

"Take more chances, dance more dances" a line from a 2018 Femina Facebook post.

Greetings, I am a student of English A Literature and Language High level and the line of inquiry that I would be addressing is Art(which is also my field of inquiry), creativity, and imagination. The global issue that I will be addressing is the undervaluation of dance as a career leading to its evasion. Which means that dance is not appreciated highly enough leading to it being avoided.

The significance of this global issue is very high as I conducted a survey myself and found out 53% of Indian parents would discourage their children from pursuing dance as a career.

The literary extract that I have selected is from the Guide written by RK Narayan, the extract clearly portrays the undervaluation of dance as a career leading to its evasion

whereas the non-literary works that I have selected are cover pages of a Femina magazine that is building a good reputation for dance to avoid its evasion.

This global issue is so prominent that multiple publishing companies depicted a picture of just Rosie dancing! Not the protagonist Raju! the hairstyle, accessories, jewelry, costume, and color combination is very identical to the first Femina cover page that I have selected.

In "the guide" Rosie was one of the principal characters. She was a traditional classical Bharatnatyam dancer and has an unfathomable love for it.

She belonged to a devadasi family who are devoted temple dancers. In medieval India, they were considered glamorous and held very high social status but since the setting of the book which is the 20th century, they were viewed as low-class women who are sex slaves.

Dancing has nothing to do with prostitution but dancers like Rosie has to deal with the abstract idea of dancers, being sex workers. Due to this reason overtime, dance started getting undervalued leading to its evasion.

The extract portrays the use of a literary technique, **debatable competitive dialogues**, seen between Rosie and her husband, Marco, where Rosie expresses her fondness for dancing and how she wants to pursue it as a career but her dream of pursuing dance was immediately rebuffed because of how undervalued dance is in today's society. This literary technique helped bring out the global issue, simulating the two sides of our society, one that is struggling to build respect for dance and one that evades it.

The setting of this extract is that Marco and Rosie are in cave where Marco shows Rosie the he has been examining. Rosie observes how passionate Marko is about his career and covets the same for herself. Shortly, Rosie, brings it up in line 1, "if these were about dancing, I could have perhaps have tried-".

"dance always stung" Marco s seen in line 3. Here, the word dance is **zoomorphic**, Narayan depicts Marco's feelings by portraying dance as a very harmful creature that hurts as bad as a venom bite.

The word dance, "stung" him so much that in line 2 he looked at Rosie "sharply", so he does not give her a chance to finish her sentence. Here, Narayan used **visual imagery**, the word SHARP was used to represent Marcos hurtful expression as if he is using something sharp to slaughter Rosies dreams by disrespecting dance.

Rosie was disturbed by Marco's reaction towards dancing and noticed how he tried to evade it. She had enough of it! so she asked a **polar question** in line 7, "will you permit me to dance?". She would not have had to ask this question if dance was not undervalued and evaded or if she wanted to pursue some other career.

Furthermore, in line 8 Narayan used a **metaphor** " the old face was coming back" to help the reader understand the vivid imagery transcending the literal meaning making it easier for the

reader to understand Marco's expressions. The metaphor indicates that they have spoken about dancing and that it was previously not encouraged. An example is chapter 5 where Marco told Rosie her "interests are morbid." This showed his discourteous feeling and how hard it was to get support to make a career in dancing because of how undervalued it is.

Marco answered the polar question which is supposed to have a yes/no answer with a "why" trying to evade the conversation about dance. He was not able to comprehend the need to dance. He did not want his wife to dance as it is seen as an inferior career in our society.

Further, she told Marco that she would be extremely happy if she pursued her dream career, she says in line 11 "just as you" to state that all careers are equal and dancing is no less than Speleology which is Marcos career.

R.K Narayan used **sarcasm** in the line 12 "you want to rival me", to help develop Marco's character and make the reading more appealing to the audience to bring focus to Marco's unnecessary reaction towards just, a career.

Marco means that Speleology is way more superior than dancing and her career will be no match in front of his. He claims in lines 13&18 that there is no "learning", "creativity" and "intelligence" associated with dance. Whereas dancing involves all of those.

He belittles dance in lines 13,16&18 by using phrases like "street acrobatics", "same thing", "repeated tricks". He does not see the complexity in it. He also says that dance only looks high-grade when a monkey is doing it, trying to evade and discourage his wife from dancing.

