

Assessing the Use of Mobile Learning Applications for Vocabulary Development among Pakistani EFL Learners

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Abstract

This study investigates the effectiveness of mobile learning applications (apps) in enhancing vocabulary development among Pakistani English as a Foreign Language (EFL) learners. The proliferation of smartphones and the accessibility of mobile apps have provided a unique opportunity for language learners to engage in self-directed learning anytime and anywhere. However, there is limited research on the use of mobile apps specifically for vocabulary enhancement in the context of Pakistani EFL learners. This research adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining quantitative analysis of vocabulary acquisition through mobile app usage with qualitative insights gathered from learner perspectives. A sample of Pakistani EFL learners will engage with a selected vocabulary learning app over a specified period, with their progress monitored through pre- and post-assessments, vocabulary tests, and user feedback. The findings aim to provide valuable insights into the effectiveness, challenges, and preferences surrounding the integration of mobile learning applications for vocabulary development in the Pakistani EFL context, contributing to the advancement of mobile-assisted language learning (MALL) research and pedagogy.

Keywords: *Mobile learning applications, Vocabulary development, English as a Foreign Language (EFL), Pakistani learners, Mixed-methods research, Mobile-assisted language learning (MALL)*

Introduction

Realism

Realism is a realistic picture of life. It aims to uncover real issues of society in an understandable language. In another way, realism is the depiction of art or literary objects, performances, or societal settings as they are.

The Realism Art Movement

European Revolution in 1848 is “known as Spring of Notions, Spring Time of the people, and the year of revolution”. After this revolution, the realistic authors and researchers did not accept Romanticism that dominated in French Literature and this revolution showed the need for political reform, Social reform as well as Economic reform because of the need of the time. In 1850, realism started as an artistic or painting movement that was led by Gustave Courbet in France.

Opera Style of Verismo Movement

“In opera the meaning of Verismo is realism and from Italian, the meaning of vero means true” Literary verismo movement started from 1875 to 1895 by a group of various authors, mostly novelists and playwrights. There were many writers, who worked on the opera style of verismo but the major ones are the followings too:

The first writer who introduced Italian verismo was Capuano, and his works were based on versions of “reality” such as poetry that describes reality the other major author was Verga in the first part of the late Romantic literary movement. He was known as the poet of the Duchesses

and he had considerable success, but after this, he shifted to *realism* and wrote various novels based on realism.

Italian neorealist Cinema Movement

In 1943 at the end of World War 2 and after the fall of Mussolini's Fascist, worldwide audiences were unexpectedly introduced to Italian Films with the admirable works which were prepared by Roberto Rossellini (1906-1977), Vittorio De Sica (1902-1974), and Luchino Visconti (1906-1976).

At that time, Italian Directors were newly freed from Fascist Censorship and able to integrate a desire for cinematic Realism "a tendency already present during the Fascist Period" with social, political, and economic themes that would never be tolerated by the regime. Realism had already been initiated by the pre-war directors during the Fascist period such as Alessandro Blasetti (1900-19887), Augusto Genina (1892-1957), and Francesco De Robertis (1902-1959). Many critics praised the "new" realism and there were few who kept a desire to abandon the literary screenplays, their main focus was on the improvisation, chronicling average, undramatic events of the daily lives of the common people with a literary script. But most the Neorealist agreed to avoid at all costs the "happy ending" in Hollywood. While it is true that Film Studios were not available after the war because everything was destructed by the war, Neorealist Directors shunned the facility of the Studios just to show reality and the effect of the war to the audience with the help of Studios that what was going on in the street and how common people were suffering after the war.

Research questions

The followings questions are formulated based on research objectives;

1. Is captain Bluntschli the most realistic character among others in the play?
2. Which character has romantic ideas about war?
3. What kinds of heroism are demonstrated throughout the play? Who shows the most bravery?
4. Are Raina's love for Sergious and that of Louka illusionary rather than realistic?

