# Technology's Influence on the Metaphorical Language in Contemporary Literature: A Transformative Force and a Formidable Challenge

Fatima Ali Al-Khamisi[1], Ghada S. Sasa[2], & Abdalhadi Nimer Abu Jweid[3]

[1] Department of English Language & Literature, College of Languages& Humanities, Qassim University, Al-Mlaida, Braidh, 52571, Qassim, Saudi Arabia. E-mail: F.Alkhmisi@qu.edu.sa

[2] Department of English, Yarmouk University, Irbid-Jordan. E-mail: ghada_sasa@hotmail.com

[3] Assistant professor of English literature at the Department of English, Faculty of Educational Sciences & Arts, FESA, UNRWA, Amman, Jordan. E-mail: abdulhadiabujweid@gmail.com

Correspondence: Fatima Al-Khamisi, Department of English Language & Literature, College of Languages& Humanities, Qassim University, Al-Mlaida, Braidh, 52571 , Qassim, Saudi Arabia. E-mail: F.Alkhmisi@qu.edu.sa

## Abstract

This study sheds light on the intricate ways technology is reshaping the landscape of metaphorical language in contemporary writing. It delves into the burgeoning trend of aesthetics heavily influenced by technology. By meticulously analyzing a curated collection of visually captivating digital images, the study explores how technical language is used to craft these images and how digital constructs imbue them with a unique character.

Furthermore, the study goes beyond imagery, comprehensively examining the influence of technology on characterization and plot structure within contemporary novels. It acknowledges the emergence of characters and narrative elements that are fundamentally driven by technology, exploring how these innovations are shaping the way stories are told and experienced by readers. Ultimately, the study highlights the transformative potential of technology. It recognizes how technology can enrich and expand the metaphorical repertoire available to contemporary writers. However, it also acknowledges the challenges that technology presents in terms of maintaining the nuance and authenticity of language, as well as the potential for the erosion of traditional linguistic values.

**Keywords:** technology, contemporary literature, metaphorical language, transformative force, technology adoption

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Introducing the Problem

The relationship between literature and technology is an avant-garde critical approach to works that cope with new technological advances in different aspects of humanistic intellectual progression. Technology has achieved decisive steps towards creating luxurious means for all people from all walks of life. Hence, technology has a concomitant affinity with people in every detail of their living conditions. The influence of technology upon literature, or the presence of technology per se, results in perceiving literary components from diverse critical perspectives. Consequently, different critical studies accentuate the relationship between literature and technology via cogent textual analysis or theoretical interpretation.

### 1.2 Importance of the Problem

The rapid advancement of technology is fundamentally altering how we perceive, interact with, and communicate about the world. This research is crucial because it examines how these technological shifts are reshaping the core of human expression: language, particularly its metaphorical dimension. By understanding how technology influences metaphor, the paper gains insights into 1. Cultural evolution: How technology is shaping our collective consciousness and worldview. 2. Literary innovation: How authors are adapting to and leveraging technological advancements for creative expression. 3. Human-technology interaction: The implications of technological metaphors on understanding of current literature and technology.

### 1.3 Relevant Scholarship

There are different studies that tackle the influence of technology on literature. Madhulika Sinha (2023), in "Information Technology and its Impact on World Literature," emphasizes the drastic changes in technology that left its apparent impact on world literature. Sinha (2023) traces the historical technological revolutions that laid bare the core conceptual appropriation of world literature and its depiction of technological boom and prosperity through different phases. In essence, Sinha (2023) limits her study to information and communication technology that have had a profound impact on the thematic as well as the technical elements of world literature; Sinha (2023) writes: "History has witnessed that humanity went through several revolutions. The latest one is the revolution of information and

communication technology. This revolution caused a rupture between everything old; what is considered new today is quickly turned into an old and obsolete trend tomorrow. Because of these evolutions, the demand for the technology has increased" (p.1). Considering this argument, Sinha (2023) argues that technology exists in literature in terms of digital applications that are run through the Internet. These applications include some social media information communication ties among people, such as Twitter.

