A Canvas of Similes: Unveiling Thematic Richness in Graham Greene's “The Power and The Glory”

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ABSTRACT

This research delves into the profound narrative artistry of Graham Greene’s “The Power and The Glory” by analyzing 10 selected similes representing five types based on XuoGuo's classification. The simile types include Descriptive, Illuminative, Illustrative, Open, and Closed Similes, each contributing uniquely to the novel’s thematic tapestry. Utilizing a qualitative method, the research systematically categorizes and scrutinizes similes, identifying prevalent types, and unraveling their patterns and thematic implications. Descriptive similes, comparing a shark’s fin to a periscope, enhance vivid imagery and introduce concealed dangers. Illuminative similes, equating knowledge to a dark explicable spot in an X-ray photograph, provide nuanced insights into character understanding and thematic depth. Illustrative similes, likening a gold bangle to a padlock, introduce visual metaphors and layers of meaning. Open similes, like having golden shoes, infuse imaginative qualities into actions, while closed similes, comparing a man to Prometheus, draw explicit parallels, enriching characterizations with mythological undertones. This research identifies a total of 47 similes within the novel. By shedding light on the intricate use of similes in "The Power and The Glory," this research contributes significantly to understanding Greene’s stylistic choices, serving as a valuable resource for scholars, literary enthusiasts, and those exploring the depths of figurative language in Greene’s masterful storytelling.

Keywords: Figurative, Graham Greene, Simile, Stylistics, Thematic.

INTRODUCTION

In the vast landscape of language, writers employ various tools to transcend the ordinary, delving into the realm of figurative language to add layers of meaning and nuance to their expressions. Figurative language, characterized by the use of non-literal elements,
allows writers to create vivid mental images and evoke deeper emotions in their readers. One such exquisite facet of figurative language is the artful deployment of simile.

Among the myriad tools of figurative language, simile stands out for its elegant simplicity and powerful impact. A simile draws comparisons between two seemingly unrelated things, using the words "like" or "as" to create vivid connections (Myers: 1994, Galperin: 1977, Gafiatulina: 2004, Missikova: 2003, Znamenskaya: 2004). This allows writers to communicate intricate concepts, emotions, or scenarios by drawing on familiar images, enriching the reader's understanding and engagement.

Graham Greene's masterpiece, "The Power and The Glory," stands as a testament to the profound artistry of his storytelling. Within the rich tapestry of this novel, the careful observer will find a literary device that adds a layer of vividness and nuance: the simile.

In "The Power and The Glory," similes become strokes on the canvas, painting vibrant pictures of the characters, landscapes, and overarching themes. Each comparison serves a purpose, bringing to life the world within the novel and offering readers a unique lens through which to perceive the complexities of Greene's literary universe.

Within the pages of Greene's novel, simile emerges as a tool for artistic expression, allowing the reader to delve deeper into the complexities of character portrayal, thematic exploration, and the vivid depiction of landscapes. Each simile carefully woven into the narrative fabric contributes to the novel's thematic coherence and literary richness.

Following the exploration of the significance and elegance of simile in literature, the focus of this research shifts towards a meticulous examination of simile-categorized sentences within Graham Greene's "The Power and The Glory." This investigation aims to scientifically analyze the patterns and thematic implications of similes employed by Greene in the novel.

To unravel the nuanced deployment of simile in "The Power and The Glory," the research will systematically categorize and scrutinize instances identified within the text. This methodical mapping of simile utilization will provide a comprehensive understanding of how Greene integrates this figurative device into the narrative.

The findings of this research aim to contribute valuable insights to literary scholarship, enriching our understanding of Graham Greene’s narrative technique in "The Power and The Glory." By systematically dissecting the simile-categorized sentences, this study endeavors to reveal the intricacies of Greene's artistic expression, showcasing how simile becomes an integral component in the novel's thematic tapestry.

This research aligns itself with and draws upon the findings of four notable studies in the field, serving as points of comparison and reference. The first research is from Natanael, et al. (2022) entitled An Analysis of Simile in War Room Movie, the aim was to analyze similes and their type used in the movie, and it used a qualitative approach. As the result of the research, there were 20 similes found in the movie, such as 4 similes using "as" and 16 similes using 'like' as the comparison word. Moreover, there were 11 narrow-scope similes and 9 wider-scope similes apparent in the movie's narration and conversation.
Natanael's study focuses on similes in a movie, employing a qualitative approach. The research gap lies in the medium (film) and the context (War Room Movie), which differs significantly from literary works like novels. My research, centered on similes in "The Power and The Glory" by Graham Greene, explores simile patterns and thematic implications in a novel, offering a distinct perspective from the cinematic focus of Natanael’s work.

