

Is there any deixis here?: the analysis of deixis in a textbook of elementary school

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ABSTRACT

A language is a device of sounds and written symbols utilized by the humans of a particular country or area to communicate with each other. Pragmatics is a linguistic study that learns the listeners' interpretation. Deixis, which is applied in this research, is one of the pragmatic studies. The researcher used the descriptive qualitative method in this research. The data sourcing of this research is three descriptive texts adopted from a second-semester textbook for elementary school level entitled "Active Learning, Fun Exercise." The researcher used Yule's (1996) book as the theory about three types of deixis. As a result, the researcher found that there is 37-person deixis that appeared in the textbook. The first person was mentioned 13 times, 0 times for the second person, and 24 words in the third person appeared in the texts. Other information is that 27 words of spatial deixis were found, and 11 deictic expressions of temporal deixis appeared in the texts, while most of the deictic words written were in the third person "He"

1. Introduction

Based on Collins dictionary, a language is a device of sounds and written symbols utilized by the humans of a particular country or area to communicate with each other. Santoso (1990) Also stated that language is a series of sounds made by a conscious person. Another definition is from Wibowo (2006), and language is a system of optional, traditionally meaningful symbols and clear sounds (produced by tools) that are used as a means of communication by groups of people to generate emotions and thoughts.

People can convey language through writing, speech, or even sign. Essentially, language is the primary tool in daily communication. However, sometimes, people cannot reach the goal of communication itself. Therefore, people need to know the language to avoid misunderstanding between the speaker and the hearer.

There are many fields in language. Linguistics is the scientific study of language. It is a systematic study of the structure and development of human language and can be applied to all aspects of human effort (Zamora, 2002). Furthermore, one of those fields of language is pragmatics. Pragmatics focuses on the use of language, in particular, situations (Fasold, 2014). Pragmatics is the interpretation of the listener in getting the information. As stated by Yule (1996), pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). In other words, it can be defined as the study of a speaker's meaning based on its context. Yule (1996) also stated that there are some focuses on pragmatics. Those are deixis, reference and inference, presupposition and entailment, cooperation and implicature, speech acts, politeness, and conversation analysis. At this time, this research focused on deixis.

Deixis is an important pragmatic's field that needs to be learned (Setiakawanti, 2018) because it is used to point out specific things or people. By learning deixis, people can point

to the addresses appropriately. Yule (1996) Stated that Deixis is a technical term (from Greek) for one of the most essential things we do with utterances. He also summarized that deixis means "pointing" via language.

Deixis is a study of deixis or language index expression dialogue, prologue, monologue-like You, now, today (Sasmita,2018). According to Yule (1996), there are three types of Deixis. Those are personal deixis (divided into three basic parts consisting of first-person, second-person, and third-person pronouns), spatial deixis (pointing to a place or location), and temporal deixis (which deals with the concept of time).

Concerning how important deixis is in daily communication or events, it makes some researchers conduct research by observing the phenomena of deixis. Nurvagian (2021) and friends conducted a study on deixis by analyzing its use of deixis. They found the result by analyzing students' talk in learning English speaking. Their research aims to find the deixis and dominant types of student conversation when learning English. As a result, it was found that there are three types of deixis used by students. These are personal deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis.

Analysis showed that of the 114 data of student utterances in student conversations while learning English; there was a deixis of 201 data types. There was direct data for 183 people. This means that while learning English, it is the primary type of deixis in student conversation.

Another previous study is by Faiziah (2022), who use the qualitative method. She analyzed a movie entitled "Inside Out" using the deixis approach: pragmatic analysis. Then, she used one of five deixis by Levinson (1983), person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, discourse and social deixis. That is social deixis. Her research thesis shows 38 social deixis words in "Inside Out" movies.

Additional previous research is from Sundari (2021) who tried to analyze the types of deixis found in the "Ketika Cinta Bertasbih" Novel. She used a qualitative descriptive method to analyze the content and found five types of deixis (person, place, discourse, time, and social) in this novel. Furthermore, deixis pronouns person was the dominant species among them.

Those three previous researchers managed the deixis with the different objects of the study, such as novels, movies, and students' talk. At the same time, the current research conducts the research of deixis in a textbook and makes a student's book the main data sourcing.

Deixis does not only have the function of a grammatical constituent, but it has the duty to point out the different meanings of the chosen words that are used in the same way in different situations (Nurhikmah, 2019). Therefore, this current research has a different perspective on learning deixis. The researcher presumes that this research will be a good guide for other researchers who want to do research related to this field.

Related to the background of the study, the research questions of this study are:

1. What types of deixis are used in the descriptive text found in the "Active Learning, Fun Exercise" student's textbook?
2. What is the most dominant deictic expression in the descriptive text found in the "Active Learning, Fun Exercise" student's textbook?