Such social media, according to Sinha (2023), predicts the decline of the form of the printed book, which is traditionally considered the primary source of information. However, the significance of the printed book dissolves in the vast world of social media, which has made people's lives easier and more comfortable. That is, the typical reader prefers the digital book, shared on Twitter, for example, to the conventional version that consumes time and effort during the purchase process and the reading process itself. Sinha (2023) cites some examples of world literature works that portray the presence of technology in literature; chief among them Sven Birkets' The Gutenberg Elegies and Ernest Hemingway's six-words story: "For Sale: Baby Shoes, Never Worn", which are continuously shared by readers. In this case, technology accelerates the reading process by replacing the traditional way of reading with digital reading making, the works more accessible. Nevertheless, Sinha (2023) lacks the citation of literate elements that might be interpreted by readers using technology. To clarify, the plot, for example, could be grasped through advanced technological methods.

Deri Sis Nanda and Susanto Susanto (2018), furthermore, tackle the relationship between technology and literature through cyber-culture. They (2018) claim that literature conveys the authentic sense of cyberculture during literary genres. Such culture turns into cyber literature which perceives reality in terms of literary elements. Like Madhulika Sinha, Nanda and Susanto (2018) tackle the Internet revolution as the primary impetus for creating radical changes in the way by which readers perceive literary works. This revolution lies in the change of the printed text and its tangible format into its digital format. Thus, the printed book becomes hypertext; and this is the ultimate transformation of literature from the paper aspect into digital documents easily obtained by readers, Nanda and Susanto (2018) comment: "Because of the technology of Web, cyber literature emerges. This study talks about the emergence of cyber literature which changes the way of reading and teaching in various institutions. It becomes a challenge for people who teach literature because they should leave the printed text and move to the digital text, as called hypertext." (p.6).

Nanda's and Susanto's (2018) study follows a close reading of literary texts that have their hyper-format in dealing with looking into reality. Therefore, they conclude that cyberliterature is a product of the intersection between the paper format and its transformation into the hypertext. Yet, Nanda's and Susanto's (2018) study does not follow a meticulous textual analysis of the literary works affected by the advent of technology in recent years. The creation of different applications for literature might add genuine and unprecedented reading of literature through technology. In the same way, Laila Al-Sharqi and Irum Saeed Abbasi (2020) analyze the influence of technology on literature. They (2020) contend that the new appearance of social media technology has led to the emergence of a new literary genre called short-short story. This genre is deemed the nexus of a new literary coinage, i.e., a "text speak" story.

Hence, technology has contributed to the innovation of this genre by dint of quick social interaction enabling the reader to read literary works through voice-recorded or spoken works: "the emergence of a new genre of short stories called short-short stories and the birth of a new English dialect called text-speak prove that every cloud indeed has a silver lining. The popularity of social media exchanges signifies that technology users have accepted quick social media interactions as a new way of life and have also adjusted their writing to match the content restrictions. As a rule of thumb, Al-Sharqi's and Abbasi's (2020) findings are limited to technology and its crucial role in creating not only innovation in literary works but also in the linguistic aspects of literature as a whole. Notwithstanding, Al-Sharqi's and Abbasi's (2020) study does not refer to newly coined words by the groundbreaking and burgeoning technology.

Technology's influence extends to literature, language, and communication tools. Hadwan, Alsayadi, and Al-Hagree (2023) found that the transformer architecture, an attention-based encoder-decoder model, has significantly advanced the capabilities of end-to-end automatic speech recognition systems

As a rule of thumb, the widespread impact of technology on modern society has significantly influenced the figurative language used in contemporary literature. This has presented both opportunities for innovation and creativity, as well as challenges for literary creation. Writers across genres, including novelists and poets, have delved into the intricate relationship between literature and technology. Amidst the ever-growing presence of technology in society, writers felt compelled to explore its impact on human life and culture. They approached this theme from diverse perspectives, personifying technology in novels and capturing its essence in poetry.

