# AN ANALYSIS OF DEIXIS IN "CATCHING THE SUN" NOVEL BY TONY PARSONS

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#### Abstract

This research is entitled "An Analysis of Deixis in Catching the Sun Novel by Tony Parsons". It was carried out to identify the type of deixis contained in the novel and to describe to whom and what they refer to in the dialogues. The source of the data was a corpus from the dialogues in chapter 29, chapter 30, and chapter 31. The methodology used in this research is a descriptive method and it was conducted in a qualitative form. The data obtained in this novel was the characters' utterances and was presented in form of phrases and sentences. After doing the analysis, it was found that the novel contained five deixis types, including person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. Person deixis was uttered 411 times, spatial deixis was uttered 24 times, temporal deixis was uttered 9 times, social deixis was uttered 3 times, and discourse deixis was uttered 15 times. The reference meanings of person deixis mostly refer to the characters, the spatial deixis refer to the places in the story, the temporal deixis refers to the point in time when the discussion took place, the social deixis refers to an honorable character, and the discourse deixis refers to the words in the same utterances uttered by the speaker. Meanwhile, the dominant type of deixis was person deixis. Hopefully, the finding of this study will be beneficial to readers and students.

**Keywords:** Deixis analysis, Catching the sun, Tony parsons novel, Literary work

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Language is essential to human life because it enables people to communicate with one another. People use language for daily interactions, express their feelings or behavior. In addition, language can be classified into two types, namely spoken and written. These two language types are distinguished by their quality in expressing the context. Spoken language is more dependent on context

and tends to be grammatically complex. In contrast, written languages are independent of immediate contexts and tend to be lexically complex.

Comprehending the meaning in communication is essential to understand what is said or written by the speaker or the writer. In language, not only the meaning should be understood, but also what the speaker or the writer intended to convey. In other words, it is important to find out the meaning based on the speaker or the writer's intention. In addition, inferential meaning is often found in written texts, and it involves determining the meaning of the text. Inferential meaning includes the indirect and non-explicit meaning that is stated. Therefore, the study of meaning is important.

In English, many words and expressions that can only be understood based on the situation. It can create a miscommunication that often leads to a problem between a speaker and a listener. To understand the meaning clearly, the listener must understand the context. In this case, a pragmatics study is needed. Pragmatics is a part of linguistics that learns how people produce a communication act and interpret it based on the context. This involves interpreting what people mean and how it affects the other. In pragmatics, deixis is a part of it that describes the reference of words or expressions which rely absolutely on the concept.

Deixis is a type of pragmatics that is usually used in daily communication in the form of speaking or writing. According to Levinson (1983), traditional deixis is grouped into some categories such as person, place, and time deixis. These criteria of deixis are also called deictic expressions. Person deixis indicates words like pronouns, and it contains first person, second person, and third person pronouns. Place or Spatial deixis indicates location or place in proximal and distal forms such as *here* and *there*. And time or temporal deixis indicates time in present, past, and future forms. However, Lyons and Fillmore (1977) in Levinson (1983) adds another two deixis categories; social and discourse deixis. While Cruse (2000) also states that there are five main types of deixis that we should recognize.

During the conversation, context is used in utterances. It includes who is speaking to whom, when and where they are speaking, gestures, relations, and both participants' status. In the sentence, *you must see it*; the word *you* and *it* are deictic expressions that contain nonpermanent references. Those words are different from the words like *cat* or *bowl*, which have a permanent reference that people can imagine its physical appearance. On the other hand, the words *you* and *it* can refer to only if the listener knows the context.

Besides daily communication, deixis also can be found in literary works. One of the literary works is a novel. A novel is a long narrative that is drawn from an author's imagination. It contains a lot of words and sentences. Therefore, those words and sentences must have included some deictic expressions. In the literary work class of the English Education Study Program at Tanjungpura University, the lecturer used a novel to discussed with the students. During the discussion, the students were asked to read and summarized the novel, which was divided into some chapters. In this activity of reading and summarizing, the comprehension of deixis and pragmatics is needed to know the meaning of the story being told in the novel. Therefore, this research was carried out by the writer in order to determine the type of deixis as well as its references in the Catching the Sun novel. In addition, the writer chose this novel because it was used as teaching media and discussed by the students of literary work class. It also contained a good storyline and used many deixis expressions in its dialogues.

