

Ideological Schizophrenia in Viet Thanh Nguyen's *The Sympathizer*: A Critical Stylistic Analysis

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الانقسام الأيديولوجي في رواية 'المتعاطف' لفيت ثان نغوين: دراسة أسلوبية نقدية

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Abstract

This study explores the linguistic construction of ideological schizophrenia in Viet Thanh Nguyen's novel *The Sympathizer* (2015) using the Critical Stylistics framework developed by Jeffries (2010). The research focuses on identifying what textual/conceptual functions construct the narrator's divided consciousness most frequently and how the linguistic patterns change throughout the narrative trajectory of the novel. Data include 15 extracts carefully selected from the opening (Chapters 1-9), middle (Chapters 10-18), and end portions (Chapters 19-27) because of the direct discussion of the ideological contradiction and identity disintegration. The present research uses a mixed-methods approach that combines qualitative analysis of how particular linguistic features create fragmentation with quantitative analysis of the frequency with which these linguistic constructions appear across various parts of the story. It is found that the most frequent feature among all discovered ones is the Naming and Describing feature, which takes up 28.9% of the total features, and it fragments identity by means of contradictory names, which essentialize division as an inherent condition instead of a situational conflict. The Representation of Actions and States (12.7%) emphasizes relation over matter, stripping people of agency and making ideology an immutable state, whereas the Equating and Contrasting (11.7%) approach collapses the communist/anti-communist dichotomy by showing structure-based equivalence. Notably, Negating is used very little (3.0%), meaning that divided consciousness results from an accumulation of contradictions in affirmations rather than negation of other ideas. The analysis proves that ideological schizophrenia is employed not as thematic material but as a structural linguistic principle, as Nguyen uses certain functions at key moments in the narrative to create the notion of dual perspective as an epistemological necessity, not pathology.

Keywords: Critical Stylistics, Textual-Conceptual Functions, Ideological Schizophrenia, *The Sympathizer*, Viet Thanh Nguyen

1. Introduction

The representation of divided consciousness in literature has grown more relevant today than ever in the context of our increasingly globalised world, where people move through various, frequently conflicting, political and cultural structures regularly. The theme of this research, ideological schizophrenia is particularly useful in assessing this fragmentation, especially in works dealing with the themes of war, displacement and postcolonial identity. Conflict is regarded as an essential part of social life rather than a random or confused event, manifesting through socio-cultural structures embedded in ethical values, norms, and institutional frameworks (Hussein & Abdulmehdi, 2024, p. 138). Initially used clinically to describe a split personality and dissociation of thoughts from emotions (Lang, 1940), schizophrenia has developed into a potent metaphor for explaining how competing ideological beliefs interact within the

minds of individuals and groups. In the context of literature, ideological schizophrenia refers to the process of deliberately creating fragmentation of meaning using language, narratives, and characters in a way that mirrors the experience of being in two different subjectivities at once. In light of the focus of critical stylistics on the analysis of textual elements that construct ideology and viewpoint, critical stylistics can be regarded as an ideal approach for investigating this phenomenon. Focusing on linguistic choices, such as naming/describing, action/states, equating/contrasting, and direct discourse/representation of other people's ideas, critical stylistics uncovers the way in which ideological schizophrenia works not only as a thematic concept but as a textual one. The concept of ideological schizophrenia can be found in the Pulitzer-winning novel of 2015 by Viet Thanh Nguyen entitled "The Sympathizer." The protagonist of this book is a communist spy who infiltrates the community of Vietnamese refugees in Los Angeles after the fall of Saigon. The nameless hero of the book, referred to as "a 'man of two minds' and two countries, Vietnam and the United States" (Pulitzer Prizes, 2016), suffers from ideological schizophrenia because he has opposing views regarding the nature of the war.

In literature, the role of schizophrenia is unique. Hasanah (2019) explains that schizophrenia serves as a postmodernistic approach to literature in Indonesia; this is because schizophrenia occurs in linguistic representations in such a way that it generates contradictions and ambiguity.

In addition, while scholars have examined *The Sympathizer* from the perspective of spy fiction, confession novels, and postcolonial studies, no one has ever investigated how the novel uses ideological schizophrenia as an aesthetic organizing principle that affects every aspect of the book. Critical Stylistics is a linguistic framework, which is perfectly suitable for the investigation, but at the same time, no one has tried to apply it to the analysis of ideological schizophrenia in refugee literature or *The Sympathizer* particularly.

In this research, a critical stylistic analysis will be used in order to analyze the ways in which ideological schizophrenia works in the context of Viet Thanh Nguyen's novel *The Sympathizer* through the linguistic and narrative devices used in the creation of the narrator's fragmented consciousness.

2. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Stylistics: Definitions and Scope

Stylistics is fundamentally concerned with analyzing the distinctive features and patterns of language use in texts. Simpson (2004) defines it as "a method of textual interpretation" where linguistic structural forms and patterns are examined to understand textual function (p. 2), while Crystal (2008) emphasizes its focus on establishing principles for particular language use by individuals and social groups. Unlike literary criticism, stylistics applies systematic linguistic theories and methods to analyze aesthetic features of language objectively (Trask, 1999; Simpson, 2004). The discipline examines language at multiple levels from phonetics and phonology through morphology, syntax, semantics, to pragmatics and discourse providing organized and principled analysis of textual meaning (Simpson, 2004).

2.2 Critical Stylistics: Framework and Development

Critical stylistics, developed by Lesley Jeffries (2010), integrates stylistics with critical discourse analysis while returning focus to text-centered analysis and moving away from politically motivated approaches (Ras, 2020). Jeffries designed this framework to address the vagueness of CDA's analytical tools, which focused heavily on contextual features of powerful language without providing sufficient methods to explain how texts persuade readers into particular ideologies (Jeffries, 2010). Nørgaard et al. (2010) define critical stylistics as stylistic work examining how social meanings are represented through language, analyzing both literary and non-literary texts to uncover ideological structuring.

The approach evolved from critical linguistics and draws on Halliday's (1985) systemic functional linguistics, particularly the ideational metafunction, which produces a world with ideological values attached to it (Jeffries, 2015b). As Fairclough (1995) notes, texts in their ideational functioning constitute systems of knowledge and belief. Critical stylistics provides an unbiased methodology for detecting ideology in texts regardless of whether one agrees with it (Jeffries, 2014a), addressing Finnmore and Sikkink's (1998) observation that norm-holders do not consider their norms problematic, thus requiring analytical models that do not prejudge speakers' intentions.

Jeffries (2010) presents Critical Stylistics as a framework of linguistic analytical tools called "textual-conceptual-functions" (TCFs), drawn from various scholars, which work together to reveal how ideology is represented in text, whether implicitly or explicitly (as cited in Hussein, 2023). Through these functions, texts represent reality, which can then be tested against the functions to reveal underlying ideology (Ras,

2020). The framework developed from Jeffries' earlier work, including her 2007 study on textual construction of the female body, which introduced tools like "naming and describing" that later evolved into the comprehensive ten-function framework (Jeffries, 2010). This approach has been successfully applied by linguists including Coffey-Glover (2015), Evans and Schuller (2015), Olaluwoye (2015), and Tabbert (2016).

