

A Pragmatic Study of the Deixis Analysis of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody Song's Lyrics

Muhammad Sindu¹
Dion Tira Erlangga²
English Education

diontiraerlangga@gmail.com

Abstract

This current research is under the discussion of pragmatics in which it is aimed to investigate the deixis used in the song lyrics of Queen entitled Bohemian Rhapsody by using the theory of deixis proposed by Allan Cruse (2000) that consists of 5 types of deixis. The researcher has decided to use the bohemian rhapsody song by Queen as the object of analysis because has such dialectic words, reference meanings and has been considered as the best song ever written by some musicians in the world. Therefore, it can be analyzed by using pragmatics approach especially deixis. The study was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method in which the data were taken from the song lyrics of Queen entitled bohemian rhapsody (1975). The findings showed that all deixis were on this song with the personal deixis 56%, temporal deixis 29%, discourse deixis 10%, spatial deixis 4% and social deixis 1%. This research can be a meaningful insight for those who are interested in studying in linguistics realm especially dealing with deixis and other pragmatics branches.

Key words: Pragmatics, Deixis, Song Lyrics, Language

INTRODUCTION

The existence of a language within society has been considered as an important thing in human life in which it serves as the tool for communication to each other (Mandasari & Aminatun, 2019), (Aminatun & Oktaviani, 2019). Therefore, it is why language is very compelling to be analyzed at the first place (Fatimah et al., 2021). As it serves as the tool for communication (Afrianto & Gulö, 2019), (Oktaviani & Mandasari, 2020), it is commonly found to be used in both forms, spoken and written languages in expressing and sharing the ideas (Suprayogi & Eko, 2020), (Cahyaningsih & Pranoto, 2021). However, using language is not merely talking and writing and expecting what you mean will be understood by the people whom you are talking with (Sari & Wahyudin, 2019), since sometimes they cannot understand whole sentences spoken by you (Septiyana & Aminatun, 2021) and in that case it happens because the communication does not go smoothly and sometimes has obstacles in conveying the intention (Mandasari & Aminatun, 2020), (Samanik, 2021); thus, the intended meaning cannot be passed through between the people themselves (Oktaviani et al., 2021) and the misunderstanding can probably occur in that moment (Pranoto & Suprayogi, 2020), (Nababan & Nurmaily, 2021).

In term of entertainment according to (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2021), language is sometimes used in the field of music in which it is referred to the language of emotions (Suprayogi, 2019), (Pranoto & Afrilita, 2019) since music is accepted by people universally with or without knowing the language used in the music itself. In this modern world, music is not merely limited as the hobby but it is more than that (Amelia, 2021), it has been considered as a friend that can accompany you in doing activities in any situation that you undergo (Qodriani & Wijana, 2020), (Suprayogi, Puspita, et al., 2021). In the music, song is seen as another way to express our feeling (Hutauruk & Puspita, 2020) and to share our ideas to the others through the lyrics (Fithratullah, 2019). Lyrics is not merely the arrangement of words into sentences but also the representation of the composer's emotion to describe the feelings (Suprayogi, Samanik, et al., 2021), (Kuswoyo & Indonesia, 2021), such as sad, happy, jealous, broken heart, falling in love, missing someone, and so on (Ngestirosa et al., 2020). Every lyric consists of words or sentences that have different grammatical functions and song lyrics could be said as a part of discourse (Qodriani, 2021), (Setri & Setiawan, 2020).

Discourse as explained by (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021) is very necessary in the study of language in use which means it will be dealt with pragmatics, according to (Fakhrurozi & Puspita, 2021) pragmatics is regarding the aspects of meaning which are very dependent on the context. Based on (Mandasari & Wahyudin, 2019), pragmatics is defined as the branch of linguistics that has to do with the language use, and more than the literal meaning of what is uttered (Mertania & Amelia, 2020a), (Samanik & Lianasari, 2018). Furthermore, it is strongly related to the study of language use with involving the context and its dependence in linguistics interpretation (Sartika & Pranoto, 2021). From all the explanation above, it can be concluded that pragmatics is the study of meaning that is strongly dependable to the context. Moreover, deixis as a part of pragmatics study has connection with the words and sentences that always changes based on the context (Journal et al., 2021), (Iriawan & Fithriasari, 2018). Deixis is a word derived from a Greek word "*deiknymi*" that means "*to show or to point out*" (Aminatun, 2021), (Sari & Putri, 2019).