The Objectives of the Study

1. The purpose of the present study is to analyze and find out reality in the play "Arms and the Man" by George Bernard Shaw.
2. The other objective of this study is to find out the difference between realism and idealism and the effect of realism in society according to the play "Arms and the Man".
3. The study will explore the psychological effect of realism in Shaw's play "Arms and the Man" which presents the description of battle and the notion of love and marriage, to convey a positive impact of realism.

The Significance of Study

The significance of this study lies in illustrating the role of the important Characters, Bluntschli and Nicola. These two characters' perspectives are anti-romantic. These characters' roles would help in evaluating realism. All of Shaw's Characters are true representatives of his typical ideas.

The limitation of the study

This study cannot present realism via specific ideas of George Bernard Shaw which emerge in his play "Arms and the Man" and it's also limited to exploring vivid discrimination between romanticism and realism.

Scope of the Study

The term realism has been extended in different areas such as literature, art, aesthetics, law and philosophy. This study concerns realism in the genre of literature and is confined to the play of George Bernard Shaw “Arms and The man” reflective of realism versus romanticism.

Literature Review

Introduction

This chapter represents the review of the literature of this thesis. The late nineteenth century is the period of enormous changes, because in this period chauvinism arose, middle and lower classes were replaced by the elite class and the French revolution influenced society. In that era, many writers in various countries practised a new literary technique called realism in their writings, such as; Semule Clement (1833-1910) a very famous realist. His contribution to realistic writings is remarkable. “Adventure of Huckle Barry Finn” is his most celebrated work of American literature. In this novel, he narrates his personal life experiences. He put forth many beliefs within the society of that era. He deliberately and vividly depicts the places, settings, events and emotions. The most important thing in his novel is his description of the morals and events of the central character. The subject matter of the novel is a conflict between “real life” and “civilization”. This novel is written in vernacular English. Another Russian realist writer Anton Chekhov (1860-1904) is particularly known for his short stories and psychological reality. His plays “Seagul” and “Uncle Vanya” show an in-depth study of nature and a real picture of society. In his plays “Ivanov (1887)” and “The wood Demons (1889)” he gives an account of a well-educated person who belongs to the elite class and fights against disease, duties and disappointments in his life. An American writer Stephen Crane (1871-1900) is also famous for his realistic writings. He is particularly known for his plays, poems and essay writing. He gives the true picture of the life of tenants and the battlefield. “The Red Badge of Courage” is Crane's most celebrated work published in 1895, giving an account of a guy who works in the army for the fulfilment of his desires. His novel “Maggie a girl of the street (1893)” is considered as best American novel of realism due to its stung themes. It is an account of a poor, sensitive girl whose negative family affected her whole life and compelled her to be a prostitute. Henrik Ibsen (1828-1862) was a Norwegian writer considered the pioneer of modern realism. Ibsen published four plays from 1877-to 82. Plays are “Pillars of Society” which deals with war and business, “A Doll’s House (1879)” is an account of a girl Nora. She left her husband and kids at the end of the play. Her action had a great impact on the Victorian audience. “Ghosts (1881) challenged the hypocrisy of Victorian morality” and “An Enemy of the People (1882) are written in response to the audience's protest against the “Ghosts”. One thing is common in these plays. Plays portray the problems of society and describe everyday life and situation. George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) is an Irish dramatist and critic. His work is very much influenced by Henrik Ibsen. In his plays, he tries to give a real picture of society. In his play “The Glimpse of reality” a character says “when I believe in everything real.....then I shall be a man at last”. His method of searching for the truth is very similar to that of Ibsen. His minute observation of real-life makes the audience find themselves surrounded by unrealities. He wants to show a true and vivid picture of society. Emile Augier (1820-1889) a French playwright is well known for his work “L’ aventurier (1848) which gives an idea of deviation from romanticism. Most of his plays are about contrary conditions. His work gives information on the emergence of the elite class in France. Another French writer Gustave Flaubert (1821-1880) is known for his detailed description of reality. He knew how to expound on all the facets of daily life. His famous novel “Madam Boverly” is the story of an exhausted housewife who lives in a town. This novel is the