2.3 Language and Ideology in Critical Stylistics

Ideology can be understood as a system of beliefs and values that shapes how individuals or groups interpret the world and respond to social, political, and cultural issues (Al-Zubaidi, 2024, p. 69). Moreover, ideology, central to critical stylistic analysis, comprises shared ideas and belief systems communicated, reproduced, and negotiated through language (Jeffries, 2010). According to Teo (2000), language becomes "the primary instrument by which ideology is communicated, practised and reproduced" (p. 11), whereas Hodges (2015) sees ideology as the systems of thought that perceive the world in a certain way and serve as frameworks for constructing meaning and legitimising certain positions. However, ideologies are neither positive nor negative; on the contrary, they are the reflection of the views of certain sociopolitical communities (van Dijk, 2014).

In critical stylistics, the ideology is conveyed through linguistic choices on several levels. As Fowler (1981) explains, the language as an organised system enables the storage and transfer of concepts and ideologies through social communication. According to Eggins (1994), the use of language conveys ideological perspectives and biases. The study of ideology through critical stylistics offers a methodology for detecting ideologies through a textual analysis, which entails an explanation of language usage and presuppositions as well as the connection of the text with the beliefs of the speakers/ readers (Clark, 1995).

2.4 Jeffries' Critical Stylistics: Methodological Framework

Critical Stylistics emerged as a response to the limitations of Critical Linguistics and the relative subjectivity of Critical Discourse Analysis, offering a more systematic and comprehensive analytical framework. Developed by Lesley Jeffries, the approach first appeared in her 2007 feminist study of women's representation in magazines, where early versions of what would become Textual-Conceptual Functions were introduced. The term "Critical Stylistics" was formally established in her 2010 book, which presented the framework systematically, and has since undergone various developments and extensions (Jeffries, 2010a, 2014a, 2015a, b, c, 2022; Tabbert, 2016).

Rather than completely departing from critical traditions, Critical Stylistics extends Critical Linguistics and CDA by combining the strengths of stylistics (focus on textual choices) with critical discourse analysis (situating choices within historical and social contexts) (Coffey, 2013). The approach explores "the precise ways in which texts may transmit, reinforce or inculcate ideologies in their readers" (Jeffries, 2010, p. 12), maintaining that all texts literary and non-literary are ideologically loaded either explicitly or implicitly. Critical Stylistics aims to meet four essential ideals of linguistic research: rigorousness (descriptive attention to linguistic details), retrievability (making analytical frameworks and terminology explicit), replicability (enabling other analysts to test methodology), and relative objectivity (minimizing subjective bias) (Norgaard, 2020).

The framework builds on three foundational linguistic theories. First, Saussure's distinction between *langue* and *parole* informs Critical Stylistics' assumption that meaning operates at an intermediary level between abstract systematic meaning and variable contextual meaning, where texts employ particular linguistic resources to depict specific worldviews (Jeffries, 2014a). Second, speech act theory's tri-partite distinction between locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary acts helps explain mismatches between superficial textual meaning and context-sensitive interpretation (Jeffries, 2014b). Third, Halliday's systemic functional linguistics and his three metafunctions ideational, interpersonal, and textual provide the conception of language as "social semiotic" where functions prove more crucial than formal structures (Jeffries, 2014a). Central to Critical Stylistics are the Textual-Conceptual Functions (TCFs), a ten-item list of linguistically-based analytical tools designed to explore how ideologies are represented in texts. These functions are intended for rigorous, retrievable, and replicable application to all text types in the most objective manner possible (Tabbert, 2015). While acknowledging areas needing development particularly multimodal analysis Critical Stylistics maintains advantages over other critical approaches by systematically integrating well-established linguistic theories through its TCF framework, ensuring applicability of the four ideals characterizing rigorous linguistic research.

3. LITERATURE REVIEW

3.1 Schizophrenia as Metaphor:

"Schizophrenic ideology" is a concept based on a medical definition of ideological schizophrenia, which refers to a split between personality identity and separation of intellectual and emotional components (Lang, 1940). This concept has been metaphorically used to illustrate fragmentation of consciousness. According to Scheff (1974), the concept of schizophrenia is ideologically grounded because that which is diagnosed as "schizophrenia" helps maintain the social order by identifying deviance from unspoken social expectations as an illness. This metaphorical use of the term is useful in post-modern and post-colonial environments, where it can be applied to describe the collapse of meaning in clashes between symbolic systems.

Literary aesthetics uses the concept of ideological schizophrenia as a deliberate mechanism of text creation. Piliang defines this as "resulting from confusion among the indicators, styles, and expressions in one work, thus giving rise to contradictory, ambiguous, fragmented, or vague meanings" (as cited in Hasanah, 2019, p. 49). It symbolizes what Piliang calls the disruption of the chain of signifiers, which is the syntagmatic chain of markers that normally comes together to create meaning in phrases. As stated by Hasanah (2019), schizophrenia is a postmodernist strategy in which language creates conflicting or ambiguous meanings resulting in "empty holes that the reader must fill in by himself" (p. 54).

3.2 Overview of the Novel and Author

The Sympathizer, published in 2015 by Grove Press, is Viet Thanh Nguyen's debut novel that won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 2016. The novel tells the story of an unnamed communist spy embedded within a South Vietnamese refugee community in Los Angeles following the fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975. Narrated as a confession written under duress for communist interrogators, the novel follows its protagonist described by the Pulitzer committee as "a 'man of two minds' and two countries, Vietnam and the United States" (Pulitzer Prizes, 2016).

Viet Thanh Nguyen himself came to the United States as a refugee in 1975 at age four. He is the Aerol Arnold Chair of English and Professor of English, American Studies and Ethnicity, and Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California. Beyond fiction, Nguyen has established himself as a leading scholar on memory, war, and refugee studies, publishing the academic monograph *Nothing Ever Dies: Vietnam and the Memory of War* (2016), which serves as theoretical companion to *The Sympathizer*. This has been the range of his scholarly output since he wants to "write fiction like criticism and criticism like fiction" (Nguyen, 2017, p. 306). The novel's release came at the right time for its release on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. As Nguyen asserts, "I am not an immigrant but a refugee, and... how *The Sympathizer* is not an immigrant story but a war story" (Perlmutter, 2018, p. 87).

4. METHODOLOGY

The research investigates how ideological schizophrenia is linguistically constructed using Jeffries' Critical Stylistics as a research methodology by means of analyzing Viet Thanh Nguyen's novel *The Sympathizer*. The research framework of this study is determined by the following three research questions, which constitute the primary research framework for this study: (1) What are the most common textual-conceptual functions that create the divided consciousness of the narrator? (2) How does this linguistic pattern change throughout the narrative? (3) What is the link between linguistic fragmentation and ideological contradiction?

The research will adopt a mixed-method research approach that integrates qualitative textual analysis and quantitative frequency analysis to analyze the presentation of ideological schizophrenia in *The Sympathizer* (Grove Press 2015). While the qualitative aspect necessitates the use of a critical style analysis of certain text passages that illustrate how linguistic factors result in the fragmentation of the narrator's identity, the quantitative aspect illustrates how textual functions spread across various parts of the book based on the frequency counts that show an ideological representation of the text. Through combining the interpretation and the quantifiable linguistic data, this integration should improve the research's validity (Jeffries, 2010; Tabbert, 2015).

4.1 Data selection:

The main data consists of 15 excerpts extracted from Nguyen's 380-page book, divided into 27 chapters. The excerpts were carefully selected based on their connection to the central theme of ideological schizophrenia from opening (Chapters 1-9; 5 excerpts), middle (Chapters 10-18; 5 excerpts), and ending (Chapters 19-27; 5 excerpts).

