DEIXIS IN ‘AKU KESEPIAN, SAYANG. DATANGLAH, MENJELANG KEMATIAN’ BY SENO GUMIRA AJIDARMA

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BY
DEVITA RIESMAYANTI
NIM 0811113033

STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE
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atau

DEIKSIS DALAM ‘AKU KESEPIAN, SAYANG. DATANGLAH, MENJELANG KEMATIAN’ OLEH SENO GUMIRA AJIDARMA

Nama : Devita Riesmayanti
NIM : 0811113033
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Alamat Tempat Tinggal : Villa Ikan Paus Kav. 19 Malang
No. Telepon : 085646599948
Alamat E-mail : phytaqt@yahoo.com

Menyetujui

Pembimbing I

[Signature]

Drs. Kinarita Ida Rahmati, M. Pd.
NIP. 19560426 198203 2 001

Pembimbing II

Yuni Astuti, S.Pd.
NIP. 19760601 200604 2 001

Mengetahui

Ketua Program Studi

[Signature]

Yusri Fajar, M.A
NIP. 19751125 200212 2 002
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Devita Riesmayanti

Study Program of English, Faculty of Cultural Studies, Universitas Brawijaya

Abstract

The researcher interested in analyzing the relevancy of Levinson’s theory with Indonesian literature, especially short story entitled Aku Kesepian, Sayang. Datanglah, Menjelang Kematian. In this research, there are two problems: (1) what kinds of deixis are used in Aku Kesepian, Sayang. Datanglah, Menjelang Kematian by Seno Gumira Ajidarma? and (2) what are the meanings of the deictic expressions? The researcher uses a qualitative method since the research concerns with the application of language style to the written text. In this study, the researcher finds that in three short stories, Kyoto Monogatari, Legenda Wongasu, and Layang-Layang there are five types of deixis: person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis.

Keywords: Pragmatics, Deixis, Short Story

Communication is very important in people’s life to communicate with other people in their society. “Communication is a fundamental notion in the study of behavior, which acts as a frame of reference for linguistic and phonetic studies” (Crystal, 2002, p. 85). On the other side, communication is not only sharing something, but also delivering a message or meaning of the conversation. Communicating with other people can be done by several types, such as code, body movement, and sign instead of using words, sound, and sentences (Wardhaugh, 1986, p. 2).

People in general, usually communicate with other people by using sentences or sound. They can call it as verbal communication. Communication can be divided into two types, verbal and nonverbal. Both of these types cannot be separated since people communicate, they usually apply it in their daily life. Jones and LeBaron (2002, p. 499) argue that verbal is when a person says to another directly, and nonverbal is when a person tries to communicate by using gesture,
eye contact, and also hand movement. Furthermore, Tepper and Haase (2001, p. 211) define that the nonverbal behaviors have been demonstrated to have measurable impact on the counseling process including eye contact, trunk lean, distance, body orientation, movement, facial expression, vocal intonation, gestures, and selected features of the spatial environment. People can deliver their message better to others by using both verbal and nonverbal communication. Verbal communication can be used as the direct way to share the main idea of the conversation. Then, they use nonverbal communication as the stress of the main message of conversation. Communication clearly depends on not only the recognizing the meaning of words in an utterance, but also recognizing what speakers meant by their utterances (Yule, 2010, p. 127).

The represent of verbal communication is language. People use language not only for communicating with others, but also for delivering the message of the conversation. When they talk to others, people sometimes utter the message directly. On the other words, other people prefer to deliver the message by using deictic expressions. Then, the speaker and the hearer have already got the background information about it. One of the examples is when the speaker asks someone about the time, and the hearer replies it with saying that it is time to lunch. Based on the example, it can be concluded that it is already at noon. The linguistics branch that concerned with intended meaning between the speakers is pragmatics (Yule, 2010, p. 127).

Levinson (1983, p. 5) states that pragmatics is the study of language usage. It can be said that pragmatics is how people interpret the meaning of the conversation based on the context. Language also relates with who are the speaker, the hearer, when, and background knowledge both the speaker and the hearer. The meaning of each conversation depends on those factors to make a good communication. In addition, Yule (2010, p. 128) argues that pragmatics is the study
of implicit meaning which is orally. On the other words, it could be said that it is how people interpret and share the argument when they communicate each other.

