



Complexity of Understanding the Style and Symbolism in NguiWathiongo's Novels (With Reference to weep not, child)

By

Magzoub Alsaid Ahmed Mohammad<sup>1</sup>, <sup>Alsaid</sup> Almamoon<sup>2</sup>, Malikat Aldar Eissa Albakheet Abudalgader<sup>3</sup>, Mujtaba Mohamed Sallam Ahmed<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>Department of English Language, Faculty of Arts, University of Kordoan.



Article History Received: 25- 05- 2025 Accepted: 03- 06- 2025 Published: 05- 06- 2025

Corresponding author Magzoub Alsaid Ahmed Mohammad

## Abstract

The present study was conducted in Shikan locality during the period 2018-2020. The objective of study was to investigate the complexity of understanding of the style and symbolism in Ngugi Wathiongo's novel with reference to Weep not Child and the significance of the style and symbolism to improve English language to learning. Descriptive analytical method was used in the study. The data were collected by using questionnaire using simple random sample were 92 teachers were selected from 250 teachers of English language in the locality. The data were analyzed by SPSS) program version -20. The results showed that Ngugi Wathngiogo's is one of the most writers reflect the culture of African literature. There were 66.3% of the respondents indicated that Ngugi style creates a sense of formality befitting a historical narrative were t value was 23.354 with 0.002 significance. There were 68.5% of the respondents agreed that Ngugi Wathiongo uses a lot of proverbs in the novel were t value was 28.012 with 0.001 significance. It was recorded that 62 % of the respondents agreed that the writer uses simple verbs with the little variation and t value was 17.176 with 0.003 significance. There were 60.9% of the respondents agreed that Ngugi Watching uses a lot of local words in the novel were t value was 14.203 with 0.003 significance. There were 63 % of the respondents agreed that Naugi's writing is very harmonious were t value was 17.731 with 0.000 significance. It was recorded that 68.5 % agreed that Naugi's writing make readers see the history of his own people were t value was 31.230 with 0.000 significance. There were 67.4 % of the respondents agreed that Naugi's writing inspires his people to fight the colonialism were t value was 26.028 with 0.000 significance. There were 59.8 % of the respondents agreed that Naugi's strategies of writing makes readers sympathies with the culture were t value was 13.571 with 0.003 significance. It was concluded that Nagugi style creates a sense of formality befitting a historical narrative; he uses a lot of proverbs in the novel, simple verbs with the little variation and a lot of local words. It was also concluded that Naugi's writing is very harmonious, make readers see the history of his own people, inspires his people to fight the colonialism and his strategies of writing makes readers sympathies with the culture. It is recommended that Ngugi Wathiongo's style and symbolism in his novel should be clarified to reflect the culture, custom and values of African community.

**Key terms:** African literature - Style and symbolism – Ngugi Wathiongo's Novels – literary style - Themes.



Copyright © 2025 The Author(s): This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0).



### I. Introduction

The literary work is a world phenomenon that shows the problems of any community, politically, socially, economically and culturally, through the novel, poetry, short stories and plays. The African literature passes through three periods: pre-colonialism, colonialism and post colonialism and we heard about many African writers Chinua Achebe, Eltyib Salah and Wole Soyinka and Ngugi Wathiongo. This study is about one of the greatest African writers comprises the style and symbolism specifically in his novel Weep Not, Child. The primary purpose of this study is to discover Ngugi'sway, style and symbolism in his first novel. Ngugi's style of writing is very unique and harmonious, initially wrote and followed the mostly realistic work but he has changed it in recent years after he has explored more experimental magical realist aesthetics. His style and symbolism make his novel more interesting and it's easy to find himself with all characters in all novels events, his style is simple and clear and deep for anyone who tastes literature because Ngugi is the best African narrator, especially for Kenyan people his real contribution created in Kenyan nation community and families from consolidation of colonialism in the 1920's till 1970's. He played a great role to raise awareness and knowledge of all Kenyan nations during that era.

