

DEIXIS ANALYSIS ON “FRONT OF THE CLASS” MOVIE SCRIPT

Rina Ulfaningtiyas ¹
S. R. Pramudyawardhani ²

¹ the Graduate of English Education Study Program
Universitas Peradaban Bumiayu – Brebes
Email: ulfaningtiyasrina@gmail.com
Phone: +62 823 2267 6213

² the Lecturer of English Education Study Program
Universitas Peradaban Bumiayu – Brebes
Email: pramudyawardhani81@gmail.com
Phone: +62 815 663 5360

Abstract

The objective of the study is to analyse the deixis realized in a movie script entitled “Front of the Class”. In collecting the data, the writers conduct descriptive qualitative and *Simak Bebas Libat Cakap* (SBLC) as the method. In this research, the writers apply George Yule’s theory. The writers implement six steps to analyze the data, which are downloading the movie script entitled “Front of the Class”, writing down and classifying the utterances spoken by the main character Bradley Cohen, identifying the deixis of each utterance, describing each analysis of deixis, interpreting the findings of the analysis, and drawing the conclusion from all the descriptions of the analysis. Finally, based on the result of deixis analysis on

“Front of the Class” movie script, there are 241 utterances spoken by the main character which are classified into three kinds of deixis. The amount of person deixis is 740 which belong to singular and plural pronouns, 84 spatial deixis and 32 temporal deixis. It can be concluded that person deixis is the most dominant of deixis found in “Front of the Class” movie script.

Keywords: Deixis Analysis, Front of the Class, Movie Script

A. Introduction

Nowadays, most of people like to watch a movie. Movie is a type of visual communication that uses moving pictures and sound to tell a story. According to Barsam and Manahan (2010: 3), “Movie or film derives from the celluloid strip on which the images that make up motion pictures were originally captured, cut, and projected; the movie is simply short for motion pictures”. Movies are used as media to convey and present cultures, moral messages, educations, lifestyles, politics, and history.

Movies with educational and motivational themes are the best of all to be seen. One of the inspiring movies is “Front of the Class” by Peter Werner. It is a 2008 American movie adapted from the 2005 book by Bradley Cohen and Lisa Wysocky entitled *Front of the Class: How Tourette Syndrome Made Me the Teacher I Never Had*. “Front of the Class” movie is based on the true story of Bradly Cohen who has Tourette syndrome.

This movie is rich of moral values especially in the educational field since this movie tells us about a teacher with Tourette Syndrome. In “Front of the Class” movie, we can learn how we, as teachers, teach our students by creating a new method, a funny

environment to catch the students' attention in the classroom, and put the position not only as a teacher but also as a nice friend for his students. No wonder, on some websites this movie also receives many good responses from the spectator as one of the best inspiring movies that also got awarded the Movieguide Award in 2009. However, watching special movie, where the main character in the movie is a person with a disability, sometimes makes the spectators difficult to understand about the meaning of many utterances in the dialogue.

“Front of the Class” movie is one of the movies that we cannot understand the meaning of the utterance clearly since the main character in this movie is a person who suffers Tourette syndrome so that he cannot speak fluently like others people. While he is talking, he always makes strange noises like a barking dog so that he always says the same words repeatedly which makes the articulation of his utterances is unclear and makes the spectators difficult to understand the meaning of many utterances in the movie. Consequently, the best way to solve the problem about understanding the meaning and context is to use deixis theory.

According to Hurford (2007: 66), deixis is the word that the meaning is not fixed or can change based on the context or situation (i.e. the speaker, the addressee, the time, and the place) of the utterance in which is used. Deixis consists of a person or personal deixis, spatial or places deixis, and temporal or time deixis. Deixis is used to analyze the conversation, utterance, or sentence since every utterance is related to pointing about people, something, place, or time and it is impossible to understand the context of conversation without analyzing the deixis. By analyzing deixis, we can understand the meaning of

the utterance clearly because the listener or the reader knows who is speaking, about whom, where, and when the utterance is uttered.

