Semantic deviation

Semantic deviation is defined as meaning relations that are logically inconsistent or paradoxical in some ways.

- Connection: criteria for literariness
  - Re-registration:
  - Interaction Of levels (grammar/lexis)
  - (Semantic density) is connected with polysemy in + literary. Monosemy implies a clear unambiguous message. Polysemy implies that lexical items do not stop automatically at their first interpretation.

Ex. CRITERIA and REPORTED MISSING:

Meaning relations can be examined by mainly all linguistic and pragmatic standpoints:

a. Lexical issues (Choices and cohesive relations)
b. Grammatical
c. Discoursal
d. Varieties (registers)
e. tropes

- We shall explore…
  - Ways of crafting meaning in poetic discourse. texts.
  - How ‘meaning’ is transported from where it is normally located.
  - How meaningful correspondences can be established in a world that did not exist before.

Reading a poem imagining how paradoxes can be resolved.

ACTIVITY

A. PRE-READING activity: Read the poem carefully. Answer the following questions:
- What’s the poem about?
- Who could use these words?
- What could be the title of this poem?
(Customs, international politician, smuggler?)
- How old is he? Why?
  B. Lexical selection
  C. Lexical cohesion devisces
  D. Discourse situation
  E. Finally… the title

Watch him when he opens
His bulging words -justice,
Fraternity, freedom, internationalism, peace,
Peace, peace. Make it your custom
To pay no heed
To his frank look, his visas, his stamps,
And signatures. Make it
Your duty to spread out their contents
In a clear light.

Nobody with such luggage
Has nothing to declare.

Norman MacCaig.
THEORETICAL REMARKS:

Two ways of defining meaning (Widdowson):

A. SIGNIFICATION: That which inheres to linguistic items as part of a code.
B. VALUE: That which is assumed depending on the context they appear.

INTERPRETATION: We must recognize intratextual (contextual meaning) and extratextual relations (significance according to the code: referential meaning) which exist from the code they derive.

Typical of poetic discourse: These two sets of relations overlap to create a unit of meaning which belongs to neither one nor the other.

POETIC TROPES (figurative speech) and SEMANTIC DEVIATION

- TROPE = FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

- POETIC TROPES
  1. Simile ("A is like B")
  2. Metaphor ("A is B")
  3. Metonymy
  4. Synecdoche

Readings:

Optional readings

