



محلل للنشر

للاضمام الى القروبات الدراسية للأخبار والملخصات والشروحات المجانية واتساب 51148200

EA300a: Fairy Tales

Part 1:

Origins: Fairy Tales and Folk Tales

The Main Points from Critics' Jake Zipes

- **Jake Zipes** believe that **myth and fairy tales transferred from one generation to another are the original components of heritage**. Fairy tales are a literary form of a myth that expresses many believable things in our lives. **Fairy tales are different from one society to another**. However, they **still represent society's culture and are always memorized in minds**. According to him, it is associated with the "**folklore**" of peoples, as it is usually a historical heritage transmitted by generations and may be religious, cultural, social, or personal.
- **According to Zipes**, fairy tales were never told or written explicitly for children. "**Like other literary genres of children's literature, the fairy tale was never told or written explicitly for children**". However, they were told overtly for adults during the 15th, 16th, and 17th.
- He has discussed the point that fairy tales "**serve a meaningful social function, not just for compensation but for revelation**". He also suggests that fairy tales are designed to turn children into the sort of adults their **societies need and value**. The classic fairy tales may not carry a **message or a moral lesson** because they were presented to adults as they were written '**without having morals and ethics imposed on them**'.
- **Zipes**, there is a state of direct and continuous conflict among these characters, and such **conflict is always summarized as the conflict** between "**the force of evil**" and "**the force of good**". A Fairy Tale is a part of literary work that mirrors society by demonstrating matters affecting people in the real world. **The clash of good and evil** is essential in fairy tales, which he has assured "**the fundamental conflicts and patterns of fantasy, such as quest or combat between good and evil**". Moreover, these are usually stories characterized by **valuable lessons and morals** passed down from past generations to older ones. Most tales follow the concepts of magic, **good** versus **evil**, and princes saving the heroine in trouble and living **happily forever and ever**. With their promised '**happy endings**', may also include horrific acts until we reach 'unexpected ends'.
- He has written extensively about **variations in tales and argued that, despite differences across countries, the tale remains at heart patriarchal, and politically conservative, reflecting and upholding the social values of the most powerful elites**. He saw that **new versions and movies are bringing new endings**, and we need to ask, "**Do fairy-tale films projects false utopian through amusement**"?



The Important Points From Some Critics: مهم آراء النقاد الإسالة تتعلق بها

- **John Ruskin** suggested that "fairy tales could **not only teach children morality** but also to cope with inherent unfairness of life and apparently inexplicable (mysterious) reversals of fortune they might suffer in future". According to him, "*a moral simplicity and nobility that he felt had been lost from other forms of lit for children*".
- **J.R.R. Tolkien** emphasized consolation of "**Faerie**". "*Fairy stories are not in normal English usage stories about fairies or elves but stories about Fairy*". Faerie, realm, or state in which fairies have their being. Faerie contains many things besides elves and fays, and besides dwarfs, witches, trolls, giants, or dragons. He recognized the pleasure these stories give to their readers. Thus, in "**Faerie**", **the writer has brought out the idea of suspense and created room for critical thinking in trying to bring out the real character of the protagonist.** مهم جدا
- According to **Tolkien**, all fairy tales have the same elements of fantasy, "**Recovery, and Consolation**". He saw as central to fairy tales the element of 'Recovery', which enables readers to see the world differently, thereby reviewing their own world **through the perspective of another and changing their own assumptions accordingly**. Most fairy tales have a happy ending, a form of **emotional and moral consolation**. He also argued that they go beyond "escapism", eventually bringing "**moral and emotional consolation**". مهم جدا

❖ **Fairy Tales Definition:**

A fairy tale has different definitions, but the most accurate is "*a traditional story written for children that usually involves imaginary creatures and magic*". Fairy tales are short stories that are an instance of a **folklore genre**. Fairy tales are types of **folklore** that emerged between the 16th and 17th centuries and focused on families, children's relationships with stepfamilies, friendships beyond the domestic space, nature, and magic. It also is a fictional story that contains folkloric figures, such as (**young genies, freaks, sprites, pygmies or giants, princesses, giants, or animals speaking in a fantasy world linked to magic or supernatural powers**). **Fairy tales differ from one society to another but still represent the society's culture and are always memorized in minds. Some 'Thousand' and 'One Nights' can be considered fairy tales.** These stories are **educational** because children can benefit greatly from learning about **many values and morals that affect them**. Children's literature has developed, and the age of a child has become **different in modern times**. Fairy tales are related to the **cultural legacy**, which means that they are about **moral lessons**.



