critiquing history suggests that society may be forced to live in a cycle of oppression and struggle. Stephen's longing to awaken from this nightmare reflects his yearning for a more liberated and self-determined existence. The Irish experience of colonial rule is considered a particularly compelling example, as it was "long in particular," spanning from the Tudor invasions to the early 20th century.

The significance of this enduring relationship cannot be underestimated, as Tom Garvin noted that it led to the Irish identity being shaped by "extensive interaction with colonial invaders," resulting in modern Ireland being culturally intertwined with British themes. Consequently, due to this complex history, ethnic identity became "defined by religious affiliation" for Protestants and Catholics, rather than "linguistic or racial distinctions due to colonization."

The dominance of the Catholic Church in Ireland signifies the traditional relationship between the colonizers and the colonized within the context of colonial and postcolonial policies. Gareth Joseph Downes commented on the "necessary complexity" of incorporating the Church into discussions of Irish nationalism and colonization, affirming that after the Union Act, the Church sought to impose and "enhance its position" within society, benefiting from the British state, particularly in matters of education.

Discussing how this "highly conservative and dogmatic institution" was extremely cautious of any influence that could secularize Irish society. Downes (1956) suggests that the Church feared the republican nationalist ideals "imported from the French Revolution" that could be "hostile to Catholicism."

This position puts the Church in a contradictory position concerning both nationalist ideology and the dominant forces of the British imperial state. In the Irish context, the Roman Catholic Church may be seen as the third pillar of the colonized Irish psyche, due to its social, cultural, and political dominance in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The theme of communication is present from the beginning of the novel, where Stephen Dedalus echoes Joyce's voice when he declares himself as the "*servant of two masters*," defined as "the British imperial state... and the Roman Catholic and Apostolic Church." Stephen's thoughts maintain a constant connection between oppressed Ireland and the pervasive influence of Catholic dominance on the Irish psyche.

This partnership revolves around the theme of slavery, as Stephen serves breakfast to Haines (the English conqueror) and "*links Mulligan's soap dish, containing a piece of altar soap, to the boat-shaped incense burner*" symbolizing his artistic quest for Irish identity, painfully reflecting on the "cracked mirror" of Mulligan's "servant's spectacles."

The main part of the novel *Ulysses* depicts Leopold Bloom's movements through Dublin in intricate detail, as the city serves as the capital of Ireland and holds strategic importance for the British imperial dominance, being the "second city" of the British Empire.

Diana Pérez García (2023) analyzes this concept, noting that "*except for drinking in pubs, none of the public places are used according to their original function*," providing examples such as the library, the hospital, and numerous pubs as significant cultural sites and spaces for political discourse.

Therefore, one can identify similarities between the characters' navigation and their interpretation of their surroundings, which were constructed under colonial rule, and the complex and fluid nature of Irish identity interacting with British rule.

1.3.2 patriarchal power

When analyzing the novel, it is evident to observe that patriarchal power is a recurrent component of the events and the incidents mentioned within the plot and the characters' roles.

A valid example might be the following event: "*Can't bring back time. Like holding water in your hand. Would you go back to then? Just beginning then. Would you? Are you not happy in your home? Mulveys. Part patriarchy, part matriarchy.*" (Joyce, p. 123, 1916). This passage appears to be a reflection on the fleeting nature of time and the human desire to revisit the past. The speaker seems to be pondering whether they would want to go back to a particular moment in time, perhaps a happier or more carefree era. The phrase "Just beginning then" suggests a sense of innocence and new beginnings.

The mention of "Mulveys" and the description of it as "*Part patriarchy, part matriarchy*" implies a complex family dynamic, possibly with both male and female figures holding power. The question "Are you not happy in your home?" adds a sense of longing and discontent to the passage, implying that the speaker may be unhappy with their current circumstances. Overall, the passage is a poignant and introspective meditation on time, nostalgia, and personal relationships.

One of the strongest examples of parenthood in the novel "Ulysses" is depicted in the relationship between Leopold Bloom and his wife, Molly Bloom. Leopold Bloom is portrayed as a caring and supportive husband, but there are instances where power dynamics between them are revealed. For example, Molly Bloom's famous soliloquy at the end of the novel sheds light on her desires and experiences, challenging societal expectations of the traditional role of women and their ability to act within a paternal framework.

Joyce alludes to the Mulligan family, hinting at the presence of both paternal and maternal elements. This indicates a more nuanced understanding of power, where authority is not solely in the hands of men but is shared or competed for among family members, both men and women.

Joyce's exploration of paternal power in "Ulysses" extends beyond individual characters and delves into societal structures. The novel critiques the traditional gender roles and constraints imposed on both men and women. Through his portrayal, Joyce encourages readers to question and challenge these power structures and imagine alternative possibilities.

1.3.3 language and communication

Language and communication is an important element of the novel as shown in this passage: "*A man of genius makes no mistakes. His errors are volitional and are the portals of discovery.*" Joyce, J. (1922). Ulysses. Episode 9: Scylla and Charybdis. According to Joyce,

individuals with unique creative abilities do not make conventional mistakes in the same way as others. Their actions, even if they may appear as mistakes to others, are not actually mistakes. This challenges the notion of mistakes as purely negative.

Moreover, in this passage, "*Their errors are intentional*": Meaning that what is referred to as mistakes made by intelligent individuals are deliberate errors. Instead of being accidental, they are purposeful. They are the result of conscious decisions made by these extraordinary individuals.

Additionally we can view in this passage of "*The gateways of discovery*" that Joyce believes that these "errors" represent gateways or entrances to new discoveries. They lead to uncharted territories and innovative ideas. In other words, the mistakes made by genius individuals become opportunities for exploration and achievement.

In Joyce's view, the conventional understanding of mistakes as mere failures is challenged. Instead, he suggests that individuals with exceptional abilities can use their mistakes as catalysts for discovery. This perspective aligns with Joyce's experimental approach to writing and his desire to push the boundaries of language and literature. It encourages learning from mistakes, considering them as valuable starting points.

1.3.4 Religious power

We can view that the religious side is vivid in Ulysses novel. Indeed, it sheds light on significant aspects and methods which promotes the value of religion on the Irish society "*The ways of the Creator are not our ways, Mr. Deasy said. All human history moves towards one great goal, the manifestation of God.*" Joyce, J. (1922). Ulysses. Episode 2: Nestor.

Communal life revolved around the church, and the inhabitants of Dublin during Joyce's era enjoyed the excitement and debauchery of modern urban life while holding onto the traditional Catholic values of their fathers and grandfathers. However, when the status of religion disappears, something must fill this void. Therefore, it is important for Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus, the protagonists of Joyce's work, to be atheists. Stephen and Bloom represent different alternatives to religion.

Stephen believes in art, philosophy, and creativity, while Bloom believes in science, business, and rationality. Stephen is the mind and Bloom is the body, but both of them are incomplete because religion explains the relationship between the body and the mind. In the

end, by creating a synthesis of Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom's perspectives in the concluding chapters of the novel *Ulysses*, Joyce illustrates that it is possible to unify the body and the mind by finding spiritual meaning in the material world itself. The novel *Ulysses* portrays a rapidly changing society where the Catholic Church, traditionally strong, is beginning to lose its authority. However, it still pervades everywhere - the novel includes an astonishing number of priests (Conroy, Cawley, and O'Hanlon).

Yet, under The English rule, the Catholic Church holds a moderate official power, and most of the inhabitants of Dublin in *Ulysses* seem more interested in Parnell than in the Pope. Stephen and his friends repeatedly draw comparisons between the Church and England, as both possess power and authority in Ireland. The traditions of the Church are still alive but increasingly intertwined with modern life. The protagonists in Joyce's work are atheists who have already rejected the authority of the Church. As an alternative to religion, Bloom chooses to interpret the world through science, while Stephen Dedalus chooses to interpret it through ideas and innovation.

In other words, Bloom believes that everything in the universe is ultimately material and devoid of spirituality, while Stephen believes that everything is a product of the mind and that material things are not. Bloom is Jewish but has never believed in God. This aspect of his identity adds complexity to his character, highlighting themes of religion, identity, and personal beliefs throughout the novel. Bloom's lack of belief in God is a significant aspect of his character that influences his interactions and perspectives within the narrative. He even views religion with a scientific disdain: when he attends Mass and sees the worshippers, he notices how deluded they appear, and at Dignam's funeral, he contemplates the extravagance of spending money on burying the rich instead of using it for charitable purposes.

1.4 Background Aspects of Power

Background elements of power encompass the fundamental factors that impact an individual's or group's capacity to exert influence over others. Power is a multifaceted and intricate concept that has been analyzed by scholars in various fields, such as sociology, psychology, politics, and philosophy. French philosopher Michel Foucault argued that "power is not an institution, and not a structure; it is not a certain strength we are endowed with; it is the name that one attributes to a complex strategical situation in a particular society." This statement underscores the notion that power is not static but rather a dynamic and relational construct that arises from interactions among individuals and groups.

A crucial background element of power is the notion of social structure. Social structure pertains to the underlying patterns of relationships and institutions that determine an individual's or group's access to resources, opportunities, and influence. Sociologist C. Wright Mills highlighted that *"the power elite are those who occupy the command posts of the major institutions of society."* This observation underscores that power often resides in the hands of a select few who control essential institutions and resources.

Another significant background aspect of power is the concept of ideology. Ideology encompasses the beliefs, values, and ideas that shape an individual's or group's perception of the world and their position within it. Marxist philosopher Antonio Gramsci noted that *"the ruling class does not maintain its power solely through violence and coercion, but also through the consent of the ruled, which is obtained through the dissemination of ideologies that justify the existing social order."* This insight emphasizes that power involves not only coercion but also the ability to influence people's beliefs and values.

Furthermore, apart from social structure and ideology, discourse serves as another crucial background element of power. Discourse encompasses the manner in which language and communication influence our comprehension of the world and our position within it. As highlighted by Foucault, discourse is not merely a reflection of reality, but rather a means of constructing reality itself (Foucault, 1972). This statement underscores the notion that power extends beyond mere verbal expression, encompassing the way in which individuals articulate their thoughts and how their words shape our perception of the world.