The second research is from Azizah (2019) entitled *The Analysis of Similes in Harry Potter and The Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling*, the aim was to find out the most dominant types and meanings of similes in the novel. Based on the result of the analysis; first, the writer found 6 similes in the first four chapters. Second the writer found 50% are open similes and 50% are close similes by its type. The meaning results show that 50% are explicit similes. Therefore, 50% are implicit similes.

Azizah’s research is concentrated on similes in a specific part of a novel (Harry Potter) but does not delve into nuanced patterns or thematic implications. My research, focusing on similes in "The Power and The Glory," provides a more comprehensive analysis of patterns and thematic implications, contributing to a deeper understanding of the literary use of similes.

The third research is from Tulung, et al. (2021) entitled *The Analysis of Similes in Taylor Swift’s Songs*, the aim was to identify the types, functions, and contextual meaning of similes used in Taylor Swift’s Songs. In conducting this research, qualitative analysis is used. The data are analyzed through the steps of data reduction, data display, conclusion, and verification. The instrument of collecting the data is the researchers themselves as the key instrument. The findings of this research show that there are two types of similes used in Taylor Swift's Songs those are open and closed similes. The simile allows readers to relate the feelings of the author to their personal experiences. The similes are used to make the song more imaginable and meaningful. The most important function of simile is to draw sharp pictures in the mind through comparisons, to give deeper insight into things, persons, and ideas through suggestive association, or to explain abstract, complicated ideas in simple concrete imagery.

Tulung’s research is based on song lyrics, a different genre than novels, and does not specifically address simile patterns or thematic implications. My research, examining similes in "The Power and The Glory," offers a unique perspective by concentrating on patterns and thematic implications within the context of a novel, distinct from the realm of song lyrics.

The fourth research is from Putri, et al. (2022) entitled *Similes in George Bamber’s Return to Dust*, this research aimed to examine similes in George Bamber’s "Return to Dust." A descriptive qualitative approach was employed to investigate the types of similes present in the characters' dialogue in the play. The findings revealed that descriptive simile was the most frequently used, accounting for 40%, followed by close simile at 35%, illustrative simile at 15%, open simile at 5%, and illuminative simile at 5%. Descriptive similes were identified in the dialogue of characters James and Daphne, particularly when they, as scientists, described objects in their experimental work. Closed similes were observed in James's expressions when comparing the definition of one object to the tenor. Additionally, illustrative similes were found in James's dialogue as he described the scientific experiment process. Open and illuminative similes were present in explanations of the condition’s quality.
and comparisons of characters to scientific experiments. The use of similes in "Return to Dust" aimed to vividly depict elements, leaving a lasting impression on the readers' minds.

Putri’s research analyzes similes in a play, and while it uses a descriptive qualitative approach, it focuses on character dialogue without a detailed exploration of patterns or thematic implications. My research, targeting similes in "The Power and The Glory," contributes by systematically examining patterns and thematic implications, providing a more in-depth understanding of how similes shape the narrative in a novel compared to a play.

This research, building upon this foundation, seeks to unveil the intricacies of simile deployment within Greene's novel. By systematically categorizing and scrutinizing simile-categorized sentences, it aims to provide a nuanced analysis of simile patterns and the thematic implications they carry.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Semantics

Semantics, as a subset of semiotics, is a branch of linguistics that delves into the study of signs and language, considering words as symbols (Long, 2019). Firuza (2020) technically defines semantics as the investigation of meaning, positioning it as a component of language within the field of linguistics. The exploration of meaning conveyed through language is at the core of semantics, as highlighted by Swarniti (2021) and Simatupang (2019). An utterance, whether a single word or a complete sentence, constitutes anything spoken by the speaker, as noted by Risdianoto et al. (2019).

In summary, semantics focuses on deciphering meaning in language, and examining various signs and symbols and their representations. This subfield of linguistics specifically addresses how language users interpret words and expressions, recognizing that language serves as a means to convey comprehensible meaning to others.

