

ANALYSIS OF DEIXIS IN THE STORY SELECTED FROM CHRISTIAN BIBLE, GENESIS

Sisilia Viona Anugrah

IKIP Siliwangi
Sisilia.viona95@gmail.com

Abstract

Language is more than a sign as it can function as a tool for communication among humans. This means that language can be learned by the humans. One of the fields that study the language is pragmatics. Pragmatics can be defined as the study of contextual meaning; therefore there should be a relationship between language and the context. However, this relationship can be recognized through deixis. The purpose of this paper is to analyze the types of deixis found in Chistian Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. This paper uses descriptive qualitative method, because it analyzes the types of deixis found in this novel. The method of collecting the data is documentation. The deixis that mostly used in this bible is the person deixis with the frequency of 192 (39.91%). The following deixis is place deixis that appears 103 times (21.41%). The social deixis appears with the frequency of 83 (17.25%) while the time deixis appears with the frequency of 66 (13.72%). The final deixis that appears is discourse deixis with the frequency of 36 (7.69%).

Keywords: Deixis, Bible, Genesis

INTRODUCTION

Language is an important part of human life because it serves as a tool for communication and interaction between people, so language is more than a sign. People can communicate and interact with each other by using language for many purposes. The existence of language among people for communication and interaction is a natural phenomenon. This natural phenomenon can be used in writing and spoken. One area of linguistics that learns languages that can help people is pragmatics. (Horn, L. R. and Ward, 2006) suggest that pragmatics is the study of aspects that depend on the context of meanings that are systematically kept away from the construction of content or logical form. In other words, pragmatics can be defined as the study of contextual meaning

For one of the most basic things to do with utterances, deixis seems not very familiar. People use it so often in both spoken and written language, but they do not know the word or the term to call it. As for college students who are majoring English, the term deixis is common when they study semantics. Studying deixis means learning one aspect of natural languages that requires such reference to know (at least) who the speaker and the hearer are, the place and the time of speaking in which the deictic terms are used.

This paper focuses only on the discussion of deixis because deixis is very important in language study. There are many words and expressions that depend on the circumstance, in order to be understood. This aspect is called deixis (Carron, 1992). Armed with this condition, then deixis cannot be ignored in the study of language, for ordinary language is full of their use. Particularly it will try to analyze deixis in the article selected from the Jakarta Post.

This paper is started by presenting the review of related theory –deixis/deictic terms, types of deixis, and deictic usage – the analysis of deixis, and conclusion respectively.

Type of Deixis

There are three traditional categories of deixis, i.e. person deixis, place or spatial deixis, and time or temporal deixis (Levinson, 1983) These categories are understood in the following way.

a. Person Deixis

According to (Levinson, 1983) The deixis person involves the encoding of participants in speaking functions. Deixis clearly operates in three major divisions, for example pronouns for pronouns for first person (I), second person (you) and third person (him or her). See his examples below:

Person deixis is commonly expressed by pronouns, such as I, my, mine, you, your, yours, we, ours, us, etc (Fromkin, 2003). Those pronouns require identification of speaker and listener for interpretation. Besides, other expression such as this person, that man, these women, those children, etc are also deictic since in order for the listener to make a referential connection and understand what is meant, they require pragmatic information (ibid).

b. Place or Spatial Deixis

Spatial or place Deixis refers to how languages show the relationship between space and the location of the participants in a discourse. (Fromkin, 2003) said that, the expression of place deixis require contextual information of the place of the utterance such as here, there, this, place, that, place, this city, etc. In English, the distinction between space and the location of the participants in a discourse is shown in demonstrative pronouns (that-this), or in adverbs (here-there), directional terms (before-behind, left-right, front-back) or in phrases such as at our place, out back etc.

In addition, (Yule, 1996) When considering spatial deixis, however, it is important to remember that from the perspective of the speaker, the place can be improved both mentally and physically. Based on this statement, Yule is spatially-deictically classified in two forms of projected deeds and psychological distances.