❖ Features of Fairy Tales:

- **Repetition** of certain key phrases as "Once upon a time." and "they lived happily ever after."
- **The Major Themes are Love and Marriage, Beauty, Happiness**
- **Simplistic and stock** characters like "The Stepmother, Beauty, The Prince (etc)".
- **Simple plot**
- The **Roles of Good and Evil**
- The **Stereotypical** saved by men as **Female** Characters as "Weak Female, dependent and powerless"
- Lack of **Specific and Realistic**
- **Setting** (the realm of mythic time - long ago - happy ending - the prince and the princess - an old woman a witch - an obstacle to be overcome - the juxtaposition between the forest or woods and the castle or city).
- It has the **Supernatural Sense** and the **Mysterious**.

❖ History of Fairy Tales:

The 17th Century brought about the '**literary fairy tale**' plots from oral tradition addressed to a reading public of aristocracy and the middle class. Fairy tales have their origins in the oral tradition of folk tales for adults' children. In France "**Birth to the Fairy Tales**", for Mme d'Aulnoy and Mademoiselle Bernard incorporated fairy elements in their novels. The tales were intended to amuse the listeners and establish conventions about discourse on manners and civilizing. Thus, the change in content and style of (The Oral Tales). Hence, tales were written for adults and influenced tales directed at children as printed in a series of "**A chapbooks**". It was written by several authors, such as Les Freres Grimm and Peru.

In the 18th and 19th Centuries, in England, the translation of the tales by Perrault. For many romantics like Hoffmann, fairy tales carry "a sophisticated dialogue about social and political issues within the bourgeois public sphere. Most tales and stories for children were **didactic, moralistic, sentimental, and realistic** which intended to **demonstrate manners and morals**. However, the change of perspective in the 1820s with the publication of the (Grimms' tales German Popular Stories) in 1823, which confirms that fantasy literature and amusement would not necessarily destroy or pervert children's minds. In literature, fairy tales are original tales written by specific modern authors with a sense of traditional folktales. The actions of fairy tales take part somewhere between traditional literature and fantasy. Tales brought about amusement for relaxation from 1835 to 1900 when fairy tales came for children with Hans Christian Anderson's tales. After that period, the fairy tale has been traded as old tales and new tales or telling and retelling. Until the 1850s, lessons are learned from tales like the values of industriousness, male supremacy, honesty, diligence, and virtuousness. Thus, the fairy tale has been developed to become a retelling consisting of writing parodies of tales and questioning **traditional values** and **wonder and transformation**, include of '*The Rose and the Ring*', '*Alice in Wonderland*', and '*The Wizard of Oz*'.



Q 1: Compare fairy tales in the 17th Century to fairy tales in the 19th Century focusing on how fairy tales changed in function and role in socialization للفهم فقط بالأغلب سؤال للغاينال

Fairy tales have been used as tools of entertainment and education for children for centuries, although they continue to evolve gradually. There are thousands of fairy tales that have been produced over a long time for children and adults throughout the world. The fairy tales evolve through time, with some becoming extinct and forgotten while some live on to be recreated and developed to fit the cultural times in question. **Tales from the 17th and 19th centuries evolved regarding their socialization roles and function in society.**

When the tales erupted in the 17th century, the stories with female characters had less space and popularity in society, and in some cases, they were excluded. However, from the 19th century onwards, fairy tales evolved and eradicated gender stereotyping by developing narratives to accommodate both genders equally. The fairy tale of '*Snow White*' showed Snow white as helpless, while its evolution to '*Snow White and The Huntsman*' depicts Snow White as a brave, strong girl. On the other hand, the story of '*Little Red Riding Hood*' depicted women as heroes where the little girl in a Red Hood shot the wolf, unlike most tales from the 17th century that featured male protagonists.