1.1. Research Question

Based on the background study above, this research is conducted to answer the following questions.

- a. What kind of deixis are used by Queen in their Bohemian Rhapsody song?
- b. What is the most dominant deixis in their song?

1.2. The Objective of Research

In relation to the research question, this research is aimed to:

- a. To identify the types of deixis used in bohemian rhapsody song.
- b. To know the most dominant deixis that is used in the song lyrics.

1.3. The Significance of The Study

This research was conducted in the hope that it can contribute both theoretically and practically in pragmatic field, especially in deixis. Theoretically, this research is expected to be a reference or a comparable study in pragmatic deixis analysis in the field of song and it can be used for getting more information or knowledge pertaining to discourse in dialectic analysis.

LITERATURE REVIEW

According to (Pranoto, 2021), there 5 types of deixis. They are person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis and discourse deixis.

I. Person Deixis

The first type of deixis according to (Nindyarini Wirawan, 2018) is person deixis that consists of 3 sub-categories. They are 1st person, 2nd person and 3rd person. In addition, Cruse stated that dialectic words in person deixis cover pronouns (I, you, they, we, she, he, it, me, them, us, him; mine, yours, hers, myself, yourself, herself, himself, ourselves, themselves, itself), possessive adjectives (my, your, our, their, his, its, her).

II. Spatial Deixis

Spatial deixis is a deixis which is used to indicate the location of some spaces between the speaker and the listener in a conversation (Kardiansyah, 2019). It is also referred as place deixis or locative expressions. (Mertania & Amelia, 2020b) finds out that spatial deictic word is used to indicate location in space relative to the speaker. The most basic spatial deictic words that can be found easily in our daily life is like the adverbs, here and there.

III. Temporal Deixis

Temporal deixis is a deixis which is used to indicate the time of the events. It is usually marked with the dialectic words such as yesterday, today, now, tomorrow and so on.

IV. Social Deixis

Social deixis is defined as expressions that are used to indicate the position of the referent based on the scales of social status and intimacy relative to the speaker is taken into account.

V. Discourse Deixis

Discourse deixis is also known as text deixis in which it refers to the use of this to point to future discourse elements such as listen to this, adverbs like furthermore and therefore are also included into the element.

METHOD

In conducting this research, the researcher employs qualitative research. Qualitative research is defined as research providing collection of 'qualitative/non-numerical data' in the form of words or pictures. The usage of qualitative research is to describe the result of analysis to create 'new hypotheses' (Johnson & Christensen, 2014). The data source for this analysis was taken from a song entitled Bohemian Rhapsody by Queen which was released in 1975. In this analysis, the researcher uses library study to obtain the information by downloading journals and visiting reliable websites.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The researcher analysed the Bohemian Rhapsody song by focusing on the deixis types used inside it.

No	Lyrics	Deixis				
		Personal	Spatial	Temporal	Social	Discourse
1	Is this the real life?					This
2	Is this just fantasy?					This
3	Open your eyes	Your		Open		

4	I'm just a poor boy, I need no sympathy	I		Need		
5	Because I'm easy come, easy go	I				
6	Anyway the wind blows, doesn't really matter to me, to me	Me		Blows		Anyway
7	Put a gun against his head	His				
8	Pulled my trigger, now he's dead	My, He		Pulled		
9	Didn't mean to make you cry	You				
10	If I'm not back again this time tomorrow	I		This time, Tomorrow		
11	Too late, my time has come	My		Too late		
12	Sends shivers down my spine	My		Sends		
13	Goodbye everybody I've got to go	I		Have got		
14	Gotta leave you all behind and face the truth	You	Behind			
15	I don't want to die	I				
16	Sometimes wish I'd never been born at all	I		Had never been born		
17	I see a little silhouette of a man	I		See		
18	Scaramouch, Scaramouch will you	You		Will		

