A PRAGMATICS ANALYSIS OF PERSON DEIXIS IN A MALCOLM TURNBULL’S SPEECH AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE

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Abstract
This research is entitled ‘Deixis Expressions in a Malcolm Turnbull’s Speech at Parliament House: A Pragmatic Study’. Deixis expressions become one of the important parts in interpreting the speaker’s intended meaning, especially in a speech, which has many deixis expressions. This study aims to discover types of person deixis in a Malcolm Turnbull’s speech at parliament house and to find out the references of person deixis in a Malcolm Turnbull’s speech. This study was committed by using purposeful sampling as one of the part of qualitative method to choose selected data of the speech script containing the deixis expression. The writer applies Pragmatics analysis in the visual representation of the data. After analyzed the data, the writer concludes that there are 283 person deixis expressions used by Malcolm Turnbull in his speech. From the total data, the writer put out several data on the finding and discussion chapter because there are the same references of each data. From his speech, Malcolm wants to convey his achievements with his government during his leadership.

Keywords: Pragmatics, Deixis, Reference.
Introduction

Pragmatics, the study of speaker meaning, is one of the branches of linguistics. Pragmatics explains about what a speaker meaning and it requires us to understand of what the speaker’s want to convey and what they have in their mind. Nowadays, many people just get the information instantly, they get an information and news in different sources, such as from internet, newspaper, television, or radio. However, half of them just get information without filter it. That is the reason why some people misunderstand of one another, they did not get a complete information in a certain context with a complete reference.

Some temporal terms such as today, yesterday, then, pronouns like this, that, he, she, it, or phrases of adverbs of time like last month cannot be defined its reference clearly if we are not know the whole utterance of the speaker from the first to the end of a conversation, because the context is not constant. Therefore, deixis appear for this kind of problem. Every sentence has a deixis, but not over all can be interpreted without looking to the context. Certainly, we have to consider that different kinds of context are appearing. Context has a strong effect on what we think the words means. The writer chose this topic because deixis is an elusive expression, whereas not all the listener or the reader observes the entire sentence that they read or hear.

In this research, the writer analyses a script of the speech that delivered by Malcolm Turnbull after he was ousted from his position as a Prime Minister of Australia, his speech focus on delivers that he was proud of his achievements during a challenging time to be the country’s leader. There are many same deixis expressions emerging on Malcolm Turnbull’s speech, but have more than one reference based on the context of the utterances themselves. Therefore, the writer interested in analyzing how the deixis expression affecting the meaning of Malcolm Turnbull speech and want to know what do Turnbull mean by his speech to avoid misunderstanding.

Literature Review

Pragmatics

The study of proposed or intended speaker meaning is called Pragmatics. Pragmatics is concerned with how the interpretation of language depends on the context that emerge in a conversation, how we recognize what the speaker’s meaning, and also the context of the massage that the speaker want to convey. According to Yule (1996, p.127) “In many ways, pragmatics is the study of ‘invisible’ meaning, or how we recognize what is meant even when it is not actually said (or written)”. Within the theory of meaning, pragmatics is especially concerned with implicit meaning, with inference and the unsaid, and the way in which language structure trades on this background of the presumed and the inferred. Pragmatics plays an important part in general linguistic theory in part because it has substantial intrinsic subject matter, partly because it is explanations for other linguistic phenomena and partly as a reaction to over-idealization in contemporary grammatical theory.

When we read or listen about something, our mind is normally tries to understand not only the meaning of the words, but also what the writer or speaker of those words intended to convey. That is happens automatically without our control, because we need to make sense with the speaker’s meaning by his sentence. If the speaker speech many words faster or not clear, the audience will not understand what is the message of that words. So, the words that have been delivered is useless, because the audience just hear without understand what the topic of the speech or they cannot get the message from that speech.
Levinson acknowledged that the modern usage of the term pragmatics is attributable to the philosopher Charles Morris (1938), who was concerned to outline the general shape of science of signs, or semiotics. Within semiotics, Morris distinguished three distinct branches of semiotics, they are: syntactic (or syntax), which studies the formal relation of signs to one another, semantics, which studies the relation of signs to the objects to the things referred to or which the signs are applicable, and pragmatics which studies the relation of signs to interpreters or users of them. Since then, the usage of the term pragmatics has divided into a broad use, which subsumes sociolinguistics and discourse analysis, and a narrower use in which pragmatics deal with those aspects of meaning that are systematically context-dependent.

