

THE LINGUISTICS OF POLITENESS IN ROALD DAHL'S SHORT STORIES

See literature differently through the prism of linguistics, the scientific study of language, and discover the uniqueness and mastery of Roald Dahl's writing.

In this research paper, students will familiarise themselves with a key approach in modern linguistics, i.e. Politeness Theory (Brown & Levinson: 1987). They will be asked to survey and understand its basic tenets as well as apply its concepts, such as *face-threatening acts* (FTAs), to some of Roald Dahl's famous short stories. Ultimately, students should be able to define the function of politeness in these short stories, based on their original research.

Suggested short stories:

Lamb to the Slaughter

My Lady Love, My Dove

The Way Up to Heaven

Taste

Man from the South

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Students can add different short stories to the above list and suggest any thesis within the limits of this project, with the approval of the research paper supervisor.

The subject requires good mastery of both written and spoken English as the final document of about 20 pages will be written and presented in English.

Supervisor: Kira Boulat (sujet 7)

Number of participants: 3