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# Daftar Isi

PENGANTAR REDAKSI ................................................................................................................. ii

Daftar Isi ......................................................................................................................................... iii

The Comparison of Characters, Setting and Characterization Analysis Between Novel and Film of Paper Towns (A Study of Comparative Literature)
Aniek Rizka, R. Myrna Nur Sakinah, Arief Luqman .................................................................. 1

Deixis Analysis in The Song Lyrics of Taylor Swift “22”
Santi Mulyati, Ria Nirwana, R.Yeni Dewi Cahyani ..................................................................... 9

Penggunaan Aplikasi Quizizz dalam Mata kuliah Vocabulary Building: Masalah dan Solusi
Adam Darmawan ........................................................................................................................... 19

Deixis Analysis of Journal Entitled “Indonesia is Exploiting The Covid-19 Crisis for Illiberal Purposes”
Rahadian Kemal Azis, Ria Nirwana, Hartono ............................................................................. 34

An Analysis of Deixis in Owl City song’s
Renata Chaerunisa, Ria Nirwana, Hartono .................................................................................. 41

Cerita Berbingkai Dalam The Arabian Nights Entertainments dan Hikayat Bayan Budiman
Eka Ayu Wahyuni, Arry Purnama ............................................................................................... 49
Deixis Analysis in The Song Lyrics of Taylor Swift “22”

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Abstract

This research aims to analyze four types of deixis by using theory of Alan Cruse (2000), interpret the reference meaning of deixis and find out the most dominant type of deixis that found in the song lyrics of Taylor Swift “22”. It consists of such deictic words that has reference meanings. Therefore, the song lyrics can be analyzed using pragmatic approach, specifically about deixis. This study was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. The data which is used is the song of Taylor Swift “22” and then it is classified into the types of deixis. The findings showed that the types of deixis like person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, and discourse deixis are used in the song lyrics of Taylor Swift “22”. Based on discussion and finding can be concluded that all deixis are found in all songs, personal deixis is the most being found (15 Deictic words or 51.7%) the word “I, Me, You and We dominate all songs. in the second position Discourse Deixis is found (8 deictic words or 27.6%) and Spatial Deixis (5 deictic words or 17.2%), in the last position is Temporal Deixis (1 Deictic words or 3.4%) 

Keywords: pragmatics, deixis, song lyric

Introduction

In this world there are some ways to communicate everything, for instance: spoken language, written language, and gesture. It can do with singing, poetry, drama etc. Each person can express ideas among people with them. Sapir in Herman defines language as a purely human and noninstintive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desires by means of a system of voluntarily symbols.

Song is a one of the ways to communicate the enables human to cooperate. Song is considered to be a system of communication with other people using sounds and song to express a feeling, sense, idea, emotion or thought. There are various reasons
why people want to use songs in their life and their activities. Some people need it so much to enlarge their business or another projects, to develop their talent, some other people just want to express their feeling, sense, ideas, desire, message and to talk about anything within their communication in any situation.

Based on Cambridge dictionary third edition, lyrics is the words of song, especially a pop song, or a short poem which express the personal thoughts and feelings of the person who wrote it. Its means that not only the arrangement of words into sentence, but also the representation of the composer's sense and emotion to describe their feelings such as desire, struggle, love, ideas and, feeling. There are some messages sent by the composer to the listener with specific situation or context in song lyrics.

Related to the lyric in previous paragraph, the lyrics of song which representation of the composer's emotion and intention to describe their feelings such as love, struggle, trouble, jealousy, peace, become a way to make a beauty communicating. Most of music will be liked by the listeners if the content of the song has its own meaning for the listener, so that’s why the song creator isn’t carelessly in making the lyric. Taylor Swift is one of the best singer in the world. It’s proven from his achievement in music career. It’s the reason why the researcher chose Taylor Swift’s song as the object of the research. The researcher used Taylor Swift’s song entitled “22” which is the most popular song in this time.

Theoretical Review
Definition of Deixis

Deixis comes from classical Greek deiknunai, it is meant “to show or point out”. Yule states that deixis is actually a technical term (from Greek) which means ‘pointing’ through language. Then, Cruse stated that deixis means different things to different people. Hence, Bouk discusses that deixis means pointing via language, and it is concerned with the ways in which language encodes the features of the context of utterance or speech event. In another word is contextual meaning in lexical feature and other grammatical which refers to describe the function of person pronoun, time or place such as he, here, now. Deixis is clearly a form of referring that is tied to the speaker’s context. Besides, Lyons states that the term deixis is also used in linguistics function of personal and demonstrative pronouns, and of tense in grammatical and lexical features. It means that a word can be deixis if the referent is nomadic depends on the speaker or time and place pronounced that words, For example: “Would you mind leaving this class now, please”?