The selection process for each excerpt required to choose passages which proved essential to the development of the novel. The initial six extracts establish the narrator's twofold identity together with his ideological beliefs whereas the middle seven extracts demonstrate how two opposing systems execute their operations through identical methods which serve as critical turning points. The concluding extracts show how all ideological boundaries between opposing groups have completely disintegrated. The selected passages present clear linguistic indicators which show both contradiction and disintegration because they move the story toward the narrator's eventual discovery that he must endure divided consciousness.

Table 1: 15 Extracts on Ideological Schizophrenia in *The Sympathizer*

No.	Chapter & Page	Extract	Indicator of Ideological Schizophrenia	Brief Context
1	Chapter 1, p. 1	"I am a spy, a sleeper, a spook, a man of two faces. Perhaps not surprisingly, I am also a man of two minds...I am simply able to see any issue from both sides."	Dual consciousness as core identity; "two minds" literalized	Opening confession establishing narrator as double agent who served both North and South Vietnam simultaneously
2	Chapter 1, p. 1	"a talent is something you use, not something that uses you. The talent you cannot not use, the talent that possesses you—that is a hazard, I must confess."	Dual perspective as involuntary possession rather than choice; loss of agency	Narrator questions whether split consciousness is gift or pathology; passive construction suggests schizophrenia "uses" him
3	Chapter 1, p. 8	"consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds'...the same thing could be said of our motherland, where we are nothing if not inconsistent."	Inconsistency as national and personal defining characteristic	Recalling American education; uses Emerson to justify Vietnamese contradictions and his own duplicity
4	Chapter 1, p. 14	"My mother was native, my father was foreign, and strangers and acquaintances had enjoyed reminding me of this ever since my childhood, spitting on me and calling me bastard"	Racial/biological hybridity as foundation for ideological split	Explaining mixed heritage (Vietnamese mother, French priest father) during Saigon evacuation; physical mixing enables ideological mixing
5	Chapter 2, p. 22	"You don't belong in America, either. Perhaps, I said. But I wasn't born there. I was born here."	Statelessness; belonging nowhere enables dual allegiance	Conversation with communist handler Man before departure; lack of "home" creates space for betraying/serving both sides
6	Chapter 3, p. 27	"My weakness for sympathizing with others has much to do with my status as a bastard...blurring	Collapse of us/them binary; sympathy across enemy lines	Responding to Commandant's critique of using "we" for South

		the lines between us and them can be a worthy behavior."		Vietnamese despite being communist spy
7	Chapter 8, p. 103	"We must think like communists, as you say...Communism forced us to do everything we have done to oppose it."	Anticommunists adopt communist methods; ideological enemies become structurally identical	General and narrator planning resistance movement using communist tactics (vanguard, cells, fronts); methods erase ideological distinction
8	Chapter 9, p. 114	"Before the communists won, foreigners were victimizing and terrorizing and humiliating us. Now it's our own people victimizing and terrorizing and humiliating us. I suppose that's improvement."	Revolution perpetuates oppression with different oppressors; all systems equally oppressive	Boat person refugee describes communist Vietnam while narrator works on war film; liberation merely changes oppressor identity
9	Chapter 13, p. 165	"They have betrayed the Vietnamese people, and revolutions don't betray the people...Revolutions are for the people, from the people, by the people."	Anticommunist resistance uses identical revolutionary rhetoric as communists	Bon speaking at resistance meeting; narrator (secretly communist) hears anticommunists invoke Marxist-Leninist formulations
10	Chapter 16, p. 204	"I asked you before if you were a communist. You said you wouldn't tell me if you were. But what if I told you I was a communist?"	Genuine confession interpreted as deception; sincerity becomes impossible	Narrator attempts to reveal true identity to Sonny before assassination; truth functions as lie under ideological suspicion
11	Chapter 16, p. 205	"What if the self that one exposes is as unpleasing to others as the mask, or even worse?"	No authentic self exists beneath ideological performance; all identities equally constructed	After Sonny rejects confession as trick; schizophrenia reaches terminal stage where "true self" is as artificial as mask
12	Chapter 21, p. 256	"Everything being done to you comes from this book. In other words, yours is an open-book exam."	Communist torture uses CIA manual; ideological enemies share identical control techniques	Commissar shows narrator KUBARK manual during reeducation; communist torturers apply American methods
13	Chapter 21, p. 257	"we have appropriated their techniques and technology. These lightbulbs? Manufactured in the USA,	Revolutionary purity impossible; communism depends on	Commissar describes torture equipment—US bulbs, US generator,

		and the generator that powers them as well, although the gasoline is a Soviet import."	capitalist/imperialist technology	Soviet fuel—hybrid materiality mirrors narrator's hybrid identity
14	Chapter 23, p. 278	"Having liberated ourselves in the name of independence and freedom—I was so tired of saying these words!—we then deprived our defeated brethren of the same."	Liberators become oppressors using identical rhetoric; revolution negates itself	Final chapter before boat escape; narrator's direct articulation of revolutionary betrayal after reeducation camp
15	Chapter 23, p. 278	"only a man of two minds could get this joke, about how a revolution fought for independence and freedom could make those things worth less than nothing. I was that man of two minds, me and myself."	Dual consciousness as only position from which to perceive ideological collapse; schizophrenia as epistemological privilege	Final insight before escape; "me and myself" literalizes split; dual perspective becomes sole honest stance when all ideologies betray themselves
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4	Chapter 1, p. 14	"My mother was native, my father was foreign, and strangers and acquaintances had enjoyed reminding me of this ever since my childhood, spitting on me and calling me bastard"	Racial/biological hybridity as foundation for ideological split	Explaining mixed heritage (Vietnamese mother, French priest father) during Saigon evacuation; physical mixing enables ideological mixing

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The narrator's dual awareness becomes established through the first six extracts which demonstrate their personal schizophrenia. The first six extracts show the narrator's dual existence which develops into complete ideological disintegration through the following extracts which prove personal schizophrenia reflects ideological conflicts. The narrator establishes his main identity through self-referential statements which start with "I am a spy...a man of two minds" in Extract 1. The anti-Communist resistance movement uses communist organizational techniques according to Extracts 7-9 which demonstrate that both ideologies operate outside their expected boundaries. Extracts 12-13 show that CIA torture techniques function as tools for communist reeducation because revolutionary forces use American-made equipment. The narrative reaches its end through the expression "me and myself" which introduces the split character that has existed throughout the entire story.

