

# A Semantic Analysis of Some Expressions of “Beauty” in *Pride and Prejudice*

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The aim of this thesis is to study some expressions of “beauty” in *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen. In the story, female characters are praised for their beauty. The choice of expressions of “beauty” is involved in external factor or internal factor. External factor is something given automatically, like estate, status, and family. On the contrary, internal factor is something which is chosen by themselves and inside them like personality. I examine the relation between these factors and the choice of words.

Chapter I examines the usage of *pretty*. The word is used when object does not have good external factor. If subject does not know about her, it is also selected. *Pretty* is used in both good and ironic meaning. In ironic meaning, subject looks down on object because of her poor external factor.

Chapter II investigates the usage of *beautiful*. This is the common word for expressing beauty. Subject has special feeling toward object. In addition, object has better external factor comparing to *pretty* object.

Chapter III studies the usage of *handsome*. This shows the highest beauty and it is used when people think about the marriage. There are three types of usage. Firstly, subject praises object for only her great external factor. Secondly, subject knows her character and has strong affection for her. Finally, subject uses *handsome* ironically.

Chapter IV treats the usage of *fine*. *Fine* woman is refined and sensitive to fashion. Subject focuses on great external factor. Moreover, *fine* is used when subject meets object for the first time and subject has heard the rumor about only external factor.

Chapter V examines the usage of *fair*. Subjects admire only appearance with a light heart. Subjects care neither her external nor internal factor. When it is used, they are conscious that object is woman.

Chapter VI investigates the usage of *lovely*. It is used when subject has apparently a favorable feeling for object and expresses their goodwill to her.

Chapter VII treats the usage of *charming*. It is used when subjects get to like object by a trigger such as the possession and the relatives of object. The

trigger has a good impression on them, and subjects get interested in object who is closely involved in it.

Chapter VIII examines the usage of *sweet*. It is used for the woman who subjects look down on. They do not hate her, but they do not intend to treat her equally.

Chapter IX investigates the usage of *look* word; *well looked* and *better looking*. Subject focuses on appearance and countenance when these words are used.

There are various expressions of “beauty” which have the common element of “beauty”. Studying a synonym leads to understanding accurately English and a work.