**Analysis pages 122-123**

David Lodge introduces subpart three of Part 3, telling of the typical Sunday morning at Robyn’s. He chose to tell about that, because he wants to show how Robyn’s life is in the free time. In the previous two subparts of this part he shows the reader how Robyn spends Saturday evening and how Vic’s weekend is like. Lodge’s aim is to analyze more deeply the two character and to show the reader other difference between the two worlds which they represent.

Sundays work and recreation are mixed for Robyn and Charles. This recalls the quotation at the beginning of the part, takes from “Hard Times” by Charles Dickens. In fact the poet affirms that men can’t only work, but they have to amuse themselves. It also resumes the post-modernist ideology for which nothing is permanent, things are not unique and separated, but all is mixed.

Then the narrator underlines that nothing escapes from semiotic (“for nothing semiotic is alien to the modern academic critic”). Both cook, while for the world represented by Vic is the woman or wife who has to cook for man or husband.

David Lodge tells about how they spend Sunday morning even to create irony, because Charles and Robyn speaks about a sort of argument that is completely strange for common reader, who is led to empathize more with Vic than with them. They are talking about the decentring of the subject, a very difficult argument. The intelligent reader understands that Robyn and Charles are similar, because both fall under deconstructionism. In fact Robyn uses the deconstructionism to analyze literature and all aspects of her life and Charles is reading a book about it.

The narrator resumes the deconstructionism telling about of the de-centring of the subject. There is a reflection about Lacan, which bring them to analyze the duality of men and they affirm that men are not stable, all is mutable. This is linked to the post-modernist thoughts, in which nothing is permanent and the being is not an essence. The word “exactly”, which is used by Robyn is an ironical one, because as they tell the absolute truth doesn’t exist.

Then they speak about the concept of metonymy and metaphor. David uses the first one to refers to Vic’s World and so to the Victorian Age. They also speak about the realism and Charles adds that the absolute truth doesn’t exist. It is only a rhetorical illusion, a tissue of metonymies and metaphors as he says. Lacan discerns the truth from the concept, in fact Robyn says “truth is to meaning as metonymy is to metaphor”. Truth is subordinates to meaning, because it is not absolute and only through a metaphorical vision you can reach the meaning. It seems that the truth is an illusion and the only thing which really exists is the meaning attainable through a metaphorical vision. Robyn has a metaphorical one, while Vic and Danny Ram have a metonymic one, so they live in an illusory reality. Vic and Danny Ram live in an illusory reality, the reach only the level of the signified, through the metonymic vision, while Robyn analyze the signified of things, so she oversteps the level of signifier and so she reach the world of the meaning through her metaphorical vision. The metonymic vision describes the reality as it appears and the parts which compose it, while the metaphorical one grasps the totality of the reality.

The moment when Charles can’t find a word to describe the relationship between Vic and Robyn recalls the concept of the instability and the human finitude.

When Robyn goes to open the door to her brother Basil the narrator says “Robyn did a hop, skip and jump, across the cluttered floor”. With this expression David Lodge recalls the different idea of the concept of home for Robyn and Marjorie, in fact while Marjorie wants to have the best home in the world, Robyn is not interested in this aspect and in fact her home is very messy.

The function of Charles’ comment about Basil’s arrival serve to describe Basil, in fact the reader understand that he is different from Charles and Robyn, he may be more similar to Vic and the common reader. Charles is displeased for Basil’s arrival, in fact he would have preferred to continue the dialogue with Robyn.