Notably, **Male characters were represented** as an embodiment of power and strength. In contrast, the **Female characters were portrayed** as weak and helpless, often depending on the male characters to rescue them during the 17th century, unlike in the 19th century when women were empowered. In the tale of '*Little Red Riding Hood*', the little girl in the red hood has been empowered to defeat the wolf despite the wolf's size. Tales were written explicitly for adults and entertainment, explaining violence and sometimes sexual language in the 17th century. However, fairy tales have evolved over the centuries regarding the functions and the role the tales play in society. Tales from the 17th and 19th centuries differed regarding their societal roles and functions. The tales from the 17th century were written explicitly for adults, which explained their lack of sanitization for violence and sexual concepts. On the other hand, the tales from the 19th century began to incorporate tales for children, which saw the rise of children's fairy tales.

In conclusion, in the 19th century, tales began to be written for children to pass down moral values and societal expectations, which saw the tales having variants. Fairy tales in the 17th century were written for amusement, while tales in the 19th century expressed political and social issues.



From the beginning of the 20th Century, re-publication of illustrated collections by Perrault, the Grimms, and Anderson. **Politicization** of the fairy tale, Joan Aiken, and her parodies of the fairy tales. From the 20 to the 21st century, the **evolution of feminist fairy tale anthologies**. Reversal of plot lines to rethink conservative views of **gender and power**. **Ethnic and multicultural** tales to preserve native traditions and correct misconceptions about ethnic identity and history, the rewritings of psychological innovations, and deep explorations of classic tales. *'Hansel and Gretel'*, for example, explore values and mores, and some are parodies of older tales. An ever-growing reach of modern productions of fairy tales in TV, movies, and the Internet has kept the effect of tales as 'Oral Genres' dominating children's literature. Thus, **new media have added to the genre image**. Also, school curricula have incorporated the genre. For example, advertisers use many of the features of the fairy tales to create a sense of wonder and magic. Therefore, the fairy tale has become totally institutionalized in Western society. It continues to awaken the wonderment of the young and to project counter worlds to our present society and it will serve a meaningful social function not just for compensation but for revelation.

Generally, fairy tales has stereotypical characters and flat settings, and these tales' magical elements are accepted. They all have a general characteristic of fairy tales' happy endings. Children's literature has developed, and the age of a child has become different in modern times. Fairy tales are related to the cultural legacy, which means that they are about moral lessons. **Zipes Fairy argues that tales were written for adult entertainment which meant they were without a moral purpose**. They have been used to reflex the social values and morals in the society. It has certain factors that can be identified easily by everyone. **So, the question is the child viewed the same way today as in traditional fairy tales? Showing how fairy tales have 'changed over time'?**

Q 2: Childhood is a social construct; the image of childhood changes from one culture to another and from one period to another. Describe the child's image that you think is most appropriate for the Twenty-first 21st century. How do you envision the child of this century?

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In the 21st century, children are way different than those from other centuries, considering that it is an era marked by significant technological changes that have affected parenting, education, and interaction, among other factors in children. One positive element about 21st century children is that they are safer and more protected than those from other generations. Through digitalization, advances in medicine and strict safety regulations have been implemented that have subsequently lowered the children's mortality rate compared to other years. Through existing technologies, parents can monitor their children. At the same time, young



people have been taught to use technological devices to signal their parents in the event of any distress. However, the continued exposure to digitalization has exposed children to the risk of cyberbullying and reduced face-to-face interactions, increasing the chances for advanced childhood development characterized by aggression and lack of socialism.

The modern world has created benefits and stressors for children in almost all elements beyond technology. Children in the **21st century** tend to have fewer interactions with their siblings. One of the structural reasons behind the change in parenting and issues concerning limited interaction among children in the 21st century is the decline in birth rates are numerous incidences of only-child families in the world today. Parents have fewer children and prefer to confine the children to indoor activities, and limited outdoor indulgences make the children not develop interaction skills. Thus, most children in the 21st century are less social with both their siblings and others in society. Additionally, the 21st century can be best described as a psychologized society. People tend to become more sensitive to the inner states of a child. It could be a good thing in many ways but can also be detrimental to a child. Parenting in the 21st century is complicated, and children are increasingly being monitored, which protects them while also making them grow while being less independent. Overprotective parents push children to do and behave in a certain way. In this regard, children could have high-stress levels and reduced sleep. More so, this overprotective nature of parents has a role in decreasing free time, and there are concerns about not indulging in outdoor activities in favor of time spent indoors on the computer or television screens. Such actions are a recipe for a child's lifestyle diseases and social and psychological issues.