Figurative Language

Figurative language diverges from the conventional or standard meaning, significance, or arrangement of words in a language, aiming to convey a specific meaning (Abram & Harpham, 2014). Utami et al. (2021) define figurative language as any non-literal usage of a word, phrase, sentence, or group of phrases that deviates from the typical or primary sense of a particular language unit. Literary works and poems, particularly those designed to engage the reader’s senses, often employ figurative language. Figurative language takes various forms, encompassing metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole, symbolism, allegory, paradox, and metonymy, among others. This study, however, exclusively concentrates on the simile.

Simile

As per Akram et al. (2022), a simile involves drawing a comparison between two dissimilar entities, employing the contrast of distinct items to describe things. Borghi et al. (2019) similarly define a simile as a comparison denoted by the terms "like" or "as,"
emphasizing the fundamental dissimilarity between the two objects (Octha et al.:2016, Abrams:2015, Pinkers:2011). Similes serve to compare items creatively and imaginatively, communicating abstract concepts through vivid comparisons. In the realm of metaphor, Israel et al. (2004) state that it is metaphorical when it compares entities fundamentally dissimilar, with similes falling into the categories of open and closed, as noted by Tartakovsky and Shen (2019).

XiuGuo (2005) identifies five types of similes. The first type is a descriptive simile, which describes something using different words. For instance, *when Lisa made an O with her lips, moving her mouth like a whale eating*, it falls under descriptive simile as the condition of her lips explains the whale eating, evident from the word O. The second type is illuminative simile, characterizing or mentioning the characteristics of an object in several words. An example is, "*My heart still hurts, and the sizeable knot above my left temple looked, the colonel thought, like a miniaturized topographical map of Macedonia.*" This simile belongs to illuminative simile as it provides a deeper idea of the considerable knot of Miles's head by describing the features of the miniaturized topographic map of Macedonia. The third type is illustrative simile, illustrating the object or how it exists by explaining what it looks like using other words. For example, "*Mia followed the smoke rings with her fingers, stabbing at them like a kid trying to pop bubbles.*" This simile belongs to the illustrative category as it illustrates how Mia pops the bubble. The fourth type is an open simile, referring to the qualities of the objects without explaining their appearance. An example is, "*We ran like we had golden shoes.*" Since the qualities or characteristics of golden shoes are unstated, this simile falls under open simile. The fifth type is a closed simile, explaining the object by comparing it with the real one. For instance, describing the sun as a cylindrical orange object getting bigger, like a fast-approaching sun. This simile is a closed simile because it explicitly states the characteristics of the sun, such as being an orange object similar to a basketball.

Perrine (2012) discusses the nature and function of similes, their classification criteria, and their interpretation. According to her, a simile can be defined as the declaration of a relationship of similarity between two substantially different entities, considering them equal in one or more respects or as a relationship of dissimilarity. She also quotes Fromilhague, stating that simile has a tripartite structure consisting of the "Subject" or Comparandum (the entity described by the simile), "Vehicle" or Comparatum (the entity to which the subject is compared), accompanied by a comparison marker, and "Trait(s) of similarity" (the properties shared by the subject and the vehicle) that may or may not be explicitly expressed.

The primary purpose of a simile is to evoke vivid mental images, enhance understanding of objects, people, and ideas through suggestive associations, and clarify complex, abstract concepts using tangible imagery. A simile must fulfill four criteria: 1) Inclusion of comparative words such as "like," "as," or "as if." 2) The presence of two components for comparison: the primary phrase (tenor) and the secondary term (vehicle). 3) A significant contrast between the two items. 4) At least one shared quality between the two entities.
METHOD

This study utilizes a qualitative research design for the systematic analysis and categorization of similes in Graham Greene's novel, "The Power and The Glory." The qualitative approach is chosen for its ability to delve deeply into simile deployment, providing a nuanced understanding of patterns and thematic implications.

The primary focus of the study is Greene's novel "The Power and The Glory." A systematic reading will identify and extract sentences containing similes, discerned through terms like "like" or "as." These similes will be categorized as descriptive, illuminative, illustrative, open, or closed, based on XuoGuo's (2005) distinction.

Analyzing similes entails rigorous testing of thematic coherence, prevalence, and patterns, comparing them within specific thematic segments, and examining the recurrence of certain types. Data will be acquired through systematically extracting simile-categorized sentences from the novel, documenting each simile with its context and thematic relevance. Findings will be supported by direct quotations from the novel. This research methodology aims to provide scientifically sound insights into Greene's narrative technique, enriching the understanding of simile deployment in "The Power and The Glory."