To summarize, the background aspects of power are intricate and diverse, involving the intricate interplay of social structure, ideology, discourse, and various other factors. As scientists and scholars, it is imperative that we grasp these underlying elements of power in order to effectively analyze and tackle issues pertaining to power dynamics and inequality within society.

1.5 conclusion

The present chapter reviews the delves into the life and works of James Joyce, exploring the profound influence of power and politics in his renowned novel "Ulysses." It provides an introduction to the examination of power and politics in literature, highlighting the intricate power structures depicted within the narrative. Additionally, it delves into the portrayal of political systems in "Ulysses" and analyzes the symbolism associated with power and politics

throughout the novel. Together, these titles offer a comprehensive exploration of the interplay between Joyce's life, his literary masterpiece, and the themes of power and politics that permeate his work.

Chapter Two

Chapter Two: The Analysis of Characters and Power Struggles

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Chapter Two

2.1 Introduction

The present chapter aims to analyze the characters Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus, delving into their complex personalities and exploring their traits, roles, and the innovative stream-of-consciousness technique used. Stream of consciousness, a distinctive feature of Joyce's writings, intricately weaves the characters' deepest thoughts and emotions, blurring the lines between time and space. Through this narrative tool, Joyce immerses readers in the characters' minds and offers a profound exploration of their consciousness and experiences within the context of time and space.

2.2 Political Systems in "Ulysses"

In James Joyce's "Ulysses," Stephen Dedalus articulates his disapproval of colonialism and the Catholic Church, in addition to his resistance against colonialism, imperialism, and militarism. Dedalus' perspectives are influenced by his background as a colonized individual and an Irish Catholic, prompting him to question the prevailing political and religious establishments of his era. Through his capacity for empathy and concern for humanity, Dedalus acknowledges the hardships and injustices endured by people within these frameworks.

Moreover, Dedalus' inclination towards individualism and artistic sensibility inform his political position, viewing art as a tool for conveying his political convictions and challenging the existing order. By exploring Dedalus' viewpoints, we can develop a more profound comprehension of the intricate and diverse nature of political ideologies and expressions during the early 20th century.

2.2.1 Critique of Colonialism and Catholic Church

James Joyce's "Ulysses" delves into critiques of colonialism and the Catholic Church as political systems. The novel scrutinizes how these institutions wield power and impact individuals and society, often with adverse outcomes. In "Ulysses," colonialism is implicitly criticized through its Dublin setting during British rule. Joyce weaves Irish history and nationalist sentiments into the narrative, shedding light on the repercussions of colonialism on the Irish populace.

Characters like Stephen Dedalus grapple with issues of national identity and cultural suppression, reflecting Joyce's disapproval of colonial power dynamics. Likewise, the Catholic Church faces censure in "Ulysses." Joyce portrays the Church as a dominant force that regulates individuals' lives, especially concerning morality and sexuality. Through characters like Leopold Bloom, the novel explores the challenges posed by Catholic moral standards as characters navigate personal desires.

By questioning the Church's authority, "Ulysses" challenges the impact of its doctrines on personal liberty and individual fulfillment. Joyce's critique of colonialism and the Catholic Church in "Ulysses" is nuanced, not a blanket rejection of these institutions. Instead, he intricately examines their effects on individuals and society, highlighting the complexities and contradictions within their power structures.

Overall, "Ulysses" serves as a critical exploration of colonialism and the Catholic Church as political systems, probing how they mold individuals' lives and prompting reflections on personal freedom and societal dynamics. (Ulysses at 100: The Politics of James Joyce, n.d.).

2.2.2 Opposition to Colonialism, Imperialism, and Militarism

James Joyce's "Ulysses" delves into critiques of colonialism, imperialism, and militarism as oppressive systems. The novel examines how these ideologies exert control over individuals and society, often leading to negative consequences. In "Ulysses," colonialism is implicitly critiqued through its portrayal of Dublin under British rule. By incorporating Irish history and nationalist sentiments, Joyce sheds light on the impact of colonialism on Irish society. Characters like Stephen Dedalus confront issues of national identity and cultural suppression, embodying Joyce's resistance to colonial power dynamics.

Similarly, the Catholic Church in "Ulysses" is depicted as a powerful institution that governs individuals' lives, particularly in matters of morality and sexuality. Through characters like Leopold Bloom, the novel explores the conflicts arising from adherence to Catholic moral standards amidst personal desires.

Joyce's nuanced critique of colonialism, imperialism, and militarism in "Ulysses" reveals his intricate examination of their effects on individuals and society. By highlighting the complexities within these systems' power structures, Joyce prompts readers to reflect on personal freedom and societal dynamics influenced by these ideologies.

2.2.3 Empathy and Compassion for Humanity

James Joyce delves into the depths of human existence, unveiling the challenges, aspirations, and vulnerabilities that unite individuals on a fundamental level. Through a series of encounters and moments of introspection, the novel illustrates how empathy and compassion have the power to bridge divides and nurture understanding among a varied populace. At the center of this narrative is the character of Leopold Bloom, who embodies empathy and compassion.

Traversing Dublin over the course of a day, Bloom's interactions with a spectrum of characters provide avenues for empathy to surface. His empathetic demeanor shines through in his engagements, particularly with society's marginalized and ostracized members. Demonstrating genuine care for those in distress, Bloom showcases a capacity for empathy that transcends superficial judgments, fostering connections based on shared human experiences.

Molly Bloom, Leopold's wife, also exemplifies empathy and compassion. In her poignant soliloquy that concludes the novel, Molly delves into her desires, dreams, and life encounters, offering profound insights into the intricacies of human emotions and relationships. Through her stream-of-consciousness narrative, readers gain intimate access to her innermost thoughts, eliciting empathy as they witness her vulnerabilities and yearnings. Molly's portrayal resonates with universal themes of love, longing, and sorrow, evoking compassion for the human condition.

Furthermore, Joyce employs diverse narrative techniques to evoke empathy and compassion in the audience. The utilization of stream of consciousness grants direct insight into characters' innermost thoughts, emotions, and recollections, facilitating a deeper comprehension of their inner worlds.

This immersive approach encourages readers to empathize with the characters' joys, pains, and challenges, blurring the lines between fiction and personal experiences. Throughout "Ulysses," Joyce underscores empathy and compassion as vital attributes capable of bridging disparities and nurturing a sense of shared humanity.

By inviting readers to engage with a rich tapestry of characters and their diverse experiences, the novel advocates for empathy and compassion as conduits to empathy and connection. Ultimately, Joyce's exploration of these themes in "Ulysses" serves as a poignant reminder of the significance of acknowledging our common humanity and extending kindness and understanding to others.

2.2.4 Individualism and Artistic Temperament

Throughout the narrative, James Joyce introduces a diverse array of characters who assert their uniqueness and express their artistic inclinations in various ways. In addition, one character exemplifying individualism and artistic temperament is Stephen Dedalus. A young aspiring writer, Stephen rebels against societal norms and traditional expectations, striving to carve out his own path. His internal struggles and philosophical reflections mirror his pursuit of self-expression and the cultivation of his artistic voice. Leopold Bloom, the central figure in the novel, also embodies individualism in a distinctive manner. Bloom is portrayed as a complex character who resists conformity and societal pressures, embracing his distinct qualities and perspectives.

Joyce explores artistic temperament through diverse narrative techniques in "Ulysses." The novel employs various styles, such as stream of consciousness and experimental prose, to capture the intricacies of the characters' artistic minds. These techniques offer insights into the characters' emotions, thoughts, and creative processes, revealing their artistic temperament and inner workings.

Furthermore, "Ulysses" delves into the interplay between art and life, illustrating how artistic expression can influence and illuminate individual identities. The novel delves into different art forms like literature, music, and visual arts, showcasing their transformative influence and ability to encapsulate human experiences. Through characters' interactions with art and their own creative endeavors, Joyce underscores the significance of artistic temperament in shaping personal identities and fostering creative expression.

Nevertheless, it is essential to acknowledge that "Ulysses" also critiques the drawbacks and constraints of individualism and artistic temperament. The characters' challenges and setbacks serve as cautionary tales, highlighting the difficulties and sacrifices inherent in pursuing individuality and artistic pursuits in a complex and often indifferent world.

In conclusion, "Ulysses" offers a nuanced examination of individualism and artistic temperament. It celebrates the distinct identities and creative tendencies of its characters while also probing the boundaries and repercussions of embracing individuality and artistic expression. Through its rich character portrayals and innovative narrative techniques, "Ulysses" prompts readers to contemplate the intricacies of human uniqueness and the transformative power of artistic temperament.

2.3 Symbolism of Power and Politics in "Ulysses"

Power and politics have many symbols that appeared in this essential novel, symbols that made the novel interesting and the reader enters into the events by understanding the meanings of these symbols. For example, the characters embodied in the novel, the political topics that were the subject of an event in that period, the city of Dublin as a basic symbol of the story, Martello Tower, National song Broken clock They all have deep meanings that must be considered

2.3.1 Characters

James Joyce, the renowned author of "Ulysses," was deeply influenced by his background, politics, and artistic themes. Born into a well-off Catholic, nationalist middle-class family that fell into poverty during his youth, Joyce's personal experiences shaped his views. He opposed colonialism, imperialism, and militarism, being a lifelong pacifist and internationalist.

Joyce's political outlook was more defined by what he opposed rather than a consistent socialist theory. He criticized narrow nationalism, racist exceptionalism, and the Catholic Church, viewing them as tyrannical forces. His work, including "Ulysses," focused on the ordinary lives of real people, challenging traditional heroic narratives and advocating for a more realistic portrayal of society.

The novel "Ulysses" itself is seen as a work that critiques state power and control, embodying an anarchic spirit that questions hegemonic structures. It explores themes of rebellion, dominance, and control through its characters, Stephen Dedalus and Leopold Bloom, who symbolize political metaphors within the narrative. While the characters may not physically manifest acts of rebellion, the novel's structure and style create a sense of textual rebellion that challenges traditional power dynamics.