### II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study used descriptive analytical method to understand the style and symbolism in Weep Not, Child novel wrote by Ngugi Wathiongo , the study uses the questionnaire for the primary data collection also it uses references encyclopedia, Journals and websites for secondary data method. Its entitled complexity in the style and symbolism in Ngugi Wathiongo's Novel .It is conducted in University of Kordofan - Faculty of Arts. During the period 2018-2020.

### **III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

# Table (4.1) Ngugi style creates a sense of formality befitting a bistorical parrative

	mstorical narrative						
Options		Frequen cy	Percent age	Valid Percentag e	Cumulati ve Percentag e		
Va lid	strong agree	63	68.5%	68.5%	68.5%		
	Agree	25	27.2%	27.25%	95.7%		
	strong disagree	2	2.2%	2.2%	97.8%		
	Disagree	2	2.2%	2.2%	100.0%		
	Total	92	100%	100.0%			

Table (4.1) explains that Ngugi style creates a sense of formality befitting a historical narrative. (68.5%) of the respondents strongly agree and (27.2%) were agreed while (2.2%) 63 of them strong disagreed and (2.2%) disagreed, That means the majority of respondents were (agreed) that Ngugi style creates a sense of and

literature derives it from its tradition of performances which in corporate stylistic devices used by narrators who skill fully captured and held the affection of their audience.

 Table (4.2) Ngugi Wathiongo's style of writing is an interesting

 one

	one					
Options		Freque ncy	Percent age	Valid Percentage	Cumulati ve Percenta ge	
Va lid	Strong agree	64	69.6%	69.6%	69.6%	
	Agree	21	22.8%	22.8%	92.4%	
	strong disagree	2	2.2%	2.2%	94.6%	
	Disagree	2	2.2%	2.2%	96.7%	
	not sure	3	3.3%	3.3%	100.0%	
	Total	92	100%	100.0%		

Table (4.2) explain, Ngugi Wathiongo's style of writing is an interesting one (69.36%) of respondents strong agreed that (66.3%) while (22.8%) of. them agreed and (2.2%), strong disagreed and the same percent (2.2%) disagreed and (43.3%) were not sure. It means that table above shows that the majority of respondent are strong agree 66.3 and 25 are agree(27.2%) with Ngugi style it means all teachers belief of Ngugi style writing be aware of use of my legends and folklore.

Table (4.3) He uses proverbs a lot

Options		Freque ncy	Percent age	Valid Percentag e	Cumulati ve Percentag e	
Va lid	strong agree	61	66.3%	66.3%	66.3%	
	Agree	25	27.2%	27.2%	93.5%	
	strong disagree	1	1.1%	1.1%	94.6%	
	Disagree	4	4.3%	4.3%	98.9%	
	not sure	1	1.1%	1.1%	100.0%	
	Total	92	100%	100.0%		

Table (4-3) show He uses proverbs a lot, (66.3%) of the respondents strong agreed that, he uses proverbs a lot while (27.2%) (62.0%) of them agreed and (1,1%) disagreed while (4.1%) were not sure .This means the table above show they have chosen the majority of respondents 62.20+33.7 have chosen strong agree and agree of uses of simple perverts that can makes Ngugi worels held the attention of audience and readers .



Copyright © 2025 The Author(s): This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY-NC 4.0).

<b>Table (4.4)</b>	He uses	simple	verbs with	the littl	e variation
1 4010 (111)	The apen	Simple		the neu	e variation

Options		Freque ncy	Percenta ge	Valid Percentag e	Cumulati ve Percentag e
Va lid	strong agree	57	62%	62.05	62.0%
	Agree	31	33.7%	33.7%	95.7%
	strong disagree	1	1.1%	1.1%	96.7%
	not sure	3	3.3%	3.3%	100.0%
	Total	92	100%	100.0%	

Table (4.4) explore Ngugi uses simple verbs with the little variation, (62%) of the respondents strongly agreed that He uses simple verbs with the little variation, while (33.7%) agreed on the item and (1.1%) strongly disagreed and (3.3%) were not sure. This confirms of using uses simple verbs with the little variation.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		r	r		
Options		Freque	Percent	Valid	Cumulat
		ncy	age	Percentag	ive
				e	Percenta
					ge
Val id	strong agree	58	63%	64.4%	64.4%
	Agree	27	29.3%	30.0%	94.4%
	strong disagree	1	1.1%	1.1%	95.6%
	Disagre e	1	1.1%	1.1%	96.7%
	not sure	3	3.3%	3.3%	100.0%
	Total	90	97.8%	100.0%	
Mis sin g	System	2	2.2%		
Total		92	100%		