Previous research has explored the impact of technology on language, but primarily focused on changes in vocabulary, syntax, or communication styles. This study differs by concentrating specifically on the evolution of metaphorical language, a more nuanced aspect of linguistic expression. Building on existing work, this research aims to expand the scope by investigating a previously underexplored area of technology and language interaction. It aims also to deepen understanding by providing a more in-depth analysis of how technology is transforming metaphorical thought and to identify new trends by discovering emerging patterns in the use of technology-inspired metaphors.

The current study attempts to offer an in-depth scrutiny of literary works that reflect the massive effect of technology on their components and coherent elements. In essence, it sheds light on technology and its pertinent influence on the metaphorical language employed in contemporary literature by examining the transformative force and the formidable challenge embedded in their literary structure.

*1.4 Hypotheses and Their Correspondence to Research Design*

Primary Hypothesis: Technology is significantly influencing the development of new metaphors in contemporary literature, leading to a departure from traditional metaphorical frameworks. Secondary Hypothesis: The increasing prevalence of digital technology is affecting characterization and narrative elements in contemporary literature.

This study aims to identify and analyze recurring technology-inspired metaphors in contemporary literature and to investigate how technical language is employed in contemporary novels to create imagery. It tries to analyze the role of digital constructs in shaping the unique character of literary images and to examine the broader impact of technology on characterization and plot development in contemporary fiction. It attempts to explore how technology-driven characters and narrative elements are reshaping storytelling and the reader experience.

To investigate the research hypotheses, this study conducts a comprehensive analysis of selected contemporary literary works, including novels and poems. By tracing the evolution of metaphorical language within these texts, the research examines the influence of technology on characterization. Furthermore, the study delves into the implications of technology-derived poetic imagery on the overall literary landscape.

## 2. Method

To test the hypotheses, a mixed-methods approach is employed in this study. This research employs a corpus-based approach to analyze the intersection of technology and metaphor in a selection of contemporary literary works. The metaphor identification procedure (MIP) is utilized to identify keywords and terms relevant to technology within the corpus.

*2.1 Thematic Coding*

Thematic coding is employed to categorize metaphors based on recurring themes and patterns observed within the corpus. This process facilitates the identification of overarching ideas and messages conveyed through these technology-driven metaphors.

*2.2 Discourse Analysis*

Following thematic coding, discourse analysis delves deeper, exploring how these metaphors contribute to the broader discourse on technology within the realm of literature. The analysis examines how authors strategically utilize these metaphors to position themselves within the existing conversation and shape readers' understanding of technology's role in the contemporary world.

*2.3 Comparative Analysis*

This research further incorporates a comparative analysis of metaphors related to technology across different literary works. This analysis may compare metaphors across genres, focusing on how the genre itself influences the use of technology-based metaphors. Additionally, the analysis may compare the use of these metaphors by different authors within the same genre, revealing unique approaches and perspectives on technology and its metaphorical representations.

## 3. Results

Analysis of a curated selection of contemporary literature reveals a striking trend: technology has profoundly impacted modern metaphors. The rise of technological imagery not only enriches figurative language, but also reflects and shapes our understanding of the contemporary world.

This study has theoretical and practical implications. Theoritically, it contributes to the fields of literary studies by offering new insights into the dynamic relationship between language and technology.

It challenges traditional views of metaphor as grounded solely in human experience and proposes a broader understanding that includes technological influences.

Practically, the findings can inform the development of educational materials and teaching strategies that address the evolving nature of language. The combination of big data analytics and Natural Language Processing (NLP) significantly enhances the speed and effectiveness of handling vast amounts of textual information (Haddad, Fkih, & Omri (2024). Also, understanding how technology shapes metaphorical thought can have implications for advertising, marketing, and public relations.

This research can contribute to a broader public discourse about the impact of technology on culture and society. By exploring the complex interplay between technology and metaphorical language, this study offers valuable insights into the transformative forces shaping contemporary culture and communication.

## 4. Discussion

*4.1 Techno-characters in Contemporary Novels*

Authors often create characters that reflect the values, beliefs, and experiences of the communities they belong to. Characters in literature can serve as a reflection of the human experience within specific social, cultural, and historical contexts, providing insights into the complexities of the societies from which they are drawn.