2. Method

To conduct this research, the researcher used the descriptive qualitative method. Qualitative studies are a shape of social motion that stresses the manner in humans interpret, and make sense of their experiences to understand the social reality of individuals (Mohajan, 2018). The data sourcing of this research is three descriptive texts adopted by a second-semester textbook for elementary school level entitled "Active Learning, Fun Exercise". There are three descriptive texts entitled: Spending Holiday (Text 1), Living Healthily (Text 2), and Staying in a Hotel (Text 3) that represents the textbook.

In analyzing the data, the researcher used pragmatics as the chosen field based on the topics mentioned. The theory used in this research is taken from George, Yule (1996) pragmatics theory of Deixis. In analyzing the data, the researcher did some steps. First, the researcher reads the text through deixis rules scrupulously. Second, the researcher finds the classification types of deixis which appeared in the text and decide which one is the dominant. The third step is for the researcher reports, the result found by describing them in the findings and discussion section. The data is described and explained in narrative form.

3. Findings and discussion

The researcher describes the result of the research in this section. After analyzing data, the researcher found several deictic words used in most descriptive text parts. The result was found by applying Yule (1996) theory, which stated that three types of deixis exist. In those three descriptive texts, almost all deixis types appeared. The researcher supplies some explanation from every text.

1. Person Deixis

First-person, this type is found in text 1 and text 3. The use of the deictic word "my and I" are found many times in text 1, and the deictic word "me and I" only appear one time each in text 2.

(Text 1)

"My name is Destra. "

"I am in the 5th grade of Cahaya..."

"And it is my turn because Mrs. Halimah calls my name. "

"Here is my story: "

"I took photographs for my father, ..."

"After that, I made a sandcastle while my brother..."

"Finally, my body was buried..."

"After that, my mother ordered baked fish for lunch. "

"I think that's all and thank you. "

Eleven words in total appeared in the text.

(Text 3)

"The bell girl directs me via lift. "

"Before leaving the room, I ask her permission..."

There are 2 words in total which appear in the text.

- b. Second person, there are no words related to this category in all three texts.
- c. Third-person, this type is found in all texts (texts 1-3). The use of the deictic word "it" is found three times in the text 1, deictic words "it, he, and his" are found several times in the text 2, and the deictic word "she, her, he, his, and him" are appeared many times in text 3. The representative of them as follows:

(Text 1)

"It is the time for the students..."

"And it is my turn because of Mrs. Halimah..."

"It was early Sunday morning."

Three words in total appeared in the text.

(Text 2)

"He is absent today."

"His mother comes to school..."

"His mother asks permission..."

"He gets a stomach ache."

"He must go to Public Health Centre. "

"Then Miss Andita explains it to the students."

"Someone can be sick because he/she is unhealthy."

"It is from good ingredients..."

"Because we don't know how it is cooked."

Nine words in total appeared in the text.

(Text 3)

"He is invited by Carine, his friend."

"She lives in Magelang."

"Carline and her family stay in the hotel..."

"He goes to receptionist..."

"Because he is afraid of lift, he takes stairs."

"Carline welcomes him in front of the door."

"Carline says that she like staying in this hotel very much."

"... and it has an amazing view."

"Before leaving the room, I ask her permission to go..."

"Then, he goes to Gramedia Bookstore..."

Twelve words in total appeared in the text.

2. Spatial Deixis

The researcher found 9 spatial deictic expressions in text 1, 2 words in text 2, and 16 words in text 3. The representative them as follows:

(Text 1)

- "... to the south of Malang Town."
- "..., finally we go to "Balekambang" beach."
- "... with the Indonesian Ocean as the background."
- "... dig the sand beside my castle."
- "... was buried in sand by them."
- "... to "Sendang Biru" beach. "
- "... to go around "Sempu Island"."
- "... swam beside the boat."
- "..., we went home."

(Text 2)

- "His mother comes to school."
- "He must go to Public Health Centre."

(Text 3)

- "... is going to Atria Hotel now."
- "She lives in Magelang."
- "... spend their holiday in Malang."
- "Carine and her family stay in the hotel for three days."
- "... Robby arrives at the hotel."
- "He goes to receptionist's desk and..."
- "... ask the room number 103."
- "The bell girl directs me via lift."
- "..., he takes stairs."
- "Carline welcomes him in front of the door."
- "Then, both of us sit on the balcony. "
- "They will visit some resorts and .."
- "... and beaches in south Malang."
- "They plan to visit some shopping Centres to get souvenir."
- "At ten o'clock, Carine accompanies Robby until the lobby."
- "He goes to Gramedia Bookstore to buy a new novel."