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

There are 47 similes found in Greene's novel The Power and The Glory, and only 10 of them will be discussed here as samples for each five types according to XuoGuo's five types of similes.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>No.</th>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Illuminative Similes</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Illustrative Similes</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Open Similes</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Closed Similes</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Similes</td>
<td>47</td>
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1. Descriptive Simile

"the fin of a shark moved like a periscope at the mouth." P.4

The sentence features a descriptive simile, drawing a comparison between the movement of a shark's fin and that of a periscope at the mouth.

This simile employs the pattern of likening the movement of one thing (the shark's fin) to the movement of another (a periscope at the mouth), using the structure "A moved like B."
The simile enhances the vivid imagery by portraying the shark's fin's movement akin to a periscope, suggesting precision and deliberation. The use of "periscope" conveys controlled motion, possibly highlighting the calculated and strategic nature of the shark's movement. This nuanced description adds depth to the scene, emphasizing the predatory aspect of the shark. The metaphorical connotation introduces an element of hidden or potential danger, aligning with the theme of observation, vigilance, and concealed threats within the contemplative act of staring out over the slow river.

In summary, this simile enriches the text by combining dynamic imagery, metaphorical connotations, and thematic layers, contributing to a more evocative description.

“A buzzard stood there like an observer.” P.5

The simile in this sentence is a descriptive simile. It compares the presence of a buzzard to that of an observer.

The pattern involves likening the buzzard to an observer, suggesting that the buzzard’s stance or demeanor resembles that of someone watching or observing.

The descriptive simile creates a vivid image, portraying the buzzard as if it were assuming the role of an observer. This comparison may imply a sense of stillness, attentiveness, or a detached and watchful demeanor associated with the buzzard. The simile contributes to the overall atmospheric description, giving readers a visual and thematic reference for the buzzard’s presence in the scene.

In summary, the descriptive simile enhances the reader's perception of the buzzard by likening it to an observer, suggesting a certain level of attentiveness or watchfulness in its stance.

2. Illuminative Simile

"The knowledge of the world lay in her like the dark explicable spot in an X-ray photograph." P.119

The simile in the sentence is illuminative. It characterizes or mentions the characteristics of an object, comparing the knowledge of the world to the dark explicable spot in an X-ray photograph.

The pattern of the simile involves illustrating the object or its existence by explaining what it looks like using other words. In this case, the knowledge of the world is depicted as lying in her like the dark explicable spot in an X-ray photograph.

The simile contributes to vivid imagery by likening the knowledge of the world to a dark explicable spot in an X-ray photograph. This comparison suggests a deeper idea about the nature of her understanding of the world. The use of "dark explicable spot" implies that her knowledge is a distinct and decipherable element, akin to a marked area in an X-ray. The thematic implications revolve around the clarity and interpretability of her understanding,
suggesting that her perception of the world is not obscured but rather discernible, much like the explicable spot in an X-ray. This simile adds a layer of complexity to the description, portraying her knowledge as something concrete and tangible within her.

In summary, the simile enriches the text by employing illuminative imagery, metaphorical connotations, and thematic layers, providing a nuanced portrayal of the character’s understanding of the world.

“...once her tail beat as if she heard something move inside.” P.133

The simile in this sentence is an illuminative simile. It characterizes the action of the tail beating by comparing it to the action of hearing something move inside.

This illuminative simile follows the pattern of mentioning or characterizing the characteristics of an object or action in several words. It provides insight into the nature of the tail beat by likening it to the action of hearing something move inside.

The illuminative simile adds a layer of complexity to the description by attributing a sensory perception to the tail beat. By comparing the tail beat to the action of hearing, it suggests a level of awareness or responsiveness in the character’s tail movement. The simile contributes to the overall vividness of the scene, implying a heightened sensitivity or reaction in the character’s tail, possibly hinting at the character’s alertness or emotional state.

In summary, the illuminative simile enhances the description by characterizing the tail beat through the comparison to the action of hearing something move inside, providing a nuanced portrayal and potential thematic implications related to the character’s sensitivity or awareness.

3. Illustrative Simile

“The gold bangle on the bony wrist was like a padlock on a canvas door a fist could break.” P. 28

The simile in this sentence is illustrative. It illustrates the object or how it exists by explaining what it looks like using other words. Specifically, it likens the gold bangle on the bony wrist to a padlock on a canvas door.

