Deixis Used in the Writing Text by the Fourth Semester Students of STKIP PGRI Tulungagung

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ABSTRACT

Deixis is clearly a form of referring that is tied to the speaker´s context which leads us to the concept of deictic centre. The deictic centre can be divided into certain 'sub-centres': (1) person deixis; (2) time deixis; (3) place deixis; (4) discourse deixis; and (5) social deixis. This research provides descriptive knowledge of the way in using deixis of fourth semester students of STKIP PGRI Tulungagung.This research is a descriptive qualitative for it describes deixis found on the written texts made by C class of fourth semester in English department both group A and B. Furthermore, this research is called qualitative because this research has soft data, it is in the form of words, and it provides rich description and analysis of the data.Person deixis can be found as: subject, object, possessive adjective, reflexive or emphatic pronoun, name of person, definite and indefinite noun. Furthermore, place deixis in students' writing can be found only in word *where* as adverb of place. In addition, time deixis can be seen in the form of adverb of frequency, noun phrase, adjective of time, adverb of time, numeral adjective, and temporal conjunction.

Key Words: deixis, deictic center, reference

INTRODUCTION

Pragmatics is another broad approach to discourse which deals with three concepts namely meaning, context, and communication (Schiffrin, 1994: 190). Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker or writer and interpreted by a listener or reader (Yule, 1996: 3). While, Yule (1985: 97) in another book explained that pragmatics is the study of 'intended speaker meaning'. In addition, Schiffrin (1994: 191) mention that pragmatics is the study of the relation of signs to interpreters.

Furthermore, in accordance with the explanation of pragmatics from Schiffrin and Yule above, one of the interpretations is the interpretation on the immediate physical context in which they were uttered which is known as deictic expressions (Yule, 1985: 99). Deictic expression is any linguistic form used to accomplish the 'pointing' (Yule,

1996: 9). While, his further explanation mentioned that 'pointing' means pointing via language, that is the most basic things we do with utterance; or this is called deixis.

Deixis deals with the words and expressions whose reference relies entirely on the circumstances of the utterance. For that reason, these special expressions and their meaning in discourse can only be understood in terms of these circumstances. Deixis makes discourse easier and more effective, giving us a means to pass more information in less time (http://faculty.uca.edu/~lburley/deixis.htm). Nevertheless, there are certain situations making an interpretation difficult or even impossible, mostly when we only get chunks of information and therefore lack of context considering the importance of deixis. This study, then, focuses on the kinds of deixis based on Buhler which consists of three, those are person deixis, place deixis, and time deixis.

This study provides descriptive knowledge of the way in using deixis of fourth semester students of STKIP PGRI Tulungagung.

This research is focused on the analysis of deixis found in the texts produced by the fourth semester students of STKIP PGRI Tulungagung. However, the research only analyses on the three types of deixis namely person deixis, place deixis and time deixis. Furthermore, the analysis is taken from the C class writing of the fourth semester students for both group A and B, there is no further analysis is made on other courses or other semesters.

Deixis

It will be explained about the literature related to the theme, namely deixis.

1. Text

The text becomes a *free play* with signs, without anchoring in either a producer of texts (subject) or an external world (Alvesson and Skoldberg, 2000: 148). Furthermore, Brown and Yule (1983: 6) explain that a text as a technical term refers to the verbal

record of a communicative act. In addition, Renkema (1993: 34) said that a number of related sentences are resulting text, and the connection between sentences is an important characteristic of texts.

Based on Brown and Yule (1983: 6), we usually use the text to communicate and to convey our message(s) to other people, and it is a set of sign which is transmitted from the speaker/writer to the receiver, whether listener or reader, through specific codes, which are interpreted by the receiver to arrive at the speaker's or the writer's intended messages. Furthermore, Cook (1989: 14) said that stretches of language treated are only referred to as text.

In addition, Schiffrin (1994: 378) defines that text as the linguistic content of utterances that is the stable semantic meanings of words, expressions, and sentences, but not the inferences available to hearers depending upon the contexts in which words, expressions and sentences are used.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that text is speaker's or writer's intended message of communication.

Context

Linguists assume that messages are created through an interaction between two different types of information namely semantic which is a stable core of prepositional meaning conveyed through the language like linguistic code itself (Schiffrin, 1994: 362). In addition, he states that the second information is contextual information, which is identified in relation to something else that is the primary focus of our attention.

When we use language, we must constantly refer to the environment, circumstances or context (Brown and Yule, 1983: 25). Furthermore, they explain that context is the relationship between the speaker and the utterance on the particular

occasion of use. They further state that context is knowing who the speaker and hearer are, the time and the place of the production of the language. Based on Cook (1989: 10), context is the unity of discourse with considering the world at large, and it is influenced by the situation when we receive the messages, cultural and social relationship within the participant, what we know and what we assume the sender knows. In addition, Levinson (1983: 49) says that the textual assumptions are implying the facts about the spatial, temporal and also social relationship between participants, and their requisite beliefs and intentions in undertaking certain verbal exchanges.

