

# The Beauty of Literature lies in Figures of Speech: A Case Study of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*

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## Abstract

*The aim and objective of this research paper is to analyze the role and function of figures of speech in Coleridge's Rime of Ancient Mariner. The art of a writer makes his/her work sublime. Coleridge's art of narration and themes seem to be elevated and universal due to using figures of speech. The writer makes events or coincidences magical and systematic, because he has mastery over figures of speech. In this paper, the psychology of a reader brought close to the event where the reader becomes the follower of a writer due to his art of using figures of speech. Besides, figures of speech, Coleridge uses Willing Suspension of disbelief where the writer puts a layer on the eyes of readers or audience to believe in writer's art of depicting scenes with suspense that becomes possible for the writer because of mastery over figures of speech. This study is purely qualitative; the tool in analyzing the text is close reading figures of speech and text itself. The existing literature helps readers to know the role and function of figures to read and analyze the figures in texts on the one hand, on the other, the researcher analyses figures with the help of cited writers concerning Coleridge's Rime of Ancient Mariner. The purpose of this paper is to show interest in figures of speech through which literature becomes sublime and universal as Coleridge does.*

**Keywords:** Figures of speech, Poetic diction, Sublimity, Literary terms, and willing suspension of disbelief

## Introduction

Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834) is one of the famous romantic poets, belongs to the eighteenth century. His contribution to the field of poetry and prose is remarkable. He is considered a Romantic critic as well. In his *Literary Biography*, he has given the concept of primary and secondary imagination. According to Shalabi & Sadeq (2010), primary imagination is possessed by a common person; the secondary imagination is possessed by a writer. The sixth sense is the sense of the wisdom and creativity that is possessed by a writer. Further, his theory of willing suspension of disbelief is the technique through which the audience believes in the art or creation of the writer where he/she puts a layer on the eyes of the audience who blindly follow the writer because of his imagination.



Al-Khader (2014) expresses his view on Coleridge and elaborates on his nature. He calls Coleridge a true follower of nature and links his poetry to nature. He also says that Coleridge believes in supernaturalism whereas he teaches the moral lessons such as in his *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*, the role of Nature through Albatross. In this story, Ancient Mariner goes against Nature by killing albatross during his journey. The traveler considers Albatross as a bad omen, later, he kills that bird. Then what happens to the traveler who continuously suffers a lot until he repents his sin. The writer narrates the role of Nature and the moral lesson to humanity.

Al-Khader (2014) also adds the view of his different visits where Coleridge shared his poetic visions in his poetry. Coleridge visited Germany in 1798. After the visit, he shared his whole experience in his “aesthetic philosophy”. His comments are subjective. This whole journey is narrated in (Griggs, 1957, Vol.2):

“These mountains too, these Vales, these Woods, these Lakes,  
Scenes full of Beauty & of Loftiness Where all my life I fondly  
hop’d to live- I were sunk low indeed, did they no solace give; But  
oft I seem to feel, & evermore I fear, They are not to me now the  
Things, which once they were”. (p.797)

According to Abram (1958) and other scholars, Coleridge reflects his basic orientation in his “aesthetic philosophy”. The pleasure that Coleridge shared is his subjective one. He shares the philosophy of the east and west. He is a keen observer of beauty and Nature. Coleridge seems to humanist and philanthropist. He teaches humanity for morality purposes that is the job of everyone. Being a poet, Coleridge views on imaginative things where the reader goes into imagination and realizes the reality that is shared in his poetry. He is the most subjective poet and perceiver. His philosophy is to realize one's mistakes as he shares in his *Ode to Dejection* in which he emphasizes “aesthetic philosophy”.

O, Lady! We receive but what we give,  
And in our life alone does Nature live:  
Ours her wedding garment, Ours her shroud. (p.365, II. 47-49)

In this poem, Coleridge highlights his inner state of mind where he suffers a lot because of his subjective approach and philosophy. His heart is paralyzed, feeling loneliness, needs moral support, and recalls the inner voice that brings him near to Nature.