The pattern of the simile involves illustrating the object (gold bangle) by describing it as similar to another object (padlock on a canvas door). It enhances the reader’s understanding of the appearance and effect of the gold bangle.

This simile creates a vivid image, suggesting a visual resemblance between the gold bangle and a padlock on a canvas door. The use of "bony wrist" conveys a sense of fragility or vulnerability, and the comparison to a padlock implies a certain degree of constraint or restriction. The simile may carry thematic implications related to the fragility of the wrist adorned with the gold bangle, as well as the idea that the bangle serves as both an adornment and a symbolic constraint. The mention of a fist being able to break the padlock introduces
an element of potential liberation or forceful removal, hinting at contrasts in strength and vulnerability.

In summary, the simile contributes to the thematic richness by employing illustrative imagery, metaphorical connotations, and implying thematic layers related to adornment, constraint, and potential strength.

"He had tried to escape, but he was like the King of a West African tribe, the slave of his people, who may not even lie down in case the winds should fail." P.15

The simile in this sentence is an illustrative simile. It illustrates the condition of the character by comparing him to the King of a West African tribe, highlighting the nature of his escape attempt.

This illustrative simile follows the pattern of illustrating the object or how it exists by explaining what it looks like using other words. It provides a vivid comparison between the character and the King of a West African tribe, emphasizing the character's role and limitations.

The illustrative simile contributes to character portrayal and thematic depth. By likening the character to the King of a West African tribe, the simile suggests a position of authority and responsibility. However, the subsequent description of the character as a slave of his people, unable to lie down in case the winds should fail, introduces a thematic layer of complexity. This implies a burden or duty that restricts the character's freedom, even in the pursuit of escape. The simile adds nuance to the character's situation and conveys the challenges he faces in trying to break free.

In summary, the illustrative simile enhances character depiction by comparing the character to the King of a West African tribe, illustrating his authority and constraints, and introducing thematic implications related to duty and escape.

4. Open Simile

"We ran like we had golden shoes." P.15

The simile in this sentence is an open simile. It refers to the qualities of the objects (golden shoes) without explaining their appearance. It suggests that the act of running is likened to having golden shoes without explicitly describing the characteristics of the golden shoes.

The pattern involves describing the manner of running by implying a connection to the possession of golden shoes. The simile suggests a sense of speed, uniqueness, or exceptional quality associated with the act of running.

The open simile creates a vivid and imaginative image, implying that the experience of running is elevated or enhanced, as if wearing golden shoes. The thematic implications may include notions of swiftness, uniqueness, or a sense of empowerment, as golden shoes are often associated with rarity and luxury. The simile contributes to the overall atmosphere
of the narrative by adding a touch of metaphorical richness to the description of the running experience.

In summary, the open simile enhances the thematic elements by introducing an imaginative and metaphorical layer to the depiction of running, suggesting qualities of uniqueness or exceptional speed associated with the metaphorical possession of golden shoes.

“...the woman watched him as if he were an enemy.” P.57

The simile in this sentence is an open simile. It refers to the qualities of the woman’s observation without explicitly explaining the details of the comparison.

The open simile pattern is present as it refers to the woman watching him as if he were an enemy, without specifying the exact qualities or actions that make the observation similar to viewing an enemy.

The open simile contributes to the thematic portrayal of suspicion or wariness. By likening the woman’s observation to that of an enemy, the simile implies a sense of caution, distrust, or vigilance. The comparison suggests that the woman is scrutinizing him with a level of suspicion as if he poses a potential threat or danger. This adds a layer of tension or conflict to the narrative, hinting at underlying complexities in the relationship or situation.

In summary, the open simile enhances the description by evoking a sense of wariness or suspicion in the woman’s observation, contributing to the thematic richness of the narrative.

5. Closed Simile

“It was too easy otherwise to idealize him as a man who fought with God – a Prometheus, a noble victim in a hopeless war.” P. 85

The simile in this sentence is a closed simile. It explicitly explains the object (the man) by comparing him with real entities (Prometheus, a noble victim).

The pattern involves describing the man’s character by directly comparing him to Prometheus, emphasizing the idea of a noble victim engaged in a seemingly hopeless war.

