

Woolf (3)

On or about December 1910 human character changed....All human relations have shifted—those between masters and servants, husbands and wives, parents and children. And when human relations change there is at the same time a change in religion, conduct, politics, and literature.

Woolf, *Mr. Bennett and Mrs. Brown* (London: Hogarth, 1924), 4–5.

Let us record the atoms as they fall upon the mind in the order in which they fall, let us trace the pattern, however disconnected and incoherent in appearance, which each sight or incident scores upon the consciousness. Let us not take it for granted that life exists more fully in what is commonly thought big than in what is commonly thought small.

Woolf, “Modern Fiction” (1919; 1925), in *The Common Reader*, ed. Andrew McNeillie (San Diego: Harvest, 1984), 149–50.

FICTION AND HISTORY

- 6.1 Fiction’s relationship to time, and hence to history, is mediated through the three layers of narrative.
 - 6.1.1 Fiction redistributes readers’ experience of time. One important device for redistribution is the manipulation of *rhythm*, the relation between story-time and *fabula*-time.
 - 6.1.2 *Fabula* events may be narrated more than once. The *frequency* results from the configuration of the *sjuzet*.
- 6.2 Fiction participates in the construction of history—with its own conventions.
 - 6.2.1 Whether and how fictions can be said to tell historical truths is a matter for investigation into every component, and every convention, of each fiction.