first full-length novel on realism by Flaubert. George Eliot (1821-1880) is a very famous English writer of the Victorian era. She is particularly known for her realistic work in English literary tradition. "Middlemarch" is a very famous novel on realism by Eliot. Charles Dickens (1812-1870) is also a famous writer of the Victorian Era. There are many stories to his credit. In his work, he focuses on urban life. He wrote about all classes of society. He gives the minute detail of the society. Through his work, he attacked Victorian society. He describes how Victorian society treats the poor and the orphans. "Great Expectations", is an account of an orphan child who suffers throughout his life. He also focuses his work to depict the inequalities of Victorian society. A French dramatist of the romantic era Alexandre Dumas Fils (1802-1870) is known for the spread of realism in French literature. His prose "Camille" (1849) is about a kept woman and deals with contemporary life. Honor De Balzac (1779-1850) is a French writer and considered a pioneer of realism in French literature. In his life, he worked on a great venture named "la Comedie Humaine" or "The Human Comedy". His work depicts different facets of human society. He is among the earliest writers who prefer to portray the lives of common people. In his work, he gives the actual picture of French society.

Realism

"Simply realism means to accept the facts of situation unaffected by any emotions or feelings and it is a reflection of day to day life". "Romance means to present life as it would have been, more fantastic, adventurous and heroic than actual realism, on the other hand, realism means to present life as it is". In literature, the term realism refers to "an era that starts from the second half of the 19th century and that lead writer toward a new style of realism".

Lakoff (1987) enlists the features of realism as;

"Realism is a commitment to the existence of real work, recognition that reality places constraints on the concept, a conception of truth that goes beyond mere internal coherence, a commitment to the existence of stable knowledge of the world".

Speed (1991) defines realism in a very informative way as "the position that reality exists can be objectively discovered by people and thus determines what we know".

"Realism refers generally to any artistic or literary portrayal of life in a faithful, accurate manner, unclouded by false ideals, literary conventions, or misplaced aesthetic glorification and beautification of the world" (Carson- Newman College). "It is a theory or inclination in writing to represent actions in human life in a matter-of-fact, straightforward manner". It is an attempt to reflect life "as it actually is". Phillips (1987, p. 205) defined philosophic realism as "the view that entities exist independently of being perceived, or independently of our theories about them." Schwandt says that "scientific realism is the view that theories refer to real features of the world". "Reality here refers to whatever it is in the universe (i.e., forces, structures, and so on) that causes the phenomena we perceive with our senses (1997, p. 133)". Ian Watt defines reality "as a matter of individual experience (9)". According to James H. Rubin "realism is a movement in art and literature, [which] claimed to represent the common people and their everyday circumstances based on accurate observation (Rubin 91)". According to James Berkley (1961:167) "realism is intended to present a true picture of life at a given time and place". Lincoln and Guba (1985) dismissed scientific realism as "naïve realism (p84)" describing this as "The belief that there was a single unequivocal entity which was completely independent of the researcher or the research process". Instead, Lincoln and Guba (1985) suggested that "truth was most clearly understood as the best informed and most sophisticated construction on which there

was a consensus". Martin define realism as "the actual objects of perception, the external things such as trees, tables and rainbows, which one can perceive, and the properties which they can manifest to one when perceived, partly constitute one's conscious experience, and hence determine the phenomenal character of one's experience" (2009 [1997], p. 93). George Bernard Shaw says "The world will never be the same because I have educated four generations of people to see things as they are and not what they imagine them to be or want them to be".

Literary Realism

"Literary realism is a part of an artistic movement that began in nineteenth-century French literature". It spread to the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries. Realists discarded romanticism or idealisation and began writing on "objective reality". Their focus was "on showing things and objects without any artificiality". Realism is known as the first modern movement in art which discarded conventional forms of art, literature and the Industrial Revolution. In the 1840s this Movement started in France. This movement revolutionized painting and expands the formation of what constitutes art. Realism is the first clearly "anti-institutional nonconformist art movement". The realist writers aim to depict the social customs and ethics of the aristocracy and elite class. Writers use this technique to show how life was ordered socially, economically, politically, and culturally in the mid of nineteenth century. This shows the ugly and unpleasant picture of society. There are various realism movements in art such as lit "literary realism", "realism in art and theatrical realism "etc. Different terms are used for such versions of realism such as "critical realism (Archer et al., 1998; Bhaskar, 1989)", "Campbell, 1974, 1988; Cook & Campbell, 1979)", "experiential realism (Lakoff, 1987)", "Constructive realism (and, later, "perspectival") realism (Giere, 1999)", "subtle realism (Hammersley, 1992a)", "emergent realism (Henry, Julnes, & Mark, 1998 Mark, Henry, & Jules, 2000)", "natural realism (Putnam, 1999)", "innocent realism (Haack, 1998, 2003)", and "agential realism (Barad, 2007)".

