

THE USE OF DEIXIS IN NARRATIVE TEXTS IN THE BSE ENGLISH TEXTBOOK'S "DEVELOPING ENGLISH COMPETENCIES 1"

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Abstract

Deixis as one of pragmatic features appears in every kind of text including narrative text. Deictic elements hold inseparable relation between its textual meaning and its context. This study is aimed at examining deixis in the narrative texts in BSE English textbook's "Developing English Competencies 1" for Senior High School Grade X and explaining how they are realized in different contexts. The study uses descriptive qualitative method with five narrative texts taken as the sample for analysis. The results show that the narrative texts use all kinds of deixis, with person deixis as the most frequently used one. Person deixis enables the narrative texts to focus on the characters and the actions. Deixis is highly context-dependent that it cannot be understood without considering the context. Therefore, in comprehending narrative texts, English learners cannot only rely on their vocabularies repertoire they need also to comprehend the whole context of the story.

Keywords: context, deixis, narrative, pragmatics

INTRODUCTION

Literary has become a part of human life. Literary can function as the source of entertainment and reference to navigate life. Literary has also become a medium to spread values of life including religious values, moral values, social values, and cultural values. One of literary works that is very familiar to us is narrative. Narrative consists of fictitious stories involving imaginary characters and events. Beyond the story, narrative provides values and lessons which are beneficial for human life. Thus, it is expected that the readers are not only amused but also can learn some values from the story.

In narrative text, context plays a significant role. The author usually introduces the setting of place, time, and character at the beginning of the story. The author also sometimes uses references to refer to particular characters or settings. That use of reference in pragmatics

field is called deixis. Deixis helps to maintain relationship between language and context reflected in the structure of languages themselves (Levinson, 1983).

According to Levinson (1983), deixis derives from Greek word *Deiktikos* which means pointing or indicating. As mentioned by Ogeyik (2007) deictic expression helps readers or listeners to visualize or imagine the fictional circumstances. They can capture where and when the story takes place; who sees the events; who talks and to whom he is talking, and the like.

Levinson (1983) categorizes deixis into person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse (or text) deixis, and social deixis. Person deixis concerns with the encoding of the role of participants in the speech event in which the utterance in question is delivered. It is realized in form of first person deixis (I, me, myself, my), second person deixis (you, your, yours,

yourself, we, our, us, ourself) or third person deixis (he, him, his, himself, she, her, herself, they, their, them, themselves). Place deixis refers to the location of something discussed. It can be realized in form of adverb (here, there) and demonstrative pronouns (this and that). Time deixis is to inform certain period when the sentence or utterance is produced. For example: next month, now, then, ago, later, soon, before, yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Discourse deixis is reference to a portion of a discourse relative to the speaker's current location in the discourse, such as above, below, last, previous, proceeding, next or following (usually used in texts) and this, that, there, next, last (usually used in utterances). Social deixis shows the participants' relationship and social status within society via language. It is sometimes achieved by the use of honorifics or titles.

There have been several studies concerning on deixis in narrative texts. All these previous studies are in agreement that person deixis always takes the biggest portion in narrative because it is all about who doing what (Isgoentiar, 2012; Rahmi, Syahrul & Bakhtaruddin, 2012; Mananohas, 2013; Sukmayanti, 2013; Bramanta 2014; Kurniawati, 2014; Wowiling, 2015; Kusumaningrum, 2016; Papilaya 2016, and Kholis, 2016). Besides, deixis can also function as element to develop cohesion and cohesive in a text. In this sense, deixis can be divided into two big groups, conventional and endemic. Conventional deictic elements provide text cohesion within sentence, while endemic elements develop text coherence in larer text units such as paragraphs (Gafiyatova, Korovina, Solnyshkina, and Yarmakeev, 2017). Considering the significance of deixis in narrative text as a popular type of text in English teaching, this study attempts to investigate deixis realization in narrative texts in "Developing English Competencies 1".

METHODS

This study uses descriptive qualitative method. The study is intended to explore the realization of deixis in BSE English textbook "Developing English Competencies 1" for Senior High School Grade X. Five narrative texts

were chosen to analyze. The technique for analyzing data consisted of (1) identifying deixis in the narrative texts, (2) classifying deixis based on types, (3) counting the occurrences of each type of deixis, and (4) interpreting the results.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The narrative texts contain several deixis including person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis.

Person Deixis

First person deixis

Person deixis is the most used deixis in the five narrative texts. In text 3, the use of I points at different characters. When the tiger was speaking, the I refers to the tiger, but it changes to Leo when he has his turn to speak. The examples are:

1. "I'll be king of beasts by the time the moon rises," said the tiger.
2. "I am the king of beasts," roared Leo and he charged out of the den to defend his crown against the pretender.

The use of we in the texts is both inclusive and exclusive, as it can be seen in the sentence below:

3. We need a change," said the tiger.
4. "What are we dying for?" someone asked the zebra.

We in (3) is inclusive since the addressee is not involved, while we in (4) is exclusive because the talking partner is involved.

Second person deixis

Like the pronoun I, the use of you is also depending on whom the speaker is talking to. In text 4 when the fox talked to the crow you refers to the crow, but it refers to the fox when the crow was talking to the fox. The evidences can be seen below.

5. "If you can sing as prettily as you sit," said the fox, "then you are the prettiest singer within my scent and sight."

6. "They say you are sly and they say you are crazy," said the crow, having carefully removed the cheese from his beak with the claws of one foot, "but you must be near-sighted as well".

