

RELATIONS BETWEEN HUMANS AND ANIMALS IN THE WORKS OF JACK  
LONDON AND CHINGIZ AITMATOV

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**Annotation:** *This article analyzes the relationship between humans and animals in Jack London's "The Call of the Wild" and Chingiz Aitmatov's "The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years". The works explore various aspects of human nature, inner struggles, and the responsibility toward nature through the depiction of animals. The article suggests effective teaching methods such as comparison, role-play, and debates to help students better understand these themes. These methods aim to develop students' analytical skills and their ability to connect literary works with real-life lessons.*

**Keywords:** *human-animal relationships, nature, Jack London, Chingiz Aitmatov, The Call of the Wild, The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years, instincts, responsibility, literary analysis.*

The relationship between humans and animals is a central theme in literature, often illustrating human emotions, struggles, and our connection with nature. In Jack London's *White Fang* and *The Call of the Wild* as well as Chingiz Aitmatov's *The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years*, this theme is emphasized and explored deeply.

Jack London's *The Call of the Wild* (1903) is a profound exploration of the bond between humans and the wild. The protagonist, a dog named Buck, goes through a journey where he uncovers his instincts and adapts to survive in the wilderness. Despite being an animal, Buck's story mirrors the inner human struggles and connections to nature. As Buck returns to his primal instincts, the novel reflects on humanity's inner strength and survival through hardship. London showcases the connection between humans and animals, emphasizing how animals can reflect humanity's wild side and need for a return to nature.

As Buck becomes more in tune with his instincts, his inner strength and bravery grow, symbolizing humanity's reconnection with its roots.

Chingiz Aitmatov's *The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years* (1980) also highlights human and animal relations. The focus in this novel is on a legendary family of wolves, which symbolize the harmony between humans and nature. The novel paints the destruction of the wolves' family as a warning of humanity's destructive tendencies towards nature.

Through the character of the she-wolf Sarı-Ogöç, Aitmatov stresses the importance of human responsibility towards the environment and the need for coexistence with nature. The novel reveals the consequences of ignoring the laws of nature and the conflict between humans and wild animals. The fate of the wolves symbolizes the consequences of human interference in nature.

Effective Methods for Teaching the Theme of Human and Animal Relationships in Literary Lessons

To teach students the significance of the human-animal connection in the works of Jack London and Chingiz Aitmatov, various interactive and analytical methods can be employed. The goal is to help students understand and analyze the connections between humans and animals and relate these themes to real-life situations. One effective method is comparing and analyzing these themes through a Venn diagram.

### 1. Venn Diagram Method

Objective: Through this method, students compare and contrast the human-animal relationships in *The Call of the Wild* and *The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years*.

Process:

#### Step 1: Reading and Analysis:

Students are assigned excerpts from *The Call of the Wild* and *The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years*. Discussions follow, focusing on how the relationship between humans and animals is depicted.

#### Step 2: Creating a Venn Diagram:

Students work in small groups and are given paper to create diagrams. One circle represents Jack London's novel, the other Aitmatov's work, and the overlapping part includes similarities.

Example:

*The Call of the Wild*: Animals rely on instincts for survival; Buck's return to the wild.

*The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years*: The wolves symbolize the harmony of nature, disrupted by humans.

Similarities: Both novels explore humanity's responsibility towards nature through animal characters.

#### Step 3: Group Discussions:

Each group presents their findings and discusses common themes, fostering deeper analytical skills.

### 2. Role-Playing and Interactive Questions

Objective: To engage students with the themes of the novels more personally by stepping into the characters' roles.

Process:

#### Role Assignment:

Students take on the roles of characters like Buck, Sarı-Ogöç, and other human characters. They explore and explain the emotions and decisions of their chosen character. For example, a student playing Buck might explain his decision to return to the wild.

#### Question and Discussion:

Students discuss the motivations behind their characters' decisions. Questions might include:

What factors led to Buck's return to the wild?

How did the she-wolf protect her family from danger?

What lessons can be learned from the conflicts between humans and animals?

### 3. Debate Method

Objective: To foster analytical thinking and explore the ethical, social, and philosophical dimensions of human-animal relations.

Process:

Dividing Students:

One group defends humanity's superiority over animals, while the other argues for animal rights and humanity's responsibility towards nature.

Arguments and Discussions:

Both groups present their arguments, using examples from the novels, such as the fate of Buck and the wolves in Aitmatov's work.

Conclusion. The human-animal relationships in the works of Jack London and Chingiz Aitmatov are explored on multiple levels. London's *The Call of the Wild* examines the return to primal instincts, while Aitmatov's *The Day Lasts More Than a Hundred Years* delves into humanity's responsibility towards nature. By using interactive methods like Venn diagrams, role-playing, and debates, students can gain a deeper understanding of these relationships and their relevance to real life. These approaches not only make literature lessons more engaging but also help students develop analytical and creative thinking skills, enabling them to draw meaningful lessons from literature.

#### REFERENCES:

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