A noticeable quality of all of these forms of realism is that they explain that "we can have any objective or certain awareness of the world and admit the option of alternative valid accounts of any phenomenon". All theories about the world are viewed as beached on a specific viewpoint and worldview, and all knowledge is incomplete and imperfect.

Theatrical realism

"Realism in the theatre was a general movement that began in the 19th-century theatre, around the 1870s, and remained present through much of the 20th bringing a greater fidelity of real life to texts and performances". The major rationale of theatrical realism is to represent real characters on stage. Realists look for the viewers, understand their struggle and feel sympathy for the human state. Martin Harrison explains, "is usually said to have begun in the early 1870s" with the "middle-period" work of the Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen. Ibsen's realistic play in prose has been "enormously influential". In the late 19th century theatrical realism began for the benefit of the society of that period. In the nineteenth century, the movement of drama appeared in different countries. In the 1920s the theatre began in England. G.B. Shaw was influenced by "Ibsenism" theatre and permitted his play to present in front of an audience. In 1848 European Revolution showed the need for political reform, social reform as well as economic reform. This need kept a desire for change and thus Theatrical Realism started as an investigation during the rearmost of the 19th century, its main focus was to establish theatre more

powerful and more useful for the societies of that era. Theatrical Realism was limited to melodrama, spectacle plays and comic opera.

At that time Technology advances were encouraged by industry and Trade but it was led to hence the belief that human problems can be solved by Science. On the other side, the working classes were still suffering and they still had to fight for their rights. The two things which became the weapons for the workers are unionization and strikes. As a result of Theatrical realism, there was a refusal of Romanticism and idealism and common people seemed to feel the desire to be recognized, and they asserted themselves through actions

Research methodology

The section on research methodology expounds on the actions which are taken into account while examining the research problem and the underlying principles for the implementation of those procedures and techniques which are used to classify and dissect information that is necessary to consider the problem and allow the reader to assess the authenticity and credibility of the study. This section is meant to answer two important questions:

- 1- How did the researcher collect and enlarge the whole data?
- 2- And how were data dissected?

Research Design

The nature of the present study is mostly qualitative. The design of qualitative is the affability of different investigational methods, enclosing a variety of accepted techniques and structures. It emphasized that the qualities of organization and processes and meanings are not experimentally tested or measured. Many researchers use the qualitative method to find answers to their questions. The main purpose behind choosing this approach is the in-depth analysis of a given topic. Another aim is to explore many aspects as compared to the quantitative method.

Source of data collection:

The researcher has collected data by using secondary sources. Internet and articles are the sources of data collection. The researcher has chosen G.B Shaw's play "The Arms and the Man" for exploring realistic as well as romantic aspects from a social perspective.

Data Collection and Data Analysis

Arms and the man

The play "Arms and the Man" show action in a small Bulgarian town during world war I between the Serb and Bulgarians in 1885, near the Mountain of Balkans. The play began with Catherine, the mother of Raina who brought a piece of good news about the war that they had got the victory in battle because of Officer Sergius who was Raina's Fiancé and she also told about Mr Petkoff, father of Raina, had also got safe. Raina became happy to hear about the victory of the war and she realized that her romantic ideas about war and her fiancé were correct. The maid, Loucka came into Raina's room and requested her to close the windows of the room and all doors because there may be shooting in the streets at any moment. At the same time, Captain Bluntschli the Swiss officer climbed up into Raina's room through the window and he was fighting against her father and fiancé. The first time Raina got frightened by the entrance of Bluntschli but later on, she took pity on him and let him hide in her room only to save him from Bulgarian War and soldiers because they were chasing him. Raina had idealistic views about the war. Bluntschli told the reality of war to her. She observed that her fiancé was a coward and later on she felt attracted to Bluntschli. When the war ended and Sergius came to her room, she

refused to marry him. At the end of the play, Raina Married Bluntschli who realized realism and Loucka married Sergius. Raina and Sergius came to know the bitter reality from Bluntschli.