Various forms of storytelling in literature draw their characters from the individuals within these societies. Consequently, it was inevitable for contemporary stories and novels to feature characters that had never been portrayed before the rise of information technology. In

modern stories and novels, characters encompass technical aspects.

These characters often possess specialized knowledge or skills in technical fields, which play a significant role in the plot or development of the story. New types of characters have emerged in recent times, including machines, technicians, hackers, and online game avatars. These characters have become increasingly common in various storytelling mediums such as literature, films, TV shows, and video games.

In *Tell the Machine Goodnight* by Katie Williams (2018), the novelist tries to predict the kind of relationship between humans and technology in the future, which may recall to our minds Alex Hern (2020), who explores the potential impact of technology on humanity in the year 2050 and discusses the possibility of cooperation between humans and computational machines, highlighting the evolving relationship between technology and humanity. Likely, in William's (2018) novel *Tell the Machine Goodnight*, the Apricity machine, a technological advancement in 2035, can create personalized happiness plans for individuals. Technology is a significant factor driving the central conflict of this novel, Williams (2018).

Pearl, the main character, works as a contentment technician for the Apricity Corporation, Williams (2018). The impact of the machine on the characters' lives and their relationships forms the core conflict of the story. The novel portrays technology as a tool with its limitations, neither solely driving happiness nor acting as an impediment. It explores the intersection of human desires and technological solutions, as well as our collective unease about the modern world and the potential of technology to both help and hinder the pursuit of happiness.

The Apricity Mchine is a character in the story that acts as a psychotherapist. It provides a treatment prescription to clients, which is believed to be the recipe for happiness. The prescription is given after special cells are taken from the patients' faces and tested by this machine. It follows the lives of a technician, who works for the company that makes the machine, her son, who is obsessed with a mysterious online game and finds happiness in being unhappy, and other characters who are affected by the machine's predictions.

After four decades of experience with technology, one can conclude that this novel accurately predicts our current reality. It introduced the future generation, which is us now, to an intriguing duality. The novel presents readers with two truths about machines. The first truth aligns with human expectations: machines can bring them happiness. However, the second truth, which they come to realize through their own experiences with machines, is that true happiness is something people can achieve for themselves. The role of machines or technology is to guide them and assist them in attaining it. Ultimately, humans discover that they are the ones responsible for creating their happiness.

William Gibson's (1984) novel *Neuromancer* is considered one of the classics of cyberpunk fiction. It tells the story of a hacker, Case, who a mysterious employer hires to pull off a complex heist in cyberpunk. The characters in the novel are representative of artificial intelligence, but they were transformed into human-like beings capable of speaking and thinking. This novel coined the term 'cyberpunk', Gibson (1984), and influenced the genre of science fiction that explores the effects of digital technology on human identity and society. Hence, machines, when depicted as characters in fiction, can act as instigators of conflict, propelling the storyline forward and influencing the behaviors of the characters.

*4.2 Techno-Imagery in Contemporary Poetry*

Poetry and technology's relationship began well before the 21st century. As early as 1943, the publication of Rudyard Kipling's poem "The Secret of the Machines: Modern Machinery" explored this connection. Such poems delve into the profound effects of technology on our lives, the dynamic between humans and machines, and how science and innovation shape our world. They offer valuable insights, both positive and negative, into the digital age and its societal impact.

Regardless of its publication date, it is worth noting that the themes and ideas explored in Kipling's (1943) poem are still relevant in the contemporary age.

The poem "The Secret of the Machines" by Rudyard Kipling (1943) displays innovative use of poetic language, particularly metaphors, which contributes significantly to the poem's power and deserves attention. The poet's deft handling of symbolism, personification, and metaphors transforms technology into a tangible, even charismatic force.

The poem revolves around a magnificent machine, portrayed as a boundless, omnipotent entity. It is a dazzling tapestry woven with vibrant imagery and metaphors, Literary Devices (2023), all praising this machine's godlike abilities. This superpowered being boasts about its endless capabilities, from mundane tasks like driving, plowing, and writing to seemingly magical feats like bridging distances and fetching loved ones.

Would you call a friend from half across the world?