In line with Levinson, Yule (1996, p.3) stated that pragmatics concerned with four areas, they are ‘Pragmatics is the study of speaker’s meaning, the study of contextual meaning, the study of how more gets communicated than is said, and the study of the expression of relative distance’. Further, he explained the advantage of studying language via pragmatics is we can identify what people mean or what people intended to convey by their words, their assumption, their aim or purpose, and the kinds of action which emerged when they speak. However, the disadvantage of studying language via pragmatics is that we are extremely difficult to analyze human concept in a constant and objective way. In short, the central topics of linguistic pragmatics are those aspects of meaning which are dependent on context.

Contemporary linguistic pragmatics is focused on a number of special relations between linguistic meaning and context. On the narrower scope for pragmatics, it concerned with context-dependent meaning. According to Levinson (1983, p.9) “Such a scope for pragmatics would include the study of deixis, including honorifics and the like, and probably the study of presupposition and speech act”.

Deixis

There are several words in a language that cannot be interpreted at all unless we understand the context. Deixis refers to the occurrence where in considerate the meaning of definite words and phrases in an utterance, we requires contextual information. In our immediate experience as language users, the things that have meaning are utterances. Griffiths (2006, p.4) differentiate between utterance and sentence. He stated that a sentence is the abstract linguistic object on which an utterance is based. Then, utterances are the raw data of linguistics. Every utterance is unique, and having been produced by a particular sender in a specific situation.

According to Yule (1996, p.128) “Deixis come from the Greek word deixis(pronounced ‘day-icksis’), which means ‘pointing’ via language”. The words which usually used to point are like here, there, that, this, now, then, yesterday, as well as most pronouns such as I, you, him, her, them. Some sentences of English are almost impossible to understand if we don’t know who is speaking, about whom, where is the utterance take place, and when is the utterance conveyed by the speaker. Take for example the utterance “You will have cooking that food tomorrow, because they aren’t like it”.

From the example above, out of context, that sentence is extremely vague. It contains a large number of expressions (You, that, they, it) which depend for interpretation and it is impossible for us to understand the purpose of the speaker if we are not hear the sentence completely and we are not have the same knowledge about the topic which delivered by the
speaker. In other words, Yule (1996, p.130) stated that “Such expressions are very obvious examples of bits of language which we can only understand in terms of speaker’s intended meaning, these are technically known as deictic expressions”.

At first sight deixis seems to be a simple phenomenon, a left over from the direct ‘here and now’ relevance of general communication system. But the intersection of this context-dependence with the property of abstract symbolic representation in language leads to deep complexities, and the phenomenon turn out to be very puzzling both philosophically and psychologically, for deixis introduces context-dependency into almost every utterance.

There are many theories of deixis, but many of them have the same purposes to describe the types and function of deixis. According to Yule (1996, p.130) states that, “Any expression used to point to a person (me, you, him, her, them) is an example of person deixis. Words used to point to a location (here, there, yonder) are example of place deixis, and those used to point to a time (now, then, tonight, yesterday, last week) are examples of time deixis”.

Further, O’Grady (1996, p.297) stated that “All language have forms whose use and interpretation depend on the location of the speaker and/or addressee within a particular setting, called spatial deictic, these forms are exemplified in English by words such as this and that versus that and there”.

Levinson (1983, p.54) stated that “The essentially deixis concerns the ways in which languages encode or grammaticalize features of the context of utterance or speech event, and thus also concerns ways in which the interpretation of utterances depends on the analysis of that context of utterance”. The importance of deictic information for the interpretation of utterances is possibly best illustrated by what happens when such information is lacking. The fundamental way for understanding of deictic expressions is the distinction between gestural and symbolic usage. Gestural usage means that an expression can only be understood properly with a reference to a physical aspect of the communicative situation. Symbolic usage means that utterances can only be interpreted if one knows certain aspects of the communicative situation. Therefore, the general location of the speaker must be clear.

Deixis expression absolutely relate to our daily conversation, we used that expression frequently such as how we try to recognize what was people say by his sentence. However, there are several opinions saying that deixis can be divided into more than a few categories. Stephen C. Levinson divided deixis expression in five types, they are person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. But, the writer wants to find out one of those kinds of deixis expressions, namely person deixis.