4.2 Modal

This research uses Jeffries' (2010; 2014a) Ten Textual-Conceptual Functions as the main analysis model. TCFs represent systematic ways to analyse linguistic constructions that underlie worldview and ideology formation. TCFs used in this work include:

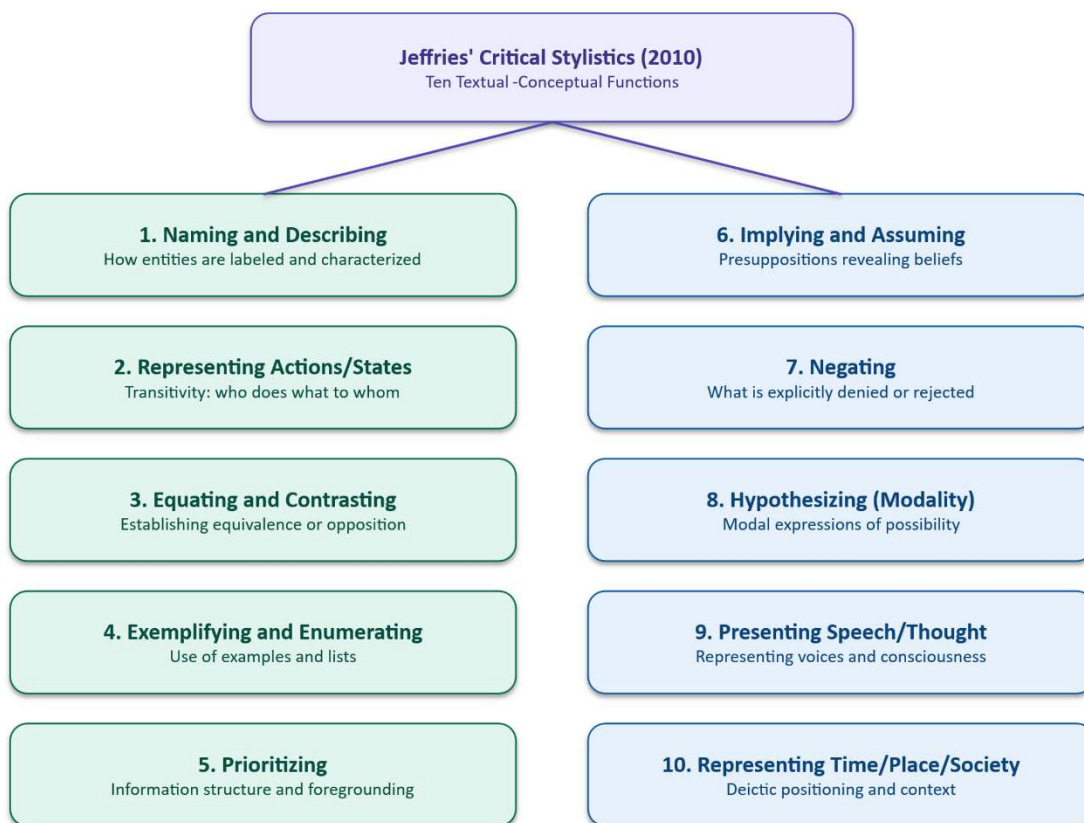


Figure 1: Jeffries' critical stylistics (2010)

4.3 Analytical Procedures

In conducting this research, Jeffries' (2010, 2014a) Ten Textual-Conceptual Functions (TCFs) form the major theoretical framework.

The study adopts a functional approach that looks into each and every Textual-Conceptual Function outlined by Jeffries in his work within the 15 extracts. The functional analysis will enable to see how particular functions build up ideological schizophrenia through the narrative.

4.4 Data analysis

These TCFs construct a framework that allows scholars to analyze the manner in which linguistic components have been utilised by humans to convey their cultural ideology and politics. These TCFs include:

- 1- Naming and Describing: this process analyzes how the characters get names and descriptions using noun phrases, adjectives, and modifiers, demonstrating how various forms of nomenclature impact the reader's perception of the text and characters' identity (Jeffries, 2010, p. 17).

Analysis Across Extracts: Naming and Describing repeatedly fractures the narrator's identity through conflicting names. Extract 1 introduces this technique through five names, "spy," "sleeper," "spook," "man of two faces," and "man of two minds," each of which moves from the job description to a psychological state. Extract 4 reduces identity fragmentation to biology with terms such as "native," "foreign," and "bastard," whereas Extract 6 treats empathy as "weakness." The opposition between true "self" and artificial "mask" is conflated in Extract 11, and in Extract 15, the distinction between self and identity is taken literally, "me and myself." Indefinite articles such as "a spy," and "a man" indicate that these identities are part of categories rather than unique traits. Quantitatively, the technique of naming occurs 166 times, comprising 28.9% of all techniques in the book.

- 2- Representing Actions and States: The function utilises the transitivity system by Halliday (1985) to examine the six process types, including material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioural, and existential, to find out what actions are being carried out by whom and what events are presented in the text (Jeffries, 2010, p. 40).

Analyzing Across Extracts: Relation-based processes are prominent across all extracts, putting more emphasis on being overdone. The repetitive use of "I am" in Extract 1 implies that identity is a process of being, not doing. Extract 2 utilizes passive voice "uses you," denying people their agency, while the expression "forced us to do" in Extract 7 attributes the actions to ideology, not real people. Material processes occur only when there is a mention of violence ("spitting," "calling") or oppression ("victimizing," "terrorizing," "humiliating"), while the narrator himself remains a Goal and never becomes an Actor. Processes of thinking such as "see" (Extract 1) and "sympathize" (Extract 6) stress perception over actions.

- 3- Equivalence and Contrasting: The purpose of this system lies in identifying structural patterns that help form equivalence through (t copular verbs, apposition, metaphor) or contrast (antonyms, contrastive conjunctions, parallelism). This system shows how the distinction is made between the elements or how it is taken away (Jeffries, 2010, p. 64).

Analysis Across Extracts: Equating eliminates the false ideological opposition. In Extract 1, the equivalences include: spy = sleeper = spook = two faces. In Extract 7, anticommunist tactics and communist tactics are equated with "think like communists." In Extract 8, foreign domination and domestic domination are equated with similar triplets of verbs. In Extract 9, anticommunists' use of communist rhetoric is seen as "for/from/by the people," whereas, in Extract 12, the torture used by communists is equated to that used by Americans. In Extract 13, hybrid materiality in the form of US lightbulbs and Soviet gasoline eliminates revolutionary purity. There are 67 equivalences (11.7%).

- 4- Exemplifying and Enumerating: This function explores the role played by examples, lists and enumeration in the representation of categories in terms of whether the list is comprehensive, partial or open, and the construction of scope and comprehensiveness (Jeffries, 2010, p. 82).

Analysis Across Extracts: Lists create contradictions that go unresolved. The four-item list in Extract 1 goes beyond the three-item standard, hinting at incompleteness. Extract 8 duplicates "victimizing and terrorizing and humiliating" word for word when talking about foreign as well as domestic oppressors, utilizing parallelism to indicate equality. "For/from/by" in Extract 9, which is used in both a Lincolnian and Marxist style. Extract 13 uses numerical specifics to show ideological dualism through naming the light bulbs, generator, and gasoline from the USA and Soviet Union, respectively. "Two," rather than many, is always used in numerics (faces, minds, sides).