Based on some definitions and example of above, deixis is identification person, place and time
that speaker utterance to the hearer based on the context. The lingual elements this and now in one utterance above is deictic expression, because the utterance has meaningful in a given context, in order to be interpreted correctly, the speaker and listener have to share the same context and it is particularly useful in face to face communication. According to Lyons, deixis is the location and identification of people, object, events, process and activities which is being talked about or referred to, in relation to the time, when the speaker says the utterance, or when the hearer hears it. It means that deixis is a word, or expression that the reference wolves depending on the identity of the speaker, time, place in relation to the utterance.

Types of Deixis

According to Levinson, there are four main categories of deixis:

1. Person Deixis

   Person deixis is used to point to objects (it, these, those books), all pronouns (I, you, we), possessives (your, our, their). Person deixis concerns the person involved in an utterance, such as: the persons directly involved. e.g. the speaker and the addressed, the persons not directly involved e.g. those who hear the utterance but are not being directly addressed and the persons mentioned in the utterance. Person deixis is commonly expressed by the following kinds of constituents:
   a. First person deixis
      First person deixis is deictic reference that refers to the speaker or both the speaker and referents grouped with the speaker e.g. singular pronouns (I, me, myself, my, mine), plural pronouns (we, us, ourselves, our, ours). Kinds of First person deixis:
      1) Exclusive First person deixis
         Exclusive First person deixis is deixis that refers to a group not including the addressee (any of immediate intended recipients of the speaker’s communication, as grammaticalized in second person morphemes)
      2) Inclusive First person deixis
         Inclusive First person deixis is deixis that refers to a group including the addressee
   b. Second Person deixis
      Second Person deixis is deictic reference to a person or persons identified as addressee. Examples: you, yourself, yourselves, your, yours.
   c. Third Person deixis.
      Third Person deixis is deictic reference to a referent not identified as the speaker or addressee, e.g. he, she, they, the third person singular verb suffix-s. Kinds of third person deixis:
      1) Obviative Person deixis
Obviative Person deixis is third person deixis that distinguishes a less important referent in the present stage of the discourse from a referent that is more important.

2) Proximate Person deixis
Proximate Person deixis is third person deixis that distinguishes a referent that is more important at the present stage of the discourse from a referent that is less important.

2. Spatial Deixis
Thomas stated that spatial deixis or place deixis does not mean in isolation, it is only when you know where the speaker is standing or what the speaker is indicating that it becomes truly meaningful. Hence, Levinson defines spatial deixis as “the encoding of spatial locations relative to the location of participants in the speech event. He adds that most language make us of two term system. The idea of speaker’s pointing in space or time in order to draw the attention of the addressee to it is basic to both spatial and temporal deixis. They indicated and proximity from the speaker, physical distance or proximity, mental and psychological distance or proximity, Examples:
- The hospital is four hundred miles from the bus station
- Bring that here and take this there

Place deixis, also known as space deixis, concerns itself with the spatial locations relevant to an utterance. Similarly to person deixis, the location may be either those of the speaker and addressee or those of person or object being referred to. The most salient English examples are the adverbs “here” and “there” and the demonstratives “this” and “that” and these are used to mark the movement towards the speaker, examples:
- The theater is behind the town hall
- I enjoy living in this village
- Here is where we will place the statue.
- She was sitting over there.
- Here is a good spot, it too sunny over there.

Older texts have various distinct expressions. Yonder (more distant) hither (to this place) and thence (from that place) which are still applicable but archaic. Some verbs of motion ‘come’ and ‘go’ retain a deictic sense which means towards the speaker and away from the speaker. These are commonly used for pointing the position of people.
- The word that seem to be the first deictic meaning.
- This and here (can be seen).
- That and there (cannot be seen).
- This is my book lying here
- That building is there in Switzerland.

It is important to remember that location from the speaker’s perspective
can be fixed mentally as well as physically. People away from their homes use ‘here’ to show and mean their home location.

3. Temporal Deixis

Temporal deixis used to point to a time (now, then, next week, last month) In order to interpret all these deictic expressions we must know which person, time and place the speaker has in mind. Temporal in deictics are expressed in time adverbials like “now, soon, lately, recently, ago, today, tomorrow, yesterday”. There is a great difference on what is close to the speaker (this, here, now) and what is distant (that, there, then). We can also realize whether there is a movement away from the speaker (go) or there is a movement towards the speaker (come). If somebody is moving towards you, you say: He is coming! If somebody is moving away from you, you say: He is going!

