An Analysis of Deixis Used in The Song Lyrics *"Bat Country"* by Avenged Sevenfold

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Abstract

This research is entitled "An Analysis of Deixis Used in the Song Lyrics "Bat Country" by Avenged Sevenfold. The purpose of this research is to recognize the types of deixis employed in the lyrics of the song "Sulfur" and to determine the dominant types of deixis used in those lyrics. The word "deixis" comes from the Greek word "deiknunai" which means "to show". The research methodology employed in this study was descriptive qualitative research, and the data analyzed consisted of the lyrics of the song "Bat Country" by Avenged Sevenfold. The result of the research shows that "Bat Country" song lyrics only used two kinds of deixis, namely person deixis and spatial deixis. Person deixis dominates with 76 data, 83 % of the total, followed by temporal deixis (10%), spatial deixis (5%), and social deixis (2%).

Keywords : Deixis, pragmatics, Avenged Sevenfold, and song lyrics

Abstrak
Penelitian ini berjudul "Analisis Deiksis yang Digunakan Dalam Lirik Lagu "Bat Country" Avenged Sevenfold. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui jenis deiksis yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu "Sulfur" dan untuk menentukan jenis deiksis yang dominan digunakan dalam lirik tersebut. Kata "deixis" berasal dari kata Yunani "deiknunai" yang berarti "menunjukkan". Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa lirik lagu "Bat Country" hanya menggunakan dua jenis deiksis, yaitu deiksis persona dan deiksis spasial. Deiksis persona mendominasi dengan 76 data, 83% dari total, diikuti oleh deiksis temporal (10%), deiksis spasial (5%), dan deiksis sosial (2%).

Kata kunci : Deixis, pragmatik, Avenged Sevenfold, dan lirik lagu

INTRODUCTION

Language is a way for people to have a communication and share ideas with each other (Lyons, 2002). Moreover, Hutajulu and Herman (2019) said that language is really important when people want to communicate with each other. We use symbols like words to communicate with each other either by talking or writing. It is important to use language in a makes sense way so people are able to understand each other. Sometimes, language is used in other areas as well, like in art or advertising. We can find language in things like music, books, movies, and TV shows.

Music is a popular culture that anyone can enjoy, no matter who they are. It is something that people naturally do every day because it makes them feel good. Music uses symbols and rules to express ideas, just like words in a language (Piragasam, 2013). It can help people, especially the song author, to express their feelings when they can't find the right words to say.

The different parts of music, like melody and rhythm, are like the parts of a sentence. When people write lyrics to songs, they can communicate powerful emotions and ideas.

The lyrics of a song serve a crucial purpose in music by acting to express ideas, stir emotions, and impact the perceptions of those who hear them. As defined in the Oxford Online Dictionary, lyric is words that make up a song, especially a pop song, usually consisting of verses and choruses. It expresses personal sentiments or reflections from the writer. These emotions can span a range of feelings such as love, sadness, struggle, and hatred among others. When someone listens to a song, they not only understand the words being sung, but they also understand what the singer is trying to deliver. Then, the study of what speakers mean or speaker meaning is being discussed in pragmatics.

Pragmatics, as stated by Yule (1996), is defined as an investigation of the meaning conveyed by speakers or writers, and interpreted by listeners or readers. Pragmatics can take different forms, including speech acts, implicature, engagement, deixis, and politeness. Therefore, the field of study of Pragmatics focuses on elements of meaning that cannot be guessed only by understanding language and considering knowledge about physical and social conditions in the world (Peccei, 1999). In addition, Pragmatics examines the elements that govern our selection of language during social communication and the impacts that our choices have on other people. As the conclusion, pragmatics is concerned with understanding the meaning behind spoken or written words. Pragmatics can take different forms, including speech acts, implicature, engagement, deixis, and politeness.

Deixis is a term used in linguistics to interpret certain words or phrases depending on the context in which they are used. Deixis occurs when a word refers to something affected by the speaker's situation (Listyarini and Nafarin, 2020). According to Saeed (2003), the word "deixis" comes from the Greek word *"deiknunai"* which means "to show". Levinson (1983) also stated that deixis is directly related to the relationship between language and context, which is reflected in the structure of the language itself. In linguistic terms, deixis is a way of "pointing out" a particular entity or event in the surrounding context by language. Deixis is an important aspect of language that enables speakers to communicate effectively and efficiently by providing contextual cues for listeners or readers.