If you'll let us have his name and town and state,

You shall see and hear your crackling question hurled

Across the arch of heaven while you wait. Kipling (1943)

It declares itself the ultimate power, humbled only by divine forces: "We are greater than the Peoples or the Kings. /Be humble, as you crawl beneath our rods! Kipling (1943). But beneath this surface of bravado, a vulnerability emerges. The machine confesses its lack of emotions and cautions us against potential missteps that could prove fatal: "We can neither love nor pity nor forgive. If you make a slip in handling us you die!" Kipling (1943). This revelation flips the script, i.e., the machine, the seemingly invincible being, is a human

creation, a child of our ingenuity: "We are nothing more than children of your brain!" Kipling (1943).

The poem thus comes full circle, with its end echoing its beginning, both steeped in symbolism. Through this journey, we are confronted with the awe-inspiring potential of technology but also cautioned to remember its origin and the responsibility that comes with it. The poet uses vivid language and imagery to create a compelling portrait of technology. Kipling masterfully blends different poetic techniques, including symbolism, personification, and metaphors, to bring technology to life. Each technique is like a brushstroke, carefully chosen to build a powerful and nuanced image of technology's presence in our world.

The following poems are selected to examine for this study: "Technology Speaks" by Antwan Barakat (2023), "Call of the Ether" by Fawaz Al-Laboon (2020), and "5 Poem About Phones: A Journey Through the Rhythms of Connectivity" by Gabriel Cruz (2023).

These poems were chosen to capture the diverse experiences and perspectives of different societies, thus enriching the discussion on the relationship between technology and poetry. By including a wide range of cultural voices, the selection seeks to avoid any biases or limitations that may arise from focusing solely on one particular cultural context. Two of Barakat's and Al-Laboon's poems are Arabic poems, whereas Cruz's five poems are English. The intention behind this approach is to present a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of how technological advancements have shaped modern poetic language. By drawing from a diverse range of cultural circles, the selection aims to provide a more accurate and representative portrayal of the impact of technology on poetry.

A common thread binds Kipling's (1943) "Secret of the Machines" and Barakat's (2023) "Technology Speaks": a poetic exploration of technology's nature and its influence on humanity. Through captivating language and striking imagery, both poets delve into the essence of technology, portraying it as both a sentient being conversing with the contemporary world and a supportive figure alleviating burdens and simplifying daily tasks. Notably, Barakat's (2023) poem enriches this exploration with a diverse use of figurative language, transitioning from technology's personification as a powerful speaker to its human-like speech through similes and its metaphorical depiction as a life-enhancing force and practical assistant. Both poems further connect technology to humanity through the shared metaphor of it being the child of human minds and ingenuity, emphasizing its birth from our intellect.

Fawaz Al-Laboon's (2020) poem "Call of the Ether" echoes similar themes of the digital world as a vibrant realm urging youth to conquer it with knowledge and build their empires. The poems share a unifying call to action but also acknowledge its double-edged nature. Al-Laboon's (2020) poem, akin to its companions, crafts a vibrant universe where the digital realm takes on life, whispering to young minds. It beckons them to seize this boundless arena, but like a captivating mirage, it hides potential pitfalls within its gleaming facade. The three poets appear to share a common perspective on the various aspects of technology. Their poems vividly depict the diverse facets of technology and human attitudes towards it.

However, what is truly captivating and intriguing is how poetry romantically portrays mobile phones, depicting them as a close companion, a friend, and a confidant. The mobile phone, which is held in the palms of our hands, serves as a compact representation of technological and communication advancements and acts as the vital core of technology, Blahnik and Schindelbeck (2021) that is why it warrants the creation of poems dedicated to it, allowing poetry to honour it in a manner that suits its essence. Gabriel Cruz (2023) wrote five poems in one celebrating mobile phone to dive through the rhythms of connectivity. Cruz (2023), "5 Poems about Phones: A Journey through the Rhythm of Connectivity." The five poems are "The Palm of Progress: Ode to the Mobile Phone," "The Symphony of Screens: A Modern Devices' Dance,"and "The Digital Vessel: A Reflection on the Cellular Age," "The Luminary Device: Sonnet to the Cellular Realm," and "The Digital Whisperer: The Song of Our Connected Age."