4. Discourse deixis

Discourse deixis also known as text deixis. Discourse deixis refers to such matters as the use of this to point to future discourse elements such as listen to this, it will kill you!, and that to point to past discourse elements such as that was not a very nice thing to say (2000, p. 323) Sometimes, certain sentence adverbs such as therefore and furthermore include an element of discourse in their meanings (Cruse, 2000).

Despite, some references of discourse deixis can also be anaphoric (Cummings, 2005). Anaphora picks up a previous reference to an extra-linguistics entity and repeats it. In addition, Kreidler (1998, p. 145) noted that anaphora is a kind of secondary reference in which a previous reference is recalled by use of special function words. In John entered the room. He looked tired, he refers to the same person that John refers to, but it does not strictly refer to the word John itself (Cruse, 2000, p. 324).

Research Method

Research Design

The aim of this research is to analyze the types of deixis and the dominant deixis which found in the famous song by Taylor Swift’s song “22”. The method used in this research is qualitative research method, and the source data used is the song by Taylor Swift’s song “22”. To complete this research, the researcher uses Cohen et al. theory. Cohen et al. offer some steps of analysis namely:

(1). Generating natural unit of meaning,
(2). Classifying, categorizing and ordering these units of meaning,
(3). Structuring narratives to describe the contents of the speech, and
(4). Interpreting the data.

Unit of Analysis

As the unit of analysis, the researcher focuses on the lyric in the
The data were taken from the lyric song “22” by Taylor Swift’s song. There are 66 the deixis words will be analyzed and classified.

**Technique of Data Analysis**

The data of this study were taken from the lyric song “22” by Taylor Swift especially the kinds and dominant deixis which found in this lyric, and the researcher uses listen and take notes technique for collecting data. The researcher uses two steps in data collecting. First, listening technique by listen the song several times, then the researcher uses taking notes technique to find out the kinds of deixis by use the data card that was prepared before.

**Findings and Discussion**

After analyzing the data, the researcher found some lyric which taken from the lyric song “22” by Taylor Swift’s song shows deixis word expressed in this song. The researcher uses some steps in this research. First, the researcher transcribes the lyric and the second the researcher tabulating the classifying the deixis into person deixis, spatial temporal and discourse deixis, and the last is the researcher draws general interpretation on the lyric. It can be proven by following tables below:

**Table 1. Deixis analysis.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>Lyric of song</th>
<th>Types of Deixis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>It feels like a perfect night to dress up like hipsters and make fun of our exes</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>It feels like a perfect night for breakfast at midnight To fall in love with stangers</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>We’re happy, free, confuse and lonely at the same time</td>
<td>We (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>It’s miserable and magical</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Tonight’s the night when we forget about the deadlines</td>
<td>Tonight (Temporal Deixis) We (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. It’s time</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>I don’t know about you but I’m feeling 22</td>
<td>I (First Person Deixis) You (Second Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>If you keep me next to you</td>
<td>You (Second Person Deixis) me (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>You don’t know about me but I’ll bet you want you</td>
<td>You (Second Person Deixis) me (First Person Deixis) I (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>If we just keep dancing like we’re</td>
<td>We (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>It seems like one of those nights</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis) Those (Spatial Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>This place is too crowded Too many cool kids</td>
<td>This (Spatial Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>It seems like one of those nights</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis) Those (Spatial Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>We ditch the whole scene and end up dreaming, Instead of sleeping</td>
<td>We (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>It feels like one of those nights</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis) Those (Spatial Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>We won’t be sleeping</td>
<td>We (First Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>It feels like one of those nights</td>
<td>It (discourse deixis) Those (Spatial Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>You look like bad news</td>
<td>You (Second Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>I gotta have you</td>
<td>I (First Person Deixis) You (Second Person Deixis)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2. Deixis kinds in The lyric song “you are the reason”*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>deixis kinds</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Person deixis</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Spatial deixis</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Temporal deixis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Discourse deixis</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the table above, it can be seen that the large number the kinds of deixis which found in the lyric song “you are the reason” are: Person deixis 51.7%, Spatial deixis: 17.2%, Temporal deixis: 3.4%, and Discourse deixis: 27.6%. The highest percentage of all is Person deixis, it means that the dominant of deixis which use in the lyric song “22” by Taylor Swift is Person deixis.

**Conclusion**

Based on the findings and discussion above, it can be concluded that all deixis are found in all songs. personal deixis is the most being found (15 Deictic words or 51.7%) the word “I, me, You, and we dominate all songs. in the second position Discourse Deixis is found (8 deictic words or 27.6%) and Spatial Deixis (5 deictic words or 17.2%), in the last position is Temporal deixis (1 Deictic words or 3.4%).

The Percentage of deixis analysis in the lyric song “22” by Taylor Swift is as follow.
Santi Mulyati: Diexis Analysis

**References**