Table (4.5) Naugi's writing is very harmonious

Table (4.5) explain, Naugi's writing is very harmonious (63%) of the respondents strong agreed while (29.3%) strong agreed and (1.1%) of the respondents agreed and (1.1%) disagreed and (1.1%) of them were not sure (3.3%) the majority of them are agree (58+27)72.3% which means all Nagugi's writing in harmonicons and very unique.

Table (4.6) Naugi's writing make readers see the history of his

	own people						
Options		Frequen cy	Percent age	Valid Percentag e	Cumulat ive Percenta ge		
Val id	strong agree	63	68.5%	68.5%	68.5%		
	Agree	27	29.3%	29.3%	97.8%		
	Strong Disagr ee	2	2.2%	2.2%	100.0%		
	Total	92	100%	100.0%			

Table (4.6) show Naugi's writing make readers see the history of his own people (68.5) of the respondents strong agreed that Naugi's writing make readers see the history of his own people, while (29.3%) of the respondents agreed that Naugi's writing make readers see the history of his own people, and (2.2%) were not sure (33.7%). The majority of responders are agree81(93%) it means that Naugi's make readers see Africa's political, economic and social systems ware loaded with the struggle of slavery and colonialism.

# **IV. CONCLUSION**

The study represented the following: Hypotheses to expect to find in the study; Ngugi Wathiongo's style of writing is unique .There are common symbolism features in Ngugi Wathiongo's novel. Style and symbolism in Ngugi Wathiongo's novel are in harmony. Descriptive analytic method is used including primary source (questionnaire) for data collection and used encyclopedia, books, journals, reports and website for secondary source. For English language teachers in English of year (2018-2020) the literature review concentrated on the effect of complexity of understanding the style and symbolism in Ngugi Wathiongo's novel " Weep Not, Child ". The study analyzed by using (SPSS) programmer

# V. RECOMMENDATIONS

This study has shown that learners face difficulty in English language therefore, the study recommended that African literature can solve these problems it focuses on Ngugi Wathiongo's novel and other books and plays.

- Teachers should motivate students to learn more about literature.
- Symbolism should simplify in Ngugi's books to be thought.
- The study of Ngugi Wathnigo's increase, African culture and more values about traditional and customs of African communities.
- The study is useful for educationalists, syllabus designers and stakeholders.







## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- 1. Al-Amin Mazni, "Cry for Justice", Mdexon Censorship (1983).
- 2. Advocaey for an Afro- African literature, Presence Africaine 120(1981-1982)
- 3. Abdilalif Abdulla ,"Mnazi: The struggle for the coconut tree "Indexon censorship (1983).
- 4. Anne walmsley, (No license for musical,)interview with Ngugi wathiong'o
- 5. Amooti wa lrumba, (The making of arebell, Indexon Censorship 1980):
- 6. Ariel Shreve, (Interview with Ngugi wathiong's )viva July 1977:
- 7. Bjorkman 126. For a brief discussion of the kipande see Rosberg and Noth in gham
- 8. Barnett and Njama

- 9. Bernth Landforms, Ngugi wathiong's Early Journalism, World Literature written in English (1981):
- 10. Brian crow, Melodrama and the political UN conscious, in Two African plays Ariel (1983)
- 11. Bernth lindfers, "Ngugi wathing'o's Early Formalism World Literature written in English 20, 1 (1981):
- 12. C.B. Robson, Ngugi wathiong'o (Landon, Macmillan, 1979)
- 13. Class Struggle Hightens in Kenya 1983 Cook and Okenimpke
- 14. Cry for Justice Kilio Chai Hai Translated by Abdualateef Abdalla 1983.
- 15. Chenweizu, Review of Ngugi wathiongo's Recoloizing the mind, Times literary supplement 8 may 1987.

