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# The Effect of Teachers' Use of Deixis On Students' Understanding of Their Talk

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# **Abstract**

Language is crucial in human life as it cannot be separated from human being. People could deliver his or her thought by using language. Deixis is defined as words used to point on something that depends on the context. According to Levinson (1983) the single most obvious way in which the relationship between language and context is reflected in the structures of language themselves, is through the phenomenon of deixis. The aim of this study is to analyze the effect of teachers's use of personal, spatial, temporal, discourse and social deixis on the students understanding. The phenomenon occured when the English teacher explained the lessons in a classroom during the teaching learning process in SMA Islam Sultan Agung 3 Semarang. In obtaining the data, the research design used in this study was a qualitative research (particularly, a classroom analysis) supported by a bit of quantitative data. The object of the study comprised two things, namely teachers' and students' use of deixis in their talk. The result of the research are first, 1st singular person deixis was 118 times and 1st plural person deixis was 26 times. Second, Proximal form place deixis was 16 times, distal form place deixis was 12 times. Third, Time deixis was realized past time was 11 times, present time was 11 time, and future time was 7 times. Fourth discourse deixis in the form of demonstrative this/that was 44 times and discourse marker was 41 times. Fifth, Social deixis through relational social deixis was 2 times and absolute social deixis was 124 times. The reseach found the  $r_{table}$  was 0.878 for two teachers. Then, fsor the students the  $r_{\text{table}}$  was 0.388. The last the research found the effect use of deixis used pre-test were 46.6. and post-test 81.0.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Human is a social being that is unable to live alone and needs to do communication with others in their life. People build their social relation with others by sharing their thoughts, information, or tell someone about what they want from them through communication. Moreover, communication is done through language. Language also contains transaction of information and meaning in communication. It is used to convey factual propositional information as stated by Yule (1996) that people also can interact with each other using the language to send the message with different purpose such as asking agreement, sharing information and so on.

The single most obvious way in which the relationship between language and context is reflected in the structures of language themselves, is through the phenomenon of deixis (Levinson, 1983: 54). Deixis is defined as words used to point on something that depends on the context. Reference or address terms are common things that are easily found in spoken and written language, for example, He, She, You, Sir, Doctor, My Lord, Here, there, etc.

Having knowledge about deixis is not only important in communication but also in teaching English in schools as it is useful to improve students' grammar. A good grammar will later lead to the improvement of students' speaking and writing skill.

Deixis is the study on how to analyze word or phrase which directly relates and utterance to a person, time, place, social and discourse. It concerned with the encoding of many different aspects of the circumstances surrounding the utterance and the relationship between the structure of language and context in which they were being used.

The second, According to Bublitz & Norrick (2011), the study deixis is central to pragmatics because deictic systems define points of intersection between linguistics structure and the social settings in which speech takes place. It is standard in contemporary English language sources to distinguish Spatial (here, there),

temporal (*now, then, tence*), person (pronominals), discourse (conference or reference to prior talk) and social deixis (honorification and any indicators of social identity or status relations among participants and contexts).

The third is teacher got the advantages of the moment. If the teacher hopes to spend most of their time in explaining to students, and not only talking then understanding, it must be measured and deal with what as done as the first frown appears on a face. Students can develop and run on learning process to gain an understanding of how a system works. The choices made by student to developing their material processes by using their understanding of the intended system.

Language is a means of communication, it is the most universal for anyone and all people in the world have language to realize every person's hopes, aspiration and thinking to carry out their daily activities, they can express their idea through language both in written and spoken form. Language is a part of literature and literature has semantic field, as we know that if learn about semantic we can know that if learn about semantic we can know about pragmatics, deixis, presupposition, referent, speech act and others. Language is a unique human inheritance that plays the very important role in human's life, such as thinking, communicating ideas, and negotiating with the others. (Wiwik, 2017; Kurnia, 2016; Rotua, 2015).

Pragmatics is the study of meaning in context, for instance, in a wedding party, a woman utters, "Her husband looks like Brad pitt", while in fact, he does not, this utterance reflects her attitude to the person she is talking to, The sentence does not like Brad Pitt, but the speaker only makes use of the opportunity to express her jealousy of the couple. This means that the speaker is necessarily bound to contextual meaning and how a particular context influences what is uttered. (Oki & Issy, 2017; Argian, 2014; Denisa, 2018;).

Deixis refers to the phenomenon where in understanding the meaning of certain words and phrases in an utterance requires contextual information, but it has some relevance to analysis conversation. Deictic expressions for social relations as well as diplomacy, which are of great importance to translators, teacher and diplomats, recognizing the five types of deixis and their implications and different connotations, the author will show the similarities and differences between the two languages and how they are used. (Gerd, 2017; Anna, 2005; Keith, 2002).

Saeed (2003) stated that the word *deixis* is borrowed from classical Greek *deiknymi* that the meaning is 'to show or point out'. Similarly, Yule (1996) note that deixis derive from Greek word means 'pointing via language. Following, deixis is the relation of reference to the point of origin of the utterance Grundy (2000).

It follows that deictic expression is the way for people understanding the reference of context of the utterance, Cummings (2005). Moreover, it takes some element of its meaning from the context or situation of the utterance in which it is used (Hurfod, 2007).

