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An Analysis of Deixis in Owl City song’s

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Abstract

The objectives of this study are to identify the kinds of deixis that are used in the song lyrics Good Time, to find out the dominant types of deixis that are used in the song lyrics Good Time. This research belongs to qualitative research. The researcher uses observation method, while the data collection techniques is listening and analyzing the songs of “Good Time” by Owl City. The result of this research is the song lyrics of Good Time you use two types of deixis. Person deixis almost occurs in every lyric of Good Time. There are 10 data of person deixis consisting of first, second 3 and third 8 for person deixis. In addition, the other types such as time deixis (4 data) and no data on place deixis in song Good Time. Most of personal deixis in Good Time song lyric refer to the speaker itself which are encoded by first singular person deixis like I and My. While for first plural person deixis which are We mostly refer to the speaker.

Introduction

Language is a tool or system of symbols designed for purpose of communication and interaction with each other (Lyons, 2002). In addition, language is used to interact and express a creativity. Language is not only used as a medium of communication but can also express an art such as music. Music is one type of art is widely used as a medium of entertainment. In music there are lyrics that are objects of the birth of art that can be enjoyed by many people. With music, people can feel happy and entertained by listening to it. Music is expected to give pleasure for people, listening to it that is arrangement of sounds made by musical instuments, singing or computers, or a combination of these (Walter, 2008). Music has become a basic human activity universally, because music plays an important role in shaping one’s identity.
Because usually there is a meaning and experience that is the basis for the creation of songs created. Previous research has revealed that how music is very influential in biology and human history. But music was also used to prolong human being's life (Dissanayakein Piragasam, et al : 2013). In a lyric, many words and meanings can be an inspiration for life. Because when someone listens to a song, they not only understand the meaning of the lyrics, but also the meaning of the lyrics of the song.

Therefore, when the people listen to song lyric, sometimes they do not only try to apprehend the meaning lyric itself, but also the meaning of the reader or speakers means. The study of what speakers mean or speakers meaning is called pragmatics. Yule (1996:3) claimed, pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by the speaker (or writer) and interpreted by listener (or reader). Communication recognizes the meaning of words and speakers mean in utterance or sentence. Sometimes misunderstanding of meaning could happen in the language users. That understanding related to reference of the utterance or sentence. In order to understand about a reference of utterance, reader or listeners should be able to identify the contexts of utterance. Deixis is one of the most basic things in technical term of utterances (Yule, 1996). The word ‘deixis’ is borrowed form the Greek word for pointing or indicating. Additionally Levinson (1983: 55) advanced, deixis directly concerns with the relationship language and context which is reflected in structures of language theirselves.

There are many linguists giving different definitions of deixis, such as Yule (1996: 9) stated that deixis is derived from Greek words that means “pointing language”. Similarly with Saeed (2003: 182), he stated that deixis as a technical term from Greek “deiknymi” to show or to point out things. Yule (1995:9) stated that deixis is a technical term for one of the most basic thing we do with utterances, some linguists also called deixis as indexical. As well as, Lyons (1997: 637) stated that deixis is the location, identification of people, objects, events, process, and activities which is being talked about or referred to, in relation to the time, when the speakers says the utterance, or when the hearer hears it. In addition Levinson (1983:54) stated that, deixis refers to the phenomenon where in understanding the meaning of certain words and phrase in an utterance requires contextual information.

Words or phrases that require contextual information to convey meaning are deictic. It means, deixis is
used to refer ourselves to other and object in speaker and listener environment, to locate actions in a time frame relative to the present, used to locate parts of text in relation to other parts, and it also to show social relationship the social location individuals in relation to others (Hatch, 1992:210).

1. Person Deixis Person deixis is pronoun to point people. Saeed (1997:192) stated that person deixis is deixis with the role of participants in the conversation, such as speaker, spoken, and addressed. According Cruse (2006:127), person deixis is divided into 3 parts. They are first person, second person, and third person deixis.

2. Place Deixis Place deixis is also described as spatial deixis, where the relative location of people and things is being indicated. Place deixis or spatial deixis usually expressed in this, these, there, here, that, and those. Place deixis concerns the encoding of spatial locations relative to the location of the participants in the speech. (Levinson, 1983:62). Levinson stated that place or space deixis concerns for the specification of locations to anchorage points in the speech event and typically the speaker, and there are two basic ways of referring objects by describing or naming them on the one hand and by locating them on the other.

3. Time Deixis Time deixis is also called as temporal deixis. Levinson said that the basis for systems of reckoning and measuring time in most languages seem to be the natural and prominent cycles of day and night, lunar months, season and years. Time deixis makes ultimate reference to participant-role, so it is important to distinguish the moment of utterance from the moment of reception (Levinson, 1983:73). Every sentence makes reference to an event time. Time can only be determined in relation to the time of the utterance.

The researcher wants to present the previous researches that deal especially with Deixis Analysis. The previous research was done by Arini Hidayah, (UMS, 2006) entitled “A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics in Back To You”. The results of this research are to find deixis devices and clarify the meaning of deixis devices that be used in song’s lyrics. The researcher uses songs lyrics as the data and clarifies deixis devices based on pragmatics meaning. The second previous study on this research is a study about the use of deictic expression and had been conducted by Sari Wulandari (UNDIP, 2008) entitled “The Use of Deictic Expression at Early Pre-Operational Stage Children. In her thesis, she analyzed the use of deictic expression by two sisters (siblings) at early pre-operational stage and not only analyzed the use of person deixis but also time and spatial deixis.
In addition, she connected her research with the context, reference, and cognitive development in children. The side that differentiates this research to her is that this research concerns about the use of politeness and also social factors as the communication strategy behind certain use of person deixis by the university students, not the children.

