



FOURTH UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE IN ENGLISH STUDIES

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**FECHA
20 de mayo de 2016**

**LUGAR:
Salón de Actos Lope de Rueda
FACULTAD DE FILOSOFÍA Y LETRAS**

VALLADOLID



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



PANEL 1

10: 00. Aula Magna Lope De Rueda.

Chair: MARÍA EUGENIA PEROJO ARRONTE

LUCÍA SÁNCHEZ DE MIGUEL. "The Childhood of Lady Elizabeth and her Relation with Henry VIII's Wives"

Abstract:

As there seems to be great interest in Tudor England and Elizabeth I's reign, but her early years are sometimes ignored, the aim of this paper is to explain Queen Elizabeth's childhood by including a description of the peculiar upbringing she experienced and commenting on Henry VIII's six marriages and the relationship that Elizabeth had with his father's wives. Finally, I would consider the main effect of this nurturing from the point of view of Alison Weir's novel, *The Lady Elizabeth*.

MARTA RICA GARCÍA. "The Establishment of a New Religious Trend: Protestantism in Elizabethan England"

Abstract:

In 1559, Elizabeth Tudor became Queen after her sister Mary Tudor died. This was the beginning of a new reign full of changes, the Elizabethan period. The main change that English inhabitants experienced had to do with the religion. Before Elizabeth, Protestants had been punished under the rule of "Bloody Mary", but from that point on, since Queen Elizabeth was educated under the basis of Protestantism, Catholicism was banned. English Catholics

had to face a series of difficulties due to the hard policies which were imposed to those who did not follow the regime of the "Virgin Queen". The aim of this paper is to analyze the policies adopted by Elizabeth I as well as the punishments that the English Catholics suffered when the Oath of Allegiance was imposed.

BEATRIZ DE LA LASTRA GÓMEZ & JUAN IGNACIO DE LA FUENTE MCCAULEY. "The influence of Satan in *Genesis B* on *Paradise Lost*"

Abstract:

Paradise Lost's Satan has been one of the most influential figures in English literature. However, there is the possibility that John Milton took some elements from a previous character: the Satan portrayed in *Genesis B*, by Caedmon. The following paper will study how the Satan depicted in the 11th century poem *Genesis B* has influenced Milton's. The reason for choosing this topic was that we thought that a conclusive study on this particular matter had not been done. In order to make this study, we adapted some ideas expressed by Garrido, and we called this new method the C-method. This method consists of an analysis on four levels: the style, the form, the structure and the theme. The results proved that Milton was in fact influenced by *Genesis B* in some aspects of his depiction of Satan, especially regarding the psychology of the character.

PANEL 2

11: 00. Aula Magna Lope De Rueda.

Chair: MARTA REVILLA RIVAS

MARTA PERRINO ANTÚNEZ. "Which One of You Claims to Be the Craziest?': Freedom and Mental Illness in Ken Kesey's *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest*"

Abstract:

Mental illness has always been an intricate topic in literature since two different points of view can be found: the "ill's" and the "sane's" -who sometimes seems to be more insane than the patient himself. Kesey focuses on this subject along with some other delicate topics, going from the abuse of power in the asylum to the commitment of suicide. *One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* also shows how a single person is able to inspire a group of patients, allowing them to experience new adventures, and to consider things they had never contemplated before. This work is a clear ode to freedom of those ill people trying to reach their final release. The aim of this paper is to evaluate the different notions of liberty that the characters see as their final salvation in order to demonstrate the major importance of individual liberty and confirm that this long-awaited freedom is the sole incentive that makes humans capable of doing anything.

MIGUEL GARCÍA PÉREZ. "Who Watches the *Watchmen*? Analyzing the Myth"

Abstract:

The aim of this research is to analyze what makes the comic *Watchmen* unique, the topic was selected due to the fact that a comic like *Watchmen*, which is often referred as a minor genre not worthy of being considered literature, has the honor of being, according to Time magazine, among the 100 best novels written in the 20th Century. The analysis will be divided in 3 parts; the first one will analyze the graphic and general design of the comic and the second and third will analyze the plot and characters, respectively. The conclusion we can reach is that there are three main reasons that make *Watchmen* so unique: its exceptionality in its media, how near it is from literature as a genre, and that its publication by a great company such as DC Comics allowed this exceptional comic to reach the mainstream audience.

PANEL 3

12: 15. Aula Magna Lope De Rueda

Chair: CARLOS HERRERO QUIRÓS

TOMÁS GÓMEZ IBARRONDO. "How Does Our L1 Betray Us? The Production of English Vowels by Spanish Speakers of English as an L2"

Abstract:

A look back at early language acquisition reveals the ultimate causes of second language learners' difficulties with non-native speech perception and production. The present study examined in this light the production of

English vowels by Spanish speakers of English as a second language (L2). Vowel production was analyzed through the video-recorded spoken interviews of five Spanish speakers of English as an L2, retrieved from the BACKBONE corpus. The interviewees were native Spanish speakers who used English regularly either at work or privately. Each of the English vowels studied was first identified and then classified as produced by each of the assessed speakers. The findings show an evident transfer of the Spanish vowels into the English speech as a result of maturational constraints on foreign speech perception and production. Finally, the production of English vowels proved to be influenced by spelling, as read by Spanish speakers, which thus leads to consider the effects of amount of L2 experience.

PATRICIA CARRO GARCÍA & HELENA ESCALERA LÓPEZ. "Idk Wut ur Sayin: An Internet Language Comparison between English and Spanish Speakers"

Abstract:

Technology has become a very important part of everyone's daily lives. It has enabled communication to be quick and immediate, and people cannot imagine a world without it. This new form of communicating has led to a slang known as *Netspeak*, characterized by the use of emoticons, abbreviations, and particular punctuation. The aim of this study is to establish a comparison in terms of the usage, comprehension, and replacement of aspects of non-verbal communication between English and Spanish speakers when using *Netspeak*. The study is based on data collected

from English and Spanish speakers from different age groups (teens, young adults, and adults). Participants completed a task in which they were asked about their age and their use of Internet communication. Results showed that young adults is the age group that uses Internet communication the most between speakers of both languages and, in general, adults showed the worst comprehension of *Netspeak*.

CELSA RUIZ GARCÍA. "Japanese Honorifics: A Matter of Interpretation"

Abstract:

Japanese nominal honorifics are commonly referred to as words or morphemes that speakers attach to stems to manifest respect or politeness towards an addressee, an object or a situation. These honorifics are integrated in a system which is so vast and complex that not many languages can provide terms to translate them. In this paper it is my intention to prove that, for most honorifics, especially those constituted by morphemes, translation is not the most valid option in English; and, therefore, they should rather be interpreted. I will try to interpret them according to their meaning, connotations and the immediate linguistic context in which they were produced, i.e. the sentence level. After the analysis of specific honorifics in context, I will improve the fluency of the literal translations of sentences with honorifics by reformulating them according to the intrinsic and contextual meaning of those honorifics.