### **The Rime of the Ancient Mariner**

Williams (2007) calls *the Rime of the Ancient Mariner* an imaginative work that is based on supernatural element i.e. Albatross. It is purely imaginative work where the reader becomes the part of the quest in which all characters become responsible for their mistakes and experiences. Though this text is imaginative, its art looks like a reality due to figures of speech and willing suspension of disbelief. This representation symbolizes

an artistic work due to his mastery over figures of speech. This whole becomes reality rather than fiction because of Coleridge's willing suspension of disbelief. This seems the Rime is irrelevant composition, interruptions, disruption, and irruptions. Despite lacking coherence, the work is read with curiosity and interest that is because of the willing suspension of disbelief. There is an element of horror that symbolizes a Gothic theme. This fear brings a wrong doer who kills albatross on the way to quest. Mistakes and sins always remind people about past and bad experiences that happen in *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*. This element brings the reader toward repentance. The theme of the Rime is a universal one in which people cogitate on their bad experiences and sin. In this text, the role of nature loves and harms. When the intentions are positive, the result becomes positive.

According to Williams (2007), in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*, the figures of speech make the text rhythmic. The missing bird is the element of suspense that brings the Mariner towards the inner voice.

Once more  
I viewed the ocean green,  
And looked far forth, yet little saw  
Of what had else been seen"... Williams (2007, p.1123)

This passage reminds active and passive voices but the expressions are vividly shown throughout the Rime. Coleridge has command over the figures of speech through which the writer represents different images with the help of figures of speech.

### **Research Methodology**

Denzin and Lincoln (2011) assert that the nature of qualitative research assumes a dynamic and negotiated reality although in the qualitative research the data is collected from written material i.e magazines, books, treatises, etc. The researchers read books to know the textual meaning. Textual analysis and close reading help the researcher to analyze the data from the given text (*the Rime of the Ancient Mariner*). In this study, textual analysis and close reading tools are used to analyze the data from Coleridge's *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. Creswell (1998) adds that qualitative research is empirical research where the data is not in the form of numbers qualitative research is multi-method in focus involving an interpretive naturalistic approach to its subject matter. It shows that the qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings and attempt to make sense of or interpret phenomena in terms of meaning. Similarly, in this study, the figures of speech are analyzed and interpreted to know the role and purpose of using figures of speech in literature. Creswell (1998) highlights the textual analysis brings fruitful due to close reading. The researchers read figures of speech to understand the purpose of using its poetry. According to Denzin and Lincoln (2011), textual analysis and close reading bring the researcher to know the nature of sentences or textual lines to interpret or analyze textual meaning. In this study, figures of speech are analyzed with textual analysis and close reading in Coleridge's *The Rime of Ancient Mariner* (see Analysis).

### **Literature Review**

There are numerous articles, books, and written material on figures of speech. The following articles, books are seen in the existing literature in Coleridge's *Rime of Ancient Mariner*. Hussein (2015) asserts that the prime factor of literature is to teach and to give pleasure. The researchers do not only read literature for the sake of knowledge but also the sake of entertainment. According to Fadaee (2011), Figures of speech are used for imaginative tools in the literature. In literature, Figures of speech are the source of hidden meaning. Figures of speech also give literature newness in symbolism. For poet nonliving objects are used as living objects due to figures of personification. Further, the writer uses an abstract idea meaningful because of Apostrophe. According to Masroor & Pourmohammadi (2016), readers cannot understand poetry until they know poetic diction or figures of speech. Without knowing figures of speech literature would be difficult to literary and figurative language.

According to Thread (2004, p.2), "Since poets have to express the intensity of their experience with a minimum number of words, the language of poetry has to be very precise". Literature is an interpretation of an interpretation. The writer uses concise meaning with hidden literary terms and figurative language. Allusions are used in literature to connect one scene to another. Nangano (2012) expresses allusions are the figurative expressions in the literature to coup the situations to connect a present event to the past ones. The tools like figures of speech or diction are the components that make literature meaningful. This study is meaningful due to existing literature and analysis of figures of speech in Coleridge's *Rime of Ancient Mariner*.