**Person Deixis**

Person deixis is a word that refers to somebody in certain context of the utterance. According to Levinson (1983, p.68) “Person deixis concerns the encoding of the role of participant in the speech event in which the utterance in question is delivering”. The category first person is the grammaticalization of the speaker’s reference to himself as a participant, second person the encoding of the speaker’s reference to one or more addressees, and third person the encoding of reference to persons and entities which are neither speaker nor addressees of the utterance in question. In some languages, person deixis also encodes other participant roles, such as a source who is not the hearer or a hearer who is not the addressee. Yule (1996, p.11) stated that “There is an exclusive ‘we’ (speaker plus..."
other(s), excluding addressee) and an inclusive ‘we’ (speaker and addressee included)”. For instance, the difference between saying ‘Let’s go’ (refers to some friends) and ‘Let us go’ (refers to someone who has captured the speaker and friends).

In other words, we supposed that person deixis concerned with pronoun, however pronoun is a part of person deixis. Frank (1972, p.20) stated that the traditional definition of a pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. There are several types of pronouns. Among them are personal, possessive, reflexive and possessive adjective pronouns, such in table 2.1.

| Table 1 |
| Pronouns Chart |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Subject** | **Object** | **Possessive Adjective** | **Possessive Pronoun** | **Reflexive** |
| Singular | Did it | Show ___ | ___ Book | It is ___ | Hurt ___ |
| I | Me | My | Mine | Myself |
| You | You | Your | Yours | Yourself |
| He | Him | His | His | Himself |
| She | Her | Her | Hers | Herself |
| It | It | Its | - | Itself |
| Plural | | | | |
| We | Us | Our | Ours | Ourselves |
| You | You | Your | Yours | Yourselves |
| They | Them | their | theirs | Themselves |

Based on that table above, the personal pronouns change their form from person (first, second, third), for case (subject, object, possessive), number (singular, plural), and gender (masculine, feminine, neuter). Except for case, the reflexive pronouns make the same kinds of changes. Further, Frank (1972, p.28) stated that “Pronouns have the same position as noun do. Pronoun subjects appear before verbs, pronoun objects appear after verbs or after prepositions”. In short, pronouns are part of person deixis, pronouns make up a system of person deixis.

**Context**

In the use of everyday language, there are important elements that affect language usage. That element is context. Context greatly influences the form of language that will be used by a speaker. For a formal linguistic researcher, they will only examine a unit of language without being associated with everyday language use. They will not ask why and how a sentence or speech appears. Because of the indifference of the linguistic researcher to the element of this context, the results of their analysis became not enough.

Yule (1996, p.21) stated that “the physical environment or context, is perhaps more easily recognized as having a powerful impact on how referring expressions are to be interpreted”. The context is user-oriented, so the context can be assumed to differ from one user to another, from one user group to another user group, and from one language to another. Therefore, as a language user, we must be able to identify references that depend on one or more understandings of that person towards the expression being referred to.

In line with Yule, Malinowski (1923, p.307) stated that “Exactly as in the reality of spoken or written languages, a
word without linguistic context is a mere figment and stands for nothing by itself, so in the reality of spoken living tongue, the utterance has no meaning except in the context situation”.

The meaning of a sentence can be said to be true if we know who the speaker is, who the listener is, what the topic is, and so on. Therefore, it requires us to analyze a sentence and pay attention to the context.

According to Cutting (2002, p.2) “Context can be defined as the parts of meaning that can be explained by knowledge of the physical and social world, and socio-psychological factors influencing communication, as well as the knowledge of the time and place in which the words are uttered or written”.

According to Yule (1996, p.17), “We might think of reference as an act in which a speaker, or writer, uses linguistics forms to enable a listener, or reader to identify something”. Reference then is clearly tied to speaker’s goals or to identify something. They can be proper nouns, noun phrases, and pronouns.

The other linguist, Finegan (2008, p.192) have defined reference as the ability of linguistic expressions to refer to real-world entities. Without a common frame of reference between the speakers and listeners, the deixis on its own would be too vague to be understood. For instance, Finegan (2008, p193.) illustrated the example of reference on his book, “Consider the following sentence addressed to a waiter by a restaurant customer while pointing to items on a menu: I want this dish, this dish, and this dish”. To understand this utterance, the waiter must have information about who I refers to, about the time at which the utterance is produced, and about what the three noun phrases this dish refer to.