By embedding anarchism into modernist aesthetics, Joyce's work becomes a tool for oppositional subversion, reflecting a critique of authority and societal constraints. Joyce's commitment to politically anarchist literary production is highlighted as a means of reclaiming individual identities and resisting dominant ideologies. His writing is viewed as a reminder of the political viability of creative anarchy, encouraging readers to challenge obedience and engage with the political potentials of anarchy in the modern world.

Joyce continues to be relevant in the 21st century, offering a lens through which to explore themes of rebellion, control, and the subversion of authority (Ulysses | Encyclopedia.com, n.d.) James Joyce's novel "Ulysses" is a highly symbolic work that employs various elements to convey deeper meanings. Published in 1922, it weaves together themes of colonialism, imperialism, and individualism in a complex manner. His own background as a member of the new Catholic, nationalist middle-class in Ireland influenced his political views, which opposed colonialism, imperialism, and militarism. He criticized narrow nationalism and racist exceptionalism, viewing them as reflections of British imperialism.

In "Ulysses," Joyce challenges traditional literary and artistic authority, advocating for a focus on the real lives of ordinary individuals rather than mythical fantasies. The novel takes its title from Homer's "The Odyssey" (1922), as it follows the characters' journeys through Dublin on a single day, June 16, 1904. The characters, namely Leopold Bloom, Stephen Dedalus, and Molly Bloom, represent different facets of society and the human experience.

Furthermore, Joyce's use of symbolism extends to the novel's overall structure. He meticulously planned "Ulysses" using a schema that outlined symbols, colors, art, organs, hours, scenes, narrative techniques, and Homeric connections for each episode. This detailed planning aimed to unify motifs throughout the episodes and provide clarity to the novel's structure, highlighting Joyce's meticulous attention to detail and the overarching themes.

In summary, "Ulysses" by James Joyce is a masterpiece that explores themes of individualism, societal critique, and the complexities of human experience. It achieves this through intricate symbolism and a meticulously crafted narrative structure. (The Schema of Ulysses, 2022)

2.3.2 Political Themes

James Joyce's *Ulysses* is a novel that delves into complex political and social themes. Joyce, born into a well-off Catholic nationalist family that fell into poverty, was deeply impacted by this personal trauma. His work reflects his opposition to colonialism, imperialism, and militarism, embodying a political viewpoint that opposed conservative literary and artistic authority. Joyce's background as a self-declared "socialistic writer" influenced his writings, which often focused on the petit-bourgeois milieu and the struggles of the European proletariat.

Moreover, Joyce's novel *Ulysses* challenges traditional literary norms and societal constructs. It critiques narrow nationalism, racist exceptionalism, and the mythologizing of violence. Through characters like Leopold Bloom, a Jewish man who symbolizes the marginalized "other," Joyce highlights themes of equality and the experiences of oppressed peoples. His work emphasizes the importance of engaging with real-life experiences and ordinary people, rejecting destructive fantasies and narrow nationalist ideologies.

Joyce's writings also address the long-term legacies of colonialism and imperialism, advocating for the breaking of colonial links and the empowerment of the working class. His critical stance towards British colonialism and the Catholic Church reflects a broader rejection of tyrannical institutions that oppress individuals. Overall, Joyce's *Ulysses* stands as a significant literary work that challenges societal norms, critiques oppressive systems, and advocates for equality and social justice (The Global Other: Race and Empire in James Joyce's *Ulysses*, 2021)

2.3.3 The city of Dublin

In "*Ulysses*," James Joyce uses the city of Dublin as a symbolic representation of political power. The novel delves into Dublin's political landscape, addressing themes such as imperialism, nationalism, and broader societal concerns. Within the story, characters like Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus navigate the complexities of political tensions and societal obstacles, providing a nuanced portrayal of Dublin's power dynamics and the structures that shape them. (*Ulysses at 100: The Politics of James Joyce*, n.d.)

2.3.4 The Martello Tower

The Martello Tower in "*Ulysses*" is a potent symbol of political and social authority. Located in Sandycove, the tower represents a historical military structure that encapsulates ideas of control, surveillance, and dominance. Within the novel, the Martello Tower holds

significance as the starting point of Stephen Dedalus's day, emphasizing its role as a catalyst for his intellectual and personal exploration. Its presence underscores the overarching theme of power, encompassing both tangible and symbolic forms of control within the narrative of "Ulysses." (Fogel, 1979)

2.3.5 The Nationalist Song

The Nationalist Song featured in "Ulysses" functions as a potent symbol of political and social commentary within the novel. James Joyce utilizes various elements, such as songs, to create a rich tapestry of political themes, reflecting his critical perspective on nationalism, imperialism, and societal norms.

By including the Nationalist Song, Joyce emphasizes his opposition to narrow nationalism and the romanticization of violence, as exemplified by Bloom's character challenging bigoted nationalism in the story. This symbolic use of music and lyrics in "Ulysses" contributes to the broader exploration of power dynamics and political ideologies present throughout the narrative. (Ulysses at 100: The Politics of James Joyce.

2.3.6 The Broken Watch

The Broken Watch in "Ulysses" is a symbol that represents the delicate and distorted nature of time, which in turn reflects broader themes of power and politics in the novel. Time, embodied by the broken watch, serves as a metaphor for the disruption of traditional power structures and the decay of political systems.

The dysfunctional watch mirrors the instability and corruption prevalent in political institutions, emphasizing the sense of disorder and turmoil within the societal framework depicted in James Joyce's work. Moreover, this symbolism reinforces the narrative's examination of power dynamics, societal decline, and the intricate nature of political influence in "Ulysses."

2.4 Character Analysis: Leopold Bloom

Leopold Bloom, a fictional character in James Joyce's *Ulysses* (1922), serves as the Odysseus figure in the novel. The story revolves around Bloom's journey through the streets of Dublin during a single day on June 16, 1904. Bloom is characterized as inquisitive, decent,

peace-loving, and somewhat timid. Despite never physically leaving Dublin, he embodies the essence of a wanderer, much like the Greek mythological hero Ulysses (Odysseus) to whom he is frequently compared throughout the narrative.

In Stephen Dedalus, who represents both Telemachus (Ulysses' son) and Joyce himself, Bloom finds a surrogate son figure. Through the use of stream-of-consciousness technique, Joyce provides the reader with insight into all of Bloom's thoughts and reflections on that eventful June day. He serves as a representative of the common man, a modern-day bourgeois version of Odysseus. Despite this, the novel provides an incredibly detailed portrayal of his personality, making him one of the most intricately depicted characters in all of literature.

Bloom is a thirty-eight-year-old advertising canvasser with a complex background. His father was a Hungarian Jew, and Joyce cleverly exploits the irony of this fact, often causing readers to overlook Bloom's Irish mother and multiple baptisms. Bloom's outsider status, combined with his ability to envision an inclusive society, positions him as a character who experiences the consequences of Ireland's insularity and the limitations of Irish identity in 1904. However, it's important to note that Bloom's social exclusion is not entirely one-sided.

He possesses a clear-eyed perspective and is mostly unsentimental when it comes to his male peers. He doesn't indulge in frequent drinking or gossip, and although he is friendly, he doesn't feel sorry for being excluded from their circles. When Leopold Bloom is introduced in Episode Four of *Ulysses*, his character stands out due to its stark contrast with Stephen's character, which the first three episodes primarily focus on. Stephen's intellectual nature makes Bloom's ease and comfort with the physical world all the more striking.

This natural ease aligns with Bloom's practical mindset and scientific curiosity. In Episode Three, Stephen isolates himself from the material world to contemplate his own perception, while Bloom, at the beginning of Episode Four, is depicted bending down to interact with his cat, pondering how her senses function.

Bloom's comfort with the physical realm is also evident in his sexuality, a dimension largely absent from Stephen's character. We are presented with ample evidence of Bloom's sexuality, ranging from his voyeuristic tendencies and fascination with women's

undergarments to his acts of self-pleasure and erotic correspondence. In contrast, Stephen appears inexperienced and celibate in matters of sexuality.

The analysis of the book shows a demonstration of a deep reflection put forward through the characters and the plot development as revealed in this passage “Today. Today. Not think.” Bloom (Joyce, 1922, p.10). The quote put forward by Leopold Bloom in the novel “Today. Today. Not think,” captures a moment of self-reflection and deep thought within Bloom’s stream-of-consciousness. This quote demonstrates Bloom’s repetition of the word “Today,” emphasizing the importance of living in the present and being fully present in the current moment.

The phrase "Not think" suggests his desire to avoid excessive rumination or getting caught up in thoughts about the past or future. Instead, he seeks a more mindful and direct engagement with the immediate reality. Through this quote, Bloom’s introspective nature is revealed, as he grapples with the complexities of his thoughts and emotions within the larger narrative of the novel.

Bloom’s character is shaped by several contrasting qualities when compared to Stephen. While Stephen tends to be melancholic and prone to drama, Bloom is more mature and level-headed. He possesses the capacity to uplift his own spirits and pragmatically avoids dwelling on gloomy subjects. However, despite their differences, Bloom and Stephen share commonalities. Both men harbor artistic aspirations, albeit with distinct motivations.

As one Dubliner remarks, there is an artistic quality to Bloom (Ulysses, Dublin, Joyce | Britannica, n.d.). We could argue that Bloom’s understanding of art is rooted in the bourgeois perspective, as he views it as a means to directly impact people’s actions and emotions. Whether it’s his desire to create more effective advertisements, his love poem dedicated to Molly, or his appreciation of Shakespeare for its moral lessons, Bloom’s concept of art remains closely tied to real-life situations.

Additionally, Bloom’s appreciation for culture and his aspiration to be “cultured” align him with Stephen. Both men share a love for music, and Bloom is drawn to Stephen’s company, yearning to possess expert knowledge in various subjects rather than merely dabbling in them (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in Ulysses, n.d.).

Furthermore, Bloom’s cheerful demeanor in “Ulysses” is marred by two emotional crises: the disruption of his male family lineage and his wife Molly’s infidelity. The tragic

deaths of both Bloom's father, who died by suicide, and their only son Rudy, who passed away shortly after birth, leave Bloom feeling profoundly lonely and powerless on a cosmic level (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in *Ulysses*, n.d.). However, Bloom finds a temporary respite from these emotions when he connects with Stephen in the latter part of the novel.

