

DISCOURSE ANALYSIS – CHAPTER TWO: THEME-RHEME

LECTURER: **PHẠM HỒNG ANH**

LECTURE OUTLINE

- Introduction to theme and rheme
- Theme progression

INTRODUCTION TO THEME AND RHEME

- Theme is the initial element in a clause, and everything that follows the theme is rheme.

E.g.:

1. The cat ate the rat.

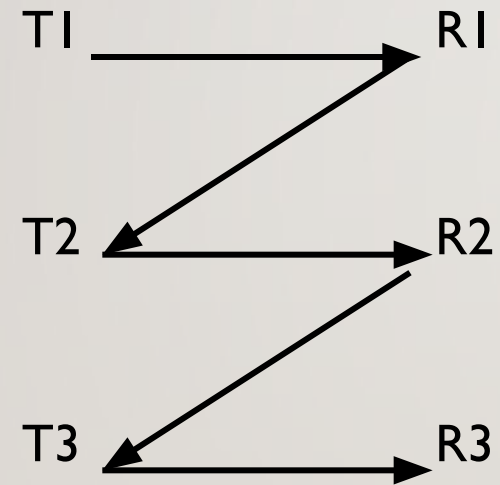
2. The rat was eaten by the cat.

- Three types of theme: topical, interpersonal, and textual.

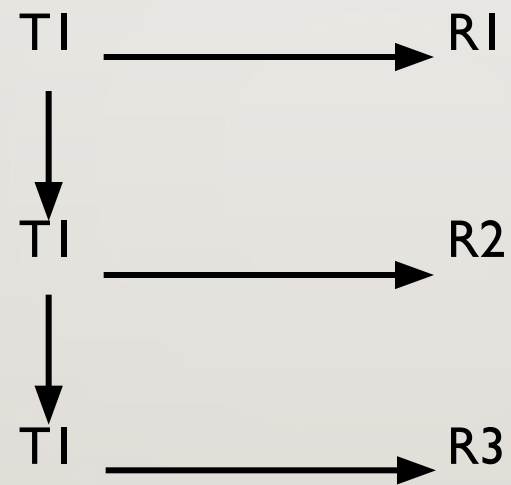
E.g.: Frankly, the movie was a waste of money. However, you should see it and make up your own mind.

THEME PROGRESSION

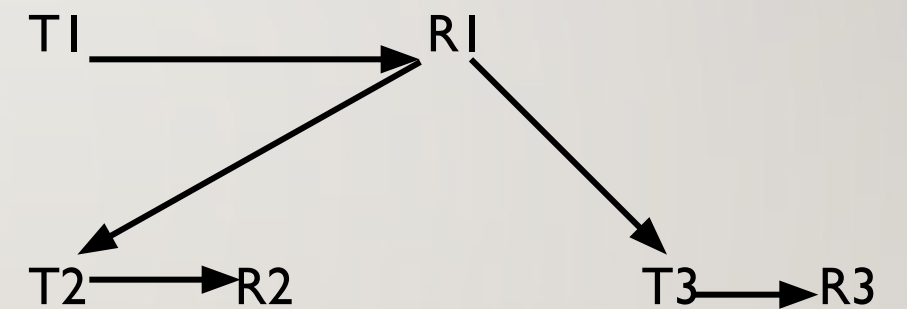
Zigzag theme



Constant theme

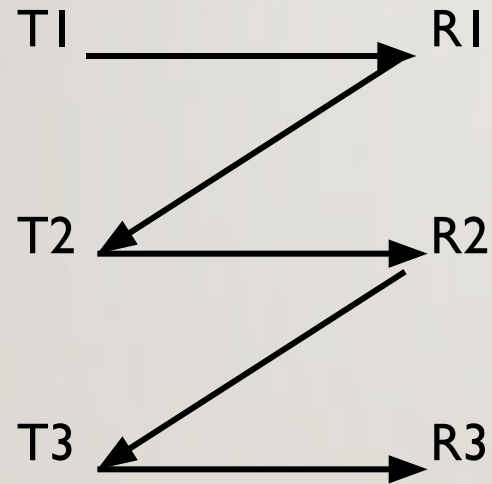


Multiple theme/split rheme



THEME PROGRESSION

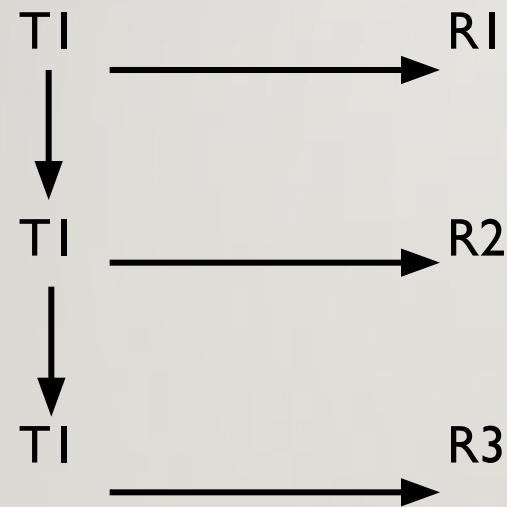
Zigzag theme



As you will no doubt have been told, we have *our own photographic club* and darkroom. *The club* is called '*Monomanor*' and there is *an annual fee of £5*. *The money* goes towards replacing any equipment worn out by use, or purchasing new equipment. *Monomanor* runs an annual *competition* with prizes, judging being done and prizes awarded at the garden party in the summer term. Besides *the competition*, we also have talks and/or film shows during the other terms.

THEME PROGRESSION

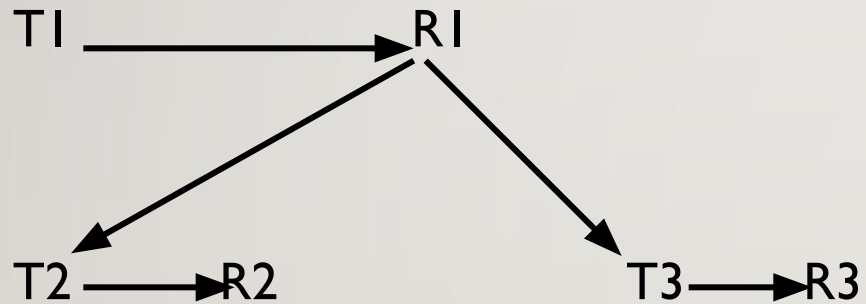
Constant theme



The bat is a nocturnal animal. *It* lives in the dark. There are long nosed bats and mouse eared bats also lettuce winged bats. *Bats* hunt at night. *They* sleep the day and are very shy.

THEME PROGRESSION

Multiple theme/split rheme



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