From the definitions above, it can be said that context is the unity of discourse with considering the world at large, and it is influenced by the situation when we receive the messages, cultural and social relationship (includes our age, sex, ethnicity, social class, occupational background, family status etc.) within the participant, what we know and what we assume the sender knows.

2. Deixis

It will be explained about the definition of deixis, the root of deixis and types of deixis.

a. Definition of Deixis

Deixis deals with the connections between language in use and the situation in which language is used. This term is borrowed from the Greek word for *pointing* or *indicating*, and has as prototypical of focal exemplars the use of demonstrative as the first and the second person pronouns, tense, specific time and place adverbs like *now* and *here*, and a variety of other grammatical features tied directly to the circumstances of utterances (http://faculty.uca.edu/~lburlyey/deixis.htm). Essentially, deixis concerns the way in which languages encode or grammaticalize features of the context of utterance or speech

event, and this also concerns ways in which in the interpretation of utterances depends on the analysis of that context of utterance (Levinson, 1983: 54).

In pragmatics, deixis describes words or expressions whose reference relies absolutely on context (Stubs, 1973). Furthermore, he said that deixis is an important field of language study for learners of second languages, because it has some relevance to analysis of conversation and pragmatics. It is often and best described as verbal pointing, that is to say pointing by means of language.

From the explanation above, it can be said that deixis is pointing out, that is particular referents to point people or things.

b. Root of Deixis

There was an assumption that the use of words to refer to people and things which has a relatively straight forward matter. It is indeed fairly easy for people to do, but it is rather difficult to explain how they do it. That is why linguists suggest to do study about reference, that is who does something, when and where people do something through deixis.

Reference, based on Yule (1996: 17) is an act in which a speaker or writer uses linguistic forms to enable a listener or reader to identify something. Reference in discourse analysis is treated as an action on the part of the speaker or writer (Brown and Yule, 1983: 28). In other words, reference is the symbolic relationship that a linguistic expression has with the concrete object or also the relationship of one linguistic expression to another in which one provides the information necessary to interpret the other. There are three kinds of reference: coreference, endophora and exophora.

Deixis is one kind of exophora, that is reference of expression directly to an extra linguistic referent, and referent does not require another expression for its interpretation.

There are two kinds of exophora: homophora and deixis. (http://faculty.uca.edu/~lburley/deixis.htm).

c. Types of Deixis

There are many types of deixis such as empathetic deixis, discourse deixis, person deixis, place deixis, social deixis, and time deixis. But, Buhler (in Grundy, 2000: 23) has distinguished deixis into person deixis, place deixis, and time deixis; although many linguists have different words to explain the same terms like Yule who uses the words spatial deixis for place deixis and temporal deixis for time deixis.

1) Person Deixis

In general, person deixis is deictic reference to the participant role of a referent such as the speaker and the addressee, and referents which are neither speaker nor addressee. The distinction just described involves person deixis, with the speaker (*I*) and the addressee (*you*) mentioned, but, those deictic expressions (*I*, *you*) have to be discovered that each person in a conversation shifts from being *I* to being *you* constantly. Person deixis commonly expressed by the constituents: pronouns (the first person, the second person, and the third person), possessive affixes of nouns; and the last are agreement affixes of verbs.

Person deixis is realized with personal pronouns, the speaker as the first person (*I*), directs the utterance to the listener as the second person (*you*), and could be talking about the third person (*she, he*) (Renkema, 1993: 77). It is as Yule (1996: 10) stated that person deixis clearly operates on a basic three-part division, exemplified by the pronouns for the first person (*I*), the second person (*you*), and the third person (*she, he, it*).

2) Place Deixis

Levinson (1983: 79) 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. Alternatively, they can be deictically specified to the location of participants at the time of speaking. Based on him, there are some pure place-deictic words, the adverbs *here* and *there*, and the demonstrative pronouns *this* and *that*. Symbolic usage of *here* can be glossed as the pragmatically given unit of space that includes the location of the speaker at the time of speaking.

Based on Grundy (2000: 28), place deixis include:

- *Here* (Proximal), *There* (Distal), *Where* (and the archaic hither, hence, thither, thence, wither, whence)

- *Left, Right*

- *Up, Down, Above, Below, In front, Behind.*

- *Come, Go, Bring, Take.*

A similar deictic projection is accomplished through dramatic performance when use direct speech to represent person, location and feeling of someone or something else (Yule, 1996: 13). He states that it may be that pragmatic basis of spatial deixis is actually psychological distance. In addition, he also states that physically, closed object will tend to be treated by the speaker as psychologically closed. Also, something that is physically distance will generally be treated as psychologically distant. However, a speaker may also wish to mark something that is physically closed as psychologically distant. In this analysis, a word like *that* does not have a fixed meaning; instead, it is invested with meaning in a context by a speaker.

3) Time Deixis

The verbs sometimes also have another function besides referring to a specific time (Renkema, 1993: 79). It is noting that we also use the elaborated system of non-deictic temporal reference such as calendar time and clock time.

