



IRAQI
Academic Scientific Journals



العراقية
المجلات الأكاديمية العلمية



ISSN: 2663-9033 (Online) | ISSN: 2616-6224 (Print)

Journal of Language Studies

Contents available at: <http://jls.tu.edu.iq>

**Names and Naming in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*:
A Sociolinguistic Study**

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Keywords: -Naming -Pride and Prejudice -semantics - sociolinguistics - novel	Abstract This study is concerned with introducing a sociolinguistic analysis of personal names and the process of naming in English. It is based on the hypothesis that naming practice is not done randomly even when it is done fictionally. Writers/Novelists are having certain aims and intentions in choosing names for their fictional characters. The specific aim of this paper is formulated to examine the role that society plays in character naming by the writers. Studies on naming are various and tackled from the viewpoint of semantics, anthropology and other disciplines. No study is done in sociolinguistics that analyzes data taken from a novel, i.e. fictional characters' names. This study is limited to the
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Article Info	investigation of names of the characters in Jane Austen's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> . Thus, the data necessary to complete the study have obtained from the novel. The paper presents enough amount of names and naming in English and particularly in Austen's aforementioned novel with sufficient explanation of the method followed in the analyzation.
Article history:	
Received: 12-8-2021	
Accepted: 1-9-2021	
Available online	

الاسماء والتسميه في رواية جين أوستن "كبرياء وتحامل"
دراسة لغويه اجتماعيه

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الخلاصة: تعنى هذه الدراسة بتقديم تحليل اجتماعي لغوي لأسماء الشخصيات وعملية التسمية باللغة الإنجليزية. وهي تقوم على فرضية أن ممارسة التسمية لا تتم بشكل عشوائي حتى عندما يتم إجراؤها بشكل خيالي. للكتاب / الروائيين. أهداف ومقاصد معينة في اختيار الأسماء لشخصياتهم الخيالية. تمت صياغة الهدف المحدد من ها البحث لدراسة الدور الذي يلعبه المجتمع في تسمية الشخصيات من قبل المؤلفين. تنتوع الدراسات حول التسمية والتي يتم تناولها من وجهة نظر الدلالات والأنثروبولوجيا والتخصصات الأخرى. لا توجد دراسة في علم اللغة الاجتماعي تحلل البيانات المأخوذة من رواية ، أي. أسماء الشخصيات الخيالية حيث تقتصر هذه الدراسة على التحقيق في أسماء الشخصيات في رواية (كبرياء وتحامل) لجين أوستن. وبالتالي ، تم الحصول على البيانات اللازمة لإكمال الدراسة من الرواية. تقدم الدراسه قدرًا كافيًا من الأسماء والتسميات باللغة الإنجليزية وخاصة في رواية أوستن المذكورة أعلاه مع شرح كافٍ للطريقة المتبعة في التحليل.	الكلمات الدالة: - التسمية - كبرياء وتحامل - علم الدلالة - علم اللغة الاجتماعي - الرواية معلومات البحث تاريخ البحث: الاستلام: ٢٠٢١_٨_١٢ القبول: ٢٠٢١_٩_١ التوفر على النت
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1. Methodology

The sample of this study consists of names of all major and minor characters in one of the most famous novels of 19th century written by Jane Austen. In different disciplinary fields, a great number of works for studying names have been employed. The approach is meant to ascertain the social background of names of writer's characters. The data analysis shows how Austen was aware of naming strategies and the extent to which this awareness may be reflected in the naming of characters of *Pride and Prejudice*. The researchers use sources of sociolinguistics concerned with names and naming and dictionaries of etymologies in classifying and analyzing the data into their categories. In addition to examining the origin of each name. Some authentic websites such as <https://www.babycenter.com/>, <https://www.babynames.com/>, <https://www.behindthename.com/>, <https://www.houseofnames.com/>, <https://www.nameberry.com/>, <https://www.themeaningofthename.com/>, and <https://www.thenamemeaning.com/> are used in investigating meanings, origin, and history of the name. The classification is put in a range from the most frequent category used by the writer to the less one.

2. Names

"Why, my dear, you must know, Mrs. Long says that Netherfield is taken by a young man of large fortune from the north of England; that he came down on Monday in a chaise and four to see the place, and was so much delighted with it, that he agreed with Mr. Morris immediately; that he is to take possession before Michaelmas, and some of his servants are to be in the house by the end of next week."

"What is his name?"

"Bingley."

