ABSTRACT: Once the textual dimension cannot be regarded without relation to the dimension of genre, the last one plays an essential role on textual reception. According to this assumption, we consider that genres are able to work as potential guides for the interpretative process of texts in the sense they constitute themselves as a means of regulation of this process. Thus, depending on the interactions established between the text and the genre to which it belongs, different scopes of interpretation may come out; the possibilities permitted, directly linked to the generic competence of the individuals from their experience with texts, are also in relation to the previously defined representations on genres, as far as their composition, their socio-pragmatic aims and their contexts of use are related.

KEYWORDS: text; genre; reception; interpretation; composition.