### **An Analysis of Figures of Speech in Coleridge's *The Rime of Ancient Mariner***

The study analyses the figures of speech in Coleridge's *Rime of Ancient Mariner*. There are many figures of speech, but in this study selected figures of speech are analyzed i.e allusion and anaphora, alliteration, personification, Metaphor and Synecdoche, Apostrophe and Exclamation

simile, and rhetorical question. The figurative language makes literature meaningful how the writer uses figures of speech to show beauty of literature. There are abundant scenes in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner* i.e. scene of the Saint, the scene of Albatross, the Dead Sea, Gothic description, and the role of supernatural vice versa. The connection of one event to another brings a writer's artistic vision. Similarly, Coleridge is an artist in representing life in *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*. These figures depend on the expression of the poet how the poet connects one event to another by using different figures to coup the situation. Coleridge links one event to another to show his poetic diction and figurative language. This study helps in knowing figures of speech and to analyze figurative language in literature.

### **Allusion and anaphora**

Allusion is a figure of speech in the field of literature that refers to places and events. Nangano (2012) asserts that allusions are commonly used in poetry and prose to cite

place or person. They are used in literature and historical works to show the events and places. Regmi (2014, p.78) adds, "In an allusion, we get the reference of place, event especially from previous literary works either directly or through implication". Coleridge also uses abundantly allusions in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner* to refer places and scenes. As

"The Bridegroom's doors are opened wide,  
And I am next of kin;  
The guests are met, the feast is set:  
May'st hear the merry din...  
The ship was cheered, the harbor cleared  
Merrily did we drop  
Below the kirk, below the hill,  
Below the light house-top" (Coleridge, 1798, p.01).

These above poetic lines refer to the place or event cited by the Coleridge in *the Rime Ancient Mariner*. With the help of allusion, the poet connects one event to another where the audience becomes the part or friend to realize past as a vision. The writer gets sympathy by quoting allusions to realize the past as an identity or reality. This art brings a charm in using images or connecting one idea to another i.e. bridegroom's door, a feast is set, the ship, the harbor, the kirk, the hill, and the light-house-top. These allusions or references bring the reader into the world of imagination where the poet creates different scenes to connect one scene to another with the help of figures of speech as Coleridge does in the above poetic lines. These types of allusions are used throughout *the Rime Ancient Mariner*. All literary writers use allusions in their literary works but Coleridge's art of using allusion is superb. He uses allusions to link one event to another to bring suspense with events. Therefore, *the rime of the Ancient Mariner* is sublime in theme and art. According to Fadaee (2011), Figures of speech are used for imaginative tools in language and literature. The language becomes more attractive on account of figures of speech, whereas the writer uses different ways like allusions to express his/her point of view. The same quality of captivating is analyzed in this study to know the purpose of figures of speech

### **Alliteration or Repetition**

Alliteration or repetition is one of the best figures of speech to create a charm of sounds in poetry. Herves. et.al. (2007) express alliteration is the beauty of assonance and consonance in literature for the sake of emphasis. Coleridge is also an artistic one who uses alliteration or repetition throughout *the Rime of the Mariner*. He is aware of the interest of the reader and the charm of the poetry that reflects the figures of speech. Alliteration is one of the appealing figures of speech in which Coleridge uses repeated assonance and consonance sounds to make poetry rhythmic and delightful. Figures of speech help in narrating scenes with a clear image in the form of figures that a common person can understand easily. The scene of the Saint is depicted with the help of

Alliteration or Repetition. This is one of the best figures to repeat the same repeated sounds to create music and emphasis. Through this figure, the reader easily crams poetic lines. Shah (2009, p.600) asserts, "Repetition for the sake of emphasis is effective, if not overdone". This repetition is mostly used in poetry. It is also used in prose. The beauty of using the same consonant or vowel sounds is for the sake of emphasis. The same art of repetition is also analyzed in Coleridge's *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*. As

"Alone, alone, all, all alone,  
Alone on a wide wide sea!  
And never a saint took pity on-  
My soul in agony" (Coleridge, 1798, p.07).