Although there are a lot of previous studies that have been analyze about deixis (person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis). However, in this research the writers analyze the deixis of “Front of the Class” movie script in which the main character in this movie is a person who suffers Tourette syndrome which has a higher difficulty level and has more detailed analysis than previous studies. This is due to the fact that it is not easy for the spectators to understand the deixis of the utterance spoken by someone who has Tourette syndrome. Thus, through this research, the writers expect that the analysis can help the readers to understand the content of “Front of the Class” movie clearly since this movie has a very good storyline and it is rich of moral values. Therefore, the writers are interested in conducting research about deixis and decide to conduct a study entitled “The Analysis of Deixis in a Movie Script Entitled “Front of the Class.””

B. Literature Review

According to Yule (2006: 112), Pragmatics is the study of the meaning conveyed by the speaker (or writer) and interpreted by the listener (or reader). This study focuses more on the analysis of what people mean about their speech, rather than the separate meanings of words or phrases. Therefore, there are several topics of Pragmatics, such as implicature, presupposition, entailment, speech acts, and deixis.

Deixis is one that takes some elements of its meaning from the context or situation (i.e. the speaker, the addressee, the time, and the place) of the utterance in which it is used (Hurford, 2007: 66).

According to Yule (1996: 9), there are three types of deixis. Those are person deixis which points to things and people, spatial deixis (place deixis) which is used to point to a location, and temporal deixis (time deixis) which points to a time, as follows:

1. Person Deixis

Subject is a constituent that tells us who performs the action denoted by the verb (who is the Agent), and on the other hand tells us who or what the sentence is about. Some elements of subject are: person, animal, institution, and noun phrase.

The first type of deixis is person deixis. Cruse (2000: 319) states that person deixis involves the speaker, known as the first person, the addressee, known as the second person, and other significant participants in the speech situation, neither speaker nor hearer; these are known as the third person. According to Yule (1996: 9), person deixis is divided into three parts: first person deixis, second person deixis, and third person deixis which belongs to singular and plural pronouns.

- a. First Person Deixis

The use of person deixis is to indicate the participant of an utterance. First person here is the speaker in the utterance which has function as the sender of the message and exemplified by the singular pronoun “I”, “me”, “my”, “mine”, “myself” and plural pronoun “we”, “us”, “our”, “ours”, “ourselves”.

- b. Second Person Deixis

The second person deixis is a deictic reference to a person identified as the addressee. In this case, usually use the pronoun “you”. The second person deixis is *you, you,*

your, yours, yourself (singular) and *you, you, your, yours, yourselves* (plural).

c. Third Person Deixis

Third person deixis is the encoding of a reference to person and entities which is neither speaker nor addressee of the utterance. The third person deixis is *she, he, it* (singular) and *they* (plural).

2. Spatial Deixis

The second type of deixis is spatial deixis. Based on Yule (1996: 12), the concept of distance already mentioned is relevant to spatial deixis, where the relative location of people and thing is being indicated.

Spatial deixis has a function to indicate the word that refers to or pointing to the location of the speaker. It could be proximal form (near to the speaker) and distal form (away from the speaker). The spatial deixis can be seen: *this, these, here, come* (proximal form) and *that, those, there, go* (distal form).

3. Temporal Deixis

Temporal deixis is another category of deixis. It refers to the event of an utterance which takes place any time relative to the speaking time and it is represented by tenses and adverb of time. Yule (1996: 14) states that the time is coinciding with the speaker's utterance and the time of the speaker's voice being heard by the addressee.

In English, there are three basic forms of temporal deixis. Those are the past tense, the present tense, and the future tense. The present tense is the proximal form and the past tense and the future tense are the distal forms. The form of temporal deixis is *now, today, tonight, right now,*

this morning, etc (proximal form) and *then, yesterday, tomorrow, last year, next year, next weeks, last weeks, etc* (distal form).