People, when they get along with others, they accidentally use deixis to clarify the meaning. Deixis is emphasis on languages encode or grammaticalize features of the context of utterance or speech event as well the interpretation of the utterances from various situation or context (Levinson, 1983, p. 54). There are five types of deixis; person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, discourse and social deixis. Those kinds of deixis have a closer relationship with deictic expressions. Deictic is the lexical items that encode the context (Grundy, 2000, p. 23). The term of deixis is important to build the meaning and the assumption of the hearer.

The terms of deixis can be found in various ways in Indonesian literature. Indonesian literature can be divided into two types, prose and poem. Prose is a literary work that is not tied while poem is a literary work bound with certain rules and regulations (Shadilie, 2009, para. 4). Shadilie also adds the examples of poems literature such as poetry, limerick, and verses. Then, the examples of prose literature are novel, stories or short stories, and drama. Meanwhile, Nur et al (2011, para. 1) state that Indonesian literatures are drama, prose, and poem. Related with those explanations, the researcher uses three short stories as her data analysis.

The basic reason for choosing Indonesian literature as research is that Indonesian literature is various with different kinds of theme, genre, plot, the style of language, and it is different from others countries’ literature. Indonesian literary works are numerous from linguistics point of view, in this case are deixis. The researcher interested in deixis because people usually use or familiar with deixis in their daily life. But, some of them did not recognize that. One of Indonesian authors is Seno Gumira Ajidarma. He is not only a writer but also a journalist and photographer. He has graduated from Institut Kesenian Jakarta, Faculty of Film
and Television. He gets his doctoral of literature with his dissertation by analyzing the “Panji Tengkorak” comic. Besides finishing his education, he still creates some literary works, such as novels, scenarios, essays, and dozens of short stories (Hartiningsih, 2005, para. 5).

The researcher chooses ‘Aku Kesepian, Sayang. Datanglah, Menjelang Kematian’ by Seno Gumira Ajidarma. This book was published in 2004. The genre is collection of short stories. This book not only consists of fifteen short stories, but also adds it with picture, caricature, and the unique one is a folklore that still uses the old spelling of Indonesian. Also, the researcher found from Seno’s book, it consists of a lot of deixis in Indonesian. In addition, the researcher chooses Seno Gumira Ajidarma’s book because of his language style is straightforward and the theme of his book is simple.

The researcher uses two previous studies as her previews. The first is “A comparative study of deixis in Chinese and English” written by Methven (2006). He focuses his study of the translating deictic term between English and Chinese. He also analyzes the differences between place, person and time deixis both in English and Chinese in case of pragmatics usage, while he taking a brief looks at the use of time deixis in context of discourse deixis.

The result of his research is that the deixis both in English and Chinese are consistence in case of first, second, and third person. In addition, in his research, the main difference between English and Chinese deixis is the lack of subject and object forms in Chinese personal pronouns, the honorific second person pronoun and the two first-person pronouns in Chinese. He also finds that there are more time deixis which are functionally equal both in English and Chinese. In English, the time deixis, sometimes can be semantically weakened and used as discourse deixis. In other words, in Chinese, the time deixis is more relevant to describe the sequence of events.
The second previous study is entitled “Differences in the usage of deictic expressions in English and German text” written by Becher (2010). In his research, he concerns through the communicative role by using deictic expressions both English and German text to communicate effectively with their reader. He is using two approaches to analyze this issue; qualitative (discourse analytic) and quantitative (corpus linguistic). Moreover, he chooses popular science as data of the text.

The result of this research is that deictic expressions are found more frequently in German text endings rather than in English. This result made up of some outcomes, such as deictic expressions which are important to make textual cohesion in German. In addition, the level of degree of explicitness is higher in it rather that in English. This is because of English focus on the maintenance or the addressee oriented. In other words, German distress through the content oriented. In his analysis, based on types of deictics and the frequency of occurrence in the corpus; personal, object, quality, temporal, spatial, and composite in English got 230 and German 259. The most finding in English is personal deixis it totality 98 and German is object deixis it totality 71. The researcher also catches interesting finding, which is the terms of composite deictics very important for German popular science authors, while in English is rarely. Therefore, the researcher draws the conclusion that the grammatical system in German is more explicit than in English.