The method of the data analysis

The researchers of this study have scrutinized content analysis through a very flexible method for the analysis of textual data. Content analysis usually follows the qualitative research method. The chosen paradigm for the paper of the research is qualitative. The researchers have selected the identical technique for the current study of the novel. The researchers have used this technique to explain and define the hidden meanings in the text of the play “Arms and the Man”. Initially, the text of the play would be attentively explained and analysed.

Analysis of the Title of “Arms and the Man”

The title of this play “Arms and The Man” has been derived from the starting line of the epic poem “The Aneneid” written by a Roman Poet (named Virgil) in 19BC. In Anened, “Arms and the Man I sing” is actual Virgil’s administration of war but G.B Shaw uses irony in the title of this play “ Arms and the Man” and he castigates the romantic notion of war.

Realistic Analysis of the play “Arms and the Man”

The clash in “Arms and the Man” is between ideas and beliefs. The unrealistic notions of war and romantic notions of war are presented through Raina and the realistic notions of war are presented through Bluntschli. The empirical aspect of marriage and love are deliberated by Louka.

“Arms and the Man” is one of the Primal plays by George Bernard Shaw. He portrays the reality in this play by presenting the humorous to make fun as well as to convey the serious and thought-provoking message through the amusement. In this play, he describes the realistic picture of Society especially the reality of the aristocratic class through major Petkoff’s Family. In this play, chuckling and seriousness both are juxtaposed.

This play “Arms and the Man” describes the two types of Snobbery which explore the realistic picture of Society. The first snobbery is of Nicola who considers himself major Petkoff’s servant with sceptical servility and loathing them while humbling himself in front of them because it’s what the aristocratic people as major Petkoff and his family like and it’s what makes them, please.

By presenting this snobbery George Bernard Shaw attacks the consumerists and materialistic mindset of the community of the people that is undeniable in the coexistent world. The second snobbery is presented by Major Petkoff and his family who consider themselves superior to their neighbours due to having a library and an electric bell.

George Bernard Shaw dislikes the concept of the Aristocratic class that employees are inferior to them. According to him, it is foolish and means to behave as though the possession of wealth and show the individual superiority based on wealth because all essential and unessential things are available due to the service of the servants.

The Petkoffs are said to be the wealthiest Bulgarian family. As they have not gained any status in the army due to their lack of ability but they are affluent and it is the reality that the aristocratic class has no aptitude to rise in life as the matter with Major Petkoff.

By presenting this, George Bernard Shaw tries to show reality as well as mistaken identities, hypocrisy, satire, wit, loyalty, surprise, opinions, and an idealistic view of society.

At the start of the play, “Arms and the Man” the reality comes out as the play starts that Raina is engaged to Major Sergius a good-looking as well as the idealistic and romantic protagonist, full of affluent bravery. But later on, she turns her face toward the man whom she calls her chocolate

cream more solid and she comes to consider him as her hubby. She is very inspired by Chocolate cream more solid (Bluntschli). Louka is a servant at Major Petkoff's home and she looks down on servility because she is a proud servant as well as a beautiful young lady. In the play, she is engaged to the next servant named Nicola but she makes relation with Sergius.

By presenting this, Shaw tries to depict the real picture of the society and shows the hidden hypocrisy that lies in people which spread faster after world war one and world war two as well as bloodshed and the French revolution. These cruelties have a great impact on the mind of the people so there was a need to reform the society and also need to reform the political system, economic system as well as social setup. So he reforms but his plays such as "Arms and the Man" is the best example that explores these cruelties only to reform the society for reality. It is a fact that no one in the world wants to die but it is the opposite in the play as Raina thinks only a few people are scared of death. Whereas Bluntschli who is the realistic Character in the play makes it clear that not only a few but all are afraid of death.