As "Ulysses" unfolds, it becomes evident that the first crisis, the breakdown of the family line, is intertwined with the second crisis of Molly's unfaithfulness. The intimacy and attempts at procreation between the Blooms have faltered since the loss of their only son eleven years ago. Bloom's response to Molly seeking sexual fulfillment elsewhere, with Blazes Boylan, is complex. He takes some pleasure in knowing that other men desire his wife, and he generally adopts a passive and accepting stance.

However, Bloom is perceptive enough to recognize that Boylan is a meager substitute for himself, and he ultimately consoles himself by reframing the issue. Boylan is just one of many potential partners, and Bloom realizes that he should focus his own energies on Molly herself (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in *Ulysses*, n.d.).

Moreover, Bloom's heroism in "Ulysses" stems from his remarkable ability to shift his perspective and empathize with others, even when it challenges societal expectations. His compassionate nature is evident in his acts of charity towards both animals and people in need, and he extends his sympathies even to a woman going through labor (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in *Ulysses*, n.d.). Other characters frequently question Bloom's masculinity, adding another layer of irony to the story. Despite being portrayed as an Everyman figure, Bloom also possesses qualities that are traditionally associated with femininity (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in *Ulysses*, n.d.).

Hence, Bloom plays the role of the modern counterpart to Ulysses and also embodying Joyce's representation of the Wandering Jew, initially appears as an outsider in Dublin, much like his predecessors who journeyed through foreign lands. Bloom experiences a sense of alienation from his predominantly Roman Catholic and occasionally anti-Semitic acquaintances primarily due to religious differences. Stephen's conversation with the anti-Semite Deasy in the "Nestor" episode foreshadows the treatment Bloom will receive (*Ulysses*, Dublin, Joyce | Britannica, n.d.). Joyce deliberately avoids presenting Bloom as a flawless or saintly protagonist in "Ulysses" (Leopold Bloom, n.d.).

In this line of thought, Bloom's communication skills falter, particularly when conversing with Molly, causing her annoyance when he defines "metempsychosis" as the "transmigration of souls" (Ulysses, Dublin, Joyce | Britannica, n.d.). Additionally, Bloom exhibits a fatalistic tendency to accept circumstances that perhaps should not be accepted. For instance, he chooses to ignore the presence of Boylan's letter to Molly, clearly visible beneath her pillow, and overlooks the possibility of his daughter losing her virginity in the near future (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in Ulysses, n.d.).

Furthermore, Bloom appears uninterested in achieving any concrete outcome from his correspondence with Martha Clifford. Instead, he seems content with engaging in disconnected and solitary acts, exemplified by his solitary beachside masturbation in the "Nausicaa" episode, which requires no commitment (Leopold Bloom Character Analysis in Ulysses, n.d.).

As previously noted, Bloom's actions often antagonize those around him who are already predisposed to condemn him. He refrains from making clear statements, abstains from buying drinks, and assumes an authoritative demeanor as "Mister Knowall," extensively discussing the reasons behind a hanging man's sexual erection at the moment of death (Ulysses, Dublin, Joyce | Britannica, n.d.). This behavior further intensifies the already tense atmosphere at Barney Kiernan's pub in "The Cyclops" episode.

Additionally, while Bloom assists Stephen in later episodes, he does not hesitate to consider how Stephen can serve his own plans for a touring musical company (Leopold Bloom, n.d.). These various actions and behaviors by Bloom contribute to the negative perceptions and criticisms directed towards him by others. Joyce purposefully portrays Bloom as a complex and flawed character, highlighting his shortcomings and choices that may exacerbate his own troubles (Leopold Bloom, n.d.).

Joyce's depiction of Bloom presents him as a complete and multifaceted individual. Bloom finds enjoyment in simple bodily functions such as defecating, urinating, and savoring fried kidneys. He also contemplates the nature of water, showcasing his capacity for contemplation and appreciation of the physical world (Leopold Bloom, n.d.). His sexual inclinations, thoroughly explored in the "Circe" and "Penelope" episodes, are juxtaposed with the generous and magnanimous aspects of his personality (Leopold Bloom, n.d.).

In Bloom, Joyce has created a character who embodies abundance and diversity. While he may sometimes exhibit mundane qualities, he is a person who wholeheartedly embraces and acknowledges the existence of the physical realm (Leopold Bloom, n.d.). Bloom's portrayal encompasses both the ordinary and extraordinary aspects of human experience, capturing the complexity and richness of his character (Leopold Bloom, n.d.).

2.5 Character Analysis: Stephen Dedalus

Stephen Dedalus, a fictional character created by James Joyce, is the main protagonist in the semi-autobiographical novel *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (1916) and plays a significant role in Joyce's novel *Ulysses* (1922). Joyce chose the surname Dedalus for his hero as a reference to the legendary figure Daedalus, a skilled craftsman from Greek mythology. Daedalus is known for constructing the Labyrinth for King Minos of Crete and for fashioning wings made of wax and feathers for himself and his son, Icarus (Stephen Dedalus | Fictional Character, n.d.).

In *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, which takes place in 19th-century Dublin, Stephen Dedalus challenges the dominant and stifling presence of the Roman Catholic Church and the narrow-mindedness of his family and his homeland, Ireland. He decides to depart from Ireland and embark on a journey to France, driven by his desire to embrace the artistic potential associated with his name (Stephen Dedalus | Fictional Character, n.d.).

Stephen Dedalus, the secondary protagonist of the novel, takes center stage in the first three episodes. A twenty-two-year-old aspiring writer, Stephen grapples with forging his identity and finding direction in Dublin, which is under English rule. He possesses a heightened sensitivity and occasional narcissism, driven by his belief that the pursuit of artistic truth should take precedence above all else. Throughout the narrative, Stephen engages in introspection, partly due to his intellectual curiosity and partly because he broke his glasses the day before and struggles with impaired vision (LitCharts, n.d.).

He essentially serves as a representation of James Joyce in his early twenties. He was also the protagonist in Joyce's earlier autobiographical work, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, which delved into his upbringing and artistic awakening. Following the events of *A Portrait*, Stephen initially left Ireland for Paris (LitCharts, n.d.).

However, in *Ulysses*, it is revealed that he abandoned his studies and returned to Ireland upon learning of his terminally ill mother's condition. While Stephen has renounced

his Catholic faith, he grapples with intense guilt for refusing to pray at his mother's deathbed throughout the course of *Ulysses* (LitCharts, n.d.). In his complex relationship with his father, the alcoholic Simon Dedalus, Stephen explores themes of fatherhood and betrayal, drawing upon intricate theories that extend to Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. He embodies the character of Telemachus from *The Odyssey*, as he seeks a father figure and connection (LitCharts, n.d.).

Stephen experiences deep alienation from those around him and yearns for companionship and love. However, he believes that achieving these desires would require compromising his intellectual and artistic values (LitCharts, n.d.). Stephen struggles as a literal starving artist, going without food for the entire day of June 16. He also accumulates significant debt from his teaching job at Mr. Deasy's school, despite squandering much of his salary on alcohol and prostitutes on the same day he receives payment (LitCharts, n.d.). Additionally, Stephen lacks a stable place to stay, having shared a Martello tower with Buck Mulligan and Haines. However, he eventually decides to move out due to his growing disdain for them (LitCharts, n.d.).

Towards the end of the novel, Stephen encounters Leopold Bloom, who offers him the family, stability, and home he yearns for. However, Stephen rejects Bloom's offer and chooses to wander into the night instead, further emphasizing his sense of detachment and his ongoing search for meaning and belonging (LitCharts, n.d.).

Stephen's history is intricately connected to Joyce's earlier work titled "A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man." He grew up in a Catholic household and struggles to reconcile his religious upbringing with his academic pursuits. His decision to distance himself from Irish societal conventions is influenced by his tumultuous relationship with his family, particularly his domineering mother (Stephen Dedalus – "Ulysses" by James Joyce, n.d.).

Stephen's experiences at University College Dublin and Clongowes Wood Colleges shape his perspective and instill in him a strong sense of intellectual superiority. Stephen Dedalus is a complex character with a diverse range of personality traits. His academic prowess is evident, yet his constant sense of superiority often leaves him feeling isolated. Deeply introspective and inclined towards philosophical contemplation, he possesses a contemplative nature that occasionally adds an air of mystery to his persona (Stephen Dedalus – "Ulysses" by James Joyce, n.d.).

Despite projecting confidence in his intellect, Stephen grapples with deep-rooted insecurities and the societal and familial expectations placed upon him. Stephen's flaws include a tendency towards solipsism, pride, and a certain aloofness. The challenging dynamics he shares with his mother, Mary Dedalus, and his father, Simon Dedalus, contribute to his internal struggles and shape his perceptions of authority figures and societal conventions (Stephen Dedalus – “Ulysses” by James Joyce, n.d.).

Stephen’s relationships with various individuals, particularly his family and peers, are marked by tension and complexity. The passing of his mother, symbolizing the weight of familial expectations and the inevitable passage of time, deeply impacts him. His interactions with his father are tinged with disappointment and dissatisfaction. Friendships, such as the one he shares with Buck Mulligan, are characterized by conflict and a constant struggle for intellectual dominance.

Among the significant relationships depicted in “Ulysses,” Stephen’s friendship with Leopold Bloom stands out. Their exchanges serve as a catalyst for Stephen’s quest for self-awareness, as they embody contrasting personalities, social backgrounds, and perspectives. This dynamic challenges Stephen’s intellectual elitism and prompts him to reevaluate his own beliefs (Stephen Dedalus – “Ulysses” by James Joyce, n.d.).

Stephen Dedalus’s actions in “Ulysses” serve as a manifestation of his inner struggles and emotional turmoil. His rebellion against societal norms is apparent in his deliberate pursuit of a life dedicated to philosophy and art, his rejection of religious doctrines, and his intentional detachment from his family. These choices, along with his interactions with other characters, bring his personal challenges to the forefront.

Stephen Dedalus said, “Every life is in many days, day after day. We walk through ourselves, meeting robbers, ghosts, giants, old men, young men, wives, widows, brothers-in-love, but always meeting ourselves” (Joyce, 1922, p. 254). This quote captures the notion that individuals engage in numerous interactions and experiences throughout their lives, encountering various individuals and circumstances, yet ultimately confronting their own selves in these encounters. It highlights the internal journey of self-awareness and self-realization, suggesting that amidst the array of experiences and people one encounters, the most significant encounter is with one’s own self.