The explanations above have clearly shown that the use of pragmatics in teaching are exist, especially the deixis used. Besides deixis in their practiced are used as facilitate to improve understanding of the students about the language, deixis also can be an alternative way for the teacher to make their teaching learning process become more varieties. Yu, Mei and Dan (2016) on their studies about the adapted of deixis in teacher talk has conclude that It is found that person deixis adopted by teachers in the English language classroom plays an important role in empathizing, preserving students' strengthening face. students' motivation, and establishing harmonious teacher-student relationship, facilitate English teaching and produce better learning results effectively.

#### **METHODS**

In this research, the researcher expected that teacher used deixis on students understanding of their talk. The use of deixis expected including person deixis, spatial deixis (place deixis), temporal deixis (time deixis),

discourse deixis and social deixis. The teacher and students were supposed to know the context and topic in order to be able to follow up the discussion. Regarding the objective of this study, which explained that the teacher use of deixis on students understanding of their talk at the eleventh students of SMA Islam Sultan Agung 3 Semarang.

The research design used in this study was a qualitative research (particularly, a classroom analysis) supported by a bit of quantitative data. According to Maanen cited by Merriam (2009), qualitative research is "an umbrella term covering an array of interpretive techniques which seek to describe, decode, translate, and otherwise come to terms with the meaning, not the frequency, of certain more or less naturally occurring phenomena in the social world".

The Subject in this study were the English teacher and the Students of the tenth grade at SMA Islam Sultan Agung 3 Semarang. The researcher chose one class as a sample of study to test the hypotheses of the population. The object of the study comprised two things, namely teachers' and students' use of deixis in their talk.

In this study, the researcher used some techniques and instruments to get the data needed, the researcher observed the teaching and learning process in the classroom to gather direct information on the use of deixis as way to obtain a clear video recording in the learning class of the condition of the object of study, especially the teachers' use of deixis on students' understanding. This study used a structure interview in which the researcher prepared list of written questions to be asked to the respondent to obtain the intended data needed. In this study, the closed and open questionnaires were distributed to the teachers and students as instrument to collect the data. In analysed the data of the test result, it was done through several stages as follows: normality test, homogeneity test and t-test.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In the findings section, it aimed to show the result of the data analysis. The first was person deixis used by English teacher and students. Person deixis was dominant used by interaction in class between students and English teacher of their talk. 1st person plural deixis 26 times, it was "we" who referred to the students and teacher of the conversation. The 2<sup>nd</sup> person singular deixis was 86 times was the dominant than 2<sup>nd</sup> person plural deixis in their conversation in the classroom. It used to refer to one person or addressee. Then, the 3rd person singular deixis was 11 times was not dominant between 3rd person plural deixis was 17 times in the students and teacher conversation in the classroom. The second was spatial deixis (place deixis) were realized by English teacher on students understanding. The researcher used proximal form deixis was 16 times and the distal form was 12 times. In the contrast with proximal form of spatial (place deixis). The students used the distal form to show to the readers the location that was far away in the conversation to indicate the location happened in their conversation. the third was temporal deixis (time deixis) concerned the encoding temporal points and spans relative to the time at which an utterance uttered. Time deixis was realized through past time was 11 times, present time was 10 time and future time was 7 times. The teacher and students used the present time show to the readers the activity regularly. The fourth Discourse deixis in the form demonstrative this/that was 44 times to encode reference to the prior or the upcoming portion discourse depends on the location demonstrative this/that. Meanwhile the students also used discourse marker was 41 times that identified of discourse deixis. The fifth was used social deixis was realized through relational social deixis was 2 times and absolute social deixis was 124 times.

The teacher and the students were used to relational social deixis in informal situations, in contrast with relational social deixis, the students used absolute relational social deixis in formal situations. From the interview with the teacher, the researcher has found out the ways concluded that deixis can be applied in teaching learning process. By knowing the theory and the types from deixis and reference, it can help the teacher to be creative on delivering the material with use the pronoun to referring someone, or something. Next, Questionnaire to check validity and reliability being calculated through SPSS, the teacher's questionnaire could be said as valid. It was because each of the r<sub>counting</sub>was higher than  $r_{table}$ . The  $r_{table}$  used was 0.878 since the sample size was two teachers. And then, the students questionnaire was also valid. Each of the r<sub>counting</sub>was higher than r<sub>table.</sub> Here, the r<sub>table</sub>used was 0.388 since the sample size was thirty students.

The last analyzed the data using SPSS. After some calculation, the result of paired sample test result proved that there is a significant improvement between pre-test and post-test result, the result of paired sample test result proved that there is a significant improvement between pre-test and post-test result because of the score of Sig. (2 tailed) value (0.00) is lower than 0.05. The result of their test showing that the students mean in the pre-test were 46.6. After doing the same calculation procedures as to the post -test, the researcher found that the students' mean score 81.0 from the data.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The conclusion showed that types deixis use by teachers' on students' understanding, follosed by person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis and social deixis. The researcher concluded that deixis can be applied in teaching learning process, questionnaire to check validity and reliability, and analyzed the data using SPSS. In the study, the suggestion also mentioned. It was suggests that this study will be useful for English teachers, students, and the other research who are interested in deixis.

The effect of teachers use of deixis on students understanding of their talk was addressed to the other researchers who are interested in conducting such a study. Besides, the researcher hoped that other researchers are interested in analyzing deixis in other classification to make this study better and perfect.

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