The writer decided to analyze the spoken texts in the novel *Catching the Sun* by Tony Parson. Catching the Sun is a novel that was published in 2012 and contained a story about the life of a British family who tried to find a new home in Thailand. However, the writer did not analyze all of the utterances but only chose several chapters that contained the conflict and the main focus of the story in the novel. Furthermore, the chapter included in a corpus was chapter 29 (page 248-266), chapter 30 (page 267-275), and chapter 31 (page 276-286).

In this research, the goals are to identify the different and dominant types of deixis and to describe its reference meanings in the novel. Since the writer investigated the varieties of deixis and their references in the novel Catching the Sun, she employes descriptive research as a research method. There are some previous researches about analyzing the types of deixis in literature work. First, it was conducted by Rosmawaty (2013). The purpose of this research is to examine the many types of deixis in Habiburrahman El-Shirazy's novel Ayat-Ayat Cinta. Person deixis was shown as the most prevalent type of deixis in this research. Deixis of place, time, discourse, and social deixis are also included in the novel. Second, the research focused on analyzing songs' lyrics and it was conducted by Ilza, Nasution, and Setiadi (2018). It was found that all types of deixis were used with 48 deictic words or 28% of person deixis.

Based on the previous researches and the findings, the writer had similar research, but it concentrated on examining several sorts of deixis and their references in Tony Parsons' novel Catching the Sun, which was based on Levinson's theory. The result of this research is expected to provide knowledge about what kinds of deictic expressions and their references are used in the Catching the Sun novel. Therefore, from the explanation above, the writer conducted this research to find out about deixis.

### RESEARCH METHOD

This study was conducted using qualitative research. It was chosen because the writer analyzed the types of deixis included in the Catching the Sun novel.

According to Gay, Mills, and Airasian (2012), descriptive research can be conducted by following six steps: (1) Identify problems. (2) Conduct a literature review. (3) Determines who will participate and what instruments will be used. (4) Gather data that is both valid and reliable. (5) Examine the data. (6) Conclusions of the report.

Based on the procedure above, the writer followed them as a guide to examine the data and analyzed the dialogue in the novel. Therefore, the focus is to analyze the types of deixis uttered by the characters in the "Catching the Sun" novel.

In analyzing the characters' utterances, the writer used an objective approach to analyze the novel. According to Abrams (1999), the objective approach is one of the types of literary approaches. It deals with the work of literature and is free from the audience, author's experience, and social-cultural background. This approach only focused on the literary work itself and did not relate to the author's life or background of society.

The writer decided to use a corpus from several chapters of the novel, including chapter 29 (page 248-266), chapter 30 (page 267-275), and chapter 31 (page 276-286) because these chapters contained the conflict and the main story of the novel.

To collect the data, followings are the steps that the writer took in analyzing the data: (1) Read the novel. (2) Choose the chapters containing the types of deixis and conflict of the story. (3) Creating corpus from the chosen chapters of the novel. (4) Separating the collected data into the types of deixis.

After the information were gathered, the writer continued with the data analysis. According to Hatch (2002), analysis allows the researcher to identify themes, develop an explanation, make interpretations, and generate theories while organizing and interrogating data. To analyze the data, some steps were taken by the writer and explained as follows: (1) Reading the corpus of data. (2) Using the types of deixis uttered by the characters of the novel "Catching the Sun" to analyze the data. (3) Classifying the several types of deixis featured in the novel. (4) Making a table of findings. (5) Describing the references of deixis based on its types. (6) Drawing conclusions and suggestions.

### **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

In the analysis, the writer used several utterances that contains some deictic expressions. Moreover, the writer also explains and compares the meanings of the deixis.

