**Virginia Woolf’s narrative techniques (vs Joyce’s ones)**

The main narrative technique Virginia Woolf uses in her works is the indirect interior monologue. It’s a kind of interior monologue: the narrator maintains the control of the character’s thoughts free flow. In addition she preserves the logical and grammatical organization: the punctuation is used to separate thoughts each other. While the character’s stayed fixed in a place, his mind travel around.

Joyce’s interior monologue is different from Woolf’s one because of he uses an extreme form of it: the stream of consciousness. The narrator completely disappears and the narration is represented only by the free thoughts flow of the character. Joyce doesn’t use logical and grammatical organization as he doesn’t use punctuation.

Virginia Woolf uses a third person narrator blending it with the stream of thoughts. By this way she gives the idea of a contact between the inner and the other world, speech and silence, past and present. She uses poetic words, allusive and emotional, differently from Joyce that is more interested in language experimentation and works accumulating details. The fluidity of Virginia Woolf’s language however is the quality that better represents the flows of the intricate thoughts and permits to express the most intimate feelings.

Virginia Woolf and Joyce are considered innovators because of the originals techniques they introduce. Traditional techniques are not suitable to reproduce the complexity of the human mind. By the adoption of the interior monologue they can represent the unspoken activity of the mind.

In addition Virginia Woolf introduces a new concept: the “moment of being”. She doesn’t give a clear definition of it, she explains the concept by examples and contrasts with the opposite of this idea: the “non-being”. Moments of “non-being” seems to be moments in which the individual is not completely aware of the events he experiences. The “moment of being”, instead, is a moment that opens up a hidden reality. This concept may be similar to the “epiphanies” of Joyce, but the “moments of being” don’t lead to decisive revelations for Virginia Woolf’s characters.