

**An Analysis of Reference in J.K. Rowling's Novel:  
*Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince***

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**Abstract**

The aim of this article is to explore the use of reference in *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* novel. The novel used in this study entitled *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. The novel was analysed from pragmatics approach focusing on reference. The utterances of the main character Harry Potter is to investigate to cover the existence of reference consisting anaphora, cataphora, and ellipsis, and to find the most frequently appeared type of reference applied J.K. Rowling throughout her novel entitled *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. The three types of reference are applied in this novel and anaphora as the frequently type of reference are the result of this study.

**Key Words:** anaphora, cataphora, ellipsis, *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, reference.

**Introduction**

Pragmatics is the relation of signs to interpreters (Saeed, 2001). Meaning described in relation to speakers and hearers is the area of pragmatics. Pragmatics (Yule, 1996) is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). There are many things to do with the analysis of what people mean by the utterances people uttered than what the words or phrases in the utterances might mean by themselves. Therefore, this study is a study of speaker meaning.

Pragmatics involves the interpretation of what people mean in a particular context and how the context influences what is said. It needs a consideration of how the speakers organize what they want to say in accordance with who they're talking to, when, where, when, and under what kind of circumstances. Pragmatics is study of contextual meaning (Yule, 1996).

Pragmatics necessarily explores how listeners can make inferences about what is said in order to arrive at an interpretation of the speaker's intended meaning. It also explores how a great deal of what is unsaid is recognized as part of what is communicated. It seems like the investigation of invisible meaning. Pragmatics is the study of how more gets communicated than is said.

This perspective then raises the question of what determines the choice between the said and the unsaid. The basic answer is tied to the notion of distance.

Closeness, whether it is physical, social, or conceptual, implies shared experience. On assumption of how close or distant the listener is, speakers determine how much needs to be said. Pragmatics is the study of the expression of relative distance.

Those are the four areas of pragmatics and this pragmatics approach study concerns on one pragmatics material called reference. There are some definitions of reference based on some experts. First, reference is portrayed as the assigning of values to variables, the variables being signalled by definite expressions and the values being items in the extralinguistic world. Various strategies for indicating (on the part of the speaker) and determining (on the part of the hearer) correct referents are discussed. Establishing connections between utterances and the extralinguistic world are the area of reference (Cruse, 2000).

Reference (Yule, 1996) is also an act in which a speaker, or the writer, uses linguistic forms to enable the listener, to identify something. The linguistic forms which consist of referring expression, which can be proper noun, noun phrase, and pronouns. Proper noun examples according to Yule are Shakespeare, and Cathy Rovelto. From these examples, proper nouns means noun which refers to proper thing or person. Noun phrase is noun which commonly use article, such as: “a”, “an”, and “the”.

Anaphora or anaphoric reference, cataphora, and ellipsis or zero anaphora are the types of reference . Yule also stated that anaphoric reference as a process of continuing or identify exactly the same entity as denoted by the antecedent ( Yule, 1996). The main important things on the anaphoric reference are the antecedent and the anaphor. The pattern of this is antecedent anaphor. A pragmatic approach to anaphora tries to take into account not only what the anaphorical pronoun is referring to, the ‘antecedent’ (i.e., that which precedes the pronoun and t which the pronoun refers), which can be a noun phrase, a piece of (con)text, but also the whole situation.

Cataphora as the second type has a reversal of the antecedent-anaphor pattern (Yule, 1996). Sometimes it is found at the beginning of the story. Ellipsis is the last type reference which is analysed in this study. The use of zero anaphora as the means of maintaining reference clearly creates an expectation that the listener will be able to infer who or what the speaker intended to identify. It is also obvious case of more being communicated than it said (Yule, 1996).

Applying this theory to a literary work which has a good development in a study is appropriate and interesting to be analysed. One of literary works entitled *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* which was written by J.K. Rowling is a popular novel chosen by the writer. This literary work is good to be analysed because of the content. There are so many utterances and narration containing reference. This study also

covers the frequently appeared type of reference applied in this sixth serie of Harry Potter novel. But last not the least, this study could cover the way of famous writer in applying reference.