- a. The dictical projection is achieved through dramatic performance, when I represent people, places and feelings of someone or something else through language. For example: The proximal expression from here means the position of the speaker

c. Discourse Deixis

Deixis deciphers the references to the parts of the discourse that take place where the utterance is (Levinson, 1983). (Levinson, 1983). The Deixis discourse is a forward-looking statement referring to the special discourse that involves the utterance or as the indication and relevance around the text. Deictic sentence used by this deixis is? which refers to the part that will come and that? to the previous section.

The examples of Discourse Deixis can be seen as follows:

- I know you've already known that.
- This is important, remember it!

d. Social Deixis

Social Deixis Social Deixis is different from other deixis types. Social deixis does not refer to time, place, or person, but refers to the rank of society and position between speaking and accepting a society of wisdom. (Levinson, 1983) states that social deixis is concerned with the encoding of social differences between the speaker and the recipient or the speaker and some references. In the other words, Social deixis is an expression used for different social and rank ranks. (Levinson, 1983) adds that there are two main types of social deixis: the Relational Social Deixis and the Absolute Social Deixis. Relational Social Deixis refers to some social characteristics and feature references apart from a reference to the social relationship between the speaker and the recipient.

. For example are lexical objects (e.g. my wife, professor, cousin, etc). Absolute Social Deixis refers to respectful references including no relationship appraisals or location of the speaker and receiver. For example: Excellency, Mr. President, Excellency, etc. The examples of social deixis can be seen as follows:

- Good day, Mommy
- Thank you, Sir

METHOD

This research is categorized as descriptive qualitative because the data have been analyzed and its findings are in the form of descriptions, instead of numbers. A descriptive research determines and reports the thing. It means that this research happens naturally, has no control over the condition and situation, and can only measure what already exist (Gay, L.R. & Airasian, 1992). The type of this qualitative research was content analysis which applied to written or visual material. According to (Ary, D., Jacobs, L. C., & Razavieh, 2002), content analysis focuses on analyzing and interpreting recorded material to learn about human behavior, and the material may be public records, textbooks, letters, films, tapes, diaries, themes, reports, transcript or other documents. The research procedure was to find descriptive data in the form of written data as a result of the content analysis of document employed to the certain text such as the text in the article selected from the Jakarta post.

The data source of this research was the article selected from Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. The collected data gained from documentation were then analyzed to fulfill the data towards problems. It was through the techniques–data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing/verifying (Miles, M.B, and Huberman, 1994). To do so, after the data were collected, data reduction was conducted by classifying, pointing, throwing irrelevant data, and organizing data. All the data were then presented in narration, and the conclusion was drawn.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

Deixis Used in “A Tale of Two Cities” written by Charles Dickens:

The types of Deixis used in Bible chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 can be seen in table 2.

Table 2: Deixis used in Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Type of Deixis	Number of Words	Percentage
Social	83	17.25%
Person	192	39.91%
Time	66	13.72%
Place	103	21.41%
Discourse	37	7.69%
Total	481	

Table 2 reveals that the total number of deixis found in the Bible Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 is 481. The deixis that mostly used in this bible is the person deixis with the frequency of 192 (39.91%). The following deixis is place deixis that appears 103 times (21.41%). The social deixis appears with the frequency of 83 (17.25%) while the time deixis appears with the frequency of 66 (13.72%). The final deixis that appears is discourse deixis with the frequency of 36 (7.69%).

Person Deixis:

Person Deixis that found in these chapter can be seen in table 3 as follows:

Table 3
Person Deixis found in Bible chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Types of Person Deixis	Number of words
I	26
You	21
We	19
They	23
He	27
She	7
Him	16
Them	22
It	6
His	25
Total	192

Table 3 reveals that the total number of person deixis found in the novel is 192. The dominant person deixis type that is used is —He (27). The other types of person deixis are ‘I (26), they (23), them (22), you (21), we (19), him (16), she (7) and it (6).

The examples of person deixis can be seen as follows:

1- **You** will make rooms in the ark and coat it with pitch inside. (Chapter 6, p. 75)
The word “you” in this sentence refers to the person will make room in the ark.

2- **He** waited some more days and again sent the dove out from the ark. (Chapter 8, p. 80)

The word “he” in this sentence refers to the person who waited to sent the dove.

