

# Re: Phonemes

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2005-06/msg01493.html>

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- *From:* "Peter T. Daniels" <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 28 Jun 2005 11:39:15 GMT
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mithomps@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

>  
> Peter T. Daniels wrote:  
>  
>> I will continue to no longer read Heinlein.  
>  
> I consider that a loss, but since you have such a distaste for him  
> after reading so little there'd be no point in your continuing to  
> subject yourself to him. I've been assured that my visceral hatred for  
> Henry James' bloated, ungrammatical [\*], fly-buggering prose style has  
> led to a great loss in my life. Boo hoo for me, I'll stick to Wallace  
> Stevens.

For the third time: I read everything up to the first hundred or so pages of *The Moon Is a Harsh Mistress*. Maybe I simply outgrew SF.

> [\*] I once diagrammed sentences from "The Turn of the Screw" to find  
> out why they made me so mad, and it's because he kept piling on words  
> like he had some sort of neurological disorder that compelled him to  
> fill and overflow every conceivable theta role in his sentences until  
> the poor sodden things collapsed. It amazes me I love the opera so  
> much, but there you go: A good librettist can do wonders.

Mrs. Piper insists the text is James's.

Maybe the problem is conceptualizing in terms of theta-roles.

We were required to read *Portrait of a Lady* in 11th grade, and I never opened another James since.

—  
Peter T. Daniels [grammatim@xxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxx)

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- *Follow-Ups:*
    - ◆ ***Re: Phonemes***
      - ◇ *From:* António Marques

- **References:**

- ◆ **Phonemes**
  - ◇ *From:* David Wright Sr.
- ◆ **Re: Phonemes**
  - ◇ *From:* Peter T. Daniels
- ◆ **Re: Phonemes**
  - ◇ *From:* David Wright Sr.
- ◆ **Re: Phonemes**
  - ◇ *From:* Peter T. Daniels
- ◆ **Re: Phonemes**
  - ◇ *From:* mithomps

- Prev by Date: **Re: Uvular r in Italian?**
- Next by Date: **Re: A linguistic Question about Hieroglyphics and language**
- Previous by thread: **Re: Phonemes**
- Next by thread: **Re: Phonemes**
- Index(es):
  - ◆ **Date**
  - ◆ **Thread**