**ANALYSIS AGrando - *Mrs Dalloway* – Incipit**

The narration starts in “media res”. The novelist introduces instantly the main character, as the title suggests: she is a married woman, and the action she is going to do. In the following lines, the novelist hints at other characters and situations. However one turning point of V. Woolf’s narration is the plot reduced to the minimum, so the reader can only have an unclear vision of the storyline.

The intelligent reader understands that who is speaking is Mrs Dalloway, and that in her mind the freshness of that morning reminds a particular feeling lived or imagined. Such impression is conveyed by the free indirect speech device. The same process of associations returns also in the following period, where the sound element of “a little squeak” brought her from the external reality to her thoughts.

The technique used in this case is the flashback: Mrs Dalloway came back to the past, remembering how the sensation she used to feel are bright in her mind. In all the rest of the paragraph is developed the narration of the past moments lived by Mrs Dalloway with the technique of the interior monologue. Indeed, she starts making associations between her memories, reflecting on the details that has remained and on those that disappeared. For example, she remembers a few sayings of Peter Walsh, when he joked with her contemplation of the natural atmosphere, while she doesn’t remember other details of his aspect or his life.

The language is elevated and poetical. The novelist uses frequently the repetition of expressions like *was that it?* or *what a …!* to give rhythm to the narration and conveys the feelings of the speaking voice – Mrs Dalloway. The rhetorical language is evident also in the frequent use of similes, as *like the flap of a wave*, of “sinestesie”, as the *wave* for the *sea*, and of words that sound mild and suggest the atmosphere of a memory. Last but not least, the use of asyndeton has the function to render the slow time of the memory, that doesn’t follow the rhythm of external life.