Yule (1996, p.19) acknowledged that a truly pragmatics view of reference allows us to see how a person can be identified via the expression, take for example the utterance ‘the cheese sandwich’ or ‘Hogwarts’. For example the context is, in a restaurant, a waiter brings out an order of food for another waiter and asks him, “Where is the Pizza sitting?” the other reply “He is over there by the window”. In this conversation, we know that the reference being recognized is not a thing, but a person who is ordering a Pizza. However, not all referring expression has an identifiable physical referent. Not all expression has physical reference that can be known. Therefore, nominal phrase (non-fixed) can be used to explain the entity that was assumption, but is not known.

For successful occurrence of the reference, we have to distinguish the role
of inference and collaboration between speaker and hearer or listener in thinking what the other has in mind. In other words, inference means connecting prior knowledge to text based information to create meaning further than what is directly stated.

The other linguist, Cutting (2002, p.7) stated that the act of using language to refer to entities in the context is known as reference, an act which a speaker uses linguistic forms to enable the hearer to identify something. For example, in the words ‘I am going to cinema with Shawn’, the first person singular personal pronoun ‘I’ is referring expression which refers to the speaker, who is the referent. Similarly, the proper noun ‘Shawn’ is the referring expressions that refer to the person whose name is ‘Shawn’, the last being the referent. Therefore, the use of words to refer to people and things was a relatively straightforward matter. It is easy for people to do, but it is rather difficult to explain how they do it. In this kind of problem, the function of reference is to enable a listener or reader to identify something.

Research Question

Based on the research background above, the problem will be discussed in this study are formulated through the following question:

1. What are the types of person deixis in a Malcolm Turnbull’s speech at parliament house?
2. What are the references of person deixis found in a Malcolm Turnbull’s speech at parliament house?

Purpose Of The Study

This research has been purposed in two significances, they are academic and practice. The purposes mentioned as follows:

1. To find out the types of person deixis in a Malcolm Turnbull’s speech at parliament house.
2. To find out the references of person deixis found in a Malcolm Turnbull’s speech at parliament house.

Methodology

The data in this research are the English sentences containing deixis expression used by Malcolm Turnbull on his speech at parliament house. In this research, the writer uses documentation as a method to collect each data.

This research applied qualitative method as the research methodology to analyze the data. According to Denzin and Lincoln (2005, p.3) “Qualitative research is a method of inquiry employed in many different academic disciplines, traditionally in the social sciences, but also in market research and further contexts”. In line with Denzin and Lincoln, Fraenkel and Wallen (2012, p.426) stated that “A study that investigates the quality of relationships, activities, situations, and materials is frequently refer to a qualitative research”. In other words, the qualitative research method observes and answers questions of the way a person would take an action in a definite way headed for a particular matter.

Finding and Discussion

Person Deixis

Data 1

“It may surprise you on a day like this, but I remain very optimistic and positive about our nation’s future”.

Context: The speech took place in the Parliament House and it was the last speech from Australia’s Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull. The Prime Minister begins his speech with greeting to the audiences that consist of the ministers and Australians citizen.
Deixis Expression | Type of Deixis | Reference
---|---|---
I | Person Deixis | Malcolm Turnbull
You | Person Deixis | Citizens (the Australian people)
Our | Person Deixis | Malcolm Turnbull and the Citizens

Analysis: From the sentence above, it contains a large number of deictic expressions. The writer found the word you, I, and our point to person deixis. The sentence is at scene 00:00:01. As mentioned by Malcolm in the context of the speech that he begins the speech with greeting to the audience. So, the word you are second person deixis and refer to the audience or the people (citizen) who attend the speech. Then, the word I is first person deixis and refers to the speaker or Malcolm Turnbull. The word I on this speech showed as the singular pronoun. Further, the word our is first plural person deixis and refers to Malcolm Turnbull, his leadership and include the citizen or the people who attend the speech. The word our on this speech is showed as the plural pronoun.

Data 2

“I want to thank the Australian people for the support they’ve given me and my Government over the last nearly three years”.

Context: In the beginning of the speech, Prime Minister, Malcolm, greeted the audience by giving thank for their support during his position as Prime Minister of Australia.