Practically, the results of this study are expected to enrich the use of reference when someone who are interested to be a writer, or a public speaker. It can make the composition or the material on speaking becomes not flat because of the use of reference.

## Methodology

This paper analyses selected materials to explore the reference type which exist in J.K. Rowling's novel entitled *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* concerned with the utterances of the main character namely Harry Potter containing anaphora, cataphora, and ellipsis or zero anaphora. The approach adopted in this research is pragmatics analysis.

### A. Materials

In this research, J.K. Rowling's novel entitled *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* which is published by Bloomsbury as the sixth series of Harry Potter novel series is chosen by the writer.

### B. Procedure

The novel is read and comprehended by the writer. The prosedures used in this data collection were: (1) reading and comprehending all content of the novel; (2) identifying utterances of main character included to anaphora; (3) identifying utterances of the main character included to cataphora; (4) identifying utterances of the main character included to ellipsis or zero anaphora; (5) classifying the utterances of the main character into codes. The example of data code was 001/HP6/pg.50/ln.7/An. 001 means the number of data, HP6 means the sixth Harry Potter novel, pg represents page, ln represents line of the page, and An represents the type of data.

## DISCUSSION

The analysis of reference is shown on the table below, which illustrates the frequency of reference, they are: anaphora, cataphora, and ellipsis applied in J.K. Rowling's novel *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*.

Tabel The Frequency of Reference

Reference	HP		
	An	Ca	Ell
Frequency (s)	119	5	9

Noticing the table above that all the three types: anaphora, cataphora, and ellipsis exist and anaphora is the frequently appeared type of reference applied in J.K. Rowling's novel entitled Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince which data are all utterances uttered by only the main character namely Harry Potter.

### **Anaphora**

Anaphora is one of reference type which pattern is antecedent anaphor (Yule, 1996). Anaphora exists because the antecedent comes earlier than the anaphor which becomes the subsequent expression. Anaphora are found as many as 119 data. This fact clearly describes that the frequently appeared type of reference which is applied by J.K. Rowling's in her sixth series of Harry Potter is anaphoric reference or commonly known as anaphora.

Yule stated that antecedent exists in the previous one before anaphor. Because of the data are those utterances which are uttered by the main character only namely Harry Potter, the data can be divined from places that serve the antecedent existence. Based on this study, there are some data which antecedents are known because of the existence in the previous narration, in the previous utterances, and also in one utterance of the main character namely Harry Potter. But last not the least, the anaphor is pronoun in all data appeared in this study. All pronoun are described in these data. The pronoun are in the form of I, You, We, They, She, He, it and sometimes in some data also exist the possessive pronoun, they are my, your, our, their, her, his, it. But last not the least, there are also the objective pronoun, they are me, you, them, us, her, him, and its. Here are three data of 119 data which is appeared in the novel with the context. The context is described because it is important to know the condition and clarify the antecedent and the anaphor.

“No wonder he wasn't pleased to see me! Well, I'm going to tell Dumbledore what's going on, he's the only one who scares Mundungus.”

The context of this data is that Harry Potter, Ron and Harmony see Mundungus who has grabbed an assortment of Grubby objects from ground. Ron realizes that those things are belong to Sirius. Harry also recognizes it and says that those things was taken from Sirius's house. Harry is angry and makes Hermione and Ron tries a bit hard to stop his action. After several minutes, Mundungus disappear but Harry still feels so angry. Some people stares at them especially Harry. Tonks or Mundungus were saying that Tonks is thief. To make him decreasing his anger, Hermione asked Harry Potter to wait for a second while she take three glass of butter beer. The butter beer makes him a bit forger about his stuff, and says this utterances.

Based on the context and the utterances, the technical term is antecedent anaphor. The antecedent is mentioned in the previous narration. The antecedent exists are three, such as: Mundungus or Tonks, Harry Potter, and Professor Dumbledore. While for the subsequent expression, there are three also. There are two “he” which refers to two different people, and one “I” which refers to Harry Potter. This is clear that those references have connection to that antecedent. The antecedent of the first “he” is in the previous narration, “I” is in the previous narration too, and “he’s” which stands for he is found in the four word proceeded the antecedent but in one utterance. The condition where the antecedents appear first than the anaphor clearly describes that the way reader knows the antecedent is by looking back. So that, this is called as anaphora.

