The author Vladimir Nabokov

Vladimir Nabokov was born in 1899 and he died in 1977. He was a Russian and American novelist. He spoke three languages: Russian, English and French. His novel Lolita was published in 1955.

Why choose wordplays?

Lots of wordplays in the novel. Unusual wordplays.

The selection: the different uses of wordplays

- anglishes (words of Germanic origin)
- pseudonyms
- rhymes
- alliterations
- homophones
- acrostics

The extract of the corpus is from p156-157 in the book.

The Corpus

- The novel Lolita
- 66,369 words

Corpus analysis

The different uses of wordplays (about 483 wordplays).

Examples of wordplays

- neologisms: Gitanilla (it is the nickname of "Gitana", which means gypsy in Spanish).
- spoonerisms: Huncan Dines (two letters have been changed in the origin name: Duncan Hines. Duncan is the name of a man.
- anagrams: Doris (the anagram of rosid). Doris is the name of a woman.
- portemanteau words: Brewster (the mixing of two words "brewer" and "aster" (a kind of plant).