-Pride and Prejudice

This was the first thing that Mr. Bennet asked after his wife's long talk about the new resident in their neighborhood, i.e. his name. Names are found in almost every society as being an essential part of it. Crystal (2010:116) and Saeed (2009:27) define names as terms used to identify thing(s) in the world. Names are a vital aspect of human linguistic activity. Therefore, Pour (2010:2) clarifies that they are divided into common names and personal names. The former refers to a class of individuals while the latter refers to specific referents.

2.1 Personal Names in English

"Names are a way to keep people in your mind"

-Maggie Stiefvater

Naming a character may be a special procedure for every writer. A name can impress people who read the novel. Since this study is concerned with characters' names in *Pride and Prejudice*, it deals with personal names only. Studying personal names scientifically trace back to the beginning of the 19th century. History and Philology were the first fields that showed interest in such a study through working on

finding etymologies of names, (Blanár, 2009: 89-92). Then, interest in the topic grew bigger and a specific field appeared which studies personal names scientifically. This is called Onomastics, (Crystal, 2010: 116). However, it is the personal name that makes a person or an object identified from other similar members within a group, (Ullmann, 1962: 73).

Actually, a lot of theories have been suggested to the process of naming and names. One of the theories by (Saeed, 2009:28) implies that names are socially inherited and/or borrowed. Whereas VanLangendonck (2007: 307-309) sees that naming is “a sensitive barometer of social development” because names are flexible and adaptable. In addition, any changes within a society results in changes in the naming practices of that society, (ibid: 320).

2.2 Names and Gender

Names, undoubtedly, contribute to people’s gender identities and differences. Most of the time, one can know a person’s gender by knowing his/her name only. Aleksiejuk (2015: 92) states “gender is the feature that is the most frequently indicated by names”. Therefore, personal names play a great role in deciding the categorization of sex and gender identity. This is due to the cultural aspects of languages in which certain names are designated for males and females. To a large extent, “in many societies names serve as an important tool of gender categorizing” (ibid). English belongs to that set of languages in which the practice of naming is a gender-based matter. It also includes some male names that have a female form, e.g. Victor – Victoria. Though, things are not always so, i.e. in some cultures, including English, certain names are neutral-gender. They are also called unisex names. In other words, these names are given to people regardless of their gender. In this respect, one cannot know the gender of people who have such names without seeing them or being told. As it is evident in the data, Austen has used single-gender and neutral-gender names in her novel. She also names one of her characters ‘George’ and has given the female form of this name, ‘Georgiana’, to a female character. In addition to her use of gender-neutral names with male and female characters.

2.3 Types of Names

It is necessary to note that naming and name order is not alike in all languages. They absolutely vary as other aspects and phenomena of languages do. In English, names at almost all events contain these types:

2.3.1 First Names

First names are usually tackled as birth names or names that people get after their birth. They can tell or propose little information about the family background of their bearers, their religious beliefs, culture, belongings, etc. Personal names are also called forenames and/or given names.

Surprisingly, the structure of names differs from place to place and from culture to another. In the European system of name structuring, including English, it is known that first names come first, followed by surname or family name, (Crystal, 2010: 116 and Pour, 2010: 2). It is also worth mentioning that English names do not accept articles before them, whether definite articles or indefinite. Names like ‘the George’ is not something familiar within English speaking communities, (Bright, 2003: 670).

The data analysis shows that *Pride and Prejudice* contain the following first names: 'Anne', 'Caroline', 'Catherine', 'Charles', 'Charlotte', 'Edward', 'Elizabeth', 'Fitzwilliam', 'George', 'Georgiana', 'Harriet', 'Jane', 'John', 'Lewis', 'Louisa', 'Lydia', 'Maria', 'Mary', 'Pen', and 'William'.

2.3.2 Surnames

Surnames do not exist in all cultures of the world. Some societies may seem unfamiliar with surnames in the naming process of their languages. Concerning English, they are found as the last part of a person's name. However, surnames are not specified for one person only, on the contrary, they are shared by all the members of a family. Therefore, the term family name or last name is also used as a surname, (Crystal, 2010: 116). These names are not kept forever because in western cultures women do not keep their family name after marriage, (Schiffrin, 2006: 287).

Surnames are very evident in *Pride and Prejudice* in which some characters' first names are not mentioned in the novel including main characters like Mr. and Mrs. Bennet. As seen in analyzing data, the following surnames are found: 'Annesley', 'Bennet', 'Bingley', 'Carter', 'Chamberlayne', 'Collins', 'Darcy', 'Dawson', 'de Bourgh', 'Denny', 'Fitzwilliam', 'Foster', 'Gardiner', 'Goulding', 'Grantley', 'Haggerston', 'Harrington', 'Hill', 'Hurst', 'Jenkinson', 'Jones', 'King', 'Long', 'Lucas', 'Metcalf', 'Morris', 'Nicholls', 'Phillips', 'Pope', 'Pratt', 'Reynolds', 'Richard', 'Robinson', 'Stone', 'Watson', 'Webb', 'Wickham', and 'Younge'.