According to Levinson (1983:65), conventionally dietic term is alienated into five aspects. They are person, place, time, discourse, and social deixis. The five deixis count on the understanding of narrators and communication allies who are in the identical circumstance (Herman and Pardede, 2020). In this case, the author only focused on four of the deixis types, person deixis, place or spatial deixis, temporal deixis, and social deixis

Person deixis is used to point to objects (it, this, that, these, those), all pronouns (I, you, we, etc.), and possessives (your, our, their). Besides that, phrases like "this person," "that woman," "these men," "those people," and similar ones are considered deictic as well because the listener needs contextual information to comprehend the connection.

Spatial deixis in language refers to how the positioning and location of participants in a discourse are conveyed. Fromkin, Rodman, and Hyams (2003), are also stated that expressions of deixis related to place require additional contextual information from utterances such as words like "here," "there," "this place," "that place," "this city," etc. In English, the difference between a participant's room and their location within a discourse can be conveyed through demonstrative pronouns (such as "this" or "that"), adverbs (such as "here" or "there"), directional terms (such as "before" or "behind," "left" or "right," "front" or "back"), or phrases like "at our place" or "out back.". The function of spatial deixis is to indicate the use of the distance or location in the discourse.

Temporal deixis indicates a specific time frame. To understand these time-related

expressions, we must know person, time, and location the speaker is referring to. Temporal deixis is represented through time adverbials such as "now," "soon," "lately," "recently," "ago," "today," "tomorrow," and "yesterday.".

Social deixis refers to how people use language to express social relationships between themselves and others. This includes paying attention to the roles of the people involved, as well as any social differences or characteristics that might be relevant. Essentially, social deixis is all about using language to communicate the social context of a conversation.

Referring to the words in the previous paragraph, the song's lyrics serve as a way for the composer to express his feelings and express emotions which may include love, deprivation, conflict, and envy. It is also a way to create beauty through communication. The following example will be given as the illustration and it comes from the well-known "Bat Country" song by Avenged Sevenfold.

Avenged Sevenfold, as known as A7X, is a band from California, United States of America. This band is formed on 1999, and is well-known as its heavy metal genre songs. The band consists of Matt Shadows as the vocalist, Synyster Gates as the lead guitarist, Zacky Vengeance as the rhythm guitarist, Johnny Christ as the bassist, and Brooks Wackerman as the drummer. Previously they had Jimmy "The Rev" Sullivan as their drummer, including during the record of Bat Country song in 2005. Unfortunately, he passed away in late 2009.

Avenged Sevenfold has released several albums and received various awards during their musical journey. One of their albums is City Of Evil that released in 2005. After it was released, City of Evil became very popular. It was ranked at number 30 on the Billboard 200 chart and received awards like platinum in the US and gold in Canada and the UK. One of the most famous songs from the album is "Bat Country," which is considered the band's most successful single so far. It was certified gold by RIAA, and in 2005 it became popular, reaching high positions on different music charts, including MTV's Total Request Live chart.

The objective of this study is to examine the use of deixis in the lyrics of Avenged Sevenfold's song "Bat Country". The author has chosen this song not only because it contains deictic words, but also because it is a well-known and popular song, particularly among metal fans and Avenged Sevenfold fans, who are referred to as "Sevenfoldism". As a result, the author has titled their study *"An Analysis of Deixis Used in The Song Lyrics "Bat Country" By Avenged Sevenfold"* and hopes that it will assist listeners in comprehending the function and significance of deixis, specifically in song lyrics.

RESEARCH METHOD

A qualitative descriptive research method is used in completing this research because the characteristics of the phenomena and data were analyzed using descriptions instead of numbers. This type of research occurs naturally and has no control over the conditions or situation, and is only capable of measuring what already exists, as noted by Gay and Airasian (1992).

According to Santosa (2012), the data is an object of research or the reality that is made the focus of research. For this study, the author collected data from the lyrics of the song "Bat Country" by Avenged Sevenfold, which was released in 2005 on their album "City Of Evil". This song was selected as the focus of the research and used as the primary source of data.

Data wer collected by listening to the song and reading the lyrics, then data was collected include (1) the collection of data using any categories of deixis from "Bat Country" song and then (2) sorting, classification, and analysis of data on the use kinds of deixis.

There are several steps involved in analyzing data through deixis, which include:
1. Gathering data related to deixis usage.