In essence, the quote underscores the theme of introspection and the ongoing process of self-discovery that individuals undergo as they navigate through life. It emphasizes that despite external influences and diverse encounters, the most profound and influential relationship one can have is with oneself.

2.6 Stream of Consciousness Technique

Stream of consciousness is a narrative technique that allows for a more direct portrayal of a character's thoughts and sensory impressions compared to traditional third-person narration. In contrast to a first-person narrative style, which presents the world from the perspective of an individual, stream of consciousness enables the transmission of thoughts from any character at any given moment, granting writers considerable freedom to explore the inner workings of the mind and heart.

James Joyce skillfully employs this technique to great effect in his works. Typically, in stream of consciousness, a character's thoughts are presented in a way that signals to the reader that they are thoughts. For instance, it may be explicitly stated, "He thought to himself, 'This kidney is done to a turn.'" Alternatively, it could be conveyed indirectly, such as, "He noticed that the kidney was done to a turn."

In traditional narration, an omniscient and omnipresent narrator would report the character's thoughts and sensations. However, in stream of consciousness, the narrator recedes, and the character's thoughts are presented directly, as if the reader is observing them firsthand: "Done to a turn."

In this way, stream of consciousness allows for a more immediate and unfiltered access to a character's inner world, enhancing the reader's understanding and immersion in the character's experiences and perceptions.

2.6.1 Stream of consciousness techniques

The literary technique known as stream of consciousness aims to capture the unfiltered and spontaneous essence of human thought. By adopting a narrative style that mirrors the non-linear and fragmented nature of our minds, it seeks to replicate the way we associate ideas freely, make sensory observations, and use unconventional syntax and punctuation.

Through this technique, readers are granted a unique glimpse into a character's inner world, fostering a deep sense of intimacy and immediacy.

Stream of consciousness technique accentuates the non-linear and fragmented quality of human thought, frequently employing unconventional syntax, punctuation, and grammar to convey the fluidity and spontaneity of human cognition.

The term "stream of consciousness" was coined by psychologist William James, who described consciousness as an uninterrupted and ever-changing stream of thoughts, sensations, and perceptions. Numerous renowned authors, including Virginia Woolf, James Joyce, William Faulkner, and Toni Morrison, have explored this concept in their literary works.

Stream-of-consciousness writing often incorporates free association, repetitive loops, sensory observations, and unconventional syntax and punctuation. Its aim is to convey the emotional and psychological truth of a character's thought process, rather than a logical and well-organized sequence of ideas. One of the fundamental aspects of stream-of-consciousness writing is its emphasis on a character's sensory experiences and impressions. By describing the sights, sounds, smells, and other sensory phenomena encountered by a character, stream-of-consciousness writing can create a profound sense of immersion and presence.

Stream-of-consciousness writing has been employed by numerous authors to convey the non-linear and fragmented nature of human thought. Virginia Woolf's novel "Mrs. Dalloway" serves as a prominent example of stream-of-consciousness narration, illustrating Clarissa Dalloway's relationship with London and her internal musings.

Toni Morrison's work "Beloved" also showcases a compelling instance of stream-of-consciousness narration through the character Beloved. The excerpt from "Beloved" highlighted in the text reveals Beloved's restless repetition, associative reflections, and absence of punctuation, all of which contribute to a feeling of urgency, fear, and hope.

It is important to note that stream-of-consciousness writing transcends specific time periods or literary movements. Authors like Ken Kesey and Sylvia Plath utilized this technique in the 1960s, while more contemporary writers such as Irvine Welsh, George Saunders, and Jonathan Safran Foer have also incorporated it into their works.

In conclusion, stream of consciousness serves as a potent and evocative narrative tool that offers readers a distinctive and immersive glimpse into a character's inner world. By capturing the fluidity, spontaneity, and sensory depth of human thought, stream-of-consciousness writing can establish a profound sense of closeness and immediacy, drawing readers into the character's subjective experiences and emotional states.

2.7 Exploring Time and Space in the stream of consciousness:

Stream of consciousness often incorporating free association, repetition, sensory observations, and unconventional syntax and punctuation. This literary device allows authors to capture a character's psychological state and worldview in a snapshot.

According to Liz Delf, a Senior Instructor of Literature at Oregon State University, thought does not follow a linear structure. Our thinking is not characterized by logical, well-organized, or complete sentences. Delf illustrates this point by referring to Virginia Woolf's novel *Mrs. Dalloway*, where the protagonist, Clarissa Dalloway, experiences a stream-of-consciousness episode that connects her own heartbeat to the chimes of Big Ben. This passage includes associative thoughts and sensory details, and it is written in a non-linear and fragmented manner.

Stream-of-consciousness narration is not confined to a specific time period or literary movement. It has been employed by authors such as James Joyce, William Faulkner, and Marcel Proust in the early 20th century, as well as by more contemporary writers like Ken Kesey and Toni Morrison.

Furthermore, the concept of stream of consciousness is not only relevant in literature but also in the field of neuroscience. Dr. Nir Lahav, a physicist at Bar-Ilan University, acknowledges that the process by which the brain generates conscious experiences and the specific brain regions responsible for this phenomenon remain a mystery. Despite advancements in neuroscience, the fundamental question of how physical processes in the brain give rise to subjective experiences, known as the hard problem of consciousness, remains unresolved.

Dr. Lahav and philosopher Dr. Zakaria Neemeh have put forward a novel physical theory with the aim of resolving the challenging issue of consciousness through a purely physical approach. They propose that consciousness is a phenomenon that is relative in

nature, and therefore, it should be investigated using the same mathematical tools that are employed to study other relativistic phenomena.

During an interview, Dr. Neemeh elucidates, “Whenever I experience happiness, my brain generates a distinct pattern of intricate neural activity. This neural pattern exhibits a perfect correlation with my conscious feeling of happiness, yet it does not encompass my actual feeling. It merely represents my happiness in the form of a neural pattern.” This implies that conscious experiences cannot be reduced to or located within specific neural patterns or activities.

In general, the stream of consciousness serves as a literary technique that provides a distinctive and authentic portrayal of a character’s thoughts and cognitive processes. Furthermore, it is a concept that holds relevance in the field of neuroscience, as the challenging problem of consciousness remains a subject of great interest and ongoing research.

2.8 Conclusion:

To conclude, in this exploration we delve into the intricate world of characters and power struggles within the novel. Our primary focus lies in the stream-of-consciousness technique, a revolutionary narrative style that offers a unique glimpse into the minds of our key characters, Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus.

The fluidity of time and space is another essential aspect of this chapter, as it showcases the author’s innovative storytelling and challenges traditional narrative structures. Through this lens, we examine the complexities of human relationships and the nature of consciousness, providing valuable insights into the novel’s themes and characters.

This chapter serves as a critical component in understanding the overall narrative, as it highlights the distinctive experiences and perspectives of our protagonists, ultimately enriching our comprehension of this groundbreaking literary work.

Chapter Three

Chapter three: The Analysis of the Political Commentary and Satire

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Chapter Three

1. Introduction

This third chapter is show the novel's clear engagement with the political and social realities of early twentieth-century Ireland. We explore a multi-faceted critique of Irish politics, elaborating on issues ranging from the influence of the Catholic Church and the nationalist movement, to gender power dynamics and the relationship between language and power. Analysis and understanding of these themes, from a general view of the intersection between politics and literature to specific examples of Joyce's political commentary, is essential to a comprehensive understanding and analysis of this literary masterpiece.

3.2 Overview of the Intersection of Politics and Literature in Ulysses

The convergence of politics and literature in James Joyce's *Ulysses* is a multifaceted and intricate subject that has been a topic of discussion among scholars and literary critics for many years. *Ulysses*, at its core, is a novel that delves into the human experience, exploring themes of identity, nationality, and the quest for significance in a rapidly evolving world. Nevertheless, Joyce's magnum opus is deeply entrenched in the political and social milieu of early 20th-century Ireland, making it imperative to consider its political nuances in order to fully comprehend the novel.

In the words of the Irish poet William Butler Yeats, "Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world" (Yeats, "The Second Coming"). This sense of turmoil and disarray is evident in *Ulysses*, as Joyce's characters navigate the tumultuous streets of Dublin, grappling with the repercussions of British rule and the fight for Irish independence. Through the experiences of his characters, Joyce presents a scathing critique of the political and social structures that governed Ireland during that period, shedding light on how they perpetuated inequality, oppression, and violence.

Joyce's political beliefs are intricately woven into the tapestry of *Ulysses*, playing a pivotal role in shaping the novel's narrative and themes. As a devoted socialist and nationalist, Joyce harbored deep reservations about the British Empire and its suppression of Irish culture and identity. Through his characters, he examines the tensions between Irish nationalism and British imperialism, illustrating how these conflicting ideologies influenced the lives of

ordinary individuals. For instance, in the "*Cyclops*" episode, Joyce satirizes the bombastic rhetoric of Irish nationalism while acknowledging the profound yearning for independence that fueled the movement.

Joyce's political views extend beyond his criticism of British rule to encompass a deep concern for the role of art and literature in influencing our perception of the world. According to novelist and critic Connie Willis, literature serves as a means for individuals of the past to communicate messages about life and death, thereby shaping our understanding of the human experience. Through his work *Ulysses*, Joyce presents a compelling argument for the enduring impact of literature, showcasing its ability to capture the essence of human existence and convey the complexities of political and social realities.

The convergence of politics and literature in *Ulysses* presents a multifaceted and intricate subject that provides insight into early 20th-century Ireland. Joyce's adept exploration of the human condition offers a profound critique of the political and social structures prevalent in Ireland during that period, while also highlighting the enduring influence of literature in shaping our worldview. As we confront the challenges of the 21st century, *Ulysses* serves as a poignant reminder of the significance of art and literature in shaping our understanding of the world and our role within it.

