

Conclusions

From this study of Eliot's "Preludes" and Hopkins' "The Windhover" it appears that linguistic analyses and statements based on them have largely corroborated some of the important critical statements.

However, since this study is a mere exercise in research methodology and not a full-fledged investigation, we may not claim that we have substantiated Leech's thesis. But our findings do support what Leech believes is a fruitful line of research in the area of stylistics - a meeting ground between literary criticism and linguistic description. Let us hope that more elaborate and rigorous research will throw more light on the question.