2. Recognizing and categorizing the usage of deixis according to person, place, and time.
3. Examining how deixis is used within the data.
4. Drawing conclusions based on the usage of deixis in the data.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

After analyzing the data, the author found several parts of the lyrics from the song "Bat Country" by Avenged Sevenfold that show the use of the deixis in the song. The author carried out several stages in this study. First, the author rewrote the lyrics. Secondly, the author grouped the uses of deixis into five categories. Finally, the author concluded the general interpretation of the lyrics. The research results can be seen in the following table:

Table 1 : Deixis Analysis

No.	Lyric of the song	Types of Deixis
1	He who makes a beast out of himself	He (third person deixis), himself (third person deixis)
2	Gets rid of the pain of being a man	A man (Social deixis)
3	Caught here in a fiery blaze, won't lose my will to stay	Here (Place deixis), my (first person deixis)
4	I tried to drive all through the night	I (first person deixis), the night (time deixis)
5	The heat stroke ridden weather, the barren empty sights	-
6	No oasis here to see, the sand is singing deathless words to me	Here (place deixis), Me (first person deixis)
7	Can't you help me as I'm startin' to burn (all alone)	You (second person deixis), me (first person deixis), I (first person deixis)
8	Too many doses, and I'm starting to get an attraction	I (first person deixis)
9	My confidence is leaving me on my own (all alone)	My (first person deixis), me (first person deixis), and my (first person deixis)
10	No one can save me, and you know I don't want the attention	Me (first person deixis), you (second person deixis), and I (first person deixis)
11	As I adjust to my new sights	I (first person deixis), my (first person deixis)
12	The rarely tired lights will take me to new heights	Me (first person deixis)
13	My hand is on the trigger, I'm ready to ignite	My (first person deixis), on (Spatial deixis), I (first person deixis)
14	Tomorrow might not make it, but everything's all right	Tomorrow (temporal deixis), It (third person deixis)
15	Mental fiction, follow me, show me what it's like to be set free	Me (first person deixis), me (first person deixis), It (third person deixis)
16	Can't you help me as I'm startin' to burn (all alone)	You (second person deixis), me (first person deixis), I (first person deixis)
17	Too many doses, and I'm starting to get an attraction	I (first person deixis)
18	My confidence is leaving me on my	My (first person deixis), me (first person

		own (all alone)	deixis), and my (first person deixis)
19		No one can save me, and you know I don't want the attention	Me (first person deixis), you (second person deixis), and I (first person deixis)
20		So sorry you're not here	you (second person deixis), here (spatial deixis)
21		I've been chained too long, my vision's so unclear	I (first person deixis), too long (temporal deixis), my (first person deixis)
22		Now take a trip with me	Now (Temporal deixis), me (first person deixis)
23		But don't be surprised when things aren't what they seem	They (third person deixis)
24		Caught here in a fiery blaze, won't lose my will to stay	Here (Place deixis), my (first person deixis)
25		These eyes won't see the same after I flip today	These (Person deixis), after (temporal deixis), today (temporal deixis)
26		Sometimes I don't know why we'd rather live than die	Sometimes (temporal deixis), I (first person deixis), we (first person deixis)
27		We look up towards the sky for answers to our lives	We (first person deixis), the sky (spatial deixis), our (first person deixis)
28		We may get some solutions, but most just pass us by	We (first person deixis), us (first person deixis)
29		Don't want your absolution 'cause I can't make it right	Your (second person deixis), I (first person deixis), it (third person deixis)
30		I'll make a beast out of myself, yeah	I (first person deixis), myself (first person deixis)
31		Gets rid of all the pain of being a man	A man (Social deixis)
32		Can't you help me as I'm startin' to burn (all alone)	You (second person deixis), me (first person deixis), I (first person deixis)
33		Too many doses, and I'm starting to get an attraction	I (first person deixis)
34		My confidence is leaving me on my own (all alone)	My (first person deixis), me (first person deixis), and my (first person deixis)
35		No one can save me, and you know I don't want the attention	Me (first person deixis), you (second person deixis), and I (first person deixis)
36		So sorry you're not here	you (second person deixis), here (spatial deixis)
37		I've been chained too long, my vision's so unclear	I (first person deixis), too long (temporal deixis), my (first person deixis)
38		Now take a trip with me	Now (Temporal deixis), me (first person deixis)
39		But don't be surprised when things aren't what they seem	They (third person deixis)
40		I've known it from the start	I (first person deixis), it (third person deixis), the start (temporal deixis)
41		'Til you know that you won't run away	You (second person deixis), you (second person deixis), away (spatial deixis)
42		All these good ideas will tear your	These (Person deixis), your (second person

	brain apart	deixis)
43	Scared, but you can follow me	You (second person deixis), Me (first person deixis)
44	I'm too weird to live, but much too rare to die	I (first person deixis)

