

# Vocabulary Changes in Agatha Christies Mysteries as an Indication of Dementia

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### I. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY

The main purpose of this research is about Dementia and how it affects the brain. Dementia is a collection of symptoms which is caused by a number of disorders that affect the human brain. It is significantly decreased intellectual functioning that hampers human normal activities and relationships. Alzheimers disease is one of them disorder that leads to changes in language production at all levels. Ian Lancashire and Graeme Hirst, Professor of the University Toronto, try to recognize Alzheimers disease by analyzing Agatha Christie's Novels. The British mystery writer Agatha Christie, who believed to have suffered from dementia in her final years when she was writing her last novel.

### II. METHODS AND DESIGN

They examine Alzheimers disease, by comparing her work from early ages to the end ages. They simple measure of vocabulary size and richness by counting the number of different words writer used. They counted the number of different maximal phrasetypes that were repeated in her novel. These are defined by word length and frequency. They counted the number of occurrences of the vague, indefinite words thing, anything, and something. Subsequently after all punctuation, apostrophes, and hyphens were deleted afterward each text was divided into 10,000-word segments.

### III. ANALYSIS

Segments data was used to evaluated with the software tools Concordance and the Text Analysis Computing Tools (TACT). Study shows that at the age of her 81, she had a incredible drop in vocabulary compared with her other novel that was written 18 years earlier. In addition, their analysis suggests that repeating phrases and using indefinite term are significant markers for dementia.

### IV. RESULTS

Furthermore Christies age increases, her vocabulary of the novel declines the productivity. In her novels, the number of different repeating phrase types in the first 50,000 words increases with age and highly decline the lexical richness of her writing. The three novels that she wrote in her 80s, Nemesis, Elephants, and Postern, have a smaller vocabulary than any of her novel written by her between ages 28 to 63.

### V. LIMITATIONS

Professor lancashire and hirst, analyze a selection of Christies novels but not all of her novels. Furthermore, they just took first 50,000 words from each novel when her novel contain between 55,000 and 75,000 words. They identified how often she relied on indefinite words, such as thing, anything and something, rather than more specific words. Further more, Agatha Christie never diagnosed by doctors for dementia. By the time of Elephants can Remember, Christie was older and broken a hip. Possibly that could be a fact that she was unable to create a crime solvable by clue detection .

### VI. SIGNIFICANCE

Owing to Dementia, in her last novels she wasn't able to create a crime solvable by clue detection, according to the rules of the genre that she create. Normally her detective novel used to gives readers a problem to be solved. She used to provide clues and maintains confusion until her sleuth exposes a mysterious solution that ends the book. Her tradition, was to work out the plot strictly beforehand in a notebook, and to write the last chapter where her detective laid out the solution first. But her preoccupation with old people and their memories in both Elephants can Remember and Postern of Fate reflects more on her personal circumstances than on crime, murderer, and clues.

### VII. CONCLUSION

Alzheimer's disease cause dementia .It is starts slowly and get worse over time. The most common early symptom is difficulty in remembering recent events. It causes short-term memory loss in early symptom and in advances level patient can face language problems, confusion, mood swings, loss of motivation, and behavioral issues. Christies inconsistencies in character and plotting in both these late works. Her readers complained about her and the agent directed for editorial help. As a result her husband, secretary and daughter request the press to not print any more books. we can conclude that , Physical and mental decline is sad. As a person's condition falls, they often withdraw from family and society.

### REFERENCES

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