- 5- **Prioritizing:** The function analyzes the structure of information through the investigation of which elements occur in the thematic position in a sentence and through the influence of subordination on which elements come to the fore in the text and which stay behind (Jeffries, 2010, p. 78).
Analysis Across Extracts: Fronting invariably brings out contradictions, downplaying the complications involved. In extract 1, "I am a spy" is fronted, giving prominence to the notion of being a spy, after which "perhaps not surprisingly" is used to moderate the expectations regarding the relationship between outward role and inward contradiction. In extract 5, "You don't belong" is fronted before the contrasting idea "But I was born here." In extract 7, "We must think," a deontic modal is used in the theme position, whereas in extract 14, "Having liberated ourselves," a temporal clause follows, after which follows a statement about the ensuing lack of freedom.
- 6- **Implying and Assuming:** This function includes presupposition triggers (definite article, factive verb, temporal clause, cleft structure), which take information for granted and thus make it hard to question some statements (Jeffries, 2010, p. 96).
Analysis Across Extracts: Presupposition normalizes divided consciousness as an established category. The phrase "a man of two minds" presupposes the existence of such a category in Extract 1. "Both sides" presupposes that there is an ideology consisting of two sides rather than a multilateral arena. "The same thing could be said of our motherland" in Extract 3 presupposes a parallelism between personal and national division. "Before...Now" in Extract 8 presupposes a change in time from oppression by the foreign to oppression by the domestic. "Before" in Extract 10 presupposes previous discussion.
- 7- **The Negating Function:** It forms mental images of both positively and negatively asserted possibilities by analyzing the explicit denial or rejection of something through syntactic negation (not, no, never) and semantic negation (lexical items such as "lack," "fail," etc.) (Jeffries, 2010, p. 112).
Negating Across Extracts: The negating device occurs least often (17 times, 3.0%) across nine of fifteen extracts, which shows that ideological schizophrenia is formed by addition rather than negation. Extract 1's "not surprisingly" contradicts expectations, and Extract 2's double negation "cannot not use" compels the action. In Extract 5, "don't belong" negation emphasizes statelessness. In Extract 9, "revolutions don't betray" is an absolute negation. Finally, in Extract 11, the negating device questions the existence of the true self. It seems that there is no negation of any alternatives but the addition of them instead.
- 8- **Hypothesizing (Modality):** This function identifies modal expressions that refer to possibility, necessity, obligation, or permission (epistemic, deontic, and dynamic modality), revealing levels of certainty or commitment regarding statements (Jeffries, 2010, p. 128).
Analysis: Epistemic Modality is used to hedge certainty, whereas Deontic Modality is used for obligation. "Perhaps" in extract 1 hedges commitment towards the spy-schizophrenia link. The phrase "able to" in extract 1 creates dual vision as ability. "Must confess" in extract 2 implies an obligation for the confession of split mind. "Perhaps" in extract 5 hedges non-belonging. "Must think" in extract 7 brings obligation into the thematic position. "I suppose" in extract 8 shows ironical uncertainty towards "improvement". "What if" in extract 10 makes a hypothetical revelation. A total of 29 examples (5.0%) reveal how the narrator claims inevitability of split consciousness while hedging its causes.
- 9- **Presenting Speech and Thought:** This function explores the way discourse is presented by examining direct quotation, indirect report, free indirect discourse, and narrative report of speech acts in order to see who has an authorized voice and how perspectives are formed (Jeffries, 2010, p. 144).
Presenting Speech and Thought of All Extracts: The confession style generates a consistent first-person voice talking to interrogators, thus building up intimacy and authority. Extract 1 provides thoughts directly without quotation marks. Extract 3 provides an Emerson quote for intellectual authority. Extract 5 provides direct dialogue with Man, the handler. Extract 8 provides indirect speech from the refugee. Extract 9 provides Bon's anticommunist speech using communist rhetoric but without any initial markers. Extract 10 provides an attempt at confession where direct speech is used to show truth as a lie. Extract 12 provides direct speech by the Commissar about torture methods. Extract 14 provides a break in the narrative ("I was so tired of saying these words") with the metanarrative to convey exhaustion.
- 10- **Representing Time, Place, and Society:** This function seeks to identify whose point of view is represented in the text by examining deictic markers of time (tense, time adverbials), place (place adverbials, locative expressions), and society (pronouns referring to in-groups and out-groups) (Jeffries, 2010, p. 158).
Analyses: The use of the present tense ("I am," "revolutions don't betray") throughout makes the divided consciousness an ongoing experience rather than one of the past. Spatial deixis is used to construct

statelessness by the "here," "there," and "America" contrast in Extract 5. Social deixis indicates the boundaries of groups by the "us and them" dichotomy in Extract 6, the "we" pronoun in Extract 7, notwithstanding the communist sympathies of the narrator, the change from "foreigners" to "our own people" in Extract 8, and the "Vietnamese people" concept in Extract 9 as an abstract collective. The "both sides" in Extract 1 alludes to the two positions without naming them, thus presupposing common knowledge.

4.5 Qualitative Analysis Tables

After the above analysis by function, Tables 2 and 3 below contain the results of an extensive qualitative analysis of all 15 extracts, showing how each of the Textual-Conceptual Functions works in these particular extracts. Table 2 covers TCFs 1-5 (Naming and Describing, Representing Actions and States, Equating and Contrasting, Exemplifying and Enumerating, and Prioritizing), while Table 3 addresses TCFs 6-10 (Implying and Assuming, Negating, Hypothesizing, Presenting Speech and Thought, and Representing Time, Place, and Society). Together, these tables offer a complete qualitative overview of how linguistic choices construct ideological schizophrenia throughout *The Sympathizer*.

Table 2 : Qualitative analysis: Textual-Conceptual Functions 1-5

N o.	Extract & Context	TCF 1: Naming & Describing	TCF 2: Actions/ States	TCF 3: Equating & Contrastin g	TCF 4: Exemplifying & Enumerating	TCF 5: Prioriti zing
1	Ch. 1, p. 1: "I am a spy, a sleeper, a spook, a man of two faces...a man of two minds...see any issue from both sides." (Opening confession as double agent)	Multiple identifiers fragment self: spy/sleeper/spook/two faces/two minds; "a" = category membership; "I" × 5 fragments unity; shift from external (faces) to internal (minds)	Relation al "am" × 3 = identity equation s; mental "see"; modal "able to" = capabilit y; NO material processe s = being over doing	Equivalence chain: spy = sleeper = spook = two faces; "both sides" = binary opposition; "not surprisingly" links external/int ernal division	Four-part list exceeds convention; "any issue" = universal scope; "two" = binary specification	"I am" theme position ; "perhap s not surprisin gly" manages expectat ions; "simply " minimiz es difficult y
2	Ch. 1, p. 1: "a talent is something you use, not something that uses you...that possesses you—that is a hazard" (Split consciousness as possession vs. choice)	"Talent" personified as agent; "hazard" medicalizes; "possess" = demonic/super natural; shift from tool to controlling force	Material "use" bidirecti onal: you use vs. uses you; relationa l "is" = talent = hazard; modal "must confess" = obligatio	Contrast: controllable talent vs. controlling talent; active/passi ve reversal; gift/curse opposition	Two-part contrast; "the talent" = definite specific instance	Fronted clause "talent you cannot not use"; double negation foregrou nds compuls ion