Table 2 : *Deixis kinds in "Bat Country" song lyrics*

No.	Deixis kinds	Quantity	Percentages (%)
1	Person deixis	76	83
2	Spatial or place deixis	5	5
3	Temporal deixis	9	10
4	Social deixis	2	2
	TOTAL	92	100

It can see in the table above, there are many words that are found in "Bat Country" song lyrics using person deixis in the first person, second person, and third person. Person deixis is the type of deixis that indicate to the people, and sometimes it refers to a pronoun. The person deixis is it should be noted that the two basic participant roles, the speaker and the addressee (Salamah et al., 2021).

The first person deixis is the use pronoun "**I"**. The use of deixis "**I"** can be seen in the lyrics "*I tried to drive all through the night*" (datum 4). The "I" refer to the speaker who trying to drive a vehicle for a long time without a break and spent a whole night. Another person deixis that exists on the "Bat Country" lyrics is **"My"**. The use of deixis my can be seen in the lyrics "Caught here in a fiery blaze, won't lose **my** will to stay*"* (datum 3). "**My"** referred to the speaker himself. "**My"** is able to include in person deixis because the word me is included as the object in singular pronoun. It belongs to the speaker who indicates that his will to stay will not be lost despite being in a dangerous situation. The last first person deixis is "**Me"**. "**Me"** is exist on the lyrics *"No oasis here to see, the sand is singing deathless words to **me"** (datum 2). "Me" is able to include in person deixis because the word **"me"** is included as the object in the singular pronoun"

However, the use of the second person deixis is also found in "Bat Country" song lyrics. According to Pratiwi (2018), the second person deixis is a deictic reference to a person or people identified as the addressee. The second person deixis found here is **"you"**, like on the lyrics *"Can't **you** help me as I'm startin' to burn (all alone)"* (datum 7). The lyrics means that the speaker is talking directly to someone else, and is asking for help he is on his hard time and feel struggling.

The third person deixis that exists in the "Bat Country" song lyrics are "He", "himself", "it", and "they". The third person deixis usually references to someone or a group of people

(Natalia & Santoso, 2020). The example of the third person deixis used here is **"he"** and **"himself"** on *"He who makes a beast out of **himself**"*. It is actually a quote from Samuel Johnson, an English author and poet. The word **"he"** in the lyric refers to someone who overcomes life's difficulties by acting like a beast. By doing this, he can escape the emotional pain that comes with being human. The **"himself"** word references a self of he.

There are also several kinds of spatial deixis found in Avenged Sevenfold's "Bat Country" song lyrics. Spatial deixis, as stated by Wibowo and Naulfar (2018), is used to explain the location of certain utterance. One of the spatial deixis exist in the song lyrics is **"here"**. The usage of **"here"** written on the *"So sorry you're not **here**"*. The word **"here"** uses spatial deixis to indicate that the speaker is in a different place from the person they are speaking to. The word **"here"** suggests the speaker is in a particular location, while "you" implies the person being spoken to is somewhere else. This creates a feeling of distance between them.

Temporal deixis is about the usage of language to refer the time. The temporal deixis on the Avenged Sevenfold's "Bat Country" lyrics can be seen in *"**Tomorrow** might not make it, but everything's all right"* (datum 14). The word "tomorrow" is an example of temporal deixis and refers to the day that follows the current day. The speaker is using this word to indicate that something may happen near in the future, and that it is uncertain whether it will come to pass. The use of "might not make it" further emphasizes the uncertainity of the future.

Social deixis is also found in the "Bat Country" song lyrics. Social deixis refers to the use of language to reflect the social relationships between individuals or groups. Social deixis can be seen on *"Gets rid of the pain of being **a man**"* (datum 2). The phrase "being a man" refers to the cultural expectations and pressures that come with being a male. The word "pain" suggests that some men may experience unwanted something negative from these expectations and pressures.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, according to the research conducted, most deixis found in the "Bat Country" song lyrics are person deixis (83%), followed by temporal deixis (10%), spatial deixis (5%), and social deixis (2%). Overall, person deixis is the highest percentage, meaning the usage of person deixis dominates in "Bat Country" by Avenged Sevenfold song lyrics.

Related to the conclusions above, it is well suggested to the students to study deixis because by understanding deixis, they will be able to comprehend the idea of speakers and writers and communicate well in their society. The author also suggests to the readers to take this research article as reference when they decide to discuss the same topic for their thesis.

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