

## **Abstract**

Japan is recently facing the issue of rapidly ageing population along with the negative impact of this phenomenon. It is one of contemporary social concerns, which is being reflected in culture and arts as well, literature included. The paper describes the subject of imaging ageing and the process of ageing itself using the method of literary analysis in five selected representative works by three significant authors of Japanese literature dating from the post-war era up to nowadays. By detailed analysis of literary characters relevant to the subject, the paper focuses on particular aspects of the protagonists' psychological profile and their internal conflicts concerning the sense of life and death. For this purpose, the paper is using illustrative quotations from the primary sources. Furthermore, the paper covers interaction with other characters and interpersonal relations involved in the development of the main characters in the course of the particular publication.

In the end, the paper presents the results of analysis, finding that the analyzed works seem to show multiple similarities in the basic scheme of presenting the main elderly characters and also discusses the differences between the authors' literary styles. Simultaneously, it serves as a reference material for the overview subject of ageing in the period given as opposed to other periods of Japanese literature.