From the descriptions of a 21st century child provided above; I envision a child in the 21st century as a technocrat with more technical expertise who can navigate through emerging technologies easily. However, they are less social and have poor interaction skills. Thus, they will likely have fewer friends due to limited outdoor indulgences and a surge in one-child families. Due to early exposure to technology and social media makes children in the 21st century likely to have certain critical skills such as creativity, improved communication, critical thinking abilities, and collaborative practices. The children are likely to think independently. However, children in the 21st parents largely protect century. They are at minimal risk of physical and sexual abuse but have an increased risk of social and psychological issues due to reduced interaction with others.



Q 3: Do you think that **children should be exposed to fairy tales? Why?**

Fairy Tales are important stories for childhood. These stories are more than **just happily ever after**. They portray **moral lessons** through the characters and virtues shown in the stories. Although some individuals contend that **the tales comprise stereotypes and foster women**, others suggest that they offer great **lessons** and **cognitive developments** to kids, such as early literacy development and building resilience.

The world today can be a frightening place. Most families, especially children, may encounter a tremendous amount of stress. Children are aware that bad things can happen to anyone in such situations. For example, **Snow White wanted to be killed by the Queen despite being good and innocent**. Fairy tales help children build emotional resiliency by connecting the stories to real-life issues and overcoming them just like their heroes' triumphs. Moreover, they build resilience in children. These stories show that we all go through life challenges, and we must always be prepared and believe we can come out Victorious.

In conclusion, Fairy tales enhance early literacy development. It acts as an essential building block to literacy. Their imagination is further enhanced through listening to fairy tales. Children tend to discuss how fantasy land or amazing worlds differ or are the same as our real world. It helps them express their ideas easily. It also broadens a child's vocabulary.

Q 4: Fairy tales present children with a simple, **clear black and white view** of the world. Discuss with relevance to traditional fairy tales you have studied.

Children's literature is often displayed in a language easily understood by the children, making it easy for them to make sense of the world around them. The fairy tales help and direct the children on how to deal with conflicts and human desires and interpret relationships. This can only be achieved if the language and concepts used in the fairy tales are at the child's level of understanding.

Sanitization is a concept employed widely in children's literature, making it easier for children to interpret incidents of violence and promote an image of a "black-and-white" world. For example, in the tale of '**Little Red Riding Hood**', children can easily interpret that the wolf is the bad guy while the grandma and the girl in the little red hood are good characters. Children can quickly identify the story's flawed and good characters without much strain. The little girl in red was wearing a 'Red Hood'. In a child's view, red often represents danger, a threat, or power. The grandma could not fight the wolf, but the little girl in red shot the wolf despite him wearing the grandma's clothes as a disguise. In addition, many fairy tales show a protagonist wearing an article of particular and unique clothing, which makes a child easily identify a character. Authors



are responsible for portraying the situations in a black-and-white manner that children can easily understand and relate to.

To conclude, fairy tales use simple language and depict **good and evil characters**. It makes children view the world in a black-and-white manner because, at the end of the tale, the bad guy always faces dire consequences. However, children can easily understand and interpret the world, conflicts, and interests around them.

Q: Do you think that the writers and authors of children's books have the moral responsibility of protecting the child reader from the upsetting and dark side of reality? explain

The authors and writers of children's books are responsible for sheltering and protecting a child reader from the dark and upsetting side of reality. Most children's tales' writers have challenges portraying complex situations that align with a child's level of understanding. It may cause child readers to misinterpret the message that the author had intended to pass across. Matters such as death, violence and justice are themes that children have not yet developed a great understanding of for great interpretation.