These poems are brimming with vivid and imaginative imagery, employing a wide range of poetic devices, Nishita Singh (2022). The poet skillfully brings their poems to life with vibrant visuals and evocative auditory images. The titles of these poems are rich in poetic techniques; Cruz (2023) incorporates synecdoche, personification, and metaphors to create vivid and imaginative imagery; Byju's (2023).

Synecdoche: In one of the poems, the mobile device is portrayed as the "palm of progress" and the "digital whisperer," Cruz (2023).

Personification: Another poem personifies the cellular realm and mobile devices, suggesting that they can hear the odes and sonnets of the poet. By attributing human qualities to these inanimate objects, the poet creates a sense of connection and intimacy between technology and art.

Metaphors: The digital screens in one of the poems are metaphorically described as a symphony on which the modern devices dance.

These poetic techniques not only add depth and richness to the titles of these poems but also contribute to the overall themes and messages conveyed by the poets. By using them, the poets create powerful and evocative imagery, The Albert Team (2023), that engages the reader's imagination and emotions. The five poems employ various technical devices to explore the unique identity of the mobile phone. The mobile phone is described as a repository of knowledge, whispering tales of the past, present, and future. It is likened to a musician playing the symphony of life and serves as a connection between individuals and the world.

However, caution is advised against letting mobile phones control our lives or wasting time under their "hypnotic spell," Cruz (2023). The author uses a vivid image to warn against allowing the cold light of screens to overshadow the warmth of human interaction. The mobile phone is portrayed as a beacon of innovation and delight and a star shining brightly in the technological landscape. It is described as a conduit of knowledge and a vessel of thought, storing our moments and memories. The mobile phone's network is compared to a symphony of humanity. It is depicted as a digital inn where the whole world can be accessed in the palm of our hands. The progress of technology is likened to the twirling and swirling of dancers, with the age of carrier pigeons giving way to the chime of smartphones.

In these poems, Cruz (2023) pixels and bytes are used to depict our lives through the mobile phone. It is described as a beacon beneath the digital sky, an ally that should not overshadow the natural symphony of our lives.

Figure 1. Classification of images taken from technology

| The technical Advancements | The images | The type of images |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Machines | A human being can sleep. | Audio |
| | Apricity Machine is a psychotherapist provides happiness prescription | Sensory |
| | A superpowered being boasts about its endless capabilities | Sensory |
| 2. Technology | A powerful speaker brags about his imaginative achievements that have facilitated human life. | Sensory |
| | The child of human minds | Sensory |
| | The birth of our intellect | Sensory |
| | Progress of technology is a dance of change | kinetic |
| 3. Mobile phone/ Cellular | A repository/tome of knowledge in our balms | Sensory |
| | A star shining in the night of technology | Visual |
| | A storyteller whispers human tales of the past, present and future | Audio |
| | A beacon of innovation and delight | Sensory |
| | A musician plays the symphony of life | Audio |
| | A dancer on the symphony of screens | Kinetic +audio |
| | A bridge ties hearts and worlds | Sensory |
| | A chasm can separate people | Sensory |
| | A guide leads us through life's endless ways. | Sensory |
| | A friend in its embrace we are no longer alone | Sensory |
| | The whole world/ globe shrinks in our hands | Sensory |
| | Cell phone's signal defy nature's laws | Sensory |
| | Cell phone's magic can breach boundaries | Sensory |
| 4. Internet | A boundless world of communication, and knowledge | Sensory |
| | The digital realm is calling the youth to conquer it with knowledge | Audio |
| 5. Network | A musician plays the symphony of human life | Audio |
| 6. Digital issues | Digital memory is a hall of humanity | Sensory |
| | Digital memories are inn for our life | Visual - Sensory |
| | Digital sky | Sensory |
| | Digital ink in which human stories written | Visual- Sensory |
| 7. Pixels and bites | Our life through mobiles are pixels and bites | Sensory |
| 8. Screens | Have cold light can overshadow the warmth of human interaction | Tactile |