Coleridge is an artist in using alliteration to make poetry rhythmic through assonance and consonance. The charm of poetry makes magical in terms of memory. This type of stanzas cannot be forgotten by the readers. In the above stanza, the Saint symbolizes the Christian follower and the Mariner who is in search of harmony, peace and spirituality after sin. The Mariner narrates his past mistakes to the Saint and gets relaxed while narrating his sin. This is called repentance either in front of God or His followers. The researcher aims to analyze figures of speech rather than thematic analysis as well as figures of speech. In the above poetic lines, alliteration or repetition is used to connect two events with rhythm and poetic diction like a narration of the Saint and the Mariner. "Alone, alone, all, all alone," (p.116). This poetic line cannot be forgotten by the reader due to repetition or alliteration. These kinds of passages are used by Coleridge throughout the text to create an impact on the mind of the reader and to develop a willing suspension of disbelief. This technique is too analyzed in *the Rime of the Ancient Mariner* at different stanzas. As

"The ice was here, the ice was there,  
The ice was all around:  
It cracked and growled, and roared and howled,  
Like noises in a sound!"(Coleridge, 1798, p.02).

Coleridge beautifies poetic passages with repeated sounds to emphasis on the event with impression. The character is put into the world of ice and realizes ice everywhere. In the above passage, the beauty of language is arranged with the sequence of events and sounds. The reader also realizes the scene of ice and its sounds as he is present there while reading the text. Coleridge's art is par excellence in language and literary devices like alliteration and personification. In the above poetic line, there are two figures are analyzed i.e. alliteration and personification. According to Masroor & Pourmohammadi (2016, p.133), "personification is used to attribute the personal characteristics to things or conceptual concepts such as; the sea was angry or the sun smiled". This figure of speech helps to visualize the concept of an inanimate object as an animate object. The sea was angry, here the sea is an inanimate object, but the writer shows the emotional touch of the sea. It means that the condition of the person was not

appropriate. This terrible narration became possible due to using personification to describe the sea and its nature. Similarly, Coleridge has also used personification in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner* i.e. 'the ice was here, and ice was there, it cracked and growled, roared and howled like noises in sound' (Malik & Ali, 2017, p. 104). Here the personification along with alliteration is used nicely. Coleridge uses simultaneously personification and alliteration in poetry to make poetic lines meaningful. Therefore, this study analyzes the research that literature becomes sublime due to command over figures of speech as Coleridge did. Further, the writer uses alliteration for the sake of memorizing a poem and its scenes. This figure of speech helps to memorize poetic lines easily. As,

“Day after day, day after day,  
We stuck, nor breath nor motion; (Coleridge, 1798, p.04).

The above poetic lines used a daily routine task like a diary to know everyday's task. Attitude and behavior are analyzed in the above lines. The realization of the Ancient Mariner reminds the consequences of life to face the music. As the days went on, the passengers on the ship were in dangerous condition after killing Albatross. The world of imagination is created by Coleridge how does he mingles one scene to another as well the consequences which are mentioned in the above lines. This has become possible for the writer because of literary devices like alliteration and personification as Coleridge does in *The Rime of Ancient Mariner*. As

“Water, water, everywhere,  
And all the boards did shrink;  
Water, water, everywhere,  
Nor any drop to drink” (Coleridge, 1798, p.04).

Coleridge uses figures of speech to create an impact on readers from one scene to another. For the poet, alliteration is the best tool in memorizing poems or stanzas that bring rhythm including harmony in the mind of the reader to visualize imagination where the writer creates the world of perception, such as water, water everywhere. This shows the character has seen plentiful water that is futile for him, the reason behind this is the inner conscience where he sees dead bodies who were floating everywhere in the water. For the hero, the difficult scene is created through which he seems thirsty but does not take a drop of water. The Ancient Mariner needs water, he sees water everywhere, but water is useless due to dead bodies that were floating in front of him. How the dreadful scene is depicted by the writer. On the one hand, the theme is sublime. On the other, the language is superb with the help of alliteration. The figure of alliteration helps create assonance and consonance sounds for the sake of music. This is the art of the poet that how he uses figures of speech. According to Throad (2004, p.2), “Since poets have to express the intensity of their experience with a minimum number of words, the language of poetry has to be very precise”. The researcher highlights the syllabic pattern that applies to verse. In prose, the sentences or words play an important role. Similarly, the