C. Method of Investigation

The writers conduct qualitative-descriptive research to analyze the deixis realized in the utterances spoken by the main character Bradley Cohen in a movie script entitled “Front of the Class”. In collecting the data, the writers apply the documentation method since the data are taken from a movie script. The data source of this research is taken from a movie script entitled “Front of the Class” downloaded from: <https://www.scripts.com/script/frontoftheclass8649> (Accessed on November 23th 2020 at 07.46 am). Furthermore, the writers implement *Simak Bebas Libat Cakap* (SBLC) technique since the writers are only the observers of language use from the viewpoint of deixis.

In analyzing the data, the writers use the segmenting immediate constituents technique (*Teknik Bagi Unsur Langsung*). Sudaryanto in Agustina (2014: 27) states that the segmenting constituents technique is a technique of analyzing data in which the writers divide the lingual unit of the data into some parts or elements. The steps in analyzing the data are: downloading the movie script “Front of the Class” from the website, rewriting and classifying the utterances spoken by the main character Bradley Cohen, identifying the utterances into three types of deixis based on Yule’s theory (1996) which are person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis, presenting the findings by describing each analysis, interpreting the findings of the analysis, and drawing

the conclusion from all the descriptions of the analysis.

D. Findings and Discussion

In accordance with the findings, the data analysis shows that the movie entitled “Front of the Class” uses three kinds of deixis based on Yule’s theory. Those are person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis.

1. Person Deixis

Person deixis is the most dominant used in “Front of the Class” movie script which is completed and followed by three types of person deixis which belong to singular and plural pronouns. They are 376 words as first-person deixis singular pronouns represented by the words “I”, “me”, “my”, and “myself”, 149 words as second-person deixis singular pronouns like “you”, “your”, and “yourself”, 123 words as third-person deixis singular pronouns which are showed by “she”, “he”, “him”, “his” and “it”.

Furthermore, there are 15 words as first-person deixis plural pronouns like “we”, and “us”, 25 words as second-person deixis plural pronouns represented by “you” and “your”, and 52 words as third-person deixis plural pronouns showed by “they”, “them” and “their”.

2. Spatial Deixis

In the “Front of the Class” movie script, the writers find and classify the use of spatial deixis into two forms. Those are proximal form and distal form. The use of proximal form in this movie represented by the words “here”, “this”, “these”, and “come” which appear 41 times. Meanwhile, the words indicated as the distal form appear 43

times showed by the words “that”, “those”, and “there”.

3. Temporal Deixis

From the analysis, the writers classify the temporal deixis word into two forms which are proximal form and distal form. “Front of the Class” movie script uses words such as “afternoon”, “now”, “just now”, “right now”, “today”, “on Tuesday” that indicates the timing of an event which included as the proximal form which appears 18 times. However, the words included as the distal form are represented by “each week”, “a year”, “2 weeks”, “2 days”, “one day”, “one second”, “two minutes”, “this year”, “yesterday”, “tomorrow”, “next year”, and “next time” which appears 14 times.

Based on the phenomenon above, the writers find out that the most dominant usage in “Front of the Class” movie script is person deixis. It is because the data comes from a movie script, so that the script is in the form of dialog. In a dialogue or conversation between the speaker and the addressee, we cannot be separated from the use of person deixis. On the other hand, the less dominant type of deixis is temporal deixis. It happens because the movie script consists of direct conversations so that it does not use a lot of temporal deixis rather than other text like a narrative text. The characteristics of narrative text itself is the use of temporal deixis or adverbs of time that is used to clarify when the story occurs to understand the timing of the story.

E. Conclusion

After analyzing the data, the writers find out the amount of person deixis is 740, the amount of spatial deixis is 84, and the number of temporal deixis

is 32. It means that person deixis is the most dominant used especially first-person deixis singular pronoun. It is because the dialogue or conversation between the speaker and the addressee cannot be separated from the use of person deixis where the language is used to designate an entity. Furthermore, the less dominant type of deixis is temporal deixis since the movie script consists of direct conversations so that it does not use a lot of temporal deixis rather than other text like a narrative text which mostly uses adverb of time or temporal deixis.

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