Grundy (2000: 31) has listed the deictic items use reference can only be determined in relation to the time of the utterance in which they occur.

- *This/last/next Monday/week/month/year*.

- *Now*, *then*, *ago*, *later*, *soon*, *before*.

- *Yesterday*, *today*, *tomorrow*.

Further aspects of the interaction of calendrical reckoning and time deixis arise when we consider complex time adverbials like *last Monday*, *next year* or *thisafternoon* (Levinson, 1983: 75). These consist of a deictic modifier like *this*, *next*, *last*, etc. together with a non-deictic name or measure word. The interpretation of such adverbials is systematically determined by:

a. The calendrical versus non-calendrical and also specifically deictic modes or reckoning.

b. The distinction between common noun units like *weeks*, *months*, *years* and proper name unit like *Monday*, *December* and perhaps *afternoon* which cannot be used as measure.

Such units can either be used as measure, relative to some fixed points of interest including deictic center, or they can be used calendrically to locate events absolute time relative to some absolute origo or at least to some parts of each natural cycle designated as the beginning of that cycle (Levinson, 1983: 73).

RESEARCH METHOD

This research is a descriptive qualitative. For, it describes deixis found on the written texts made by C class of fourth semester in English department both group A and B and has soft data (it is in the form of words, and it provides rich description and analysis of the data). This research studies about utterances which contain deixis on the

written texts made by C class of fourth semester in English department both group A and B.

In this research, the main instrument is the researcher, because there is no other instrument which can obtain the data. Besides, the researcher uses book and pen in gaining the data.

In collecting the data, some steps are done: the first step is asking the students to write. The second step is selecting the texts which possibly contain types of deixis. The next step is sequencing the data based on the deixis appear.

After collecting the data, they are analyzed as follows. The first is identifying the context of the texts. The second step is classifying the data based on the types of deixis. The next is discussing the data based on the types of deixis. The last is making conclusion of the findings.

Finding

The data is taken from academic writing subject. The students are asked to write about message and impression of joining academic writing class in the middle of the semester. From the data, the findings are gained as follow.

a. Person Deixis

Person deixis can be found in students' writing. Person deixis which is used by students can be in the form of:

No	Form of Deixis	Words to Denote Person Deixis
1	Subject	I, we, she, you

2	Object	us, me, you
3	Possessive Adjective	my, your, our
4	Reflexive Pronoun	myself
5	Name of Person	Mam/mom Datul, Mam/mom Nanung
6	Definite Noun	Lecture, student, teacher
7	Indefinite Noun	Some people

From the table above, we can see that person deixis from students' writing are in the form of Pronoun (subject, object, possessive adjective, and reflexive adjective), Noun (definite and indefinite Noun), and name of person.

Besides, there are words to resemble person deixis. But, they cannot be included as person deixis such as: *it* and *them* to denote the material of lecturing and/or the academic writing course.

b. Place Deixis.

From the texts that were written by the students, there is only one word *where* that can be found as place deixis. Furthermore, there are also some words that are usually used to denote the place such as *beside* which denote to the other thinking, junior high school and senior high school to denote the level of the education.

c. Time Deixis

From students' writing, it can be found time deixis as follow.

No	Form of Deixis	Words to Denote Time Deixis
1	Adverb of frequency	often, usually, sometimes
2	Noun phrase	one day
3	Adjective of time	now, today, future
4	Adverb of time	when
5	Numeral adjective	first, 8th
6	Temporal conjunction	after, next, last

From the table above, we can see that time deixis from students' writing are in the form of adverb of frequency (often, usually, sometimes), noun phrase (one day), Adjective of time (now, today), adverb of time (when), numeral adjective (first, 8th), and temporal conjunction (after, next, last).

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this research can be formulated based on the statement of the problem at the previous chapter. By analyzing the whole script of the students' writing which consists of fifteen students, it can be found the types of deixis as follows.

Person deixis can be found as: subject, object, possessive adjective, reflexive or emphatic pronoun, name of person, definite and indefinite noun. Furthermore, place deixis in students' writing can be found only in word *where* as adverb of place. In

addition, time deixis can be seen in the form of adverb of frequency, noun phrase, adjective of time, adverb of time, numeral adjective, and temporal conjunction.

It is also found words to resemble person deixis. But, they cannot be included as person deixis such as: *it* and *them* to denote the material of lecturing and/or the academic writing course. Furthermore, there are also some words that are usually used to denote the place such as *beside* which denote to the other thinking, junior high school and senior high school to denote the level of the education.

The most deixis often used in students' writingis person deixis, then is followed by time deixis and the rarest is place deixis. It is because when the students made writing about message and impression in joining the class always talked about themselves and also other people. They talked about the place just for emphasizing and give explanation of something. Then, time deixis is used in telling the time, telling the condition, and in agreement in time. In short, person deixis is common used in the message and impression text which talking about the condition between the speaker and the hearer, time deixis is rarely used in that kind of writing. The rarest deixis used in that kind of text is place deixis, it is usually used for emphasizing and give explanation of something.

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