Table 1. Kinds of Deixis in the Novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parsons

No.	Types of Dexis	Quantity	Percentage (%)
1.	Person Deixis	411	89%
2.	Spatial Deixis	24	5.2%
3.	Temporal Deixis	9	2%
4.	Social Deixis	3	0.6%
5.	Discourse Deixis	15	3.2%
	Total	462	100%

# 1. Types of Deixis

### a. Person Deixis

Person deixis clarifies three kinds of pronouns, and the pronouns are the first person using the form *I*, *we*, *my*, *our*, and *us*, the second person is using the form *you* or names, and third-person using form *he*, *she*, *it*, or *they*. According to Dylgjeri and Kazazi (2013), the speaker and the addressee are referred to as "person deixis". The speaker refers to himself/herself in the first person, whereas is addressed in the second. A third-person pronoun, on the other hand, refers to someone or something other than the speaker or the addressee.

Kinds of person deixis found in the novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parson are *I*, we (subject pronouns in first person deixis), us, me (object pronouns in first person deixis), my, our (possessive adjectives in first person deixis), myself (reflexive pronouns in third person deixis), you (subject and object pronouns in second person deixis), your (possessive adjectives in second person deixis), he, she, it, they (subject pronouns in third person deixis), him, her, it, them (object pronouns in third person deixis), himself (reflexive pronouns in third person deixis), his, her, and their (possessive adjectives in the third person).

Table 2. Person Deixis in the Novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parsons

Person Deixis			Qty
		I	79
	Personal	We	28
	Pronouns	Us	6
Einst Danson		Ме	13
First Person -	Reflexive	Myself	1
_	Pronouns		
·-	Possessive	Му	18
	Adjectives	Our	1
	Personal	You	66
Second	Pronouns	You	17
Person	Possessive	Your	14
	Adjectives		
		Не	26
		She	8
		It	32
Third	Personal	They	30
Person	Pronouns	Him	8
		Her	17
		It	22
		Them	7

	Deflaning	I Linea alf	
	Reflexive	Himself	2
	Pronouns		
	Possessive	His	10
Adjectives	Her	5	
	Aujectives	Their	1
	Total		411

### b. Spatial Deixis

Location adverbs like *here* and *there*, as well as demonstratives like *this* and *that*, are examples of spatial deixis. A location deictic system with two terms, proximal and distal, exists in English. the word here is indicated by the proxmal phrase, which means that the area is close to the speaker. On the other hand, the proximal term indicates the word *there*, which means the region is distant from the speaker.

Kinds of person deixis found in the novel *Catching the Sun* by Tony Parson are *here, come,* and *there*.

Table 3. Spatial deixis in the novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parsons

Spatial Deixis		Quantity
Proximal	Here	16
	Come	1
Distal	There	7
Total		24

### c. Temporal Deixis

In English, three tenses are related to time deixis, namely present, past, and future tense. These tenses differentiate in proximal form for present and distal form for past and future.

Kinds of temporal deixis in the novel *Catching the Sun* by Tony Parson are *now, tonight, then, one day, later,* and *earlier*.

Table 4. Temporal deixis in the novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parsons

Temporal Deixis		Quantity
Present	Now	2
	Tonight	2
Future	Then	1
	One day	2
	Later	1
Past	Earlier	1
	Гotal	9

### d. Social Deixis

Social deixis is the linguistic expression that reflects the referent's place on a scale of relationship or social standing to the speaker. Kinds of social deixis found in the novel *Cathing the Sun* by Tony Parson is *Mr*.

Table 5. Social deixis in the novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parsons

Social Deixis	Quantity
Mr	3
Total	3

#### e. Discourse Deixis

The use of a linguistic term inside inside an utterance to indicate to the correct, previous, or following utterances in the same spoken or written discourse is known as discourse deixis, or text deixis.

Kinds of discourse deixis in the novel *Catching the Sun* by Tony Parson are *this* and *that*.

Table 6. Discourse deixis in the novel 'Catching the Sun' by Tony Parsons

Discourse Deixis	Quantity
This	2
That	13
Total	15

## 1. Reference Meaning

Noun phrases, proper nouns, or pronouns have references and are also used in deixis. Here are some samples of the utterances and the references of deixis in the Catching the Sun Novel.

### a. Person Deixis

### 1) First person deixis

The references and its context of the first-person deixis that includes subject pronouns 'I' and 'we', object pronouns 'me' and 'us', reflexive pronouns 'myself', and possessive adjectives 'my' and 'our' can be seen on these following utterances:

# a) Subject pronouns 'I' and 'We', the possessive adjective 'My'

'I'm at my limit,' she said. 'I'm at my limit with them, Tom. The island is the best place in the world for a nine-year-old. I believe that with all my heart. But they're getting older. And so are we. So are we, Tom.'