3.3 Importance of Joyce's Political Views in the Novel

In *Ulysses*, Joyce skillfully intertwines the personal and the political, providing valuable insights into the complexities of both realms. The novel is situated within a rapidly evolving Ireland, where the issues of national identity, self-determination, and political autonomy were at the forefront of public discourse. Within this dynamic backdrop, Joyce's characters navigate the tumultuous landscape, grappling with the pressing political matters of the time while simultaneously confronting the ordinary realities of their own lives.

For Joyce, politics transcended mere abstract ideology or party affiliation; it was a tangible experience that profoundly shaped the daily existence of individuals and communities. As Jeremy Corbyn astutely observes, Joyce's writing is deeply rooted in the concrete realities of urban life, where political debates and social struggles unfold in the streets and public spaces of the city.

Simultaneously, Joyce's political perspectives were significantly influenced by his personal encounters and relationships. His father, John Stanislaus Joyce, embodied the

complexities and contradictions of Irish political life. While he ardently championed Irish nationalism and vehemently criticized British imperialism, he also struggled with alcoholism and exhibited poor management of his own affairs.

Despite his father's imperfections, Joyce acknowledged the significance of his political beliefs and their profound impact on his own growth as a writer and thinker. In his own words, he acknowledged that "*hundreds of pages and scores of characters in my books came from him,*" highlighting the profound influence his father had on the humor and humanity that permeate his writing.

Joyce's political perspectives were also influenced by the broader social and political climate of his era. During his youth, he displayed a profound interest in socialist ideas and movements, perceiving socialism as a means to address the economic and social disparities that plagued Irish society. Although he never formally joined a socialist party or became an ardent socialist activist, he maintained a deep sympathy for the objectives and principles of the socialist movement throughout his lifetime.

Simultaneously, Joyce criticized the narrow-minded nationalism and xenophobia that often characterized Irish political life. He particularly condemned the utilization of Irish nationalism to exclude and marginalize minority communities, including the Jewish community to which his character Leopold Bloom belonged.

3.4 Joyce's Critique of Irish Politics

In his novel *Ulysses*, Joyce delves into the intricate intersections of politics and literature, employing the novel as a medium to engage with the political concerns of his time while also exploring the profound human truths that lie beneath them. As James Fairhall observes, Joyce's political inclinations extend beyond his admiration for Parnell or his critique of Irish nationalism. Instead, they permeate the very fabric of his writing, influencing his characters, themes, and narrative style.

Thus, Joyce's political viewpoints are not merely a matter of personal belief or ideological commitment. Rather, they form an integral part of his artistic vision, enabling him to engage with the world around him and comprehend the complexities of human experience. Consequently, they are indispensable in comprehending the profound depth and richness of his writing, as well as appreciating the enduring influence and relevance of his work.

James Joyce, a celebrated Irish novelist, is renowned for his scathing critique of Irish politics in his literary works. Through his writing, Joyce aimed to expose the flaws and hypocrisies of the nationalist movement and the influence of the Catholic Church on Irish society. This essay will delve into Joyce's critique of Irish politics, examining his use of satire to portray the nationalist movement, his criticism of the Catholic Church's influence, and providing examples of his political commentary in his masterpiece, *Ulysses*.

3.5 Satire of the Nationalist Movement

Joyce's satire of the nationalist movement is evident in his portrayal of the character Citizen in *Ulysses*. Citizen, a fervent nationalist, is depicted as a narrow-minded and intolerant individual who prioritizes his own interests over the genuine fight for Irish independence. According to Joyce scholar Richard Ellmann, Joyce viewed the nationalist movement as a form of tribalism that clashed with the values of modern civilization (Ellmann, 1982). Through the character of Citizen, Joyce satirizes the nationalist movement's tendency to rely on emotional rhetoric rather than rational thought, and its failure to address the complexities of Irish identity.

The character of Citizen serves as a caricature, embodying the worst aspects of Irish nationalism. He is a bigot, easily provoked and slow to forgive, with a limited and one-dimensional understanding of Irish history and culture. Joyce utilizes Citizen to highlight the dangers of nationalism, which can breed intolerance, violence, and the suppression of individual freedom. Citizen's views are juxtaposed with those of Leopold Bloom, the novel's protagonist, who represents cosmopolitanism and tolerance, valuing diversity and individuality.

Joyce's critique of the nationalist movement extends beyond the portrayal of the Citizen's character. The "Cyclops" episode, featuring the Citizen, serves as a satirical representation of the nationalist movement's inclination to idealize Irish history and mythology. Through the use of parody and irony, Joyce effectively reveals the irrationality of nationalist rhetoric, shedding light on the inconsistencies and weaknesses within the movement's ideology. The episode employs an anonymous first-person narrator who adopts a critical stance towards the Citizen and his beliefs. This perspective sharply contrasts with the Citizen's perception of himself as the epitome of Irish nationalism.

3.5.1 Critique of the Catholic Church's Influence

Joyce's dissatisfaction with the Catholic Church's impact on Irish society is evident throughout his work, particularly in his novel *Ulysses*. In this novel, Joyce utilizes the character of Father Conmee to symbolize the Church's authority and its effect on the Irish community. Although Father Conmee is a minor character, his presence serves as a representation of the Church's power and influence.

Father Conmee's affiliation with the religious order that oversees Stephen Dedalus' school underscores the Church's role in shaping Irish society. By portraying Father Conmee as a well-intentioned yet ineffective priest, Joyce highlights the Church's inclination to prioritize maintaining the status quo over instigating genuine change.

However, it is important to note that Joyce's critique of the Catholic Church extends beyond the character of Father Conmee. The "*Wandering Rocks*" episode, in which Father Conmee makes an appearance, serves as a broader critique of the Church's influence on Irish society. Through multiple perspectives, Joyce illustrates how the Church's impact permeates various aspects of Irish life, including education, politics, and social relationships.

Overall, Joyce's criticism of the Catholic Church's influence on Irish society is a recurring theme in his work. Through characters like Father Conmee and episodes like "*Wandering Rocks*," Joyce emphasizes the stifling effect of the Church's dominance on individual freedom and creativity, ultimately contributing to an intellectually and morally stagnant society.

3.6 Examples of Joyce's Political Commentary in *Ulysses*

Joyce's political commentary in *Ulysses* extends beyond satirizing the nationalist movement and critiquing the influence of the Catholic Church. He goes further by providing specific instances of political issues that were prevalent in Ireland during his time.

One such instance is the Phoenix Park Murders, which took place in 1882 when a group of Irish nationalists assassinated the Permanent Under-Secretary for Ireland and his secretary. In the "*Cyclops*" episode of *Ulysses*, Joyce makes a reference to this event, wherein the Citizen expresses his admiration for the assassins. Through this reference, Joyce aims to criticize the violent tendencies of the nationalist movement and its glorification of violence.

Another example can be found in the "*Nausicaa*" episode, where Joyce criticizes the treatment of women in Irish society. The episode features Gerty MacDowell, a young woman who is objectified and sexualized by the male characters in the novel. Joyce utilizes Gerty's character to condemn the patriarchal values of Irish society and the Catholic Church's teachings on sexuality.

Furthermore, Joyce takes aim at the Irish education system in *Ulysses*. In the "Nestor" episode, one of the novel's main characters, Stephen Dedalus, reflects on his experiences as both a student and a teacher. Through this episode, Joyce offers a critique of the education system in Ireland, highlighting its emphasis on rote learning and its failure to cultivate critical thinking skills.

In addition to these examples, Joyce delves into the themes of colonialism and imperialism in *Ulysses*. He accomplishes this by employing the character of Leopold Bloom, who is Jewish, to shed light on the experiences of marginalized communities in Ireland. Moreover, Joyce challenges the dominant narratives of Irish history and identity through the other style of writing.

To summarize, James Joyce's *Ulysses* is a multifaceted masterpiece that presents a harsh evaluation of Irish politics. By satirizing the nationalist movement, criticizing the influence of the Catholic Church, and highlighting specific political problems in Ireland, Joyce unveils the imperfections and contradictions within Irish society. Employing a range of literary techniques such as satire, parody, and stream-of-consciousness narrative, Joyce confronts the prevailing narratives of Irish history and identity, providing a nuanced and discerning outlook on Irish politics.

3.7 Gender Politics in "Ulysses"

James Joyce's "*Ulysses*" delves into intricate Themes and structures that have been Considerably scanned. Gender politics emerges As a prominent theme, slipping light on the Patriarchal frame current in Irish society, The incorporation and marginalization of Women, and Joyce's critical station on the

3.7.1 Critique of Patriarchal Structures in Irish Society

Joyce's "Ulysses" serves as a notice of the patriarchal ascendance that characterized Irish society in his period. The novel paints a picture of a society where men apply authority while women are constantly relegated to inferior positions. Colorful scholars have stressed Joyce's deliberate attempt to challenge these established societal conventions. According to Richard Brown, "Joyce's Ulysses is a work that confronts the patriarchal scale, exposing the constraints and foibles of a society where men dominate and women are marginalized" (Brown, 2008, p. 78).

3.7.2 Objectification and Marginalization of Women

The recreating themes of incorporation and marginalization of women are palpable throughout "Ulysses." Women are frequently depicted as objects of manly desire, devoid of agency or autonomy. Margaret Higonnet observes, "Joyce's Ulysses lays bare the incorporation of women, portraying them as bare objects of manly craving, stripped of agency and power" (Higonnet, 1992, p. 123). This incorporation is instanced in the character of Gerty MacDowell, whose physical attributes are strictly described, situating her as a subject of the manly aspect.

3.8 Gerty MacDowell as an Illustration of Joyce's Notice of Gender Politics

Gerty MacDowell serves as a representation of Joyce's examination of gender politics in "Ulysses." Gerty, a youthful woman enthralled by romantic tales and hankering for a puck-tale love story, falls victim to the societal norms that bestialize and insulate women. As refocused out by Suzette Henke, "Gerty MacDowell embodies Joyce's review of gender politics, illustrating the incorporation and marginalization of women within Irish society" (Henke, 1990, p. 102).

Throughout the novel, Gerty is bodied by manly characters who frequently see her and make reflections about her physical attributes. Despite this, she lacks autonomy and influence, constantly pushed to the fringe of the plot. Joyce himself acknowledges that "Gerty is a character who's bodied and marginalized, her narrative serving as a poignant commentary on the gender dynamics current in Irish society" (Joyce, 1922, p. 456).