nature of poetry is different from prose. In poetry, syllables are important. Along with the syllabic pattern, figures of speech help use different images or a variety of thoughts by using figures. "A figure of speech is a way of saying something other than the literal way. It adds extra dimensions to language and reveals one thing by relating it to something else", (Gautam, 2014 is quoted in Regmi, 2014, p.77). In the above stanza, modulations, along with basic meters are used to identify romantic features. Romantic poets are adherent to modulations than basic meters. The alliterative figure is used many times in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. As

"Swiftly, swiftly, flew the ship,  
Yet she sailed softly too:  
Sweetly, blew the breeze  
On me alone it blew" (Coleridge, 1798, p.13).

Coleridge uses once again an alliterative figure to develop another scene of a ship that was stuck because of Ancient Mariner's sin. The sin of the Ancient was to kill Albatross (a bird). Here is the moral lesson that we should not go against Nature and killing birds or other creatures are a sinful act. The impact of killing created havoc on the journey of the Ancient who suffered a lot. Here, the writer creates two worlds i.e. the world of evil and the world of good. The evil person never repents and goes ahead. Here, the Ancient Mariner is the man of realization. He inwardly realized his mistake of killing albatross. Later, he confessed inwardly and realized his sin of killing another creature that brought hindrances in his path. Suddenly the wind stopped, his fellowmen were on the verge of death. After repentance, the Ancient's inner satisfaction was boosted up and blessed with spirituality. Then his ship started. Is it possible for a person to create a world of realization? This becomes possible because of figures of speech which are weapon for the writer like Coleridge. At the same time, many questions arise due to depicting a scene of Albatross. Either the work of Coleridge is fiction or reality. Further, this is debatable. In this article, the researcher aims to analyze figures which make text possible and reality. For the poet, literary devices are weapons for the writer to create an imaginative world where the reader is like the pursuer of theme, rhyme, music and rhythm. Coleridge makes all the techniques available at a time in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*.

### **Metaphor and Synecdoche**

Literary works are full of literary terms or figures of speech to carry broader meaning. A metaphor is one of the figures of speech is used for direct comparison. Fadaee (2011) defines simile and metaphor with examples. "The word metaphor is derived from the Greek word 'Mataphoria' which meant to carry" (p.21). He asserts that Recent and Original metaphors are used for the sake of emphasis. For example, 'in this house', 'I am close to wet loneliness of grass' and 'I hear the sound of gardens' breathing' and 'a forest of fingers' (p.26). Similarly, Coleridge is expert enough to use metaphors throughout *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. He uses original metaphors like in the beginning. As



“He holds his skinny hand,  
“There was a ship”, quoth he.  
“Hold off! unhanned me, grey-beard loon!”  
Eftsoon his hand drop me”(Coleridge, 1798, p.04).

Coleridge uses abundant metaphors in the *Rime of Ancient Mariner*. In the above poetic lines, skinny hand, the grey-beard loon is the original metaphors that directly represent the Ancient Mariner. The metaphors help to understand the capacity and approach of the characters how they are quoted by Coleridge. Further, Fadaee (2011) adds another type of metaphor that is called the Stock metaphor which is used for cultural purposes. It deals with the emotional ideas of culture to reveal one's culture and identity. As "a stock metaphor has certain emotional warmth-and which is not deadened by overuse" (p.22). Like her life hangs on a thread, 'laugh in someone face', 'she sees fear in my heart'. Similarly, Coleridge also uses stock metaphors that deeply represent objects. As

“The Sun came upon the left,  
Out of the sea came he!  
And he shone bright and on the right,  
Went down into the sea.  
Higher and higher every day  
Till over the mast at noon-  
The Wedding-Guest here beat his breast,  
For he heard the loud bassoon” (Coleridge, 1798, p.01).

