

E u n a
M STYLISTICS:
AN OVERVIEW

r t i a

n r H y

English Language and Literature
Yogyakarta State University
February, 2011



A i , .

WHAT IS STYLE?

STYLE is one which we use so commonly in our everyday conversation, referring to

- the shape or design of something (for ex: 'the elegant style of a house')
- the way in which something is done or presented (for ex: 'I don't like his style of management')
- someone's manner in doing something (for ex: 'she writes in a vigorously style')

WHAT IS STYLE?

- The distinctive manner of an artist, a school, a period, an art, a building, etc (for ex: 'Gothic style', 'Javanese style house', 'the prose style of Henry James').
- The fashionable elegance, smartness or a superior manner of people or places (for ex: 'They live in grand style')

STYLE IN LANGUAGE?

- a distinctive manner of expression, through whatever medium this expression is given physical shape
- a distinctive language expression
- the connections between the form and effects within a particular variety of language
- the general characteristics of language as a medium of literary expression

STYLISTICS?

- **STYLISTICS** is the study of varieties of language whose properties position that language in context.
- **STYLISTICS** also attempts to establish principles capable of explaining the particular choices made by individuals and social groups in their use of language, such as socialisation, the production and reception of meaning, critical discourse analysis and literary criticism.
- **STYLISTICS**, the study of style, is the analysis of distinctive expression in language and the description of its purpose and effect.

LITERARY STYLISTICS?

- The study of literary style or the study of the use of language in literature
- the analysis of distinctive expression in literary language and the description of its purpose and effect.

LITERARY STYLISTICS?

- Crystal (1987, 71) observes that, in practice, most stylistic analysis has attempted to deal with the complex and 'valued' language within literature, i.e. 'literary stylistics'.
- He goes on to say that in such examination the scope is sometimes narrowed to concentrate on the more striking features of literary language, for instance, its 'deviant' and abnormal features, rather than the broader structures that are found in whole texts or discourses.
- For example, the compact language of poetry is more likely to reveal the secrets of its construction to the stylistician than is the language of plays and novels.

WHY STUDYING LITERARY STYLE?

- The language of literature is different from the language of everyday life
- The language of literary writers is more difficult to understand than that of common people

RELATION BETWEEN LITERARY LANGUAGE AND DAILY LANGUAGE?

- Literary language may violate or deviate from the generally observed rules of the daily language in many different ways: some obvious, some subtle. Both means of and motives for deviation are worth careful study.
- The creative writers, and more particularly the poets, enjoy a unique freedom to range over all its communicative source.
- Most of what is considered characteristic of literary language has its roots in everyday uses of language, and can be best studied with some reference to these uses.

EXAMPLES OF LITERARY STYLE

A standard rhyme that might be found inside a conventional Valentine's card:

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Sugar is sweet,
And so are you.

EXAMPLES OF LITERARY STYLE

Shelley's *With a Guitar, to Jane*:

Ariel to Miranda: - Take
This slave of Music, for the sake
Of him who is the slave of thee...

EXAMPLES OF LITERARY STYLE

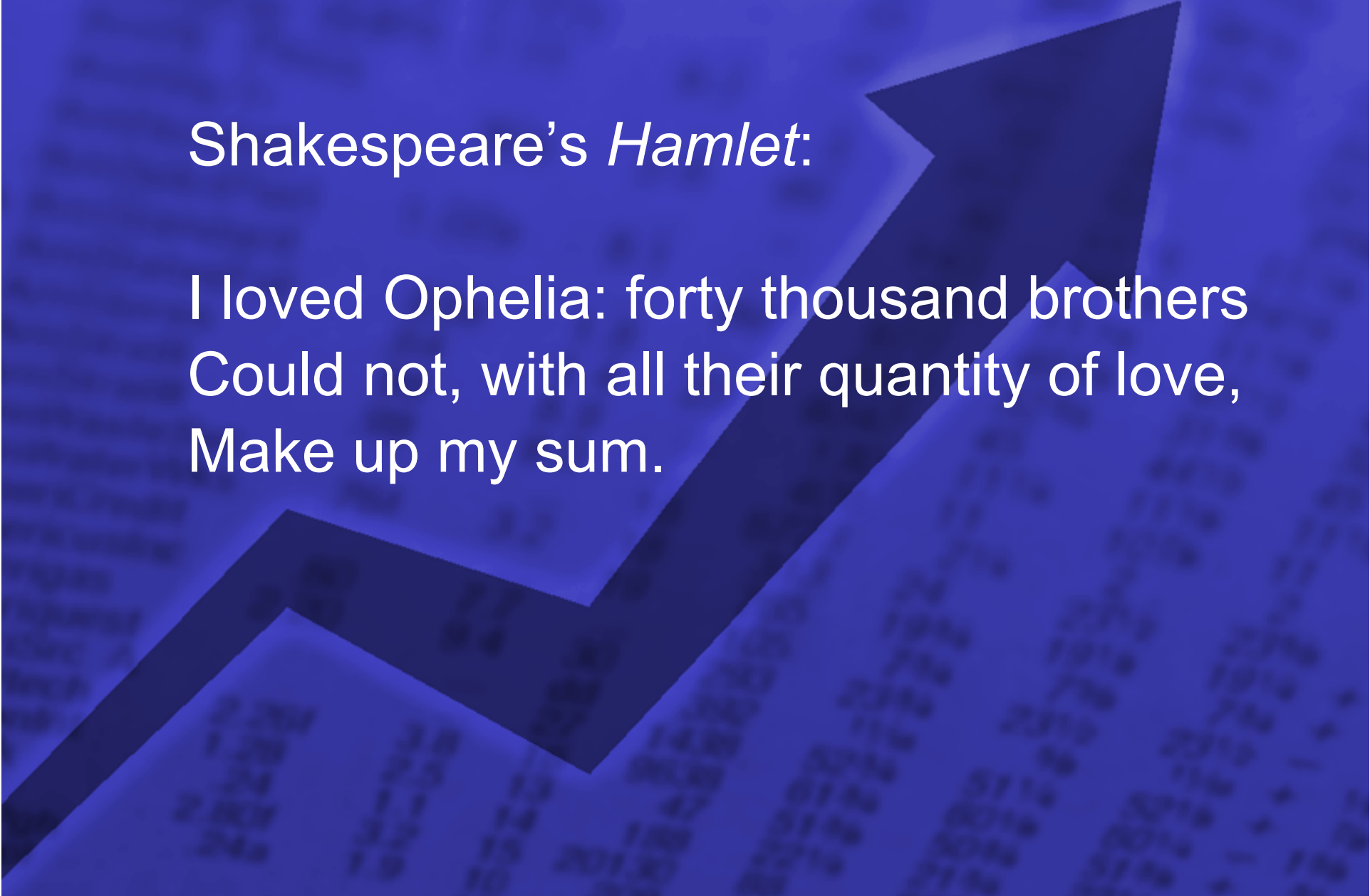
Alfred Lord Tennyson *The Eagle* (a fragment):

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ringed with the azure world, he stands.

EXAMPLES OF LITERARY STYLE

Shakespeare's *Hamlet*:

I loved Ophelia: forty thousand brothers
Could not, with all their quantity of love,
Make up my sum.





Thank You