Deixis Expression | Type of Deixis | Reference
---|---|---
I | Person Deixis | Malcolm Turnbull
They | Person Deixis | The Australian people
Me | Person Deixis | Malcolm Turnbull
My | Person Deixis | Malcolm Turnbull

Analysis: From the sentence above, Malcolm said the word I, they, me, and my as person deixis expression. Out of context, if we just hear the last sentence or half of that sentence without looking to the context, we cannot get what he points about. The sentence is at scene 00:00:03. As mentioned by Malcolm in the context of the speech, can be seen that he greeted the audience by giving thank for their support during his position as Prime Minister of Australia. The word I is first person deixis and refers to the speaker itself, Malcolm Turnbull. Then, the word they as third person deixis and refers to the Australian people who were watching
the speech and given their support to Prime Minister during his leadership. Further, the word me as first person deixis and refers to Malcolm. Then, the word my as first person deixis refers to Malcolm Turnbull as the speaker, this word have a function as possessive pronoun because of Malcolm claims on his sentence ‘my Government’.

Data 3

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deixis Expression</th>
<th>Type of Deixis</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td>Person Deixis</td>
<td>Malcolm Turnbull and his Government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis: Based on the sentence above, the word we as first person deixis refer to the speaker, Malcolm, and his government. The sentence is at scene 00:00:09. In this form, the writer found an ‘exclusive we’, as mentioned in the previous chapter, there are two function of the word we namely inclusive we and exclusive we, while an exclusive we is use to point to the speaker plus other but exclude the addressee. From the context of the speech, can be seen that the Prime Minister grateful to Australian people for their support to him and his government over the last nearly three years. Therefore, the Prime Minister just points to his government and himself without point the Australian people as addressee on this speech.

Data 4

“We've been able to achieve as a progressive Government, as a progressive Liberal Coalition Government, enormous reforms and very, very substantial achievements”.

Context: The Prime Minister mentioned that he was grateful for getting support from Australian people to him and his government over the last nearly three years.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deixis Expression</th>
<th>Type of Deixis</th>
<th>Reference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Us</td>
<td>Person Deixis</td>
<td>Malcolm Turnbull and his government</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis: From the sentence above, the word us is as first plural person deixis refers to Malcolm Turnbull and his government. The sentence is at scene 00:00:39. This form is an ‘exclusive we’ who points to the speaker plus other but exclude the addressee. As mentioned by Malcolm in the context of the speech, Malcolm said his achievements with his government, and he said that Australia have the strong economic growth during his leadership. So, the Prime Minister wants to convey his achievements with his government used the word us that exclude the Australian people as addressee.

Data 5

“That has enabled us to do so much more”.

Context: The Prime Minister said that his government and he have the strong economic growth as mentioned in his dialogue “We have strong economic growth, 3.1%, as you know, higher than any of the G7 economies”.

“Of course it's not simply a matter of ensuring that our men and women in the ADF have the capabilities, both to give them the force they need and to ensure
that they are safe in all of the circumstances they're engaging in”.

Context: Malcolm mentioned that “keeping Australians safe is obviously the single most importantly priority of Government. I have had outstanding Ministers in that area, particularly Marise Payne the Defense Minister and the Defense Industry Minister Christopher Pyne”.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deixis Expression</th>
<th>Type of Deixis</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Person</td>
<td>Malcolm Turnbull, Australian people, and his government</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Them Person</td>
<td>Men and women in the ADF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They Person</td>
<td>Men and women in the ADF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Analysis: From the sentence above, the word our is first plural person deixis which is refers to Malcolm Turnbull, Australian people, and his government. The sentence is at scene 00:04:09. This form is an ‘inclusive we’ who points to the speaker and addressee included. As mentioned by Malcolm in the context of the speech, he mentioned that the most important priority of the Australian’s government was keeping Australians safe. Then, the word them is as third person deixis which is refers to the men and women in the ADF as he mentioned before. The word them showed as the plural pronoun. Further, the word they is as third person deixis which is refers to the men and women in the ADF, and the word they showed as the plural pronoun.

Conclusion
Based on the findings, the writer found out 283 person deixis expressions used by Malcolm Turnbull in his speech. From the total data, the writer put out several data on the finding and discussion chapter because there are the same references of each data. Based on the theories in the previous chapter, this kinds or type of deixis expression which appeared in the Malcolm Turnbull’s speech is matching with the theory of Stephen C. Levinson in his book, Pragmatics.

Those deixis expressions mentioned above indicated that Malcolm wanted to explain about the achievements with his government during his leadership. The writer concluded that the speech of Malcolm Turnbull is a one way communication system which consisted of the speaker and the listener, however the listener did not play a significant role to answer or give a response for every sentences which delivered by the speaker, except the speaker give the listener an opportunity to ask some questions.

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