	do the Fandango					
19	Thunderbolt and lightning very very frightening me	Me				
20	I'm just a poor boy and nobody loves me	I, Me		Loves		
21	He's just a poor boy from a poor family	He		Just		
22	Spare him his life from this monstrosity	His				This
23	Easy come easy go will you let me go	You, Me		Will		
24	Bismillah, no we will not let you go, let him go	You, Him		Will		
25	Bismillah, we will not let you go, let him go	We, You, Him		Will		
26	Oh mama mia, mama mia, mama mia let me go	Me				
27	Beelzebub has a devil put aside for me for me for me	Me	Aside			
28	So you think you can stop me and spit in my eye	You, Me, My		Think		So
29	So you think you can love me and leave me to die	You, Me		Think		So

30	Oh baby can't do this to me baby	Me			Baby	This
31	Just gotta get out just gotta get right outta here		Here			
32	Nothing really matters to me	Me		Matters		

From the table above, it can be seen that the bohemian rhapsody song by queen has several types of deixis inside it. The types of deixis found in this song are dominated by personal deixis and temporal deixis then followed by discourse deixis, spatial deixis and social deixis. There are 9 personal deixis found on this song namely Your, I, Me, His, My, He, You, Him, We, in which they are divided into 3 categories namely 1st person (I, Me, M, We) that consists of 4 dietic words, 2nd person (You, Your) that consists of 2 dietic words and 3rd person (He, His, Him) that has 3 dietic words. While, for the temporal deixis, the researcher found out that there are 18 dietic words that are dominated by verb tenses. It is also found out that there are 7 dietic words upon discourse deixis, 3 dietic words of spatial and only 1 dietic word for social deixis.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion shown above, it can be concluded that all deixis are found in the song entitled bohemian rhapsody by Queen band. Personal deixis is the most deixis that was found (38 Deictic words or 56%) with the word “I”, “me”, “my”, “you” and “your” dominate bohemian rhapsody song. Meanwhile, it can be seen clearly that in the second place, temporal deixis was also found in the song as the most found deixis (20 deictic words or 29%). The temporal deixis that were found were dominated by the verb tenses in which the present and future tenses are most found. The third position is discourse deixis (7 deictic words or 10%). While, in the fourth position is spatial deixis (3 deictic words or 4%), and at the last position it can be noticed that social deixis placed (1 deictic word or 1%). The Percentage of deixis analysis in Ed Sheeran’s “Divide” Album is as follow.