Related to Methven and Becher’s research, they emphasize their research by analyzing the deixis in Chinese and the deictic expressions in German. The data of their research is different. Thus, Methven’s research relates to pragmatics and translation by using Levinson’s and Wei’s theories, but Becher relates his research to pragmatics and discourse analysis as the context and he uses Ehlich’s theory to analyze his data. The differences between those previous
The researcher uses qualitative method to collect the data, since the research concerns with the application of language style to the written text. Qualitative research also conducts with the understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry which explore social or human problem. The researcher builds a complex, holistic picture, analyzes words, reports detailed views of informants, and conducts the study in a natural setting (Creswell, 1998, p. 15). The researcher uses qualitative approach to identify the phenomena of deixis in Seno Gumira Ajidarma’s book. The researcher also tries to find out the meaning used in it. The data are the words taken from Seno Gumira Ajidarma’s book that contains types of deixis. The researcher chooses three short stories out of fifteen stories as the data source of this research, entitled Kyoto Monogatari, Legenda Wongasu, and Layang-Layang. The data were collected by reading the short stories, choosing the short story the researcher wants to analyze, selecting the words which consist of deixis, and listing the words consisting of deixis based on Levinson’s theory. The
researcher began her analysis by classifying the data, finding the meaning then making conclusion and verification.

**FINDING**

After reading the three short stories in ‘Aku Kesepian, Sayang. Datanglah, Menjelang Kematian’ by Seno Gumira Ajidarma, the researcher found 754 deictic expressions. The researcher categorized the data related to the types of deixis written by Levinson (1983). He categorized types of deixis into five types; person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis.

The table below shows the number of types of deixis and the most deictic expressions occurred in the three short stories analyzed by the researcher.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Deixis</th>
<th>The short stories</th>
<th>Total deictic expressions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kyoto Monogatari</td>
<td>Legenda Wongasu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discourse</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The most frequently occurring deixis in Seno Gumira Ajidarma’s book among the three short stories were discourse deixis by using anaphora to explain information which was already mentioned before. Moreover, the researcher found the discourse deixis as the most frequently occurring deixis referred to the repeated explanation have already mentioned before. So, Seno used discourse deixis to connect the previous explanation of the short stories with the next
sentence or paragraph which relate each other. This example was taken from the second short story ‘Legenda Wongasu’ on page 70. ‘… atau memasang sebuah tenda dan memasang bangku-bangku **di dalamnya**…’ the word ‘di dalamnya’ referred to the tent built by the story teller. He or she built it to offer the hearer to come to his or her tent then they would hear about the legend of Wongasu.

The second most frequently occurring deixis was person deixis which the researcher found that person deixis was used to classify the function of person deixis as a subject, object or possessive pronoun. The following example taken from the first short story entitled ‘Kyoto Monogatari’ page 60, would describe the first person pronoun. ‘**Aku** tidak pernah bisa mengerti…’ the word ‘aku’ reflected the author himself, which was Seno. He reflected himself to tell the reader what happened when he was in the train. Then, he told that he saw a woman who was walking in the storm. The third deixis mostly occurred was social deixis used to respect the elder people and people who have the higher position than the speaker. This example was taken from the second short story ‘Legenda Wongasu’ on page 79. This part talked about the arrested of Sukab’s family after one of his child bite a child who always threw stone to them. ‘…mereka juga bisa menangkap **Saudara**’ the word ‘Saudara’ referred to Sukab. It was said by the policemen who arrested Sukab’s family. In this story, the policeman called Sukab as ‘Saudara’ because Sukab is younger than the policemen. In addition, the policemen showed that the usage of ‘Saudara’ was used to respect Sukab as the younger person.