2.3.3 Nicknames

One of different types of naming practices is nicknaming. Nicknames are not real names, but frequently taken from a personal name. They show a person's role in the community and are used informally by family and friends. De Klerk and Bosch (1996: 526) say that nicknames differ from names in which they can be controlled by their bearers. Most nicknames have a close connection to the personality features of the people, whether negative or positive and this is not usually accurate.

'Lizzy' and 'Kitty' are the two nicknames found in *Pride and Prejudice* as evident in data analysis.

3. Classifications of Names in *Pride and Prejudice*

Names are influenced by the environment, values and worldviews. People giving names show their hopes, desires, personal qualities and many other aspirations, (Anderson, 2007: 85). Austen tries to show the English society of early nineteenth century through the names of her characters. The choice of the classification order is based on the most numerous to the least in number.

3.1 Religious Names

As religion is an essential element for every culture, naming after religious figures, prophets, legends, incidents, saints and the like is a common practice. Bruck and Bodenhorn (2006: 94) state that 80% of people during 17th century had names taken from the Bible. So, naming religious names is a common process in English societies for decades.

Christianity is the widespread religion in England. As Jane Austen had written her novel in the beginning of the 18th century, the data show that a lot of the names used in *Pride and Prejudice* are of religious origin, i.e. names from the Bible are used to a large degree. 'Elizabeth' (Mother of John), 'Mary' (Virgin Mary/Mother of Jesus), and 'John' (Baptist) are examples of names derived from the New Testament and used by Austen in naming characters. The authoress passes on her own name to her character 'Jane'. Her name carries a religious meaning (God is Gracious). Truly, Austen's choice of Christian names reflects the culture that she belongs to and is aware of, (Lane, 2002: 7).

3.2 Occupational Names

Stommel (2007: 143-144) shows that certain names denote "the occupational identity of participants". Certainly, choosing a character name for the writer is a pressure-filled process because the name should fit the character so well. It should belong to the era that the actions of the novel take place in. One of the important pillars in English societies is naming of occupational names, whether they are already present at the writer's time or no longer available occupations. Occupational names are based on jobs or positions in society. Most of them in English are real jobs. Austen uses great quantities of occupational names, e.g., 'Carter' (a cart driver), 'Gardiner' (looks after a garden), and 'George' (a farmer).

3.3 Honorific Names

People who made turning points in human history are memorable in a way or another. The selection of names of such people is for the purpose of immortalizing and honoring them. This is also true in naming after past ancestors where names are given in honor of the name holder.

Naming after historical figures, as noted by Reinbold (2009:4), clarifies Austen's awareness of a naming process to fit the character's personality in the novel. This is so because "this realism of naming helps to maintain the realism of the novel itself". Furthermore, Doody (2017: 11) says "[Austen] appreciates the weight of history borne by names". Certain character names have bases in English history. These names are usually tied to important historical figures and/or significant occurrences through history. Her novels in general "display an acute attention to the shimmer of historical significance within names. Austen achieves meaning that goes down deep into layers of English history and the relationship of the land" (ibid: 3). 'Collins' (family of Coilean), 'Richard' (lion-heart, a king of England) and 'Fitzwilliam' (son of William) are good examples.

3.4 Place Names

Naming after names of places is something common in English societies for decades. This can be seen in the way Austen named her characters, in the previously mentioned novel, according to place names, whether in England where she lived and belonged or other places. She also has used names that trace to old places. For example, 'de Bourgh'. Doody (2017: 2) states that "de Bourgh might reasonably be described as a Norman name since it was borne by members of the ruling class in Norman England".

3.5 Personality Attributes Names

This type of names reflects personality features. Such as, names of good wishes, success, happiness and names that contain such notions. Sometimes, they are given to obtain desirable characteristics too. To make a character distinguished from others, the writer chooses to give him/her a name that has associations with their personality and the characters' whole outlook. Certain names are tied to actions other names to the development in that character's story. Austen, as it seems, did not forget this point in her naming practice. For instance, 'Charles' (free man) and 'Long' (tall).

3.6 Nature Names

Indeed, man is the son of nature. This is something known ever since because nature never stops inspiring human being to choose names from it. On that account, choosing names from nature and its components or properties to name a person is a natural thing.

According to Reaney (1995: xv, xvi), in *A Dictionary of English Surnames*, many English surnames are derived or taken from the names of places and are tied to the nature. This point was in Austen's consideration while naming her characters. Most names taken from nature can be observed outwardly, that is, they actually have natural connotations and can be easily noted. For example, 'Hill' and 'Stone'.

