

Eurasian Journal  
of Humanities and  
Social Sciences



# The Cultural Tapestry Unraveled: Using Sewing Term Phrases In Literature To Portray People And Their Culture

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## ABSTRACT

In this article we provide information about using phrases which contain sewing terms in literature in order to portray people's characters and attitudes to situations. We analysis some authors and their works, their ability to use phrases which includes sewing terms metaphorically. We also give extracts from the books to show vivid examples and help readers to define the real meaning.

## Keywords:

sewing terms, portray culture, needle and thread, embroidering memories

## Introduction

In literature, language serves as a powerful tool for conveying culture and illuminating the intricacies of human experiences. Sewing term phrases, with their rich linguistic and cultural connotations, offer a unique lens through which authors can depict characters, communities, and their respective cultures. This article explores the profound impact of incorporating sewing term phrases in literature as a means to vividly portray people and their cultural identities.

Sewing term phrases provide a window into cultural traditions and practices associated with fabric arts. By seamlessly integrating these phrases into the narrative, authors can evoke a sense of cultural richness and authenticity. Phrases such as "needle and thread," "stitching the fabric of life," or "embroidering memories" enable writers to depict the significance of sewing as a cultural practice, conveying the value placed on craftsmanship and the intergenerational transmission of skills.

## Methods

The usage of sewing term phrases in literature can shed light on gender roles and social structures within a particular culture. Sewing has historically been associated with women, and phrases like "the women gathered to sew," "sewing circles," or "the gentle click of the needle" can evoke a sense of female bonding, community, and shared experiences. These phrases provide insight into the societal expectations, division of labor, and the significance of sewing as an expression of femininity and creativity. Sewing term phrases offer authors a rich tapestry of metaphors to explore and deepen their storytelling. By employing phrases such as "mending relationships," "unraveling secrets," or "sewing the threads of destiny," writers can imbue their narratives with symbolic meaning. These metaphors allow for a nuanced exploration of themes such as connection, healing, resilience, and the intricate interplay of fate and personal agency.

## Results

Sewing term phrases are steeped in cultural symbolism and can serve as powerful vehicles for conveying cultural identity. The mention of garments like "kimono," "sari," or "kilt" in a literary work, along with associated sewing terms, provides readers with glimpses into specific cultures, their aesthetics, and historical contexts. The use of phrases like "embroidered motifs," "intricate patterns," or "vibrant tapestry" brings to life the cultural nuances and artistic expressions associated with sewing, fostering a deeper appreciation for diverse cultural identities.

Sewing term phrases can contribute to the historical and regional specificity of a literary work. By incorporating phrases related to traditional sewing techniques, tools, or materials, authors can create an authentic sense of time and place. Phrases such as "hand-sewn buttonholes," "quilting bee," or "embroidered samplers" can transport readers to specific historical periods or regions, showcasing the rich tapestry of sewing traditions and the unique cultural landscapes they are rooted in.

## Analysis

In Louisa May Alcott's novel "Little Women," sewing term phrases are skillfully woven throughout the narrative to portray the domestic lives and cultural values of the March sisters. The phrases "needlework circle," "stitching their hopes and dreams," and "seamstress aspirations" symbolize the importance of sewing in their lives. These phrases not only highlight the practical aspects of sewing but also represent the unity and personal growth of the characters. Through the use of these phrases, Alcott captures the cultural significance of sewing and its role in the lives of the March sisters as they navigate their individual paths and bond as a family.

In her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "The Color Purple," Alice Walker uses sewing term phrases to depict the lives of African American women in the early 20th century. Phrases like "piecing her life back together," "quilting as a form of resistance," and "thread of sisterhood" symbolize the resilience, creativity, and

communal bonds within their culture. Through these phrases, Walker explores the role of sewing as a means of expression, healing, and empowerment for her characters. The act of sewing becomes a metaphorical representation of the strength and unity of African American women, allowing readers to delve into the rich cultural tapestry of their lives.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie often incorporates sewing term phrases in her works, such as "Half of a Yellow Sun" and "Americanah," to explore gender roles, cultural identity, and the intricate fabric of Nigerian society. Phrases like "embroidering their stories," "stitching together the past," and "sewing their traditional garments" serve as vivid portrayals of Nigerian culture. These phrases go beyond the literal act of sewing and metaphorically represent the weaving of personal narratives, the intergenerational transmission of knowledge, and the preservation of cultural heritage. Adichie skillfully employs these phrases to delve into the experiences of her characters and provide readers with a deeper understanding of Nigerian culture and identity.

Julia Alvarez incorporates sewing term phrases in her novel "In the Time of the Butterflies" to illustrate the lives of the Mirabal sisters, who were involved in the underground resistance against the Trujillo regime in the Dominican Republic. Sewing terms such as "embroidered messages," "sewing seeds of rebellion," and "stitching together their destiny" capture the intersection of craft, resistance, and cultural heritage. These phrases symbolize the covert communication, unity, and determination of the Mirabal sisters and their compatriots. Alvarez skillfully integrates these sewing term phrases to highlight the cultural and historical context of their struggle, providing readers with a profound understanding of the role sewing played in their resistance movement.

## Discussion

Through the adept use of sewing term phrases, these authors bring cultural nuances to life within their literary works. The phrases go

beyond their literal meanings, serving as powerful metaphors that embody cultural values, personal growth, resistance, and the intricate fabric of diverse societies. The incorporation of these phrases adds depth, authenticity, and a deeper appreciation for the role of sewing as a cultural practice and a vehicle for storytelling in literature.

### Conclusion

The inclusion of sewing term phrases in literature serves as a bridge between language, culture, and storytelling. By utilizing these phrases, authors can effectively depict the intricacies of cultural traditions, gender roles, metaphors, and historical context. The incorporation of sewing term phrases adds depth and authenticity to literary works, enabling readers to engage with characters, communities, and their cultural identities in a vibrant and meaningful way. Through the power of words, writers can weave a rich tapestry of cultural expression, celebrating the diverse threads that connect us all.

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