By presenting realistic and idealistic characters Shaw tries to make it a tool only to demonstrate realism that a passing away soul can go anywhere to protect his/her life. It is apart from real life that a gun without bullets can make destruction. The revolver which is owned by the Swiss soldier has no bullets in it but it makes desolation. By presenting this, Shaw tries to amuse the people but with a thought-provoking and serious message. As such Blunts Chali who profits but does not care for the outlook of the war. G.B Shaw wants to convey reality according to him "neither black nor white but all the shades and colours of the rainbow". "In Shaw's works the psychology of the hero and villain are replaced with a tragic comedy of the elements." On the other hand, Bluntschli is the real soldier but he comes into sight as dirty and messy. He does his duty for emolument and puts on discreditable clothes. Here Shaw tries to draw the genuine image of the Protagonist and he does not mean to criticize or satirize the romantic notion of war. His purpose and intention are to bring a positive change in society that is based on realities and according to him, blindness to reality is spiritual death.

The other important point to note is that mere words which are stuck at the end if you desire and yet stuck on it very well strongly attach to that little story of the coat and the photograph. As the followings lines are,

Bluntschli: "Yes: that's the coat I mean ... Do you suppose I am the sort of fellow a young girl falls in love with? Why look at our ages! I am thirty-four: I don't suppose the young lady is much having over seventeen...All that adventure which was life or death to me was only a school girl's game to her.... Would a woman who took the affair seriously have sent me this and written on it"?

Raina: "to her chocolate cream soldier, a Souvenir?" Petkoff. That's what I was looking for. How the deuce did it get there?"

Bluntschli: "I have put everything right, I hope, gracious young lady".

Raina: "I quite agree with your account of yourself. You are a romantic idiot. Next time I hope you will know the difference between a schoolgirl of seventeen and a woman of twenty-three".

(Arms and the Man)

The above lines refer to Shaw's intentions that as a realist he desires to set things right and wants to reform society. In "Arms and the Man", Shaw draws the word bathos, not pathos. It indicates the very title of the play. Arms and the man, the name itself meant to be bathos. In "Arms and the Man". Firstly the officer comes into sight to be brave and after a movement, he is laughed at by everyone. While the curtain goes up, "a man remembering his youth and he should

only reveal himself as violent pork-butcher when someone interpreted him with an order for pork.”

Analysis of Realistic and idealistic Characters and their love in “Arms and the Man”

The play “Arms and the Man” starts with the idealistic and romantic character Raina. She is a romantic girl and stands on balconies to relish nature as night and snow through the window of her room. She calls her fiancée Sergius a Byronic Hero. According to her idealistic views, he is a brave soldier gone to war as a Knight of the Middle Ages. Raina and Sergius live in a world of romance. As Shaw tries to show at the start of the play Raina doubts his romantic ideas.

“You cannot guess how splendid it is. A cavalry charge—think of that! He defied our Russian commander—acted without orders—led a charge on his responsibility—headed it himself—was the first man to sweep through their guns. Can’t you see it, Raina; our gallant splendid Bulgarians with their swords and eyes flashing, thundering down like an avalanche and scattering the wretched Servian dandies like chaff. And you—you kept Sergius waiting a year before you would be betrothed to him. Oh, if you have a drop of Bulgarian blood in your Veins, you will worship him when he comes back.” (Catherine Act one page no.3)

“Our ideas are real! What do you mean?”(Catherine Act one page no.3)

“Our ideas of what Sergius would do—our patriotism—heroic ideals oh, what faithless little creatures girls are!—I sometimes used to doubt whether they were anything but dreams. When I buckled on Sergius’s sword he looked so noble: it was treason to think of disillusion or humiliation failure. And yet—and yet (quickly.) promise me you’ll never tell him.”(Raina Act one page no.3)

Their romantic ideas are obtained from the reading of Byron and Pushkin and the seeing of romantic plays. It is how their romance is quickly destroyed through its very first contact with reality. Bluntschli, the Protagonist displays a solid reality. By presenting the realistic character Bluntschli, Shaw portrays the real facts and arguments in front of Raina which shatters her idealistic views of war and love. Primarily, she is informed that Bluntschli is a beef head and fool, that he and his regiment nearly committed suicide, only the pistol missed fire.