To capture and portray the essence of the relationship between the expressive and symbolic language of literature and the technological advancements of our time, the table above tracks and classifies the most captivating aesthetic and metaphorical imagery found in the literary works analyzed in this research.
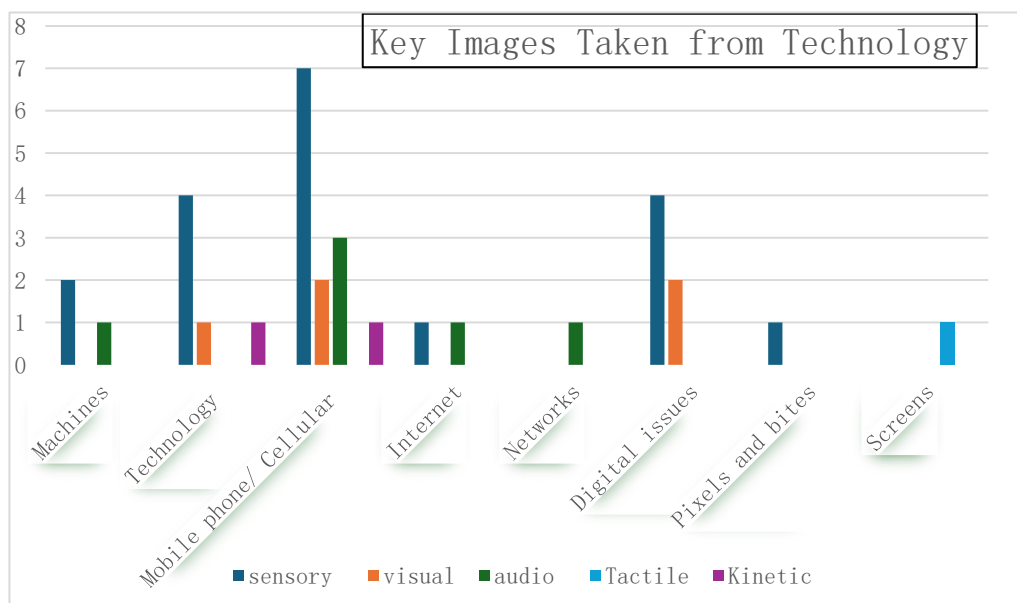


Figure 2. Key images taken from technology

The provided figure visually represents the distribution of imagery employed within the study. Notably, images related to mobile technology exhibit the highest frequency. Images categorized under "technology" and "digital issues" follow with equal representation. Finally, the data indicates the least frequent category being images of machines.

In terms of sensory imagery, the analysis reveals a dominance of sensory elements. Images categorized as "sensory" hold the top position, followed by "audio" and then "visual" imagery. Interestingly, "kinetic" and "tactile" imagery appear with equal frequency.

## 5. Conclusion

The inkwell has given way to the keyboard, and the quill to the stylus. Technology has not replaced the magic of storytelling, but rather, it has augmented it, creating a canvas where the brushstrokes of imagination are dipped in the vibrant hues of innovation. Characters inspired by technology have emerged in contemporary novels, which was not previously common. These characters, such as technicians, machine hackers, artificial intelligence, and avatars, now play a central role in shaping the plot of these novels, mirroring their influence on real-life individuals.

Furthermore, the research has identified the incorporation of aesthetic imagery derived from technology in the works of contemporary poets. For instance, technology is portrayed as the offspring of human intellect, symbolizing the connection between human creativity and technological advancements. The machine is depicted as a psychotherapist, offering prescriptions of happiness to humanity. The mobile device is portrayed as a storyteller, whispering tales from the past, present, and future. The network is likened to a musician, playing the symphony of human life. All these changes represent the unique dance of technology.

These techno-images aim to capture the essence of technology and explore its remarkable and potential effects on society. The research culminated by demonstrating the symbiotic relationship between technological advancements and metaphorical expression. Technological innovations offer a unique and current perspective on figurative imagery, while literary compositions enrich and enliven the seemingly detached essence of technology.