Time Deixis:

Time Deixis that found in this novel can be seen in table 4 as follows:

Table 4
Time Deixis found in Bible chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Types of Time Deixis	Number of Words
Beginning	11
Days	23
Nights	14
Year	8
Month	10
Total	66

Table 4 reveals that total number of time deixis found in this Bible chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 is 66. The dominant time deixis that used in this novel is day with the frequency of 23. The other types of time deixis are night (14), beginning (11), month (10), and year (8).

The examples of time deixis can be seen as follows:

- 1- On **that same day** Noah went into the ark, as well Shem, Ham and Japeth, his sins and his wife and his daughters in law. (Chapter 7, p. 79)

The word —that same day refers to time when Noah went into the ark with the others.

- 2- **The beginning** of his empire was Babel with Erech and Accad, all of them in the land of Shinar. (Chapter 10, p. 82)

The word “the beginning” refers to the time in early day when three empire was in the land of Shinar.

Place Deixis:

Place Deixis that found in this novel can be seen in table 5 as follows:

Table 5
Place Deixis found in Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Types of Place Deixis	Number of Words
That	47
These	29
This	16
There	11
Total	103

Table 5 reveals that total number of place deixis found in this Bible chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 is 103. Those place deixis are that (47), these (29), this (16), and there (11).

The examples of place deixis can be seen as follows:

- 1- The God remembered Noah and the animals and cattle **that** were with him in the ark. (Chapter 8, p.80)

The word “that” refers to the place that is with Noah in the ark.

- 2- **These** are the descendats of Noah’s sons. Chapter 10, p. 82)

The word “these” refers to the place that is pointed sons of Noah.

Discourse Deixis:

Discourse deixis that found in this novel can be seen in table 6 as follows:

Table 6:
 Discourse Deixis found in Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Types of Discourse Deixis	Number of Words
This	15
That	22
These	9
Total	37

Table 6 reveals that total number of discourse deixis found in this novel is 36. Those discourse deixis are that (23) and this (13).

The examples of discourse deixis can be seen as follows:

- 1- With **these** words the scripture assures us that human error and crimes cannot lead to chaos. (Chapter 7, p.79)

The word “these” refers to the forthcoming portion: message.

- 2- This is the sign of covenant I have made between me and all **that** has life on the earth (Chapter 9, p.81)

The word —that‖ refers to the preceding portion: answer.

Social Deixis:

Discourse deixis that found in this story can be seen in table 7 as follows:

Table 7
 Social Deixis found in Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Types of Social Deixis	Number of Words
People	11
Daughter	14
Son	34
Wife	17
Father	5
Children	2
Total	83

Table 7 reveals that total number of social deixis found in this novel is 83. The dominant social deixis that used in this novel is son with the frequency of 34. The other types of social deixis are wife (17), daughter (14), people (11), father (5), and children (2).

The example of social deixism can be seen as follows:

- When Noah woke up from the wine, he knew when his youngest son had done it. (Chapter 10, p.82)

The word “son” shows the degree of relationship between the speaker and the addressee.

- 1- You shall come into the ark, you, your **wife**, your sons, and your sons’ wives with you (Chapter 7, p. 79)

The words “wife” shows the degree of relationship between the speaker and the addressees.

CONCLUSION

Deixis manifests the relationship between the structure of language and the context. Hence it helps users to recognize the structure of the language and the context surrounds it. The term deixis refers to the classification of linguistic expressions relating to situational contextual elements, including language learners, the time and location of the current speech event.

Based on the data analysis, the researcher found five kinds of deixis in Bible, Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. The total number of deixis in this Bible, Genesis Genesis chapter 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 is 481. The deixis that mostly used in this bible is the person deixis with the frequency of 192 (39.91%). The following deixis is place deixis that appears 103 times (21.41%). The social deixis appears with the frequency of 83 (17.25%) while the time deixis appears with the frequency of 66 (13.72%). The final deixis that appears is discourse deixis with the frequency of 36 (7.69%). Due to the findings of deixis, it is concluded that deixis manifests the relationship between the structure of language and the context which cannot be split and it should be communicated contextually and pragmatically.

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