

First Name: Samaneh

Last Name: Ghasemi

Degree: MA in Children's Literature

Defence Date : 21 Aug 2013

Faculty of Persian Language and Literature

Supervisor: Dr. M. Khosronejad

Decentration Techniques in Picture Books for Children

The aim of this study is to investigate decentration techniques used in picture books for children and also interaction between text and pictures. In Piaget's view, the chief feature of child's mind is decentralization. Khosronejad (2003) and Moradpour (2012) discovered techniques which suggested such feature. The present study is a qualitative research where the researcher investigates the decentration components and explores the interaction between text and picture. The research results suggest that, in term of picture, all techniques of *Innocence and Experience* were present, excluding narrator's interference, happy ending, and self-pronouncement. In terms of the interaction between text and pictures, all techniques were present except narrator's interference, happy ending, self-pronouncement, and wide perspectives. In addition, all Moradpour's techniques expect serial stories, inverse sequel, dialogue, episodic structure and labeling were extant. In terms of the interaction between text and picture, all Moradpour's techniques were present expect single-scene with dual perspective, narrative and frame narrative, serial stories, dialogue, multiplescenes, and labeling. Fifteen new techniques for picture were discovered: temporal movement, selfreference, contrast, resemblance, foreshadowing, pictorial mockery, second-person viewer's interference, narratological disorder, fixed perspective vs. Versatile perspective, one scene in different sizes, incompatible framing, combined perspectives, multiple- technique pictures, side pictures, allusions to famous works of art and literature. Eight new techniques were also proposed: temporal intra- iconic text. Base structure for all techniques was defined in terms of five elements: movement, comparison, ambiguity, tension, and coincidence.

Key Words: Decentration, Children's Literature, *Innocence and Experience*, picture books.