Misinterpretation of the message intended by authors by children can often create a string of vast societal problems. The authors are responsible for providing children with opportunities to make sense of the world in a manner that the children can easily understand and relate to. In the tale of '*The Little Red Riding Hood and The Wolf*', who did a wrong by eating the grandma was shot by the little girl in a red hood which children can easily interpret as no wrong goes unpunished. Adult writers should approach tricky and real-life situations with much sensitivity because children can find it hard to relate to or understand them. The literary information being fed to children should be censored to protect children from harmful images and content such as violence. Although most subjects recommended for censorship in children's literature are realistic and can help a child reader cope with a similar situation, the interpretation of the realistic material may pose a challenge to a child reader. Children are more vulnerable to the emotional effects of realistic content, such as violence, betrayal, and guilt, so exposing them to such content may affect their emotional state and society.

To sum up, children should be protected from the dark side of reality because their level of understanding makes it hard for them to interpret the situation. Additionally, children display a greater vulnerability to real-life scenarios which affect their emotional state.



Q: Fairy tales have remained popular because they are concerned with what we fear and what we appreciate the most. Discuss with references to fairy tales.

Fairy tales are types of folklore that emerged between the 16th and 17th centuries and focused on families, children's relationships with stepfamilies, friendships beyond the domestic space, nature, and magic. Fairy tales revolve around **captivating narratives** of (love, betrayal, jealousy, transformation, and hatred). While people from different communities shared these narratives, each community reinvented these stories to suit its unique culture despite their universal appeal. However, the popularity of fairy tales, their capitalization on people's fears, and their capacity to instill critical life **lessons** while having **happy endings**.

Although fairy tales are popular, they focus on what people fear, which makes them enjoyable because they are read by people inhabiting safe fictional spaces. Specifically, these narratives maximize fear through evil, witches, trolls, monsters, and other scary creatures. Therefore, **people appreciate fairy tales because they teach important life lessons.** In '*Little Red Riding Hood*', **the Wolf makes readers aware that appearances can sometimes deceive.** Thus, individuals should not trust without doing some due diligence. However, Fairy tales indeed capitalize on fear, although they are **loved because they have happy endings and teach essential life lessons to their audiences.** Not only does the scary forest setting elucidate fear, but evil characters, witches, trolls, and monsters also add to the theme.

To sum up, these tales are enjoyable because they read from safe fictional spaces, and the forest settings allow the readers to explore and reimagine things.

Q: A fairy tale is Beliefs and Cultural Messages?

Fairy tales communicate moral lessons of virtue that teach children and adults how to settle a human conflict, deal with relationships, and handle desire. Over the years, fairy tales have evolved, reshaped, and taken up new forms. **The main changes that have happened to the fairy tale structure over the years as a change in scenes, changes in word choices, and the incorporation of colour.** These changes witnessed in modern fairy tales help to bring the story up to date, help society to relate to the story easily, learn from it, and share their beliefs.

The main changes to the fairy tale structure over the years are changes in scenes, changes in word choices, and the incorporation of colour. Traditional, the tales follow **specific motifs and styles** that communicate 'a happy ending'. In '*Snow White*', created in 1812 by the Grimm Brothers, was **mainly told to serve as children's entertainment, solve issues, and teach adults valuable lessons.** Moreover, the tales did not include the visual display of the narrative. Moreover, '*The Little Red Riding Hood*,' was narrated to



children to teach them **not to blindly trust strangers**. 'Snow White' was used to bring hope by **creating a fantasy about happy endings**. **In the modern**, the main storyline of the **fairy tales has changed to reflect the changes that happen in society**. In '*Snow White and the Huntsman*', the **protagonist is portrayed as an independent, brave and self-driven person, unlike her predecessor in the traditional fairy tale, who was naïve**. **In the modern version 'Little Red Riding Hood', the heroine kills the wolf to save herself**. **The protagonist is displayed as brave and independent as she does not wait for the Huntsman to come and save her**. Throughout time people have relied on their imagination to recreate fairy tale characters and their different scenarios. **In modern times**, film technology has incorporated more action and 3D fantasy adopting feminism, violence, horror, action, romance, and the supernatural to make a more appealing story for the audience.

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Good luck