“Of all the fools ever let loose on a field of battle, that man must be the very maddest. He and his regiment simply committed suicide—only the pistol missed fire.”(Arms and the Man)

She is also informed that food is more essential in war than the number of bullets and it is the responsibility of a soldier to live as long as he can.

“All of them, a dear lady all of them, believe me. we have to live as long as we can”.She is also told by Bluntschli about the realistic ending view on the soldier that they are forced to come in the ground of war only to earn the money and most of them run away from the field, and that:

“Nine soldiers out of ten are born fools.” (Arms and the Man)

Moderately, Raina is there to see the reality of the case, and her romantic ideas of war are demolished. Likewise, Sergius is disappointed by war, and he becomes fully aware of the reality that soldering is a trade like any other trade.

“... soldering has to be a trade like any other trade. “(Arms and the Man)

Raina and Sergius are disappointed in their romantic ideals of love as well as war. As Sergius discovers his great disillusionment that Raina makes love to Bluntschli when he is not present as well as Raina on the other side comes to know that her fiancée Sergius a Byronic Hero has relations with her maid and flirts with her at her back. Intuitively, she moves to Bluntschli because he faced realities instead of bullets. He supports her to discover herself and makes her

able to understand the reality of war and life. The web of fantasy surrounded her and makes her able to observe the real facts of life. Although the protagonist of *Slivnitza* comes into sight dirty and messy as in a comic appearance. It is very comic that a soldier carries on chocolate instead of pistols and bullets.

“What use are cartridges in battle? I always carry chocolate instead have no ammunition”
(Captain Bluntschli, Act one Page.11)

Captain Bluntschli turns down many of Raina's and the audience's views on war. His main focus was on showing the audience the ability to survive the battlefield rather than to harm the enemy.

“You never saw a cavalry charge, did you?” (Captain Bluntschli, Act I pg. 13)

When Raina intently asks Bluntschli to explain Sergius's victory but he becomes to ask questions about the knowledge and wisdom of war. He means to ask that someone who perceives the brutal realities of war would not praise such meaningless and theatrical actions. Bluntschli's knowledge and information about the war are superior and Raina has lack knowledge about the brutal realities of war. Bluntschli soon corrects her misperception about the realities of war and makes her aware to see the realities. He also describes Sergius' heroic-Calvary charge as a miserable decision that gains success merely out of dumb luck. Most of the misperceptions which are held by the characters in “Arms and the Man” are the result of a lack of knowledge and information about realities.

“You have the soul of a servant, Nicola.”(Louka, Act II pg. 23)

Louka is a very proud and highly ambitious girl. She insults her Fiance Nicola during their discussion about aristocratic class. Although Louka intending means to hurt Nicola with her comment Nicola is not hurt by it. Nicola knows and accepts his status in society and he thoroughly proves his strongest characteristic and trait which make him able to win the job managing one of the Bluntschli's hotels. The comment discloses Louka's discomfort with her status as she turns against the restraints which are put on her life and she becomes aggressive when she is treated like an inferior or servant. This shows the impact of aristocratic class on local society which is often seen in Louka's character, as she prevents to describe her real identity and she feels shame and inferior to be called an Employee of Major Petkoff.

“Louka: do you know what higher love is?... Very fatiguing thing to keep up for any length of time, Louka. One feels the need of some relief after it.” (Sergius, Act II pg. 32)

Sergius tells Louka that he seeks his romantic aspiration with Raina debilitating. Sergius' romanticism is establishing him poorly. The real and inaccessible ideals he pretends to only ensure that he fails. These failures are creating a gap between his ideas of what a romantic relationship should be and his real performance as well as ambitions. Sergius' relationship with Raina is more related to action than a real romance. Sergius finds freedom from the stress of his engagement with Raina. Similarly, Raina is having romantic actions with the Swiss captain known as her Chocolate cream Bluntschli. The couple expects happiness in life and comfort. They vacate their snobbish notions of superior love and associations with practical people: Louka and Bluntschli.