The usage of deictic phrases 'I, We, and My' encodes the existing personal deixis in this interaction. First, the deictic word 'I' denotes first person deixis and can be translated as a person who plays the role of the dialogues' principal subject. It is categorized as a subject pronoun and refers to the character who acts as a speaker who talks to other characters who act as an addressee about the future life of their children. Second, the deictic word 'We' in this dialogue refers to the speaker and the addressee. Third, the deictic word 'My' is categorized as a possessive pronoun and interpreted as belonging to the speaker. It refers to the speaker's feelings towards her children.

### b) Object pronouns 'Me'

'Getting too much,' he said. 'All of it. The fishing. The business. You see how long it takes **me** to get my old body in the longtail. What kind of fisherman can't get in his own boat?'

The word 'me' is categorized as an object pronoun and refers to the speaker of the utterance who talks about his business to the addressee. This object pronoun is usually placed after verb or preposition.

## c) Object pronouns 'Us'

'He doesn't want to come with **us**,' Tess said. 'He wants to stay here. He wants to wait for her.'

In this dialogue, the first person deixis 'us' refers to both the speaker and the addressee.

# d) Reflexive pronouns 'Myself'

'I thought about it,' he said. 'I did, Tom. I couldn't make up my mind between Laos, Cambodia, or Burma. Figured I would get a tug in Malaysia – as I would landing at Heathrow. I also thought about topping myself.' He laughed. 'But I couldn't decide between sleeping pills and jumping under a tuk-tuk. And then I realized that I couldn't do any of these things because I love my wife.' He choked on his sadness and his love and picked up some bamboo sticks. 'Do you know what you do with these things?' he said.

In this dialogue, the word 'myself' refers to the speaker or subject 'I' who talks to the addressee about his plan.

### 2) Second Person Deixis

The references and its context of second-person deixis that includes pronoun 'you', 'you', and 'your' can be seen on the following utterances:

# a) Subject pronouns 'You', object pronouns 'You', and possessive adjectives 'Your'

'Your neighbour is right, Tom,' Miles smiled. 'Although there is also the practical consideration of a people who sometimes have to move home quickly. You can take a potted plant with you.' He was warming to the theme. 'And then there's the Thai obsession with riab roi. They place great value on tidiness.' He took a drink, not looking at me, and the mask seemed to slip. 'You know you shouldn't have come here, don't you?'

The existing second person deixis in this dialogue is showed by the deictic word 'you' and 'your'. The subject pronoun and an object pronoun is shown by the word 'you'. However, both are the addressee or the ones who has contact with the speaker or the first singular person. Meanwhile, 'your' is categorized as a possessive adjective and also refers to the addressee. In this dialogue, the speaker agrees about the information that he received from the addressee's neighbor.

### 3) Third Person Deixis

### a) Subject pronouns 'He'

'It's Somter,' I said. 'He'll be waiting for us when we come out with Kai. Waiting for you.'

The third person deixis 'he' refers to another person between the speaker and the addressee. In this dialogue, 'he' refers to Somter, the police officer who acts as the third person between the speaker and the addressee.

# b) Subject pronouns 'She' and object pronouns 'Her'

'The customers like her,' Farren said, still furiosly pummelling the ice. 'She's got that sweetness you don't see a lot of in the bars. You know what I mean, Tom?'

The third person deixis in this dialogue is the subject pronoun 'she' and object pronoun 'her'. In this dialogue, the speaker talks to the addressee about someone who works for him. The deictic word 'she' indicates the third person in the conversation between the speaker and the addressee. While the deictic word 'her' here indicates the object of the word 'she'.

# c) Subject pronouns 'They' and 'It', object pronouns 'Them'

'You shake **them** and read the number **they** give you,' I said. 'Then you go into the other room and find out your fortune. But I don't think **it's** in English.'