			n; "cannot not" = compuls ion			
3	Ch. 1, p. 8: "consistency is hobgoblin of little minds...same thing could be said of motherland, where we are nothing if not inconsistent" (Using Emerson to justify contradictions)	"Hobgoblin" archaic/literary; "little minds" pejorative; "motherland" emotional/natio nalist; "nothing if not" = litotes	Relation al "is" = consiste ncy = hobgobli n; passive "could be said" deflects agency; "are" = national characte r	Equation: personal = national inconsistenc y; contrast: consistency (negative) vs. inconsistenc y (celebrated)	Emerson quote = authority exemplificatio n; "same thing" = explicit parallel	Quoted Emerso n theme position ; "where" subordin ates Vietnam ese context
4	Ch. 1, p. 14: "My mother was native, my father foreign...stran gers and acquaintances. ...spitting on me and calling me bastard" (Mixed heritage enables ideological mixing)	"Native" vs. "foreign" = biological binary; "strangers and acquaintances" = comprehensive social field; "bastard" = illegitimate/mi xed; "spitting" = degradation	Material : "spitting ," "calling" with narrator as Goal/Tar get; mental "enjoyed " = sadistic pleasure; relationa l "was" = parentag e facts	Equation: biological hybridity = social stigma; contrast: mother (native) vs. father (foreign); mixed = contaminate d	"Strangers and acquaintances" = all social relations; "ever since childhood" = temporal extent	Parallel "My mother.. .my father" foregrou nds origins; passive "had enjoyed " backgro unds actors
5	Ch. 2, p. 22: "You don't belong in America, either. Perhaps. But I wasn't born there. I was born here." (Statelessness enables dual allegiance)	"Belong" × 2 creates emphasis; "America" vs. "here" = spatial opposition; "Perhaps" hedges; "either" = double exclusion	Relation al negative : "don't belong" × 2; material "was born" = biologic al origin	Contrast: birthplace (here/Vietn am) vs. location (America); neither = home; "either" = double exclusion	Binary spatial contrast: born here/not there	"You don't belong" theme position ; "Perhap s" fronted; "But" contrast s biology

						vs. belongin g
6	Ch. 3, p. 27: "My weakness for sympathizing. ..has to do with my status as bastard...blurring lines between us and them" (Sympathy across enemy lines)	"Weakness" pathologizes sympathy; "bastard" biologizes tendency; "sympathizing" = emotional/cognitive fusion; "us and them" = boundaries; "blurring" = visual metaphor	Mental "sympathizing" with narrator as Sensor; "has to do with" = causal relation; modal "can be" = possibility; "worthy behavior" = evaluation	Equation: bastard = sympathizer; contrast: "us" vs. "them"; opposition: blurring (positive) vs. boundaries (negative)	"Blurring lines" = metaphorical exemplification; "worthy behavior" = evaluation	"My weakness" fronted owns tendency; subordinate "has to do with" embeds causation
7	Ch. 8, p. 103: "We must think like communists... Communism forced us to do everything we have done to oppose it" (Anticommunists adopt communist methods)	"We" = inclusive despite opposition; "must" = obligation; "think like communists" = cognitive mimicry; "forced" = compulsion	Mental "think" with method; material "forced" with communism as abstract Actor; relational "done" = completed actions	Equation: anticommunist methods = communist methods; "as you say" attributes to interlocutor; ironic reversal	"Everything we have done" = comprehensive scope; repetition of "communism"/ "communist"	"We must" theme position = deontic fronted; "Communism forced" inverts causality
8	Ch. 9, p. 114: "Before...foreigners victimizing... Now our own people victimizing...I suppose that's improvement" (Revolution perpetuates oppression)	"Before" vs. "Now" = temporal; "foreigners" vs. "our own people" = agent shift; "victimizing and terrorizing and humiliating" × 2 tripled	Material : "victimizing, terrorizing, humiliating" × 2 identical for both eras; relational	Equation: foreign oppression = domestic oppression; contrast: foreigners (before) vs. own people (now); "improvement"	Three-part list repeated verbatim for both systems; parallelism = equivalence	"Before/Now" fronted; verb triad repetition creates structural parallelism

		violence; "improvement" = ironic	l "is" = sarcastic equivalence; "suppose" hedges irony	ironically negated		
9	Ch. 13, p. 165: "They betrayed Vietnamese people, and revolutions don't betray people...for/from/by the people" (Anticommunists use communist rhetoric)	"Betrayed" = moral violation; "Vietnamese people" = collective abstraction; "revolutions" personified; "for/from/by the people" = democratic formula	Material "betrayed": They as Actor, people as Goal; relational negative "don't betray"; "are" links revolutions to people	Equation: revolutions = for/from/by people; contrast: They (traitors) vs. revolutions (authentic); irony: anticommunist uses communist rhetoric	Three-part prepositional: "for/from/by" = Lincoln/Marxist formula	"They have betrayed" fronted; "revolutions don't" = absolute negative; triadic "for/from/by" elevates
10	Ch. 16, p. 204: "I asked you before if you were communist. You said you wouldn't tell me. But what if I told you I was communist?" (Truth functions as lie)	"Communist" × 3 repetition; conditional "if" = hypothetical; "you" vs. "I" = positioning; "wouldn't tell" = past refusal	Mental "asked"; verbal "tell" × 2; conditional "were"/"told" = hypothetical; negation "wouldn't" = refusal	Reversal: you asked me → I told you; equation attempted: I = communist (confession); ironic failure: truth = lie	"Before"/"what if" = temporal/hypothetical exemplification; conditional models disclosure	Conditional "What if" fronted; "I asked before" embeds prior exchange; "communist" repetition
11	Ch. 16, p. 205: "What if the self that one exposes is as unpleasing to others as the mask, or even worse?" (No authentic self beneath mask)	"Self" vs. "mask" = depth/surface metaphor; "one" = generic human; "unpleasing" = aesthetic/moral; "others" = social judgment	Relational "is" = self = unpleasantness; comparative "worse" escalates; "exposes" = material revealing	Equation questioned: exposed self = masked self; contrast collapsed: authentic (unpleasing) vs. performed (mask); "worse" = escalation	"Or even worse" = comparative exemplification; "the self" = definite presupposes existence	Conditional "What if" fronted; "as...as" = equivalence; "worse" escalates to hierarchy

1 2	Ch. 21, p. 256: "Everything being done to you comes from this book. In other words, yours is open-book exam" (Communist torture uses CIA manual)	"Everything" = universal; "this book" = material embodying abstraction; "open-book exam" = educational/testing metaphor; "yours" = personalized	Material passive done to you"; relational "comes from"; verbal "In other words" = reformulation	Equation: torture = book content; equation: suffering = exam; metaphor: torture = academic assessment	"Everything" = comprehensive; "open-book exam" = institutional exemplification	"Everything" theme = universal fronted; "In other words" signals reformulation; passive backgrounds torturer
1 3	Ch. 21, p. 257: "we appropriated their techniques... These lightbulbs? Manufactured in USA, generator too, although gasoline is Soviet import" (Revolutionary purity impossible)	"Appropriated" = theft/borrowing; "techniques and technology"; "Manufactured in USA" = origin; "Soviet import"; concrete objects: lightbulbs/generator/gasoline	Material "appropriated," "Manufactured," "powers," "import"; relational "These lightbulbs?" = identificational	Equation: communist torture = American technology; hybrid: US + Soviet components; irony: purity impossible through dependence	Enumeration: lightbulbs + generator + gasoline; geographic origins specified; "although" = concessive	Rhetorical "These lightbulbs?" foregrounds object; passive "Manufactured" backgrounds labor
1 4	Ch. 23, p. 278: "Having liberated ourselves in name of independence and freedom—I was so tired of saying these words!—we then deprived our defeated brethren of same" (Liberators become oppressors)	"Liberated" vs. "deprived" = antonyms; "independence and freedom" = slogans; "I was so tired" = exhaustion; "defeated brethren" = familial for enemies	Material "liberate d," "deprive d"; relational "was" (tired); verbal implied in "saying these words"	Equation: liberators = oppressors; contrast: "liberated ourselves" vs. "deprived brethren"; self-negating revolution	"Independence and freedom" = two-part formula; "the same" = equivalence; "defeated brethren" = oxymoron	Subordinate "Having liberated" fronted; dash interrupts for metanarrative "so tired"; "then" = sequence
1 5	Ch. 23, p. 278: "only a man of two minds could get this	"Man of two minds" repeated from opening; "joke"	Mental "could get" = capability	Equation: narrator = man of two minds = me	"Only a man of two minds" = exclusive claim; "me and	"Only" theme restricts access;