### Authors' contributions

Dr Fatima A. Al-Khamisi was responsible for research design, data collection, and drafting the manuscript. Dr. Abdulhadi Abu Jweid was responsible for literature review and arranging references. Dr. Ghada S. Sasa was responsible for revising the manuscript and help in data collection. All authors read, revised and approve the study.

### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

### Informed consent

Obtained.

### Ethics approval

The Publication Ethics Committee of the Sciedu Press.

The journal's policies adhere to the Core Practices established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE).

### Provenance and peer review

Not commissioned; externally double-blind peer reviewed.

### Data availability statement

The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author. The data are not publicly available due to privacy or ethical restrictions.

### Data sharing statement

No additional data are available.

(http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).

**References**

Al-Laboon, F. (2020). *"Call of the ether". My eternal language textbook: Riyadh: Ministry of Education.* Retrieved December 3, 2023, from https://twitter.com/mahersallam2030/status/1302335268796665856

Al-Sharqi, L., & Irum. S. A. (2020). The influence of technology on English language and literature. *English Language Teaching, 13*(7), 1-7. https://doi.org/10.5539/elt.v13n7p1

Barakat, A. (2023). *Technology speaks.* Retrieved December 2, 2023, from https://a3.a3erf.com/article/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%83%D9%86%D9%88%D9%84%D9%88%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%A7-%D8%AA%D8%AA%D9%83%D9%84%D9%85

Blahnik, V., & Schindelbeck, O. (2021). Smartphone imaging technology and its applications. *Advanced Optical Technologies, 10*(3), 145-232. https://doi.org/10.1515/aot-2021-0023

Byju's, (2023). *"Figures of speech - definition, types and usage with examples." Byju's.* Retrieved February 5, 2023, from https://byjus.com/english/figures-of-speech/

Cruz, G. (2023). "5 poems about phones: A journey through the rhythms of connectivity". Let's Learn Slang. Retrieved December 31, 2023, from https://letslearnslang.com/poem-about-phones/

Gibson, W. (1984). *Neuromancer.* ACE. Retrieved October 23, 2023, from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuromancer

Haddad, O., Fkih, F., & Omri, M. N. (2024). An intelligent sentiment prediction approach in social networks based on batch and streaming big data analytics using deep learning. *Social Network Analysis and Mining, 14*(1), 1-23. https://doi.org/10.1007/s13278-024-01304-y

Hadwan, M., Alsayadi, H. A., & Al-Hagree, S. (2023). An end-to-end transformer-based automatic speech recognition for Qur'an reciters. *Computers, Materials & Continua, 75*(3), 3457-3470. https://doi.org/10.32604/cmc.2023.033457

Hern, A. (2020). *Technology in 2050: will it save humanity – or destroy us? The Guardian.* Retrieved February 6, 2023, from https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2020/jan/03/technology-2050-save-humanity-or-destroy-us

Kipling, R. (1943). *"The Secret of the Machines: Modern Machinery". Literary devices: Definitions and examples of literary terms.* Retrieved February 5, 2023, from https://literarydevices.net/the-secret-of-the-machines/#google_vignette

Kipling, R. (1943). *The secret of the machines: Modern machinery.* Retrieved from https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/46786/the-secret-of-the-machines

Nanda, D. S., & Susanto S. (2018). *The emergence of cyber literature: A challenging to teach literature from text to hypertext.* Bandar Lampung University, Indonesia, 6-10.

Singh, N. (2022). *Literary terms, literary devices, figures of speech, poetic devices: difference & 60+ examples*. *A Good Library.* Retrieved February 5, 2023, from https://agoodlibrary.com/literary-terms-literary-devices-figures-of-speech-poetic-devices-difference-60-examples/

Sinha, M. (2023). *Information technology and its impact on world literature.* Government Bilasa Girls P.G.College, Bilaspur (C.G.), 1-5.

The Albert Team. (2023). *Interpreting figurative language and poetic devices.* Albert. Retrieved Oct. 23, 2023, from https://www.albert.io/blog/interpreting-figurative-language-and-poetic- devices/

Williams, K. (2018). *Tell the machine goodnight.* Riverhead Books. Retrieved Oct. 23, 2023, from https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/36435424