Coleridge's *Rime of Ancient Mariner* is full of stock metaphors that represent culture and identity. The above poetic lines highlight the real scenes beautifully. This charm of representation lies in using figures of stock metaphors like the sun, out of the sea, shone bright, the mast at noon, the loud bassoon, wedding-guest, beat his breast. The writer represents the culture of marriage and happy moments by using cultural metaphors that deeply portray the world of Ancient Mariner.

Further, Fadaee (2011) defines, Cliché metaphor is used more than the requirement of an idea. It does not convey the figurative meaning but the idea of comparison. The expressions are used but not for an important purpose but just for the sake of an idea. Like, 'explore all avenues', 'stick out a smile' and 'a transparent lie' (p.22). Similarly, cliché metaphors are used by Coleridge in *the Rime Of Ancient Mariner*. As

“And now the STORM-BLAST came, and he  
Was tyrannous and strong:  
He struck with his overtaking wings  
And chased south along  
With sloping masts and dipping prow  
And who pursued with yell and blow

Still threads the shadow of his foe  
And forward bends his head,  
The ship drove fast, loud roared the blast,  
And southward aye we fled” (Coleridge, 1798, p.01).

Coleridge’s art of knitting cliché metaphors gives a clear idea to the reader for the sake of clarification. The nature of the storm is to blast, tyrannous, strong, and its overtaking wings mean like an army to attack another side the same result the storm has. Its direction was towards the south and had to go there with sloping masts and dipping prow. It does not stop until its foe flees means to destroy the place where it falls on. It does not stand there but moves until it blasts. Now imagine the idea of a storm and its clarification shows the artistic connection with its function and role. This becomes possible to narrate scenes with images because of cliché metaphors. Further analyzing the above poetic lines, there is another figure of speech (Synecdoche) is used to give a full idea about an event or scene to depict the wholesome. According to (Shah, 2009, p.592), “Synecdoche is the figure in which a part is used for the whole or the whole is used for the part. Coleridge is expert enough to use a mixture of figures to create an impact on the reader. This art is possessed by the writer like Coleridge. The Storm and its description is the part of Synecdoche. Simultaneously, the writer uses a blend of figures to show his mastery over language and literature. In the above stanza, there along with metaphor, synecdoche and exaggeration are used to create impact at the scene of storm and its function as well. These are the literary devices that promote language and its beauty.

### **Simile**

Poetry is full of simile where the poet compares one object to another for the sake of the beauty of an object. Coleridge is also one of the poets who brings two objects to close into comparison. This figure of speech usually helps a reader to realize a comparison of two unlinked objects. Fadaee (2011) expresses simile that is taken from Latin word meaning comparison of two objects for instance, as, so, and like. Coleridge uses plentiful similes in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. Shah (2009, p.570) also asserts, “when two unlike objects are compared and the comparison is introduced by the words as, as, so, like”. Hence, the mastery of Coleridge over simile is par-excellence. He uses figures of speech as more as he does in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. Further, Masroor & Pourmohammadi (2016) add that poetry is active and passive because of figures of speech. Simile is the best tool in poetry that makes an idea clear where the reader becomes part of that piece of literature and goes into the world of imagination. The reader loves simile because of the comparison of a hero/heroine. While reading a piece of poetry, the reader regards himself/herself as the hero/heroine in works of Coleridge. Similarly, this art of comparison is also observed in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. As

“Her lips were red, her looks were free,  
Her locks were yellow as gold,  
Her skin was white as leprosy,  
The Night-Mare LIFE-IN-DEATH was she,  
Who thicks man’s blood with cold” (Coleridge, 1798, p.01).