The deictic word in this dialogue is represented by the words 'them', 'they', and 'it'. First, the deictic word 'them' is categorized as an object pronoun. In this dialogue, the word 'them' indicates an inanimate plural object and refers to bamboo sticks. Second, the deictic word 'they' also refers to bamboo sticks based on the dialogue. However, 'they' is categorized as a subject pronoun. Third,

# d) Object pronouns 'Him', object pronoun 'It', and the reflexive pronoun 'Himself'

'Very well,' he said. 'But your friend should turn **himself** in immediately. Anything else will make **it** far worse for **him** in the end.'

The deictic word in this dialogue is represented by the words 'himself', 'it', and 'him'. First, the word 'himself' is a part of reflexive pronoun and refers to the subject 'he'. Second, the word 'him' is categorized as an object pronoun. In this dialogue, both 'himself' and 'he' refer to the addressee's friend. Third, the word 'it' refers to an act that the subject 'he' did. In this dialogue, the word 'it' is categorized as an object pronoun.

# e) Possessive adjectives 'His' and possessive adjectives 'Her'

'Orpheus went to collect **his** wife Eurydice from the underworld,' he said. 'She had died on **her** wedding day. A satyr attacked her and she fell into a nest of vipers. But the music that Orpheus played to mourn **his** lost wife was so beautiful that the gods wept.'

The deictic word from this dialogue is represented by the words 'his' and 'her'. First, the word 'his' is categorized as a possessive adjective and it refers to a character in a story that the speaker disscussed with the addressee. Second, the word 'her' is also categorized as a possessive adjective from the subject 'she'. In this dialogue, 'her' refers to the character's wife.

## f) Possessive adjectives 'Their'

'They get up at first light,' Jesse whispered. 'The female leads the family to some fruit trees for feeding. Then they listen to some singing. Then they respond to the singing. After that, they groom and rest for a bit. They like the rain – they like playing in the rain. It really makes them happy. There are some other families nearby, and Travis stares at the other males on the edge of **their** boundary. The males chase each other while the females and the babies hang back. Then they feed again, go for a swing through the rainforest and turn in early. The baby sleeps with the mother, and Travis sleeps nearby but alone.'

The deictic word 'their' in this dialogue is categorized as a possessive adjective from the subject 'they'. Moreover, the word 'their' indicates a plural person in the conversation between the speaker and the addressee. This dialogue refers to the males' gibbons.

## b. Spatial Deixis

The references and its context of spatial deixis that includes proximal form 'here' and distal form 'there' can be seen on these following utterances:

### 1) Proximal form

## a) Spatial deixis 'Here'

'Kai not here tonight?' I said.

The deictic word 'here' in this dialogue represents the proximal form in spatial deixis. In this dialogue, the speaker wants to make sure whether the addressee's wife is in the same place with them or not.

# b) Spatial deixis 'Come'

'Come,' Mrs. Botan said, and Tess and the kids started following her towards the kitchen. But Mr. Botan held my arm.

The deictic word 'come' in this dialogue represents the proximal form and refers to the invitation of the speaker to come close to her. In this case, the speaker acts as a host ask the addressee to follow her to the kitchen.

## 2) Distal form

## a) Spatial deixis 'There'

'But there's no table,' Keeva said.

The deictic word 'there' in this dialogue represents the distal form in spatial deixis. It points to the place that is far from the speaker. In this dialogue, the speaker points to the restaurant's dining area while the speaker is outside the restaurant.

### c. Temporal Deixis

The references and its context of temporal deixis that includes 'tonight', 'now', 'earlier', 'later', 'then', and 'one day' can be seen on these following utterances:

## 1) Temporal deixis 'Tonight'

'Let's just go home, okay?'I said. 'You can crash at my place for tonight.'

The deictic word 'tonight' is categorized as a present form in temporal deixis. It indicates the time during the conversation between the speaker and addressee. In this dialogue, the word 'tonight' refers to the present time in that night when the speaker asks the addressee to go home with him.

# 2) Temporal deixis 'Now'

'Lindsay is busy now,' she whispered confidentially.

The deictic word 'now' is categorized as a present form in temporal deixis. It refers to the present time when the speaker responds to the addressee's question.

## 3) Temporal deixis 'Earlier'

'This is a courtesy to you,' he told me. 'Because we're friends. Your pal was here earlier, embarrassing himself. Did he tell you that?'