In summary, "Ulysses" by Joyce presents a compelling notice of gender politics in Irish society, exposing the patriarchal systems that governed the period, the incorporation and

marginalization of women, and the constraints and contradictions of a society where men apply authority while women are sidelined. Through characters like Gerty MacDowell, Joyce illuminates the depiction of women as bare objects of desire, devoid of agency or power, and delivers a potent notice of these societal morals

3.9 Power and Language in James Joyce's "Ulysses"

James Joyce's "Ulysses" delves deeply into the intricate connection between power and language. Throughout the novel, characters employ language as a tool to establish, challenge, and subvert power dynamics. According to David Hayman, a respected Joyce scholar, the linguistic virtuosity displayed in "Ulysses" serves as a means to uncover the complex power relationships among the characters and between the characters and the reader, rather than an end in itself (Hayman, 1982). This paper aims to investigate the interplay between power and language in "Ulysses," the utilization of linguistic techniques to analyze power dynamics, and instances where Joyce explores power and language within the narrative.

3.9.1 The Relationship between Power and Language in Ulysses

The intricate connection between power and language in "Ulysses" is complex and subtle. Language serves as a tool for domination, protection, and influence. The characters' linguistic choices mirror their societal standing, level of education, and authority. Joyce's "Ulysses" delves into the political implications of language, exploring how it can both reinforce and question power dynamics (Rabaté, 2001).

3.9.2 Linguistic Techniques to Explore Power Dynamics

Joyce employs a variety of linguistic techniques in "Ulysses" to examine the dynamics of power. One such technique involves the utilization of interior monologue, enabling the reader to gain insight into the unfiltered thoughts and emotions of the characters. Through this technique, the true nature of the characters is revealed, exposing any pretenses of power and control that they may project through their spoken language.

Additionally, Joyce employs the manipulation of language register as another technique. The characters in the novel employ a wide range of language, spanning from formal and educated to colloquial and vulgar. This variation in language register serves as a reflection of the characters' social status and power dynamics. "Ulysses" demonstrates a keen

awareness of the power dynamics inherent in language, utilizing language in a manner that is both playful and subversive (Kenner, 1978).

3.9.3 Examples of Joyce's Exploration of Power and Language in Ulysses

One illustration of Joyce's examination of power and language in "Ulysses" is evident in the portrayal of Leopold Bloom. Bloom, a Jewish advertising canvasser, frequently finds himself at the mercy of influential individuals he encounters in the narrative. Nevertheless, Bloom also demonstrates a proficiency in language and utilizes it to his benefit. For example, when faced with a group of anti-Semitic Irish nationalists, Bloom leverages his understanding of the Irish language to impress and disarm them.

Another instance can be observed in the depiction of Molly Bloom. Molly, Leopold's spouse, emerges as a character of considerable influence in the story. She is depicted as a sexual being, self-assured, and unapologetic. Molly's utilization of language mirrors her authority. She expresses her thoughts openly, without regard for societal conventions and expectations.

To summarize, James Joyce's "Ulysses" delves deeply into the correlation between power and language. By employing linguistic devices like interior monologue and manipulation of language register, Joyce unveils the intricate power dynamics among the characters and between the characters and the audience. The characters' use of language mirrors their societal standing, level of education, and authority, and Joyce employs language in a manner that is both whimsical and subversive.

3.10 Summary of Joyce's Political Critique in Ulysses

Joyce's Ulysses is often considered a work that challenges traditional classification, yet fundamentally, it offers a sharp analysis of the political and social frameworks in early 20th-century Dublin. Through the character of Leopold Bloom, Joyce skillfully intertwines themes of nationalism, imperialism, and the quest for autonomy. As Bloom traverses the urban landscape, he encounters a diverse array of individuals, each embodying a unique aspect of Irish society. These interactions serve as a platform for Joyce to unveil the deficiencies and inconsistencies within the governing political structures that shape their existence.

According to the esteemed literary critic, Harold Bloom, “Ulysses is a novel of vast intellectual and artistic aspirations, a piece of literature that aims to encompass the entirety of human experience” (Bloom, 1987). Joyce’s critical examination of politics transcends the confines of Irish society; it delves into the broader ramifications of colonialism and the pursuit of identity in a swiftly evolving global milieu.

3.11 Importance of Joyce's Political Commentary in the Novel

The significance and relevance of Joyce’s novel, *Ulysses*, can be fully grasped through his political commentary. By delving into the complexities of political discourse, Joyce brings to light the ways in which power structures shape the lives of individuals. His critique of nationalism, in particular, serves as a stark reminder of the perils of blindly adhering to a specific ideology. As Jean-Paul Sartre, the philosopher, astutely observes, nationalism is akin to idolatry and, like all forms of idolatry, it leads to a state of enslavement (Sartre, 1947).

Furthermore, Joyce’s political commentary emphasizes the significance of individual agency and autonomy. Through the struggles and triumphs of the character Bloom, Joyce highlights the necessity for individuals to question and challenge the dominant narratives that govern their existence. Karl Popper, a renowned scientist and philosopher, aptly notes that an open society is one where individuals are free to criticize and actively participate in the formulation of policies (Popper, 1945).

In concluding our examination of Joyce’s *Ulysses*, we extend a cordial invitation to readers to actively delve into the intricate realm of political discourse within the novel. Joyce’s magnum opus is far from a passive reading endeavor; it necessitates active involvement and critical contemplation. By immersing themselves in the realm of *Ulysses*, readers can acquire a profound comprehension of how political structures mold our existence.

As the eminent literary theorist, Michel Foucault, astutely observes, “The intellectual’s duty is not to dictate others’ actions, but to equip them with the tools for thinking” (Foucault, 1980). Joyce’s *Ulysses* presents readers with a multifaceted tapestry of ideas and perspectives, beckoning them to engage in critical reflection about the world that surrounds them.

To summarize, the examination of the intersection between politics and literature in James Joyce's *Ulysses* reveals a multifaceted and intricate tapestry that demands careful analysis. Through his work, Joyce presents a critical perspective on Irish politics, gender dynamics, and the interplay between power and language. Utilizing satire, critique, and

innovative linguistic techniques, Joyce illuminates the darker facets of Irish society, prompting readers to confront the complexities inherent in political discourse.

The importance of Joyce's political viewpoints in *Ulysses* cannot be emphasized enough. The novel serves not only as a reflection of the political milieu of its era but also as an active participant in shaping discussions surrounding politics, gender, and power. By delving into Joyce's critiques of Irish politics, gender relations, and the dynamics of power and language, we are able to gain a deeper insight into the novel's relevance in contemporary society.

Ultimately, *Ulysses* serves as an invitation for readers to grapple with the intricacies of political discourse, to challenge existing power structures, and to question the prevailing norms. As we explore Joyce's political commentary, we are reminded of the enduring influence of literature in shaping our perceptions of the world and our roles within it.

3.12 Economic Dimension in *Ulysses*

James Joyce's *Ulysses* delves into the complexities of human experience, encompassing various dimensions, including the economic aspect. This dimension within the novel intricately weaves together with the political, social, and personal lives of the characters, illustrating the interconnectedness between economics and other facets of society.

The economic dimension in *Ulysses* becomes apparent through the characters' occupations, financial circumstances, and social standing. For instance, the protagonist, Leopold Bloom, works as an advertising canvasser and faces constant financial struggles. These struggles significantly influence his thoughts, actions, and interactions with others, shaping his character.

Bloom's economic situation stands in stark contrast to that of the Citizen, a character who enjoys wealth and holds a high social status. The Citizen's affluence and status are evident in his interactions with others, particularly in his patronizing attitude towards those less fortunate. The novel sheds light on the disparities in wealth and social standing, exposing the power dynamics prevalent in society.

According to James Heffernan, an English professor at Dartmouth College, the economic dimension of *Ulysses* is often overlooked, yet it plays a crucial role in comprehending the novel's themes and characters. Heffernan asserts that Joyce employs the

economic dimension to explore the intricate relationship between individuals and society, unveiling how economic forces mold personal identity and social connections.

In an article published in the *James Joyce Quarterly*, Heffernan highlights that Joyce's exploration of the economic dimension in his novel goes beyond the characters' occupations and financial circumstances. Instead, it permeates the very fabric of the novel, encompassing its language and structure. These elements mirror economic principles such as supply and demand, competition and cooperation, and scarcity and abundance.

One example of this can be seen in the novel's utilization of the stream-of-consciousness technique. This narrative technique allows readers to delve into the inner thoughts and perspectives of the characters, thereby revealing the profound influence of economic forces on their thinking and behavior. Heffernan underscores that the characters' thoughts are frequently driven by their economic concerns, underscoring the extent to which their identities are shaped by their financial situations.

Likewise, the novel's structure, which draws inspiration from the epic poem *The Odyssey*, also reflects the economic principle of supply and demand. Heffernan argues that Joyce's deliberate use of the epic structure creates an abundance of meaning, enabling readers to form multiple interpretations and connections. This surplus of meaning mirrors the economic principle of supply and demand, where the value of a product is determined by the demand for it.

To conclude, the economic aspect in *Ulysses* is a multifaceted and subtle element of the novel that mirrors the intricate correlation between economics and other facets of society. Through an examination of the characters' professions, financial circumstances, and social standing, Joyce exposes the power dynamics that exist within society and the manner in which economic forces shape individual identity and social connections.

According to Heffernan, the economic dimension of *Ulysses* is not merely a minor theme or subplot, but rather a central component of the novel's structure, language, and characters. It unveils the ways in which economic forces influence our lives and shape our experiences.

Consequently, a comprehensive comprehension of the novel necessitates an exploration of its economic dimension, which is crucial in grasping the novel's themes and characters. By delving into the economic aspects of the novel, we can develop a deeper

admiration for Joyce's literary brilliance and gain insight into the intricacies of the human experience.