Coleridge has analyzed the best poet who uses figures of speech artistically. In the above stanza, Coleridge has used a simile to create the image of a lady who is perfect as well graceful. The comparison of her lips to red color is the resemblance, she is free and optimistic, she is broad-minded in approach. She is the queen and knows her security. Her skin and beauty is par-excellence. At the end of the stanza, the writer creates an imaginative vision of Night-mare, life-in-death, blood, and cold atmosphere. Four images create a picture of horrific scenes, where the reader becomes sympathetic to heroin as she is shown a graceful lady and her personality is superb. At the same time, Coleridge uses the willing suspension of disbelief to put a layer on our eyes and to hear her hue and cry. This artistic connection becomes possible due to figures of speech as Coleridge uses throughout *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. Fadaee (2011) makes the concept of Simile with the sign of words i.e. ‘like’ and ‘as’. These words are used for the comparison of two unlike objects that possess some similarities. As

“The winter was as cold as the last one had been.  
Dogs were as fierce-looking as wolves.  
Boxer was as strong as any two ordinary horses”. (Fadaee, 2011, p.26)

The simile is the soul of poetry and the writer is a guardian of it. Without simile, poetry is vain and boring. In the above lines, (Fadaee, 2011) expresses simile the comparison of the winter season is itself cold, the writer narrates the last year that was cold as it is now. Here the simile is used to connect two events (Shah, 2009, p.590). This comparison helps to realize one scene to another. Similarly, the approach of Coleridge is greater because of figures of speech. To a poet, a figure of speech is the soul of poetry. As

“I pass, like night, from land to land;  
I have a strange power of speech;  
That moment that his face I see,  
I know the man that must hear me:  
To whom my tale I teach”(Coleridge, 1798, p.16).

In the above poetic lines, an epic simile is used and covers the whole stanza with a comparison. The simile is the art to develop creative writing. It helps in analyzing one object to another. The narrator (Ancient Mariner) narrates how night passes with time. Coleridge narrates the scenario of a night like an enjoyable time where observes every land. This is an image where the reader becomes a traveler in the night to see every land. The writer uses a simile to compare Ancient Mariner with the night. The comparison of

two objects is called Simile (Shah, 2009, p.590). The writer tells the power of speech as Mariner has. Fadaee (2011) defines simile concerning its origin that comes from the Latin word "Simile" meaning 'resemblance and likeness', this shows that the comparison of two objects having some similarities. "Simile is fundamentally a figure of speech requiring overt reference to source and target entities, and an explicit construction connecting them", (Gibbs, 1994, p.40). According to Regmi (2014) Simile is used for creative writing. The writer uses this figure for the sake of comparison and brings two objects having some similarities to emphasize one object to another.

### **Rhetorical Question**

Literature becomes sublime in ideas or thoughts due to creating the world of rhetorician where the writer uses rhetorical questions to get sympathy from readers. External or internal conflicts or ideas are shown with a rhetorical question where the intensity of feelings exchanged between the poet and the reader. The reader becomes alert to know facts and figures where the reader himself becomes responsible to give answers to the poet. Psychologically, the poet makes the reader active and enthusiastic regarding the story. Coleridge is an observed best psychiatrist, uses rhetorical figures to make busy readers complete a piece of literature in one sitting. This depends on suspense in arrangements of events to events. He uses a figure of a rhetorical question to accompany with a reader to know external and internal feelings. The best orators use this figure to take the attention of the audience or the readers. At the same time, Coleridge seems to be poet, artistic, and orator due to using sources of sublime in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. Masroor & Pourmohammadi (2016) support the view of the rhetorical question that helps the reader to become emotional with different questions. According to Shah (2009, p.594), "The rhetorical question is most used in persuasion and oratory". Coleridge is not the only expert in using figures of speech but also an orator. This technique is analyzed in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. As

"O shrieve me, shrieve me, holy man!"  
The Hermit crossed his brow.  
"Say quick," quoth he, "I bid thee say-  
What manner of man art thou? (Coleridge, 1798, p.16).

Coleridge uses a rhetoric method to take the attention of the listener or reader to focus on the scene which brings the reader to the sense of imagination to realize the scene as it goes in front of the audience. In the above stanza, the poetic art is analyzed how the poet continues one thought to another by putting run-on-line which identifies the poetic device to mention the remaining idea into the coming line to be completed. Run-on-line is used by the romantic poets to continue the flow of ideas to another line. Hammer (1954) asserts that run-on-line is done only by a romantic poet who uses it to coup idea to the next poetic line. Coleridge is the artist who knows the psychology of the reader and how to brainwash the reader by adding rhetoric questions where the reader becomes sympathetic to become a side hero of the hero. As

“Are those her ribs through which the Sun  
Did peer, as through a grate?  
And is that Woman all her crew?  
Is that a DEATH? and are there two?  
Is that DEATH that woman’s mate?”(Coleridge, 1798, p.06).