The Petkoffs' class aspiration becomes a running joke throughout the play. Every member of the Pettkoff family speaks proudly about their library, supposedly the only one housed in a private home throughout Bulgaria. The starting of the third act discloses that the so-called library is only a room for sitting with a single bookshelf. Petkoff is ambitious to hold romanticized notions of wealth and nobility and thus reflects a snobbish attitude that continually makes him funny. In contrast, Captain Bluntschli's possession, and amounts of silverware and blankets, that is really

practical. It is not money or possession that George Bernard Shaw regards, but the romanticism as well as the sense of superiority that can associate with it.

Captain Bluntschli said in the play “When you get into that noble attitude and speak in that thrilling voice, I admire you; but I find it impossible to believe a single word you say.”

Finally, Bluntschli succeeds in reducing Raina’s snobbishness. Her attitude is only appearance, refusing to fall victim to her trick as Bluntschli can see Raina as she is. Raina claims that Bluntschli is the first man in her life who does not consider her seriously. Bluntschli is somewhat enchanted by her actions but is aware that it is only action and he is alluded to what she has kept hidden. This event describes the climax of a trend that has been established since the Swiss captain Bluntschli and the Bulgarian lady met. Bluntschli argues Raina’s romantic misperception which is humiliated by him. These confrontations create a mutual attraction between both of them. After Bluntschli’s accusation of posturing Raina accepts her inclination for being theatrical and engages in perhaps the very honest and self-reflective communications of her young life.

Findings, Recommendations, and Suggestions

Summary of the research study

The main objective of the current study was to portray the idea of realism in Shaw’s “Arms and the Man”. This play presents society accurately. In the middle of the 19th century, society is a spectator of an active Movement to achieve realism. G.B Shaw cuddles realism and opposes romanticism as well as he begins to satire and attacks the romantic notion of war as in the play “Arms and the Man” Reina, Blunts chilli, Louka, Sergius, Petkoff and Catherine. He is not only opposed to the romantic notion of war but also false love which leads to miserable marriage in the play he presents false love between Raina and Sergius as well as louka and Nicola. War is a major theme in his play “Arms and the Man” which glorifies a result of destruction and vandalization. Throughout his play, he attacks the Aristocratic class and Government and also blames the authorities of the Church to present the reality of injustice, immoral actions as well as vice.

Findings /conclusions of the research

As it is deduced from the current study, this play clearly defines that G.B Shaw disagrees with society and its customs and traditions and he eradicates these unacceptable norms and habits of the people of society through his play “Arms and the Man”. The other side of the conclusion is that Shaw is a statistical figure of his time for change and refinement of society from romanticism to realism. Shaw also eradicates corruption through his play. The most important thing that we observe during the findings of the current study is that usually, people don’t deal with reality such as in their jobs, work, interactions, behaviours and transactions. Most people have removed reality from their life and live in their idealism and fantasy. If people adopt the norms about nature, they will find themselves in the right way. Another result from the current research is that theatre and stage two are the most effective settings to change society. From this study, it is clear that realism occurs in different shapes in the play. G.B Shaw has skillfully edited his play in his description of war, marriage, love, practice of vice and other affairs.

Recommendations of the research study

The recommendations for the current study are the followings,

- I. The recommendation is to reassure and access cultural Seminars for the majority of people in their towns or areas and especially Semciallinars for students at a university as one of the major topics should be based on reality to reveal a better understanding and concept of realism.

- II. Lecturers in universities and teachers in schools should be against romanticism and idealism through their teaching from time to time. In this way, they can present the aspects of reality and this contribution adds to living a better life in society.
- III. The other recommendation is media as an influence device that can achieve the importance of realism. However, the majority of people have no readiness to deal with reality due to their business. But whereas Facebook, Whatsapp, and another kind of media are perfect paths to serve reality for humans to create a pure society.
- IV. Stage and theatre both have a great impact on the people. Both may serve to teach and provide awareness to the people in society by presenting the aspect of realism. It would make people look at reality in its true colours.

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