REFERENCES

- Afrianto, A., & Gulö, I. (2019). Revisiting English competence at hotel. *Teknosastik*, 17(1), 35–39.
- Amelia, D. (2021). Antigone's Phallus Envy and Its Comparison to Indonesian Dramas' Characters: A Freudian Perspective. *Vivid: Journal of Language and Literature*, 10(1), 23–30.
- Aminatun, D. (2021). *STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVE TOWARD THE USE OF DIGITAL COMIC*. 2(2), 90–94.
- Aminatun, D., & Oktaviani, L. (2019). Memrise: Promoting students' autonomous learning skill through language learning application. *Metathesis: Journal of English Language, Literature, and Teaching*, 3(2), 214–223.
- Cahyaningsih, O., & Pranoto, B. E. (2021). A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS : THE REPRESENTATION OF DONALD TRUMP IN THE REUTERS AND THE NEW YORK TIMES TOWARDS THE ISSUE OF #BLACKLIVESMATTER. 2(2), 75–83.
- Fakhrurozi, J., & Puspita, D. (2021). KONSEP PIIL PESENGGIRI DALAM SASTRA LISAN WAWANCAN LAMPUNG SAIBATIN. *JURNAL PESONA*, 7(1), 1–13.
- Fatimah, C., Asmara, P. M., Mauliya, I., & Puspaningtyas, N. D. (2021). Peningkatan Minat Belajar Siswa Melalui Pendekatan Matematika Realistik Pada Pembelajaran Berbasis Daring. *Mathema: Jurnal Pendidikan Matematika*, 3(2), 117–126.
- Fithratullah, M. (2019). Globalization and Culture Hybridity; The Commodification on Korean Music and its Successful World Expansion. *Digital Press Social Sciences and Humanities*, 2(2018), 00013. <https://doi.org/10.29037/digitalpress.42264>
- Hutauruk, M., & Puspita, D. (2020). A METAPRAGMATIC ANALYSIS: A STUDY OF PRAGMATIC FAILURE FOUND IN INDONESIAN EFL STUDENTS. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(2), 62–69.
- Iriawan, N., & Fithriasari, K. (2018). On the modeling of the average value of high school national examination in West Java using Bayesian hierarchical mixture normal approach. *2018 International Conference on Information and Communications Technology (ICOIACT)*, 689–694.
- Journal, L., Ranti, D. V., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). RACIAL PROFILING ON POLICE STOP AND SEARCH PRACTICE AS PORTRAYED IN THE GEORGE TILLMAN ' S MOVIE THE HATE U. 2(2), 93–97.
- Kardiansyah, M. Y. (2019). Pygmalion Karya Bernard Shaw dalam Edisi 1957 dan 2000. *Madah: Jurnal Bahasa Dan Sastra*, 10(1), 75–88.
- Kardiansyah, M. Y., & Salam, A. (2021). Reassuring Feasibility of Using Bourdieusian Sociocultural Paradigm for Literary Translation Study. *Ninth International Conference on Language and Arts (ICLA 2020)*, 135–139.
- Kuswoyo, H., & Indonesia, U. T. (2021). TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE BETWEEN TRUMP AND TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE BETWEEN TRUMP AND BIDEN IN 2020. *December*. <https://doi.org/10.33365/llj.v2i2>
- Mandasari, B., & Aminatun, D. (2019). STUDENTS'PERCEPTION ON THEIR PARTICIPATION: WHAT AFFECTS THEIR MOTIVATION TO TAKE PART IN CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES? *Premise: Journal of English Education and Applied Linguistics*, 8(2), 214–225.
- Mandasari, B., & Aminatun, D. (2020). VLOG: A TOOL TO IMPROVE STUDENTS' ENGLISH SPEAKING ABILITY AT UNIVERSITY LEVEL. *PROCEEDINGS UNIVERSITAS PAMULANG*, 1(1).
- Mandasari, B., & Wahyudin, A. Y. (2019). Flipped Classroom Learning Model: Implementation and Its Impact on EFL Learners' Satisfaction on Grammar Class

