

### Review Form 3

Journal Name:	<b>Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies</b>
Manuscript Number:	<b>Ms_AJESS_121262</b>
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>The Quest for Abstract in John Steinbeck's The Pearl (1945)</b>
Type of the Article	

#### **General guidelines for the Peer Review process:**

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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**PART 1: Review Comments**

<b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	<b>Author's Feedback</b> <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p>This manuscript provides an essential analysis of John Steinbeck's <i>The Pearl</i>, exploring the profound themes of ambition, disillusionment, and the impact of colonialism on indigenous communities. Its examination of the socio-economic implications of the "American Dream" on non-Americans, especially within a colonized context, is particularly relevant for studies in postcolonial literature and sociology. The paper adeptly highlights how material aspirations and cultural influences from the West impact native identities and community dynamics, offering a critical viewpoint that enriches our understanding of cultural and economic imperialism.</p> <p>I appreciate the manuscript's detailed and nuanced approach to analysing Kino's psychological journey and societal interactions. However, I find the integration of theoretical frameworks somewhat sparse, which could be enhanced by including more contemporary critiques of globalization and cultural assimilation to deepen the analysis. This manuscript is crucial for encouraging a reflective examination of classic literature through modern lenses, making it a valuable addition to academic discourse in both literary and cultural studies.</p>	
<p>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</p>	<p>Given the information provided and the thematic focus of the manuscript on the illusions and aspirations instilled by the discovery of the pearl in John Steinbeck's <i>The Pearl</i>, the title "The Quest for Abstract in John Steinbeck's <i>The Pearl</i> (1945)" could be considered slightly ambiguous. The term "abstract" may not immediately convey the intended focus on the pursuit of dreams and their impact on reality.</p> <p>Here are a few alternative title suggestions that might capture the essence of the manuscript more clearly:</p> <p>"Illusions of Prosperity: The Socio-Economic Delusions in John Steinbeck's <i>The Pearl</i>"  "Chasing Mirages: The Impact of Colonialism and Material Aspirations in <i>The Pearl</i>"  "The Pearl's Promise: Colonialism, Materialism, and Delusion in John Steinbeck's Narrative"  "Dreams and Disillusionment: The Pursuit of the American Dream in <i>The Pearl</i>"  "The Folly of Aspiration: Examining the Pursuit of Unreal Goals in <i>The Pearl</i>"</p> <p>These titles are more indicative of the content regarding the pursuit of wealth and status, and the impact of these pursuits on the characters' lives, reflecting the critical analysis within the manuscript.</p>	

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<p>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</p>	<p>The abstract of the article titled "The Quest for Abstract in John Steinbeck's The Pearl (1945)" generally provides a clear overview of the thematic exploration of the novel. It sets up the premise well by discussing the central character Kino and the broader implications of his discovery of the pearl, linking it to themes of colonialism, societal expectations, and personal disillusionment. However, there are opportunities to enhance the abstract to make it even more comprehensive and focused:</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Enhancement:</b></p> <p><b>Clarify the Term "Abstract":</b> The use of the word "abstract" in the context of this article might be confusing to some readers. If "abstract" refers to the pursuit of intangible or unrealistic goals, specifying this at the beginning could help clarify the focus of the analysis.</p> <p><b>Define the Scope More Clearly:</b> While the abstract mentions the impact of Kino's discovery on his social status and psychological state, it could also outline the specific aspects of how these themes are explored in the article. For example, mentioning that the analysis will cover both social dynamics and personal psychological impacts would provide a clearer scope.</p> <p><b>Explicit Statement of Findings:</b> The abstract should succinctly mention the primary findings or conclusions of the article. For instance, it could state that the study reveals how the pursuit of wealth through the pearl leads Kino to alienation and loss, emphasizing the broader critique of materialism and colonial influence.</p> <p><b>Implications of the Research:</b> It would be beneficial to briefly mention the implications of these findings for understanding colonial narratives in literature, or how they reflect on current societal structures.</p> <p><b>Revised Abstract:</b>          "This article examines the extent to which the pursuit of unreal goals, termed here as 'the quest for abstract', alienates individuals from their reality, using John Steinbeck's The Pearl as a case study. Focused on Kino, the protagonist, the narrative explores how his discovery of a large pearl sets off dreams of social elevation and economic freedom within a colonially dominated Mexican village. The analysis reveals that despite the pearl's promise of erasing historical humiliations and bringing prosperity, it ultimately leads to Kino's psychological and social alienation, reflecting a broader critique of the materialistic pursuit under colonial influence. This paper highlights how personal aspirations, when intertwined with colonial and capitalist ideologies, can lead to disillusionment and societal estrangement."</p>	
<p>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</p>	<p><b>Overview of the Manuscript Structure</b></p> <p><b>Introduction-</b> Introduces the main character, Kino, and sets the stage by describing his initial situation and the inciting incident of finding the pearl. Appropriately sets up the narrative for a deeper analysis of the themes described.</p> <p><b>Methodology-</b> Explains the approach used to analyze Kino's attitudes and decisions following his discovery of the pearl. This section seems to serve the dual purpose of describing the analytical framework and segueing into the main thematic explorations of the manuscript.</p> <p><b>Results and Discussion-</b> Broken down into thematic subsections that explore various dimensions of Kino's experiences and transformations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Coyotito, a Supposedly Educated Boy:</b> Focuses on the educational aspirations Kino projects onto his son, reflecting broader societal and personal aspirations.</li> <li>- <b>Material Acquisition Yearning:</b> Discusses the impact of newfound potential wealth on Kino's lifestyle aspirations and self-perception.</li> <li>- <b>The Americanization of Kino's Family:</b> Explores the cultural influence and aspirations towards American lifestyles, linking personal ambitions to broader cultural and societal influences.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conclusion-</b> Summarizes the outcomes of Kino's journey, highlighting the disparity between his</p>	

