

THE ROLE OF ENGLISH IN COLONIAL LITERATURE: A COMPREHENSIVE EXPLORATION

Muthujamallan

Research Scholar, Department of English, Vels University, Chennai

ABSTRACT

This comprehensive exploration delves into the multifaceted role of the English language in colonial literature, spanning from early encounters to the evolution of language post-colonial era. Analyzing narratives from explorers like Columbus and Cabot, it unravels the language's growth as a medium for expressing colonial experiences. The study navigates cultural encounters, highlighting English as a bridge between worlds, fostering hybrid identities and enriching the understanding of colonial life. While English served as a tool of colonization, contributing to power structures, the narrative also unfolds resistance through slave narratives challenging dehumanization. The study delves into religious discourses, showcasing unintentional cultural conservation through English in missionary writings. Transitioning to the United States, it explores how English evolved, becoming a vehicle for a distinct American identity in literature. In conclusion, exploration emphasizes language's active role in shaping history and its enduring impact on the evolution of culture.

KEYWORDS: *Colonial Literature*

Article History

Received: 06 Jun 2024 | Revised: 07 Jun 2024 | Accepted: 13 Jun 2024
