**TEXT BASED ON THE NOTES OF 23TH JANUARY**

The Dead is the most important short story of the collection Dubliners and it is generally associated to the category “public life”.

In the short story, the most important character Gabriel Conroy has his moment of **epiphany.** Joyce attributes to Stephen the definition of " epiphany" a narrative element that is present in all Joyce ‘s works. "By an epiphany he meant a sudden spiritual manifestation, whether in the vulgarity of speech or of gesture or in a memorable phase of the mind itself. He believed that it was for the man of letters to record these epiphanies with extreme care, seeing that they themselves are the most delicate and evanescent of moments." All that Joyce writes expresses a symbolic realism and meaning. So, whenever he refers to something like music or dust, such elements acquire symbolic meaning.

An epiphany is, therefore, not an impression; on the contrary it guides a deeper insight into the truth of things. It is as if it opens our mind to further and meaningful effects of something in our whole life.

Epiphany—This term, coined by James Joyce, designates the moment in a narrative when events, images, ideas, or any combination of these have reached critical mass and produce for the reader an explosive recognition of meaning.

In the case of Gabriel, he comes to know that he had never been able to love Gretta in the way Michael Furey had.

But the term Epiphany comes also from the religious code. Indeed, epiphany is a religious celebration and refers to the comet that lights the way for the three kings who were three astrologers in search of Jesus.

So, James Joyce coined the term epiphany. On the other side, T. S. Eliot coined the term objective correlative. They are both devices to express emotions: Joyce is the best of expression of narration and Eliot of poetry. They were researching into possible literary and stylistic instruments to express something that they feel, and it is very difficult to be conveyed in language. In other words, both did linguistic researches to try to find linguistic-literary devices to communicate to the readers the emotions or some transformations that takes place on a personal, intimate and internal level. But telling or expressing emotions is impossible. So according to Eliot, for example, the only way to express emotions is to build a situation that makes the reader feel that emotion, because an emotion cannot be expressed explicitly. In order to carry out his object, he uses a linguistic-literary instrument that allows him to communicate a particular emotion with the reader, instead of saying it. This device is the objective correlative.

Summing up, Joyce uses the device of epiphany, while Eliot uses the objective correlative, and both did a linguistic research on how to use the expressive medium to explain emotions. They are great writers because they found the right language that can relive that particular situation.

When William Wordsworth, the father of Romanticism, tries to explain what poetry is, he says it is “emotion recollected in tranquility”. Recollected is a keyword. In tranquility and silence, the poet can remember a moment when he felt a great emotion and contemplating this moment, he can experience an emotion similar to the one felt in that moment. Memories are part of our present also according to Bergson's philosophy, who says that our present is only the sum of our memories and expectations. Therefore, while for Wordsworth the condition of emotion was silence and contemplation, for Eliot, the condition for emotion is a chain of events or an object that relates something to something else.

All these great writers were cosmopolitan and tried to find some uses of the language on a literary level that could make what past literature could not provide.

The third figure, in addition to Joyce and Eliot, is Virginia Wolff, who uses what she calls the moment of being.

So, it is not true that Modernists don't care about emotions, although they put the expressive research at the center of their poetry. In particular, they searched for certain linguistic characteristics within the language that allow them to communicate and not to say what had not been properly expressed in previous literary research, according to them.

Considering all the above, it's about doing a linguistic research, finding linguistic devices, placing yourself in a cosmopolitan world, talking to the world.

In his essay, Tradition and Individual Talent, T. S. Eliot explains the characteristics of an innovative poet using the language of chemistry.