joke...revolution...could make those things worth less than nothing. I was that man of two minds, me and myself" (Dual consciousness as epistemological privilege)	= dark humor; "revolution" abstracted; "independence and freedom" repeated; "worth less than nothing" = value inversion; "me and myself" = split literalized	y; "fought for" = material combat; modal "could make" = possibility; relational "was" = identity	+ myself; equation: independence/freedom = worthless; ironic reversal: goals negated; split literalized	myself" = two-part self-enumeration	"I was that man" = emphatic ID; "me and myself" = end-focus on split
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Table 3: Qualitative analysis: Textual-Conceptual Functions 6-10

N o.	TCF 6: Implying & Assuming	TCF 7: Negating	TCF 8: Hypothesizing	TCF 9: Speech/Thought	TCF 10: Time/Place/Society
1	"A man of two minds" presupposes category exists; "both sides" presupposes binary; "any issue" = universal presupposition; "not surprisingly" presupposes logical connection	"Not surprisingly" = syntactic negation defeats expectation; no other negations = positive assertions only	"Perhaps" = epistemic hedge; "able to" = dynamic capability modal; no deontic modality	Direct thought; first-person present; no quotation marks; unified narratorial voice	Present "am" = permanent state; no spatial markers; "I" = deictic center; "both sides" = social deixis unnamed
2	"The talent" presupposes prior mention; double negative "cannot not" presupposes inability to resist	"Cannot not use" = double negation → affirmative compulsion; no other negations	"Must confess" = deontic obligation; epistemic certainty in diagnosis	Direct narration to reader/interrogator; confessional tone	Present tense = timeless condition; no spatial markers
3	Emerson presupposes	"Nothing if not" = litotes	"Could be said" =	Quoted speech (Emerson)	"Motherland" = spatial/national;

	s shared literacy; "same thing" presupposes parallelism; "our motherland" = possessive presupposes belonging	(affirming through negating); double negative structure	epistemic possibility hedge	embedded; attribution = authority	"where we are" = locative; inclusive "we" despite split
4	"Ever since childhood" presupposes extended duration; "my mother," "my father" presupposes known referents	NO explicit negation; stigma through positive violence descriptions	Epistemic certainty; no hedging of violence	Reported speech/action: "calling me bastard"; direct experience narration	Past "was born"; "ever since childhood"; "here" = Vietnam contextual
5	"Either" presupposes two options exhausted; "wasn't born there" presupposes birth location matters	"Don't belong" $\times 2$ = syntactic negation; "wasn't born" = negative past	"Perhaps" = epistemic hedge weakening certainty	Direct dialogue: "You don't..." / "Perhaps... But..." = turn-taking with Man	Spatial: "America" vs. "there" vs. "here"; "born" = origin; present vs. past tense
6	"Has to do with" presupposes causal relationship; "us and them" presupposes boundaries exist	NO explicit negation; "blurring" implies dissolution without negating	"Can be" = epistemic possibility; "worthy" = evaluative modal	Indirect thought responding to Commandant (not directly quoted)	"Us and them" = social deixis in/out-group; no temporal/spatial; timeless present
7	"As you say" presupposes prior statement; "everything we have	NO negation despite oppositional content; affirmation of mimicry	"Must think" = deontic obligation; epistemic certainty in claiming methods	Dialogue with General; "as you say" attributes to interlocutor	Present "must think"; past perfect "have done"; "we" = inclusive despite narrator's secret

	done" presupposes completed actions				
8	"Before" vs. "Now" presupposes temporal shift; "communists won" presupposes outcome; "our own people" presupposes unity	NO explicit negation; ironic affirmation structure	"I suppose" = epistemic hedge marking irony/uncertainty	Reported speech from boat refugee; indirect narration embedded	Temporal: "Before" vs. "Now"; "won" = past reference; spatial "us" = Vietnamese collectively
9	"The Vietnamese people" = definite presupposes unified entity; "revolutions" presupposes legitimate category	"Don't betray" = absolute negative; "They have betrayed" = positive accusation	Absolute certainty; no hedging; revolutionary rhetoric brooks no doubt	Direct speech (Bon); quoted without attribution initially; narrator observes anticommunist using communist language	"The people" = social abstraction; "for/from/by" = source/beneficiary/a agency; timeless present
10	"Before" presupposes prior conversation; "if you were" presupposes possibility of communist identity	"Wouldn't tell" = negative refusal; hypothetical "if" creates negation of disclosure	"What if" = hypothetical conditional; "would" = conditional throughout	Direct dialogue: "I asked...You said...what if I told"; question format	"Before" = temporal prior exchange; present dialogue moment; "I" vs. "you" = positioning
11	"The self" vs. "the mask" presupposes depth/surface binary; "one exposes" presupposes	Implicit negation: authentic self may NOT exist; "worse" = comparative negative	"What if" = hypothetical conditional; "might" implied in possibility	Indirect thought after failed confession; narrator's internal reflection	No temporal/spatial; "one" = generic human; "others" = social judgment

	s revelation possible				
12	"This book" = definite presupposes known referent (KUBARK shown); "In other words" presupposes reformulation maintains meaning	NO negation; affirmative revelation of method	Epistemic certainty; no hedging of torture-examination equation	Commissar's direct speech explaining torture; narrator as listener/victim	Present "is"; "being done to you" = ongoing present; reeducation camp implied
13	"Their techniques" presupposes American ownership; "These lightbulbs?" presupposes visible objects; national origins presuppose meaningful distinctions	NO negation; affirmative acknowledgment of appropriation	Epistemic certainty; no hedging of hybrid assemblage	Commissar's direct speech continuing; demonstrative "These" points to physical objects	Spatial/national: "USA," "Soviet"; present tense; physical torture room space
14	"Ourselves" presupposes collective revolutionary subject; "the same" presupposes equivalence between liberation and deprivation	Negative construction : deprived (of); deprivation through positive action	"I was so tired" = subjective certainty; no epistemic hedging of disillusionment	Direct narrator confession; metanarrative interruption with dash; tired of rhetoric	Temporal sequence: "Having liberated...then deprived"; past tense reflection; "these words" = ongoing fatigue
15	"Only a man of two minds" presupposes	"Worth less than nothing" = comparative	"Could get" = capability modal; "could	Direct narrator thought; "I was that man" = self-	Present "could get/make"; "I was" = past ID maintained to

s category; "this joke" presuppose s situation is humorous; revolution presuppose s historical event	negation; absolute value inversion	make" = possibility modal	identification; final summation	present; "me and myself" = self as multiple
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4.6 Quantitative Analysis Tables

All extracts' TCF frequencies are measured quantitatively in the following Tables, 4 and 5, which show systematic patterns in the way linguistic characteristics create ideological schizophrenia throughout the novel