7.

Third person deixis

The him, her, and his refer to different subjects in one text. In sentence (7), him refers to Sau Ling, but him in sentence (8) refers to a young man.

8. They gave Sau Ling some clothes and money and sent him away.
9. He returned the bag to him.

Interestingly, third person deixis in the texts is not only realized by object pronouns, possessive pronouns, or reflexive pronouns, but also realized by this, some, others and someone. This, in the following example, points at crow. It specifies the noun. The crow which is referred is the particular crow not some other crow. Some and others are used to refer to more than one subject or character. Someone refers to a random character who is not introduced in the text. The examples can be seen below:

10. But this is not what happened to this particular crow in this particular case.
11. All the animals of the jungle joined in, some taking the side of the tiger and others the side of the lion.
12. "What are we dying for?" someone asked the zebra.

Place Deixis

The place deixis appears in the form of here, there, away, inside, outside, and somewhere. It can be seen in the following sentences:

13. "The king is here to see you," she said.
14. In the great city of Taipei, there lived a man called Lin and his wife.
15. "You must send your son away," he said.
16. Inside the den, the lioness woke her mate.
17. One day, they found a baby boy outside their door.

18. The fox had read somewhere, and somewhere, and somewhere else, that praising the voice of a crow with a cheese in his beak would make him drop the cheese and sing.

In the (12) the word here is proximal to the lioness. The lioness wanted to tell the lion that inside the den there was a creature claiming himself as the king of the beasts that wanted to see him. The setting of place of that utterance was in the lion's den. In example (13), there refers to Taipei as the setting of place of the story. The use of there gives a sense as if the story occurred in very far place. Away in sentence (14) is distal to the fortune teller as he was in the Lin's house. It means the fortune teller wanted Lin to send his son away from his house. Inside and outside in (15) and (16) are adverbs of place that inform the location of the story. In (17), somewhere indicates another location than that particular setting of place. The name of place where the fox read is not mentioned since it might not be really important.

Time Deixis

Time deixis gives a specific point of time of the stories. The time deixis found in the texts includes once upon at time, one day, one morning, in the morning, several years later, after, then, that evening, that night, the next night, and now. The examples can be seen below.

19. Once upon a time, there was a horrible monster called Grendel.
20. One day, they found a baby boy outside their door.
21. Several years later, Sau Ling was having a meal in an inn several miles from Taipei.
22. Then he realised that someone had taken his bag by mistake and left another bag, in its place.
23. That evening, a young man came to the inn, "Has anyone seen my bag?" he asked.
24. Grendel's mother was very angry and the next night she went to the castle and killed a knight.
25. "I recognize you, now that I look more

closely, as the most famed and talented of all birds, and I fain would hear you tell about yourself, but I am hungry and must go."

Those time deixis have various functions in the stories. Once upon a time, and one day, in (18) and (19) are features of narrative story. They tell that the story is fictitious or does not happen in real life and involve real characters. They are usually placed at the beginning of the story. In (20) and (21), several years later and then inform sequence of events. These kinds of deixis are essential to narrative since a story is actually constructed by groups of events. Meanwhile, that evening, the next night, and now in example (20), (21), and (22) are proximal. Their references are depending on the previous temporal setting. In (20) that evening refers to a night after Sau Ling was having a meal in an inn several miles from Taipei. The next night in sentence (21) points at the night after Grendel's death. While now in (22) refers to the very moment when the crow made that utterance.

Discourse Deixis

Discourse deixis facilitates the interpretation of the discourse. Most of the discourse deixis in the stories refer to the same entity which has been mentioned in the previous part

of the text. The discourse deixis found are it, this, that. Interestingly, in one text the same referent can be referred by different deixis. In the following examples It in (23) and that in (24) refer to the same bag which was brought by Sau Ling.

- 26. It was full of small gold bars.
- 27. "That's strange!" he thought, "It feels so heavy."

Social Deixis

Social deixis expresses someone's social status within a society. From the stories, social deixis includes Mr and Mrs.

- 28. Mr and Mrs Lin were very sad to hear this.

Above is the only sentence contains social deixis taken from text 1. The use of Mr and Mrs in that sentence indicates that they were married couple and they are also elder people.

Overall, the calculation of deixis frequency shows that person deixis is the most used deixis in the five narrative texts by 76.74%. This is because narrative story focuses on characters and events. It is followed by discourse deixis by 8.84%, time deixis 7.44%, place deixis 6.05%, and social deixis 0.93%. The results have been summarized in the following table.

Text	Deixis					Total
	Person	Time	Place	Discourse	Social	
Text 1	48	6	5	6	2	67
Text 2	21	1	1	2	-	25
Text 3	35	1	2	6	-	44
Text 4	40	2	4	3	-	49
Text 5	21	6	1	2	-	30
Total Frequency	165	16	13	19	2	215
Total %	76.74	7.44	6.05	8.84	0.93	100

Table.1

CONCLUSIONS

From the findings, it is reasonable to conclude that the narrative texts in BSE English textbook “Developing English Competencies 1” for Senior High School Grade X contain all types of deixis including person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. Moreover, the most frequent used deixis is person deixis. This is as the because the narrative texts tend to give more emphasis on the characters and the actions.

Moreover, deixis is highly context-dependent that to understand it the contexts need to be considered. Besides, deixis is not only used to refer to specific point but also to give a particular sense to the text. For example, the use of there in the first sentence of text 1 make the story seems to occur in very far location from the readers.

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