

## Conceptualisation of Intertextuality with Reference to Julia Kristeva

Mathusha. Sam. Lara, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D. (F.T) Research Scholar  
Dr. K. Vijila, M.A., M.Phil. M.Ed., Ph.D., Research Supervisor

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### Abstract

The paper intends to unfold the concept of Intertextuality and its features followed by various instances. The term intertextuality was coined by Julia Kristeva who wanted to synthesize Ferdinand de Saussure's semiotics. Almost every work of an author has an influence of some other discourse. It could be intentional or subconscious. The concept intertextuality was originally structured to analyze the argument of an discourse analysis as a part of systematic textual analysis. Juxtaposing or relating one or many works can lead to many similarities or to a better understanding of a particular text. Juxtaposing or relating or combining brings out the intertextuality. The research paper mainly focuses on the two features of intertextuality with adequate exemplifications.

**Keywords:** Julia Kristeva, Intertextuality, Deliberate, Latent, Discourse, Influence and Analysis.

### Introduction

Julia Kristeva, the Bulgarian-French Philosopher is now seventy-seven year old and an author of thirty books. She holds different title include literary critic, psychoanalyst, feminist, novelist and currently working as a professor. Kristeva's works need a distinct study for its richness of philosophy and intellect innovation. The term intertextuality was coined by Julia Kristeva. The term is associated with post structuralism. The research paper "Interrogating Julia Kristeva's concept of Intertextuality" records Kristeva's view on intertextuality "text as an interplay of texts not as a singular entity". (Raj,80) Kristeva's work is mostly an emendation of Bakhtinian's notion of intertextuality.

Intertextuality means a connection between or a relation between or commonness between a work of art like music, painting, novels, movies and etc. Intertextuality works for a better purpose. When multiple works are assessed by its commonness, it unfolds the similarity between them. It creates a disparate understanding towards a community of people or a culture. Not only Epics, but also novels and music are interlinked so as people's comprehension. Similarly the way society interprets too have an immense connection throughout the world. The settings may differ but the back drop of it will be ultimately interchangeable.

## Discussion

The function of Intertextuality is to relate or to connect a work of art to get a better understanding of the text. It is an argument which attempts to describe that a systematic textual analysis is no different from a discourse analysis. Intertextuality tries to prove that systematic textual analysis is a part of discourse analysis for instance a picture can be related to a movie and a music can be related to a painting. For a better understanding the foresaid idea: A picture of a man drowning and dying in the ocean in front of his lady love can be adopted in to a movie. A music of a gushing sea waves can be adopted into a painting. From a psychoanalytical perspective, almost all the works which has intertextuality or interlinked are an impact of a subconscious influence. The creator of a the work must have been attracted or influenced by a particular incident or a contextual collection or conversation.

There are two main important things about intertextuality. The first thing is how much an environment or society, or the culture can create an impact in authors work. The second thing is how much the authors work create an influence in culture or society. For example, the kind of books are novels we read every day makes an impact within us. The movies that we watch would influence us undoubtedly the authors who writes about love and tragedy, though they belong to different part of the world their works can be inter linked. However, the directive is applicable for all the genre. Intertextuality primarily classified into,

1. Deliberate Intertextuality
2. Latent Intertextuality

The term ‘Deliberate’ itself gives us the clue of what it could be. The word deliberate purport the meaning ‘intentionally’. The author who creates a work intentionally depend upon some other authors work but makes slight changes in characters or the settings. Such works will have intertextuality and it is intentional therefore it is called as deliberate intertextuality. For instance, James Joyce’s Ulysses can be taken into account. The title of the work shows that it is a work of Homer but instead of ancient Greece, Joyce places the whole setting into modern Dublin. The story is a retelling of Homers Odyssey.

The term *latent* means dormant or hidden. Here the authors subconscious mind plays a vital role in creating a work. The author creates his own work which has an influence of some other authors creation. From a stand point of Levi-Strauss, “Myth is structure evolved by the collective unconscious of society “ (10). Homer is the writer of *The Iliad*, a great epic, and *The Mahabharata* is an epic written by Vyasa. They lived in different eras, but their works do have intertextuality. So as Levi Strauss said it is a collective unconscious of society. In latent itertextuality only the author knows whether it is intentional or unintentional. This doesn’t mean that occident is permissive, and the orient is not. Each of them has their own individualistic variations. Their work mirrors their culture.

In Bible, the Book of Proverbs chapter 5 explicates about an immoral woman and her followers: “For the lips of an adulteress drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil; But in the end she is bitter as gall, sharp as a double-edged sword”.

There is a verse in Bhaja Govindam which warns men about women, “Do not go into frenzy of lust seeing the weighty breast and the precincts of woman’s navel. Remember that these are but the appearance of mere flesh”.

### Conclusion

The view regarding women’s chastity depends upon the loyalty to their men. It is the utter most evident of intertextuality in both east and west. In Homer’s *Iliad* and *Vyasa’s Mahabharata*, the seduction of Helen of troy and the dancers in heaven who seduce the sages and underwent punishment are almost the similar contexts. The concept of intertextuality is present almost in all the genre. Intertextuality has a fascination and lure that none can deny. The existence of intertextuality will be present and tempt the creators as long as the human race survives.

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Mathusha. Sam. Lara, M.A., M.Phil.  
Ph.D. (F.T) Research Scholar,  
Reg. No. 18111274012011  
Dept. of English and Research Centre  
St. John’s College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai- 627 002  
Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli- 627 012, India  
[Laradave2552016@gmail.com](mailto:Laradave2552016@gmail.com)

Dr. K. Vijila, M.A., M.Phil. M.Ed., Ph.D.  
Research Supervisor  
Associate Professor, Dept. of English and Research Centre  
St. John’s College (Autonomous), Palayamkottai- 627 002  
Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli- 627 012, India

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