**S. Richardson, Pamela - Letter XI**

The extract I’m going to analyse is taken from a Samuel Richardson’s novel “Pamela”.
It is an epistolary novel. Reading the letters the reader can understand the storyline. The story is about a young maidservant named Pamela Andrews, whose country landowner master, Mr B, makes unwanted advances towards her. The aim of the novel is teach to the girl how to behave. Pamela in a way or another is subdued by her master. The text is taken from an epistolary novel and therefore the reader comes into direct contact with character’s thoughts, conviction and her behaviour as well. In the novel Pamela writes to her parents and through the letter the reader comes to know about her doubts, her dilemmas on what behaviour was the most proper.
The narrator is also the protagonist, the novel presents both direct and indirect speech. Pamela quotes the exact words between her and her master to convey a sense of reality and to delineate the personalities of the different characters.
The intelligent reader can find out two register: an informal one, which is used to communicate with her mother and a formal one, which is used to communicate with her master. The presence of the two register creates the distance between the two social classes the two character belong to.

From the extract the intelligent reader can ‘build’ Pamela’s characterisation: she belongs to a poor family but she is able to read and write. So the reader could suppose that she received an education. She is proud of herself ( her situation and origin) indeed she doesn’t accept money from her master, she doesn’t want to lose her dignity. The fact that her master tried to keep her mouth shut giving her some money represents for her an offence.

She underline her honesty while she tells about the event to her parents. Her pride, honesty and her dignity are conveyed by her reaction when her master’s attempts to seduce her, it is a climax of emotions (from “afraid” to “terror”).

The relationship between her and her master is unbalanced. Her master is class conscious (“Do you know whom you speak to?”), he stresses his authority this attitude is conveyed by the use of imperatives, in some way it seems he is trying to provoke the girl to have a reaction.

The choice of the novelist to tell the story in first person allows the intelligent reader to understand that all the events are filtered by Pamela’s point of view and that even if he use some linguistic and rhetorical choices to convey an idea of realism it’s clear that the events aren’t told in a objective way. At the same time the use of dialogues commented by the protagonist allow the reader to be involved by the story and create a own opinion about them.