The closed simile introduces a metaphorical layer to the description, suggesting that the man is akin to Prometheus—a figure from Greek mythology known for defying the gods and suffering for the benefit of humanity. The thematic implications include notions of defiance, nobility, and the sacrificial nature of the man’s struggle against overwhelming odds. The simile enriches the narrative by providing a nuanced characterization and aligning the man’s plight with a mythological archetype.

In summary, the closed simile contributes to the thematic depth of the narrative by drawing a parallel between the man and Prometheus, infusing the description with connotations of noble resistance in the face of adversity.
"The sweat poured down the peon's bodies steadily like a shower bath." P.48

This sentence contains a closed simile. It directly compares the pouring sweat to a shower bath, providing explicit details about the nature of the comparison.

The closed simile pattern is evident, as it explicitly states the characteristics of both the pouring sweat and the shower bath. The structure "A poured down like B" is employed to convey a specific and detailed comparison.

The closed simile enhances the reader's perception of the intensity and consistency of the sweat by likening it to a shower bath. The use of "steadily like a shower bath" suggests a continuous and regular flow, emphasizing the profusion of sweat. This comparison also introduces a sensory element, evoking the reader's familiarity with the sensation of water pouring down in a shower bath. Thematic implications include conveying the abundance and regularity of the sweating, adding richness to the description of the peon's bodies in the context.

In summary, the closed simile in this sentence contributes to the vividness of the description by explicitly comparing the pouring sweat to a shower bath, providing sensory details and enhancing the thematic implications related to the physical exertion described in the text.

In opting to analyze only 10 similes from Greene's novel "The Power and The Glory," a deliberate and focused approach has been taken to provide a representative sampling of the diverse simile types present in the text. This selective analysis allows for a comprehensive exploration of key thematic elements, ensuring a nuanced understanding of the author's intended messages and literary devices. By carefully choosing examples dispersed throughout the novel, this approach aims to capture the richness and diversity of simile usage while maintaining clarity and reader engagement. The condensed selection facilitates a more detailed examination of each simile's type, patterns, and thematic implications, contributing to a resource-efficient and organized presentation of valuable insights into Graham Greene's stylistic choices.

While this research on similes in "The Power and The Glory" by Graham Greene is insightful, several areas could be strengthened for a more robust study. Firstly, incorporating a comparative analysis with other literary works or authors known for their extensive use of similes would provide a broader context and enhance the significance of Greene's stylistic choices. Additionally, delving deeper into the thematic implications of similes within the novel would contribute to a more nuanced understanding of their role in character development, plot intricacies, and overarching themes. Integrating quantitative aspects, such as the frequency and distribution of similes, could offer valuable insights into patterns or variations throughout the novel. Including reader responses, through surveys or discussions, would add a subjective dimension to the analysis. Furthermore, incorporating existing critical perspectives on Greene's work would provide a more comprehensive and well-rounded examination. Lastly, a multidisciplinary approach, drawing insights from fields...
beyond literature, could further enrich the understanding of how similes function within the novel. Addressing these aspects will undoubtedly strengthen the overall depth and impact of this research.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this analysis explores 10 carefully selected similes from Graham Greene's "The Power and The Glory," providing a representative sampling of the diverse simile types present in the text. The study, based on XuoGuo's five simile types, categorizes and discusses similes, offering valuable insights into their patterns and thematic implications. The identified simile types include Descriptive, Illuminative, Illustrative, Open, and Closed Similes, each contributing to the novel's richness.

Descriptive similes, such as the comparison of a shark's fin to a periscope, enhance vivid imagery, portraying precision and hidden danger. Illuminative similes, like comparing knowledge to a dark explicable spot in an X-ray photograph, provide nuanced insights into characters and themes. Illustrative similes, exemplified by likening a gold bangle to a padlock, introduce visual metaphors and thematic layers. Open similes, such as running "like having golden shoes," infuse imaginative qualities into actions. Closed similes, like the comparison of a man to Prometheus, draw explicit parallels, enriching characterizations with mythological undertones. This focused analysis aims to offer a comprehensive exploration of key thematic elements while maintaining clarity and reader engagement.

While insightful, the study suggests avenues for further research, including comparative analyses, deeper exploration of thematic implications, quantitative aspects, reader responses, critical perspectives, and multidisciplinary approaches. Addressing these areas will enhance the depth and impact of future studies on similes in Greene's literary works.

REFERENCES