Coleridge wants to create suspense in his writings to maintain rhetoric scenes where the poet compels characters towards the accountability of the created scenes. Does he ask who is responsible for a hundred deaths only the Ancient or the people are accompanied to? Or nature is the responsible or the unfavorable season or the supernatural bird. These questions give birth to the role of fate, destiny, or hard luck or man’s struggle. The readers are compelled to ponder on the above questions. Here the artistic development of the writer is observed in using figurative speech like rhetorical questions.

Masroor & Pourmohammadi (2016) focus on figures of speech that are the elements to understand the purpose of literature. When the writer narrates an imaginative story to effect on the situation, the reader believes it as a reality. This happens because of the art of using figures of speech. The writer becomes like a magician and the audience becomes the follower of the writer until they complete reading a piece of literature. The connection or relation between the writer and the reader is because of creative writing or figurative. These are the tools of the writer to narrate an imaginative story where the reader blindly follows the writer. These figures are personification, hyperbole, metonym, rhetorical question, synecdoche, oxymoron, etc. (Masroor & Pourmohammadi, 2016, p.134).

### **Apostrophe and Exclamation**

According to Shah (2009, p.575), “An Apostrophe is a figure of speech by which some persons (generally absent or dead) or some abstract idea personified is addressed”. In this figure of speech, the writer represents abstract ideas to be conveyed. i.e. O death where is thy sting. This sentence symbolizes abstract idea is shown as personified. Further, the exclamation is a figure of speech in which sudden and intense emotions are highlighted in the case of happiness and sorrow (Shah, 2009, p, 595). Both figures of speech i.e. Apostrophe and Exclamation are analyzed in *the Rime of Ancient Mariner*. As

“The very deep did rot: O Christ!  
That ever this should be!  
Yea, slimy things did crawl with legs  
Upon the slimy sea” (Coleridge, 1798, p.04).

“O Wedding-guest! this soul hath been  
Alone on a wide wide sea:  
So lonely ‘twas, that God himself  
Scarce seemed there to be” (Coleridge, 1798, p.01).

The above two stanzas are representing Apostrophe including Exclamation. On the one hand, the address of Christ represents Christ's message. It is an apostrophe and abstract idea like Christ. Here, abstract ideas are portrayed to show the intense feelings to Christ and repent the sin that was done by the Ancient Mariner. Simultaneously, Coleridge uses exclamation to show grief and repentance to realize one's mistake. The external and internal world is shown in using both figures together. In the second stanza, the writer addresses O Wedding-guest! There puts an exclamation. This condition is happened when a person does a serious mistake, only the words are to be expressed just for realization. O Wedding-guest! Here, he addresses the character with grief to recall one's past with bad experiences. 'Alone on a wide, wide sea', this sentence shows how the sea is personified where something bad happened. Here the writer uses a figure of speech to exaggerate the idea more and more.

### **Conclusion**

Coleridge is included in the finest romantic poets of all times. The attraction of poetry is solely relied upon figures of speech and metrical devices. The beauty, charm and mastery of language in his poetry are evident to the remark that he is one of the giant poets of England. Hence, it is not an exaggeration to articulate that Longinus's explanation on sublimity is fully appeared in *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* poem. It is very much visible that Coleridge possesses command over poetic diction and figurative language. Tremendous success and popularity of the masterpiece *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* is due to wonderfully knitted scenes with the beauty of figures of speech and willing suspension of disbelief. Besides the willing suspension of disbelief, the author employs myriad figures of speech, which were described in detail above, to enchants readers and convey them an everlasting message. Coleridge fills all beauties and romances of his age in the studied work. For instance, love and beauty of nature has been depicted in the poems at the best level. Imagination and pathetic fallacy are also treated artistically to provide charm to readers. In short, the poem is remarkable in all aspects; it was designed with the amalgamation of supernaturalism and naturalism with the touch of realism.

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