

SOCIAL DEIXIS IN STUDENTS' WRITING: A CASE STUDY OF INDONESIAN SECONDARY STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

The social position or role of participants in communicative events is referred to as social deixis. The parts of language structure that encode individuals' social identities are referred to as social deixis. The current study examined the use of social deixis in students' writing. It focused on secondary students' writing. The students were allowed to choose the topic of writing. Using qualitative research, this study collected the data through documentation. The data were analyzed through data condensation, data display, drawing, and conclusion. The findings revealed that students' writing only contained relational social discourse. The students' writing frequently used addressee honorific relational social discourse. For the purpose of showing respect, students frequently used relational social deduction. Readers are persuaded to do a particular action by the students' goal as well.

Keywords: social deixis, students' writing, text

BACKGROUND

Deixis is a term that refers to pointing at someone or something (Macrae, 2019). To put it another way, we must consider the context of who is speaking, what is the object, who is the addressee, and other contextual aspects of the speech event to comprehend deixis' true meaning. A deixis is a form that is concerned with the context of the speech. It is a manner of referring to anything in the speaker's and listener's current time, location, and context in utterance. It is utilized when the speaker wants to show the receiver something in a particular setting. Deixis is associated with deictic expression (Huang, 2014) utilized to depict expressions related with to deictic usage, such as: a wide range of people, places, times, discourses, and social situations. Person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis are the five categories of deixis.

Social deixis is applied to identify a reference depending on the speaker's class. The social position or role of participants in speech events is referred to as social deixis (Renkema & Schubert, 2018). The parts of language structure that encode the social identities of individuals are referred to as social deixis. In this term, social deixis concerns on a reference depending on the class that the speaker is referring to.

A number of deixis studies have been discussed by some scholars (Heriyadi & Diana, 2021; Noerofi'a & Bahri, 2019; Zulyanputri et al., 2020). Heriyadi and Diana (2021) analyzed types and the functions of social deixis in a movie, while Noerofi'a and Bahri (2019) explored types and aims of social deixis in the movie "Beauty and the Beast". In addition, Zulyanputri, Indrayani and Soemantri (2020) has examined the correlation between social deixis and social class in a speech by Nobel Prize Winners. Although studies on deixis have been prevalent, little evidence has been documented regarding research examining social deixis in students' writing. To fill this gap, this study examined the use and the function of social deixis in students' writing, mainly secondary students' writing.

This study aimed to analyze social deixis in Indonesian secondary students' writing and its function. To achieve the aim of the study, there are two research questions to be answered in this study, namely: 1) What is the social deixis on students' writing?, and 2) What are the functions of social deixis on students' writing?.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study was intended to trace the use of social deixis in writing. Students were allowed in choosing the topic of writing. Qualitative research was undertaken to come up the use of social deixis in students' writing. This study recycled documentation, mainly students' narrative writing. The researchers chose the senior high school students in Jombang as participants of this study.

The researchers were the key instrument of this current study in collecting, analyzing, and interpreting the data. Supporting instrument was also provided in accomplishing the three activities. The supporting instrument is a table which was used in displaying the research result that answers the problem of research. On the last step, verifying conclusion was done in interpreting the collected data.

In this study, the researchers collected the data through documentation. This study took students' writing. This study only focused on narrative text written by students. There were some steps of collecting the data. The steps are: classifying the data and coding the data regarding the social deixis in students' writing.

The study applies some steps in analyzing the data. The applied steps were based on Miles, Huberman, & Saldana (2014). There are three steps of data analysis, they are data condensation, data display, drawing and verifying conclusions (Miles et al., 2014)

a) Data condensation

In this step the researchers only concern on data regarding social deixis in students' writing.

b) Data display

The researchers provide in the form of narrative, figures, and other forms in exploring the result of this study. The researchers also apply Huang's theory (2014) to interpret the the result of this study.

c) Drawing and verifying conclusions

The last step is the researchers summarize the finding of this study to answer the statement of the problem.

The validity of data does not deposit the credibility and validity findings (Wilson, 2014), hence this current study contrivance investigator triangulation for the sake of trustworthy and useable research result. Investigator triangulation is a method triangulation that avoids potential biases and determines the completeness of data (Heale & Forbes, 2013). By triangulation, the trustworthiness of analysis results is unbiased and neutral. The triangulation was carried out by involving an expert in reviewing the result of data analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Social Deixis on Students' Writing

Social deixis can be found in secondary students' writing. In English class, students were instructed to write down some speeches. They had authority to choose or decide the topic of their writing. They were given 60 minutes to write a speech for the each group. The analysis of students' writing, as follows:

Pleased audience, if you'd want we need to know healthier lifestyles in order to live healthy lives. (D1.RSD1.Sa17)

The sentence above involves the social deixis and person deixis. The social deixis can be seen on the word "pleased audience", it is identified as polite form. While, both singular pronoun "you" and plural pronoun "we" also signify a categorization of the individual. It also includes the participants.

In summary, the social deixis analysis of students writing can be seen in the following Table 1.

Table 1. Social Deixis in the Students' Writing

Code	Sentence	Deitic expression	Types of Social Deixis		Note
			Relational	Absolute	
D1. RSD1.Sa17	Pleased audience, if you'd want We need to know healthier lifestyles in order to live healthy lives.	Pleased audience	√		The sentence is written by the first student. She wants the audiences to know and understand regarding what should be done by audiences in maintaining their health.

Table 1 reveals that “pleased audience” includes relational social deixis. As polite form, honorific is definitely utilized with this category in D1.SW1.RSD1. It is associated with addressee honorific (Huang, 2007). This is in line with Huang (2007) that addressee honorific is utilized to show respect to the addressee without mention a certain name. This category also relates to what the writers actually need to convey, such as persuading the readers to do a particular action. The writers promote audiences to take care of their lifestyles. In this regard, the audiences should consider their food, drink, and regular exercises in maintaining their health.

B. Functions of Social Deixis on Students' Writing

In relation to polite form, Noerofi'a & Bahri (2019) categorized expressing politeness and respect as one of aims of social deixis. The aims of social deixis are categorized as the keys which open the accurate interpretation pragmatically. The deictic word “Pleased audience” is honorific title that is used to show degree of politeness. By mentioning “Pleased audience”, it means the speaker respects the people who hear the speech uttered. In conclusion, type of relational social deixis particularly politeness and respect can also be found on students' writing besides movie.

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATIONS

There is only relational social deixis in students' writing. The type of relational social deixis used in students' writing is addressee honorific. The students tend to apply relational social deixis to perform their respect. The students' aim also persuades the readers to do a particular action. Educators should allow students understand about when and how use the social deixis in their writing. Future research on other skills should be conducted in educational context.

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