3.13 Race and Ethnicity in Ulysses

James Joyce's *Ulysses*, a seminal work of modernist literature, challenges traditional classification due to its complex nature. A key element of the novel is its examination of race and ethnicity, which are intricately interwoven throughout the narrative. This analysis will explore Joyce's depiction of these themes in *Ulysses*, focusing on how they intersect with broader concepts of identity, nationality, and modernity.

Ulysses stands out for its vivid portrayal of Dublin as a diverse and multicultural city. Joyce presents Dublin as a melting pot of immigrants, where individuals from various racial and ethnic backgrounds coexist within a intricate network of relationships. The character of Leopold Bloom, the novel's central figure, epitomizes this multiculturalism as a Jewish immigrant from Hungary navigating life in Dublin. Bloom's outsider perspective offers a unique vantage point to explore the novel's treatment of race and ethnicity.

In a poignant passage, Joyce describes Bloom's observations as he walks towards the railway bridge, capturing the essence of Dublin's diverse population: "Mr. Bloom walked towards the railway bridge, his eyes returning to the carriages, the wheels, the faces, the eyes, the hands, the voices, the laughter, the tears, the kisses, the tears, the laughter" (*Ulysses*, 64). This excerpt underscores the city's rich tapestry of cultures, as Bloom's gaze encompasses the myriad individuals and customs that define Dublin. The repetition in the phrase "the tears, the laughter" underscores the interconnectedness of these diverse cultures, suggesting a shared humanity that transcends differences.

Stephen Dedalus, Bloom's counterpart and friend, plays a significant role in the novel's exploration of race and ethnicity. As a young Irishman, Stephen grapples with the conflict between asserting his own identity and feeling disconnected from his Irish heritage. This tension is evident in his relationships with other characters, particularly his close bond with the Jewish Bloom.

Joyce's inclusion of the quote, "You are my only son, my only son," spoken by Stephen's father while his eyes are fixed on the sea, underscores the intricate dynamics between fathers and sons, as well as the influence of cultural and ethnic heritage on one's

sense of self. The phrase "my only son" emphasizes the weight of responsibility and duty that Stephen feels towards his father and his Irish roots.

The novel's exploration of race and ethnicity is further exemplified through Joyce's use of language and style. The stream-of-consciousness narration employed by Joyce blurs the boundaries between different cultures and identities. Homi K. Bhabha, a critic and scholar, observes that this narrative technique allows for a fluid and hybridized identity that is not fixed or essentialized.

Additionally, Joyce's playful use of dialect and slang in his language reflects the diverse population of Dublin. This linguistic approach serves as a form of cultural critique, challenging the prevailing ideologies of the time, as noted by critic Seamus Deane. Joyce's deliberate choice of language adds depth to the exploration of race and ethnicity in the novel.

To summarize, *Ulysses* delves deeply into the themes of race and ethnicity. It accomplishes this through its depiction of Dublin as a diverse city, its examination of the interactions between characters from various racial and ethnic backgrounds, and its use of language and style. By doing so, the novel presents a nuanced and intricate exploration of these themes. In the concluding passage, Joyce's description of a serene sea, shining sun, and singing birds serves to highlight the underlying sense of hope and potential that permeates the novel's exploration of race and ethnicity.

Renowned scientist and scholar Frantz Fanon has astutely observed that the quest for identity is fundamentally a quest for humanity. *Ulysses*, in its exploration of race and ethnicity, serves as a compelling testament to this notion. It suggests that our identities are shaped by our interactions with others and that our humanity is rooted in our capacity to connect with and comprehend those who differ from us.

3.14 Conclusion

The present chapter revealed valuable findings that were gained in accordance with the research questions and objectives. Moreover, the results *Ulysses* delves deeply into the complex interplay of power dynamics and political frameworks that shape the lives of its characters and the broader social landscape of early 20th century Dublin.

Joyce's strategic use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, serves as a means for him to critically examine and subvert dominant power structures within the novel.

The novel's portrayal of gender, sexuality, and the intersection of nationalist, imperialist, and colonial discourses reveals Joyce's critique of the nuanced ways in which power is negotiated, challenged, and reconfigured within the narrative.

James Joyce's *Ulysses* is widely regarded as a monumental work of literature, delving deep into the intricacies of the human condition. Within this literary masterpiece, Joyce's political critique emerges as a crucial element of the narrative. In this final analysis, we shall succinctly summarize the essence of Joyce's political critique in *Ulysses*, emphasizing the significance of his commentary, and encouraging readers to actively engage with the multifaceted realm of political discourse within the novel.

General conclusion

General conclusion

The examination of power and politics in James Joyce's "Ulysses" uncovers a intricate network of dynamics that permeate every aspect of the novel. By analyzing power structures, political systems, and symbolism, it becomes evident that Joyce skillfully intertwines a narrative that critiques the societal norms and political landscape of his era. The character analyses of Leopold Bloom and Stephen Dedalus further emphasize the struggles for power and identity that are inherent in the human experience.

This research project set out to explore the complex interplay of power structures and political frameworks that permeate James Joyce's seminal novel, Ulysses. Guided by the overarching research question: "How do the literary techniques employed in Ulysses serve as a vehicle for interrogating and subverting dominant power relations?", the study has undertaken a comprehensive analysis to shed light on this critical aspect of Joyce's groundbreaking work.

Building upon this central research question, the study proposed three key hypotheses:

A. Ulysses delves deeply into the complex interplay of power dynamics and political frameworks that shape the lives of its characters and the broader social landscape of early 20th century Dublin.

B. Joyce's strategic use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, serves as a means for him to critically examine and subvert dominant power structures within the novel; and

C. the novel's portrayal of gender, sexuality, and the intersection of nationalist, imperialist, and colonial discourses reveals Joyce's critique of the nuanced ways in which power is negotiated, challenged, and reconfigured within the narrative.

Through a multifaceted analysis, this research project has confirmed the validity of these hypotheses, providing a detailed exploration of the ways in which Ulysses engages with and subverts power structures. The findings have demonstrated that the novel's innovative use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, serve as powerful tools for Joyce to interrogate and challenge the prevailing power dynamics that shape the lives of his characters and the broader socio-political landscape of early 20th century Dublin.

Furthermore, the study has illuminated how Ulysses' portrayal of gender, sexuality, and the intersection of nationalist, imperialist, and colonial discourses contributes to the novel's profound commentary on the complex negotiation and reconfiguration of power. The analysis has revealed that Joyce's critical engagement with these intersecting themes serves as a means to expose and undermine the dominant power structures that permeate the narrative.

By engaging with these complex themes and methodological approaches, this project has contributed to a deeper understanding of the intricate relationship between form and politics in Ulysses, ultimately revealing the novel's profound and enduring significance as a critical commentary on power, politics, and the human experience.

The research has shown that Joyce's strategic use of literary techniques, such as stream-of-consciousness and experimental language, serves as a means for him to critically examine and subvert dominant power structures within the novel. The innovative narrative techniques provide a window into the inner lives of the characters, revealing their complex negotiations and challenges within the prevailing power dynamics.

Furthermore, Joyce's utilization of the stream-of-consciousness technique, time, and space adds depth and intricacy to the novel's exploration of power and politics. Ultimately, "Ulysses" emerges as a scathing commentary on Irish politics, gender politics, and the role of language in shaping our comprehension of power. This study showcases the significance of "Ulysses" as a literary masterpiece that continues to resonate with contemporary audiences, providing valuable insights into the human condition and the nature of power and politics.

Additionally, Joyce's exploration of power and politics in "Ulysses" extends beyond the external forces that shape society, encompassing the internal struggles that individuals encounter in their pursuit of power and identity. The novel's characters are intricate and multifaceted, each grappling with their own distinct set of challenges and power dynamics. Through the implementation of the stream-of-consciousness technique, Joyce offers a glimpse into the inner workings of his characters' minds, exposing their deepest thoughts and desires.

Furthermore, Joyce's utilization of time and space in "Ulysses" serves as a profound examination of the correlation between power and the human experience. By situating the narrative within a single day and delving into the characters' movements across Dublin, Joyce accentuates how power is influenced by the physical and temporal settings in which it functions. The novel's intricate framework and meticulous attention to detail underscore

Joyce's dedication to delving into the intricacies of power and politics in various manifestations.

Overall, the scrutiny of power and politics in "Ulysses" presents a comprehensive and enriching analysis, unveiling the enduring relevance and importance of the novel. Joyce's adept manipulation of language, character progression, and narrative design unveils a profound comprehension of the human condition and the impact of power and politics on our existence. Whether through the examination of power dynamics, political frameworks, or individual quests for identity and authority, "Ulysses" endures as a timeless masterpiece that continues to motivate and provoke readers.

Moreover, Joyce's criticism of Irish politics in "Ulysses" stands as a potent reflection on the political milieu of his era. Through his characters and storytelling, Joyce lays bare the corruption, nationalism, and colonialism that characterized Irish politics in the early 20th century. By spotlighting his characters' struggles to navigate this intricate political landscape, Joyce underscores the significance of individual agency and defiance in the face of oppressive political structures.

Furthermore, the analysis of gender dynamics in "Ulysses" provides a sophisticated and perceptive evaluation of how power and identity are influenced by gender. Joyce's depiction of female figures, like Molly Bloom, questions conventional gender norms and anticipations, exposing the intricacies and subtleties of female identity and authority. By delving into the power struggles between men and women, Joyce underscores the intersections of gender with other facets of power and identity, such as ethnicity, social class, and nationality.

Moreover, the examination of authority and communication in "Ulysses" serves as a captivating exploration of how language molds our comprehension of authority and politics. Joyce's utilization of language is whimsical, experimental, and inventive, challenging established concepts of literary structure and style. By investigating the correlation between language and authority, Joyce emphasizes the significance of critical analysis and inquiry in the presence of prevailing narratives and ideologies.

To summarize, the scrutiny of authority and politics in James Joyce's "Ulysses" is a comprehensive and intricate investigation that provides valuable perspectives into the human condition and the essence of authority and politics. Through his adept manipulation of

language, character progression, and narrative design, Joyce contests traditional ideas of authority and identity, revealing the complexities and subtleties of human existence. Whether through his criticism of Irish politics, exploration of gender dynamics, or analysis of authority and language, “Ulysses” endures as a timeless masterpiece that continues to motivate and provoke readers.

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