- Corresponding Email Article's History Flipped Classroom Learning Model: Implementation and Its Impact on EFL Learners' Satisfaction on Grammar C. *Ethical Lingua*, 8(1), 2021.
- Mertania, Y., & Amelia, D. (2020a). Black Skin White Mask: Hybrid Identity of the Main Character as Depicted in Tagore's The Home and The World. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 7–12.
- Mertania, Y., & Amelia, D. (2020b). Black Skin White Mask: Hybrid Identity of the Main Character as Depicted in Tagore's The Home and The World. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 7–12. <https://doi.org/10.33365/llj.v1i1.233>
- Nababan, R. M., & Nurmaily, E. (2021). *THE HYPERMASCULINITY AS SEEN IN THE MAIN CHARACTER IN RAMBO : LAST BLOOD MOVIE*. 2(1), 25–32.
- Ngestirosa, E., Woro, E., & Strid, J. E. (2020). *Reconstructing the Border : Social Integration in Reyna Grande 's The Distance Between Us*. December.
- Nindyarini Wirawan, A. and S. (2018). *Sociopathic Personality Disorder in Humbert Humbert'S Character of Nabokov'S Lolita*. 2, 432–439. <https://jurnal.unimus.ac.id/index.php/ELLIC/article/viewFile/3568/3394>
- Oktaviani, L., Fernando, Y., Romadhoni, R., & Noviana, N. (2021). Developing a web-based application for school counselling and guidance during COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of Community Service and Empowerment*, 2(3), 110–117. <https://doi.org/10.22219/jcse.v2i3.17630>
- Oktaviani, L., & Mandasari, B. (2020). Powtoon: A digital medium to optimize students' cultural presentation in ELT classroom. *Teknosastik*, 18(1), 33–41.
- Pranoto, B. E. (2021). Insights from Students' Perspective of 9GAG Humorous Memes Used in EFL Classroom. *Thirteenth Conference on Applied Linguistics (CONAPLIN 2020)*, 72–76.
- Pranoto, B. E., & Afrilita, L. K. (2019). The organization of words in mental lexicon: evidence from word association test. *Teknosastik*, 16(1), 26–33.
- Pranoto, B. E., & Suprayogi, S. (2020). Incorporating 9GAG memes to develop EFL learners' speaking ability and willingness to communicate. *IJEE (Indonesian Journal of English Education)*, 7(2), 130–144.
- Puspita, D., & Pranoto, B. E. (2021). The attitude of Japanese newspapers in narrating disaster events: Appraisal in critical discourse study. *Studies in English Language and Education*, 8(2), 796–817.
- Qodriani, L. U. (2021). English interference in bahasa Indonesia: A phonology-to-orthography case in Instagram caption. *English Language and Literature International Conference (ELLiC) Proceedings*, 3, 349–355.
- Qodriani, L. U., & Wijana, I. D. P. (2020). Language Change in 'New-Normal' Classroom. *4th International Conference on Language, Literature, Culture, and Education (ICOLLITE 2020)*, 385–389.
- Samanik, S. (2021). Imagery Analysis In Matsuoka's Cloud Of Sparrows. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 2(1), 17–24.
- Samanik, S., & Lianasari, F. (2018). Antimatter Technology: The Bridge between Science and Religion toward Universe Creation Theory Illustrated in Dan Brown's Angels and Demons. *Teknosastik*, 14(2), 18. <https://doi.org/10.33365/ts.v14i2.58>
- Sari, F. M., & Putri, S. N. (2019). Academic Whatsapp group: Exploring students' experiences in writing class. *Teknosastik*, 17(2), 56–65.
- Sari, F. M., & Wahyudin, A. Y. (2019). Undergraduate Students' Perceptions Toward Blended Learning through Instagram in English for Business Class. *International Journal of Language Education*, 3(1), 64–73.

- Sartika, L. A., & Pranoto, B. E. (2021). *Analysis of Humor in the Big Bang Theory By Using Relevance Theory : a Pragmatic Study*. 2(1), 1–7.
- Septiyana, L., & Aminatun, D. (2021). THE CORRELATION BETWEEN EFL LEARNERS' COHESION AND THEIR READING COMPREHENSION. *Journal of Research on Language Education*, 2(2), 68–74.
- Setri, T. I., & Setiawan, D. B. (2020). Matriarchal Society in The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd. *Linguistics and Literature Journal*, 1(1), 28–33. <https://doi.org/10.33365/lj.v1i1.223>
- Suprayogi, S. (2019). Javanese Varieties in Pringsewu Regency and Their Origins. *Teknosastik*, 17(1), 7–14.
- Suprayogi, S., & Eko, P. B. (2020). The Implementation of Virtual Exhibition Project in English for Tourism Class for University Students. *Academic Journal Perspective: Education, Language, and Literature*, 8(2), 87–97.
- Suprayogi, S., Puspita, D., Nuansa, S., & Sari, K. (2021). *THE DISCURSIVE CONSTRUCTION OF INDIGENOUS BELIEF ISSUE IN THE JAKARTA POST*. 5(2), 417–430.
- Suprayogi, S., Samanik, S., Novanti, E. A., & Ardesis, Y.-. (2021). EFL Learner's Literary Competence Mapping through Reader-Response Writing Assessed using CCEA GCSE Mark Scheme. *Celt: A Journal of Culture, English Language Teaching & Literature*, 21(1), 2. <http://journal.unika.ac.id/index.php/celt/article/view/2871>