3. Temporal Deixis

Temporal deictic expression words are found in all three texts, 6 items are found in text 1, only one item in text 2, and 4 items appear in text 3. The representative of them as follows:

(Text 1)

"Today is the first day of the second semester."

"It was early Sunday morning."

"For some hours on the way, ..."

"Then, we swam about a half an hour."

"At around eleven, we moved to..."

"At around one thirty, we went home."

(Text 2)

"He is absent today."

(Text 3)

"... is going to Atria Hotel now."

"... stay in the Hotel for three days."

"At around nine o'clock, Robby arrives at the hotel."

"At ten o'clock, Carine accompanies Robby..."

The calculation of the three types of deixis in the texts can be seen in Table 1 as follows:

Table 1. Calculation of Deixis Text Mentioned in Descriptive Text

| No | Text | Person Deixis | | | Spatial Deixis | Temporal Deixis |
|----|--------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | | 1 ST | 2 ND | 3 RD | | |
| 1 | Text 1 | 11 | 0 | 3 | 9 | 6 |
| 2 | Text 2 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | Text 3 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 16 | 4 |
| | | 13 | 0 | 24 | 27 | 11 |

From the table above, the deixis was divided into three parts (person, spatial, and temporal), 37 people deixis were found in those three texts. The first person was mentioned 13 times, 0 times for the second person, and 24 words in the third person appeared in the texts. Other information was that 27 words of spatial deixis were found, and 11 deictic expressions of temporal deixis appeared in the texts.

The calculation of the dominant deictic words in the texts can be seen in Table 2 as follows:

Table 2. Deictic Words Frequency

| NO | Deictic Word | Frequency of References |
|----|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | He | 9 |
| 2 | His | 3 |
| 3 | Him | 1 |
| 4 | She | 3 |
| 5 | Her | 2 |
| 6 | I | 5 |
| 7 | My | 7 |
| 8 | Me | 1 |
| 9 | It | 7 |

From the tables above, the dominant deictic expression used is first-person deixis "he". Based on the findings in Table 2, the person deixis type was the most deixis used in the text, 37 times deictic expressions appearing in the texts. Also, Table 2 showed that the third-person deixis appeared the most. As stated by Minkhatunnakhriyah (2020), personal deixis used to depend on the speaker and what the message was delivered about.

In the first descriptive text, the writer wanted to emphasize that "the writer" himself was the story's main topic. While in the third text, the writer tried to show that the third person was the text's main point.

It supported those two previous researchers, the first one was Nurvagian (2021) and the second one was Sundari (2021). Both researchers concluded that third-person deixis became the dominant type based on the data. Since Suyoto (2018) did not tell his own story in his descriptive paragraph, he mostly used third-person deictic expressions in his textbook for students. From the second table, the deictic word "He" appeared 9 times.

In conclusion, the dominant type was person deixis. between those three types of deixis. Furthermore, the dominant deictic word used is "He". It is because the common narrative text talks about retelling someone else story (Raputri, 2021).

4. Conclusion

A language is a device of sounds and written symbols utilized by the humans of a particular country or area to communicate with each other. There are many parts of language in linguistic scopes. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics, which is the study of language Janovsky (2021). Pragmatics is the interpretation of the listener in getting the information. Purba (2018) stated that by studying language through pragmatics, one could only talk about people's intended meanings, assumptions, goals or purposes, and the type of action (such as: asking) they do when they talk.

There are many focuses in pragmatics study. Those are speech acts theory, cooperative principles, implicature, relevance theory, and the theory of politeness by Afriani (2022). At this time, this research focused on deixis.

Deixis is a part of linguistic study that can be found in written and spoken language. It is important to learn deixis since it is the study of pointing out someone or something. Besides, it is used to avoid ambiguity deixis can be used to avoid miscommunication.

In this research, the researcher focused the deictic expression words on the descriptive text that appeared in Elementary Student's textbook. The researcher used Yule (1996)'s book as the theory about three types of deixis (person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis).

Contingent on the theory, the researcher found that there were 37 people deixis that appeared in the textbook. The first person was mentioned 13 times, 0 times for the second person, and 24 words in the third person appear in the texts. Other information is that 27 words of spatial deixis were found, and 11 deictic expressions of temporal deixis appeared in the texts. While most of the deictic words written were the third person "He".

Hopefully, this research can benefit other researchers who want to do research related to this field. It is difficult to teach English to students who have no prior knowledge, a different native language and different personalities (Pertiwi:2022). Since deixis is important to be learned nowadays, this theory become popular in many fields especially teaching and learning activities. Other researchers may try another focus or wider data, for example, deixis analysis in a junior high school by Musarokah (2021) or a college student's textbook. Other researchers can also analyze this textbook by using other theories, such as semiotic analysis as applied by Rezeki (2021) in her article, or critical analysis by Suherman (2018).

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