The deictic word 'earlier' is categorized as a past form in temporal deixis. It indicates the time in the past before the conversation happened. In this dialogue, the word 'earlier' refers to the time in the past before the speaker met the addressee.

### 4) Temporal deixis 'Later' and 'Then'

'But Lindsay will see you *later*,' the mamma-san told me. 'Until *then*, we have many nice girl.'

The deictic words 'later' and 'then' in this dialogue are categorized as a future form in temporal deixis. The word 'later' means the uncertain time in the future. Meanwhile, 'then' means the time in the future when the third person in this dialogue comes back to the place where the speaker and the addressee have the conversation.

# 5) Temporal deixis 'One day'

'One day,' he said, holding my gaze. 'It's true. One day I will be gone.'

The deictic word 'one day' is categorized as a future form in temporal deixis. It indicates an uncertain time in the future. In this dialogue, the word 'one day' refers to the time in the future when the speaker passed away.

### d. Social deixis

### 1) Social deixis 'Mr Botan'

'Mr. Botan,' I said. 'We all get old.'

The social deixis 'Mr' is the expression of honor from the speaker to the addressee who is older than him.

### e. Discourse deixis

## 1) Discourse deixis 'This'

'This is a courtesy to you,' he told me. 'Because we're friends. Your pal was here earlier, embarrassing himself. Did he tell you that?'

The deictic word 'this' is categorized as discourse deixis and indicates the utterance that the speaker is about to utter in his next sentence.

## 2) Discourse deixis 'That'

'You got your story printed,' Tess said. 'That's the main thing.'

The deictic word 'that' is categorized as discourse deixis and refers to the utterance that the speaker uttered in her previous sentence.

According to the writer's research findings, there are various different varieties of deixis in the novel *Catching the Sun* by Tony Parsons, namely person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. In this section, the writer tried to describe the types of deixis uttered by the characters based on the theory of Levinson (1983).

The writer compared to other previous researches and found the differences with the findings. The person deixis is the most common type of deixis and the spatial deixis is uttered more often than temporal deixis. It also contained various types of pronouns. Meanwhile, Ilza, Nasution, and Setiadi (2018) found in their research that temporal deixis is often used more than spatial deixis and Rosmawaty (2014) found a limited variation of person deixis because she did her research in an Indonesian novel. The writer intended to expand on previous findings and enrich similar research databases in case the English Study Program decided to do an English novel analysis.

Based on the discussion above, there are some advantages to reading a novel and using it in a teaching-learning process. Literature, vocabulary mastery, understanding the meaning, types, and the use of deixis are several materials that can be learned from the novel. In teaching-learning processes, ESP students could use novels as supporting material, especially in English literature subjects. It would help them

understand elements of novels and their implementation in the teaching-learning process.

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Based on the result and discussion, it is concluded that there are five types of deixis found in Tony Parsons' novel "Catching the Sun," namely person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. Thus, the person deixis was the most dominant of all deixis types. Furthermore, there are several conclusions made. 1) The total amount of deixis found in the utterance of part 4, chapter 29, chapter 30, and chapter 31 was 462 with 411 (89%) of person deixis, 24 (5,2%) of spatial deixis, 9 (2%) of temporal deixis, 3 (0,6%) of social deixis, and 15 (3,2%) of discourse deixis. 2) The person deixis is the most dominant type of deixis in the novel. Meanwhile, the social deixis is the least dominant type. 3) The reference meanings of person deixis mostly refer to the characters in the novel. The spatial deixis refers to the places that were pointed by the characters. The temporal deixis refers to the time discussed in the conversations including past, present, and future. Social deixis refers to an honorific character. Then, the discourse deixis mostly refers to the expressions in the same utterances uttered by the characters.

According to the result and the process of the data analysis, the writer would like to give several important suggestions for students, readers, and teachers. (1) Students of English are suggested to use this research as guidance on understanding the deixis in a novel. (2) Students and readers are suggested to study and know the importance of deixis to avoid misinterpretation between the speaker and the addressee. Besides, it could help them to comprehend the content of the novel. (3) Teachers are suggested to use this research and this "Catching the Sun" novel as a teaching media to teach deixis. (4) Students of the English Education Study program are suggested to use the research as a reference to their research, especially if the research is about deixis analysis or using novels as the research subject.

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