3.7 Beauty Names

Obviously, names donating beauty and love are often desirable to humans. It is well-known all around the world that females care much about social prestige, of which names are a significant part. Al-Qawasmi and Al-Haq (2016: 182) proclaim that females regard their names as part of their beauty and they do care about the sound and meaning of names. That is why names derived from beauty, love, and attractiveness is predominantly given to females, e.g. 'Caroline' (a beautiful woman).

In gender-based languages, certain nouns are grammatically gendered that these nouns are regarded as female or male through the meaning that they contribute. For instance, some nouns are considered as female if their meaning refers to delicacy, softness, etc., (Stommel, 2007: 147).

The following table illustrates gender and classification of each character's name in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*:

Table (3.1) Classification and Gender of Names

No.	Name of Characters	Gender	Category
1.	Annesley	Female	Place
2.	Anne	Female	Religious
3.	Bennet	Male	Religious
4.	Bingley	Male	Place
5.	Caroline	Female	Beauty
6.	Carter	Male	Occupational
7.	Catherine	Female	Honorific

8.	Chamberlayne	Male	Occupational
9.	Charles	Male	Personality
10.	Charlotte	Female	Personality
11.	Collins	Neutral	Honorific
12.	Darcy	Neutral	Place
13.	Dawson	Male	Religious
14.	de Bourgh	Neutral	Place
15.	Denny	Neutral	Place
16.	Edward	Male	Occupational
17.	Elizabeth	Female	Religious
18.	Fitzwilliam	Male	Honorific
19.	Forster	Male	Occupational
20.	Gardiner	Male	Occupational
21.	George	Male	Occupational
22.	Georgiana	Female	Occupational
23.	Goulding	Male	Honorific
24.	Grantley	Male	Honorific
25.	Haggerston	Neutral	Occupational
26.	Harriet	Female	Honorific
27.	Harrington	Neutral	Place
28.	Hill	Male	Nature
29.	Hurst	Male	Place
30.	Jane	Female	Religious
31.	Jenkinson	Male	Honorific
32.	John	Male	Religious
33.	Jones	Male	Religious
34.	King	Male	Occupational
35.	Lewis	Female	Honorific
36.	Long	Neutral	Personality
37.	Louisa	Female	Occupational
38.	Lucas	Male	Place

39.	Lydia	Female	Religious
40.	Maria	Female	Religious
41.	Mary	Female	Religious
42.	Metcalfe	Neutral	Occupational
43.	Morris	Male	Religious
44.	Nicholls	Male	Religious
45.	Pen	Female	Honorific
46.	Phillips	Male	Beauty
47.	Pope	Male	Religious
48.	Pratt	Neutral	Personality
49.	Reynolds	Male	Personality
50.	Richard	Male	Honorific
51.	Robinson	Male	Honorific
52.	Stone	Neutral	Nature
53.	Watson	Male	Honorific
54.	Webb	Neutral	Occupational
55.	Wickham	Male	Place
56.	William	Male	Occupational
57.	Younge	Neutral	Personality

4. Conclusions

Although the study is in its initial stages, there are many ways in which the study could be expanded to enable comparisons between characters' names in novels of a male writer and a female writer. A similar study could be usefully employed to explore similarities and differences in naming practices in novels from two different times. Another fruitful area of study would be in two or more languages to help develop a better understanding of how naming practices affect people of different linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

This study concludes that Jane Austen is greatly affected by the most common sociolinguistic variables, gender, social values, settings, etc. Every writer is a member within a society in which he/she affects and gets affected by its norms and properties. This can be sometimes clearly seen in the writers'/novelists' works. Naming practices reflect important and cultural values in Austen's life and time. The culture of Jane Austen's naming can be confined as she belongs to an English community where English is the official language and Christianity is the religion or belief of most of the

people. As the data analysis has shown, a lot of names go to the Bible. This depicts the authoress' belief in the religion. The data reveal a considerable number of names of kings and historical figures, too. Gender is the main identity aspect that is correlated with names and naming practice. Accordingly, the use of gender-single and gender-neutral names are noted. Nature affects Austen's naming practices to some extent. More specifically, it seems that she is interested in place names because she chooses many place names for her characters. As she is also inspired by the nature and names two characters after nature names.

To sum up, Names in *Pride and Prejudice* are divided into four main categories which are religion, occupation, honorifics and place. In addition to the other minor categories that are very limited in number. It is obvious that surnames are used more than first names and nicknames. The latter has taken very little attention in the novel.

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