After all, the researcher makes conclusions that the differences among this research with the previous researcher above are this research used lyric song Good Time by Owl City as object of the research and his research also tries to analyze the meaning and the function of person deixis in lyric song Good Time by Owl City using Pragmatics approach.

Methodology

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method, because the data in this research are lyrics in the songs. Descriptive qualitative is the method of research used to describe nature phenomena happened and relevancies between one phenomena and the others. The research will describe the data obtained to answer the research question. The research uses descriptive qualitative because the data of research is words of utterance and it will be analyzed by explaining the data descriptively. Santosa (2012:42) states that there are two types of data. They are primary data and secondary data. Primary data is the data that is collected by a researcher directly from the field of research and secondary data is the data which is collected by other researcher and is used by a researcher to support his research. (Blaxter al. 2006:153).

The data source of this research is song lyrics Good Time by Owl City. Which contains person deixis that is categorized into 3 types. The data collectons is gathering process of information from relevant source purposing to answer the research question. Researcher collects the data by doing steps, as follow, the researcher listened to the songs of Good Time by Owl City in order to understand the lyrics in detail. Second, the researcher searched the script of the lyrics of Good Time by Owl City on Internet. Third, the researcher choses the lyrics to be analyzed from the song of Good Time by Owl City. Fourth, the researcher choses marked all of the chosen lyrics to be analyzed.

After collecting the data from the script of lyrics, the researcher analyzed the data as follows: First, the researcher determined some words expressions that include in deitic expressions. Second, the researcher classified the deitic expressions that have been determined based on their criteria. Third, the
researcher analyzed the types of deixis, namely: person deixis and time deixis.

**Finding and Discussion**

The researcher found that the lyrics tend to use such types of deixis include person deixis, time deixis and place deixis in Good Time song lyrics. The types of deixis used are various and have different references and meanings. This research find that person deixis, time deixis and place deixis occur in songs in Good Time song lyrics.

1. **Person Deixis**

Person deixis designates the basic roles in a speech event, the speaker (first person), addressee or the person(s) spoken to (second person), and the person or persons who are neither speaker nor addressee (third person) (Cruse, 2000: 319). In this song of Good Time there are person deixis it can be seen in this table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Song</th>
<th>First Person</th>
<th>Second Person</th>
<th>Third Person</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Good Time</td>
<td>I (3), We (2), My (4), Me (1)</td>
<td>You (3)</td>
<td>It (8)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the table above, it can be seen the total of person deixis is 21 data from song of Good Time. The lyrics which contain person deixis is “I’m in if you’re down to get down tonight”. There are 2 data person that lyrics. First data is second person deixis I, I refers to the girl. The function of second person deixis I is as subject of singular pronoun. Second data is first person deixis you. You is include as first person deixis. You refers to the boyfriend. I is first person deixis because it includes the speaker as singular possessive pronoun object. The lyric which contain third person deixis “Cause it’s always a good time”. It refers to the time when them together. The function of third person deixis is a object of singular pronoun. Based on the explanation above. The researcher notes that from Good Time song, the use of personal deixis that is followed by the three types of personal deixis occurs. The function of person deixis is to indicate
the use of personal pronoun in the song lyrics.

2. Time Deixis

Temporal or time deixis word indicates the timing of an event relative to the time of speaking (Cruse, 2006: 179; 2006: 321). From Good Time song’s, the researcher found and classified the song which shows the temporal deixis or time deixis occurs. The researcher uses the table to make it easier and clearer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Temporal or Time Deixis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Good Time</td>
<td>Anywhere (1 datum), Tonight (1 datum), Good Morning (1 datum), Good Night (1 datum)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table. 2 – Number of Time Deixis

From the table above, the researcher found 4 fata of time deixis. First data is Anywhere in the lyric “Hopped into a cab, take me anywhere”. Second “I’m in if you’re down to get down tonight”. Third and Fourth “Good Morning and Good Night”. Anywhere, Tonight, Good Morning and Good Night refers to time. Based on the explanation above, the researcher includes that from Good Time song, the use of temporal deixis occurs. The function of temporal deixis is to indicate the use of the timing in the song lyrics. After analyzing and determining the types of deixis and also interpreting the references meaning that are used in Good Time song lyric, the finding of frequency of deixis types which are used in the songs of Owl City are presented as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Types of Deixis</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Person Deixis</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Time Deixis</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table. 3 – Number of Types of Deixis
From the table above, it shows that the number of frequency of deixis which is taken from the song Good Time are Person deixis and Time deixis is appear in Good Time song lyric. The most dominant types of deixis that are used in songs Good Time are person deixis (21 data). Thus the dominant words of person deixis in Good Time song lyric use first person deixis which are I, We, My, Me, You and It.

CONCLUSION

Following the discussion above, finally the researcher concludes that the song lyrics of Good Time use two types of deixis which are person deixis and time deixis occurs in a song Good Time. Personal deixis that is used includes three types of person deixis and time deixis which are first person deixis, second person deixis and third person deixis. In addition, the other types which are time deixis is occur in a song of Good Time. Most of personal deixis in Good Time song lyric refer to the speaker herself which are encoded by first singular person deixis like I and My. While for first plural person deixis which are We mostly refer to the speaker in this research, person deixis is the most dominant types in the songs. It is because the singer tells about the love feeling to the girl in his song that make the use of person deixis type are more often than others. The researcher notes that by using the deixis it will make easily to describe the function of personal, pronoun, time and demonstrative which are connecting the utterance with relation of person and time. It also useful to catch the reference meaning that include who, where and when the utterance is uttered.

REFERENCES

Arini Hidayah. (2019). A DEIXIS ANALYSIS OF SONG LYRICS IN BACK TO YOU BY SELENA GOMES. University of Surakarta