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	<p>dreams and the harsh realities, and reflecting on broader themes of ambition, disillusionment, and the impact of societal structures.</p> <p><b>Evaluation-</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Coherence and Logical Flow:</b> The structure is coherent, with each section building upon the last. The thematic breakdown in the Results and Discussion segment effectively elaborates on different aspects of the central theme, allowing for an in-depth exploration of complex ideas.</li> <li><b>Relevance and Depth:</b> Each subsection addresses a significant aspect of the main theme—the alienation and transformation brought on by the pursuit of wealth and the American dream. This multi-faceted approach enriches the analysis and provides a comprehensive exploration of the text.</li> <li><b>Appropriateness of Subsections:</b> The chosen subsections are appropriate as they each highlight a different consequence of Kino's discovery, though ensuring each section is tightly focused on specific evidence from the text and existing literary analysis could strengthen the manuscript's arguments.</li> </ol> <p><b>Suggestions for Improvement-</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Tightening the Focus:</b> Each subsection could benefit from a more explicit linkage back to the central thesis regarding the "quest for abstract" and how these specific aspects contribute to the overall argument about alienation from reality.</li> <li><b>Integrating More Critical Perspectives:</b> Depending on the depth of existing analysis, incorporating more varied critical perspectives could enhance the discussion, providing a richer context for the themes explored.</li> </ol> <p>In summary, the manuscript's structure is largely effective in exploring the complex themes of <i>The Pearl</i>. Refining the focus of each subsection and strengthening the connective tissue between them could enhance the clarity and impact of the analysis.</p>	
<p>Please write a few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do you think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</p>	<p><b>Evaluation of Scientific Robustness and Technical Soundness-</b></p> <p><b>Analytical Depth:</b> The manuscript appears to undertake a thorough analysis of the novel, incorporating socio-economic and cultural perspectives that deepen the understanding of the text. This approach is robust in that it uses well-established critical frameworks to interpret Kino's actions and the symbolism of the pearl within the broader context of American economic and cultural imperialism.</p> <p><b>Textual Engagement:</b> The analysis demonstrates a strong engagement with the text, using specific scenes, dialogues, and descriptions from the novel to support claims. This method ensures that interpretations are grounded in the text, which is critical for the technical soundness of literary criticism.</p> <p><b>Interdisciplinary Approach:</b> By integrating insights from history, sociology, and economics, the manuscript provides a multifaceted understanding of the novel's themes. This interdisciplinary approach enhances the manuscript's robustness, as it situates the literary analysis within a broader socio-cultural and historical context.</p> <p><b>Citations and Theoretical Framework:</b> The manuscript references secondary sources, such as works by Emma Goldman and other theorists, to support its analysis. This inclusion of critical perspectives adds depth to the analysis and demonstrates a technically sound approach to building an argument based on established scholarship.</p> <p><b>Suggestions for Further Enhancement-</b></p>	

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	<p><b>Expanding Theoretical Engagement:</b> To further strengthen the manuscript, it could engage more deeply with contemporary literary theories, such as postcolonial criticism or theories of identity and power. This would enhance the scholarly rigor and contemporary relevance of the analysis.</p> <p>In summary, the manuscript's approach to analyzing <i>The Pearl</i> through detailed textual analysis and incorporation of socio-economic contexts demonstrates a robust and technically sound method appropriate for literary criticism. However, there is always room for further depth, particularly through enhanced theoretical engagement and comparative analysis.</p>	
<p><b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b></p>	<p>They are sufficient.</p>	
<p><u>Minor REVISION</u> comments</p> <p><b>Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></p>	<p>The language and English quality of "The Quest for Abstract in John Steinbeck's <i>The Pearl</i> (1945)" generally appears suitable for scholarly communication, provided it adheres to the nuances of academic style and undergoes rigorous proofreading. Further refinements could enhance clarity and ensure the text meets all academic standards for publication.</p>	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>		

**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<p><b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b></p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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