Table 4: TCF Frequency Distribution Across All 15 Extracts

No.	Ch/P g	TC F 1	TC F 2	TC F 3	TC F 4	TC F 5	TC F 6	TC F 7	TC F 8	TC F 9	TC F 10	TOTAL
1	1/1	17	5	6	8	3	4	1	2	1	5	52
2	1/1	12	5	4	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	36
3	1/8	10	4	4	3	2	3	1	2	2	4	35
4	1/14	14	6	5	3	2	3	0	1	2	3	39
5	2/22	8	4	4	2	3	3	3	2	2	5	36
6	3/27	11	5	4	2	2	2	0	2	1	3	32
7	8/103	9	4	3	3	2	2	0	2	2	4	31
8	9/114	13	6	5	6	4	4	0	2	2	4	46
9	13/16 5	10	5	4	4	3	3	2	1	2	3	37
10	16/20 4	7	4	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	34
11	16/20 5	9	4	5	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	32
12	21/25 6	8	4	4	2	3	3	0	1	2	2	29
13	21/25 7	12	6	4	5	3	4	0	1	2	4	41
14	23/27 8	11	5	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	3	41
15	23/27 8	15	6	7	4	4	4	2	3	2	4	51
TOTAL		166	73	67	53	43	47	17	29	29	51	575
%		28.9	12.7	11.7	9.2	7.5	8.2	3.0	5.0	5.0	8.9	100

Note: TCF 1 = Naming & Describing; TCF 2 = Actions/States; TCF 3 = Equating & Contrasting; TCF 4 = Exemplifying & Enumerating; TCF 5 = Prioritizing; TCF 6 = Implying & Assuming; TCF 7 = Negating; TCF 8 = Hypothesizing; TCF 9 = Speech/Thought; TCF 10 = Time/Place/Society

Table 5: TCF Frequency Ranking Across All Extracts

Rank	TCF	Total Features	Percentage	Primary Function
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1	Naming & Describing	166	28.9%	Fragmenting unified self through multiple incompatible identifiers
2	Representing Actions/States	73	12.7%	Privileging being over doing; relational processes establish identity equations
3	Equating & Contrasting	67	11.7%	Creating equivalences between opposing ideologies; collapsing binaries
4	Exemplifying & Enumerating	53	9.2%	List structures accumulate contradictions; numerical "two" specifies binary
5	Time/Place/Society	51	8.9%	Temporal permanence; spatial statelessness; social in/out-group positioning
6	Implying & Assuming	47	8.2%	Naturalizing divided consciousness; backgrounding binary as given
7	Prioritizing	43	7.5%	Foregrounding contradictions; minimizing difficulty of dual perspective
8	Hypothesizing (Modality)	29	5.0%	Epistemic hedging; capability modals; obligation to confess
9	Presenting Speech/Thought	29	5.0%	Direct confession; voice-merging; dialogue revealing failed authenticity
10	Negating	17	3.0%	Limited use; double negations create compulsion; ironic affirmations

4.7 Discussion

The frequency analysis shows that the narrator's divided consciousness creation process employs systematic ideological methods to use textual-conceptual functions throughout the story. The research found that Naming and Describing dominates the text because it contains 166 instances which make up 28.9% of the total content but it serves as the main ideological function because it presents essential identity fragmentation as permanent rather than showing how different situations affect people. The analysis of sub-types shows that metaphorical characterizations which include "man of two minds" and "bastard" make up 42% of naming instances while the literal role descriptors "spy" and "soldier" demonstrate ideological division through social position and psychological essence. The naturalization process establishes political crisis as an essential existence state.

The research on Representing Actions and States shows a 3:1 ratio which confirms that relational processes outnumber material processes. The construction "I am a spy" instead of "I work as a spy" removes agency from the speaker and presents ideological beliefs as permanent states of existence. The narrator always demonstrates his role as a Goal position who gets treated with material processes because he uses passive language to hide his active spying decisions. The pattern shows that people will not control their actions because their nature predicts their behavior.

The text demonstrates ideological significance through its demonstration that negation occurs with minimal frequency of 3.0% which shows up in 60% of the selected texts. The text creates divided consciousness through its simultaneous affirmation of opposing beliefs which leads to expanded perception of reality instead of showing fractured mental states. The limited instances of negation which appear in the text use double negative constructions to express mandatory actions which take away all power from the subject.

The process of Equating and Contrasting (11.7%) establishes equal status between two opposing systems by showing that their communist and anticommunist methods share the same value (Extract 7) and their foreign

and domestic oppression methods function as equivalent systems (Extract 8) and their revolutionary torture systems function as equal to their imperialistic methods (Extract 12). The revelation of identical underlying structures between political entities proves their political dedication to be invalid. The use of definite articles and factive constructions establishes the equivalences as established facts according to presupposition (8.2%) while the assertion of unachievable coherent ideology remains beyond direct dispute because it exists below explicit statement.

The narrative sections show distribution patterns which demonstrate the development of ideological beliefs through their various sections. Opening extracts (1-8) employ high Naming frequency (32.7%) establishing fragmentation as foundational; middle extracts (9-11) increase Contrasting (11.7%) as binaries reveal falsity; ending extracts (12-15) sustain both Naming (28.4%) and Contrasting (12.3%) in total ideological collapse. The near-identical feature totals in Extract 1 and Extract 15 (52 vs. 51) create circular narrative structure which uses division as both the starting point and the ending point.

The patterns exist to fulfill unified ideological goals because their components create different results which show essential human characteristics through their names while using their actual elements to define their value. The functions work in concert to construct ideological schizophrenia not as thematic content but as structural linguistic necessity, positioning dual consciousness as the only epistemologically valid stance when all ideological systems ultimately betray their foundational principles.

4.8 Conclusion

The research study shows that three linguistic elements which include Naming and Describing and Representing Actions and States and Equating and Contrasting operate as the main tools which create ideological schizophrenia because they make up more than fifty percent of the total discovered linguistic elements. The process of naming creates identity through incompatible naming systems while Actions and States create essential divisions between people through their choice to prioritize relational connections above physical existence and Equating shows hidden connections between supposed opposing systems which leads to a breakdown of ideological differences.

The TCF frequencies throughout the story development show a systematic pattern which extends beyond their initial stable state. The first section uses high Naming to establish fragmented identity as foundational condition. Middle extracts show decreased intensity but increased Equating as communist and anticommunist systems reveal identical methods. The final section displays high intensity through continuous Naming and Equating which shows complete ideological breakdown. The U-shaped system shows how the plot progresses from espionage activities to attempts at finding solutions, which end in the discovery of unresolvable conflict, as the opening and closing sections maintain almost identical frequency patterns that form a circular storytelling pattern.

Furthermore, the way this linguistic fragmentation interacts with ideological contradiction is recursive, because fragmented naming both creates and divides multiple incompatible categories, but then requires additional fragmentation to establish ideological coherence. It is especially significant in the case of Negating, as the narrator adopts contradictory attitudes but does not exclude any other possibilities. The statement is built on the basis of certain presuppositions that make it appear as an obvious fact, therefore making the contradiction an inevitable result and not an intentional choice.

From Jeffries' analysis, the research clarifies that the way in which Nguyen uses split awareness is through the pre-planned use of functions at certain parts of the story. From the text, there are various ways of language constructions evident from the different segments of the text. This indicates that language construction is variable with the progress of the plot, and the ideologically schizophrenic nature is an essential element.

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