After social deixis, the most frequently occurring deixis was place deixis and the last was time deixis. Place deixis among three short stories was used to describe the unspecified location mentioned in the short stories. The following example was taken from the third short story, ‘Layang-Layang’, page 120. This example was about the kite maker, who based on the villager’s
opinion, was bit strange and lived in unusual place. ‘Hanya Sukab yang berani tinggal di sana’ related to the previous explanation, Sukab was bit strange and lived in unusual place. The time deixis ‘di sana’ referred to the time that meandered into a valley. Sukab lived there alone. The villagers said that the hill were frighten and only him who lived there. In addition, time deixis was used to unspecific time happened in the past, present and in the future. This example was taken from the third short story ‘Layang-Layang’ on page 123. It was the end of the story that was after unexpected event happened at mid night. ‘Sampai sekarang aku dan orang-orang desa kami yang terbangun…’ the word ‘sekarang’ meant until the story was written and the reader read the story. In addition, the word ‘sekarang’ could be until the author retells his story to others.

**DISCUSSION**

Communication is very important in people life. People when communicate with other people, not only share something but also deliver a message or meaning of the conversation. When they talk to others, people sometimes utter the message directly. On the other words, other people prefer to deliver the message by using deictic expressions. Then, the speaker and the hearer have already got the background information about it. In the conversation, people use some hints to utter the message of the conversation. Then, the usage of deixis is pointing something by using language. So, they do not have to say all of the intention of the conversation. One example of various types of deixis can be found in Indonesian literature; ‘Aku Kesepian, Sayang. Datanglah, Menjelang Kematian’ by Seno Gumira Ajidarma.

Based on the finding gained by the researcher, the researcher tried to interpret the findings related to her point of view in this discussion. In her findings, the researcher found that in ‘Aku Kesepian, Sayang. Datanglah, Menjelang Kematian’ by Seno Gumira Ajidarma, not all
of the deictic expressions can be analyzed with theory of person deixis in Bahasa Indonesia written by Firdawati or the Levinson’s theory of deixis. In the real case, not all of deictic expressions are suitable to be analyzed with both theories. The researcher found other deictic expressions of person deixis which were not mentioned in Firdawati’s theory of person deixis. That was ‘dikau’. When the researcher found the deictic expressions that not mention in Firdawati’s and Levinson’s theories, she tried to classify the deictic expressions based on the context. It means that she checked the deictic expressions that not mention both in Firdawati’s and Levinson’s theories with the previous explanation in the short story bound on the context.

Then, the person deixis in Bahasa Indonesia (Firdawati, 2011, para. 2 cited in Yusrizalfirzal, 2011) mentioned that the suffix –nya included the deictic expressions for third person pronoun, while in English (Grundy, 2000, p. 26) stated that the deictic expressions for third person pronoun were he, she, they, and it. Differently with both theories, the researcher found that in Seno Gumira Ajidarma’s book, not all of suffix –nya take in deictic expressions for person pronoun. But, it takes in discourse deixis. The evidence of suffix –nya was founded in the second short story ‘Legenda Wongasu’ on page 70, when the story teller wanted to hold a show and the narrator said ‘… atau memasang sebuah tenda dan memasang bangku-bangku di dalamnya…’. The word ‘di dalamnya’ meant the tent that built by the story teller. In that case, not all of suffix –nya considered as person pronoun because the function of suffix –nya depends on the context.

**CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

Based on the finding and discussion, the researcher concludes that deixis does not only point something and clarify the meaning of deixis based on the context, but also uses the indicator of each types of deixis. Different from other types of deixis, social deixis could be used
to describe the politeness system in the society. Especially in Indonesia, the term politeness is used to show the respect to elder people or when the hearer has higher position rather than the speaker is.

Based on the conclusion, the researcher finds that although the short stories and the theory have the same languages, in this case in Bahasa Indonesia, not all of the data can be analyzed by using Bahasa Indonesia theory. It is the same for analyzing the data in Bahasa Indonesia which the theory is in English. Thus, the researcher expects the next researchers are able to use theories concerning deixis written by other authors and using another data, for instance song lyric, speech, poem, or advertisement.

REFERENCES