Marco concluded this conversation in line 34 by saying "did you or did you not promise that you would never mention it again" to show that this was a waste of time then and a waste of time now. He just did not want to be mated to a dancer.

This extract is a fabulous example of the global issue, undervaluation of dance as a career leading to its evasion.

Femina is an Indian magazine owned by Worldwide Media, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Times Group. It is the oldest women's English magazine in India and has been publishing for more than six decades.

These two magazines were released just one year after the guide was published. The guide became a popular book read in 1958 in India which spread awareness about the undervaluation of dance. Femina noticed the evasion of dance and started creating awareness by publishing not one but two dance-related covers in the year 1959.

The woman in the first magazine is Chandralekha and the woman in the second magazine is Mrinalini, they are very famous Indian classical dancers.

Femina on both cover pages is written on the top in a very big bold font because they know that they are popular and credible which is ethos, therefore, they use their power to address this global issue. Furthermore, the cursive font depicts the flow and elegance of a dancer's movements.

Marco and other people in our society believe, that there is no "learning" involved in dance. The creator of the first cover page used a light blue shade to prove them wrong as light blue donates knowledge and "learning". The color white which represents purity has been used in the second magazine to break the bizarre stereotype regarding dancers being sex workers.

A solid background color was used to bring the readers' attention to the valuable dancers, just what Rosie was trying to achieve while Marco tried to evade the topic of dance.

Below the word, Femina is the words "incorporating flair". The word "flair" means the special ability to do something well. The creator of these magazines addressed the global issue by declaring that dance has a flair to it and should therefore be valued, not evaded.

In both magazines, Pathos has been used to build a connection with the reader by evoking emotions. Firstly, Eye contact has been formed as it seems as though the dancers are looking right at the reader. Secondly, In the middle part of the first magazine, Chandralekha is doing the "Shringara rasa" expression which shows delight, The bottom part of the second magazine shows Mrinalini doing the "shanta rasa" to depict peace. Mrinalini did not have a easy life, living in Gujarat she had to fight a conservative mindset to gain acceptance as people in Gujrat were unwelcoming of the South Indian Classical dance forms and labelled her as a Devdasi trying to evade it. But this only made Mrinalini dance more till she was accepted. Therefore the expressions depict feelings dancers exhibit after being accepted and valued. This through pathos

is done to make the conservative readers realise that all humans regardless of their professions should have the right to feel delight and peace.

The Rule of 3 has been used to represent 3 images of each dancer which is used to create a satisfying and pleasing effect dodging making people like Marco more uncomfortable.

Chandralekha is doing a step called Pasha hasta mudra which means fights and quarrels. In the right and left part of the picture, Chandralekha is doing the Dola hasta mudra that is done at the start of a Bharatanatyam dance. This represents that we should overcome the challenges and quarrels we face in our society such as this global issue, and have a new start and beginning. Where everyone is valued.

Mrinalini is doing the "hamsasya hasta" at the back which means conscience and the "lotus hasta" known as the gesture of enlightening from darkness to light which is literarily depicted as Mrinalini is gradually coming out of her dark shadow to the light. Overall this means that dancers want to come out of the dark and blossom by removing the stigma consciousness.

Both magazine pictures were taken by photographer Dhiraj Chawda. Multiple exposure photos like in the first magazine may be common enough now, but in the 1950s, it wasn't so. He used this special technique to capture Chandralekha's artistic movements. He worked for three hours on this picture. This determines that there are people like Raju who value the skill of dancing.

Femina persists to not only highlight dancers like Tanya Hope on their cover pages but also actively post about dance on their social media handles. I would like to give a reference to one of Femina's digital media platform as I feel in today's time people prefer digital media to attain knowledge. A reference that I would like to give is a blog on Femina's website "TV shows have helped dance become career option" where Shilpa Shetty expressed the struggles faced wanting to be a dancer and how TV shows are trying to help dance become a respectable career option.

Lamentably, even though platforms like Femina and people like Raju and Dhiraj attempt to encourage dancing, it is still undervalued because of the various people who share the same beliefs as Marco.

I can apply my works globally as there are more Magazine's that promote dance such as the "Dance Magazine" from USA they recently posted an article titled "Is Dance Underfunded Because It's Undervalued?" Which shows evidence that this is a problem dancers face globally.

I think the solution to this global issue is to operate unitedly and generate awareness about this global issue so talented dancers round the world get genuine exposure to follow their passion and dreams.