### **Cataphora**

Cataphora is the reversal pattern of anaphoric reference which in this study the existence is the most uncommon type of reference to be find. The frequency is only 5 data. This fact leads that what Yule have stated in his book is right. He stated that this type of reference is much less common in any kind of composition or writing. Below is one of the data which is found in this best seller novel with the context and analysis too. Actually these utterances in data are not only has one type, cataphora, only. But it also has other type like anaphora. But, the focus is only in cataphora so that anaphora in these data are denied. The context in every single data is described since understanding the context is very crucial in finding appropriate reference from its antecedent.

“He looks a bit like a walrus, and he used to be Head of Slytherin,”  
said Harry.

Based on the context this data is occur when there is a conversation of Harry Potter, Hermione, and Ron Weasley. They were so happy since they could met each other. Harry was asked by his best friend about his journey and his relationship with muggle. He answered that his relationship was not good where Harry and the muggle in Harry’s house was not talk too much each other. But, he like it, because he dislike them too. Ron also asked about the journey of him and Dumbledore. He answered that he had tried to persuade a person who was the head of Slytherin in the past.

Based on the context, the technical term is the reversal of anaphora or anaphor antecedent. In this utterance, the anaphor appears earlier than the antecedent. The anaphor as the subsequent expression is represented by pronoun “he”. While the antecedent is “ex-Head of Slytherin whose face is like a walrus. The connection is that

the anaphor which is represented by “he” comes first than antecedent which is represented by “ex-head of Slytherin” so that the reader must look forward to know what the anaphor “he” refers to. Because of this way this data is called cataphora.

### **Ellipsis**

Ellipsis is one of reference types which can be recognised by the missing word or phrase. Ellipsis can also be called as zero anaphora (Yule, 1996) and ‘lazy’ pronoun (May, 2001). Maintaining reference which clearly creates an expectation that the listener will be able to infer who or what the speaker actually wants to identify. So that, even there is a missing word or phrase, the listener is still able to identify what the first speaker wants to identify. Even linguistically the anaphora does not directly connected to the antecedent, but the hearer still understand what the first speaker want to clarify. Below is one of data which containing zero anaphora.

“I only just remembered,” said Harry honestly. “He told me last night in your broom shed.”

Based on the context this data occurs in the conversation between Harry Potter and his friends namely Ron Weasley and Hermione. They talks about some Percy, a person who like to talked about Ron weakness to the father and mother of Ron. Hermione argued that this person had told many thing about Ron to his parent according to Dumbledore. In this utterance, the ellipsis and zero anaphora exist. There was missing phrase after word “remember” remember needs object. The speaker or Harry Potter omit “private lesson” that would be taken by Ron Weasley in Hogwarts. Because it is an ellipsis the reader still able understand what Harry Potter wants to clarify. Ron and Hermione could clarify pragmatically that Harry want to say that he was remembering his private lesson. It is clear and obvious even omit words the hearer could get the point.

“Are you still interested in playing Chaser?” “Wha — ? Yeah, of course!” said Dean excitedly. Over Dean’s shoulder, Harry saw Seamus Finnigan slamming his books into his bag, looking sour. One of the reasons why Harry would have preferred not have to ask Dean to play was that he knew Seamus would not like it. On the other hand, he had to do what was best for the team, and Dean had outflown Seamus at the tryouts. “Well then, you’re in,” said Harry. “There’s a practice tonight, seven o’clock.”

The context is that Harry ask Ron to take a part in a tournament by saying “well then. You’re in”. From the data above, it can be concluded that it is included to zero anaphora. The reason is because the main character omit word related to the utterances that he produced. The missing word is “the team”. But, even he did not produce that, the hearer still caught the idea of what Harry Potter want to identify. It is clear that

pragmatically the speaker said to the hearer namely Ron that he was in the team for Triwizard Tournament. Therefore, it is a kind of ellipsis or zero anaphora

“The library is now closed,” she said. “Mind you return any- thing you have borrowed to the correct — what have you been doing to that book, you depraved boy?” “It isn’t the library’s, it’s mine!” said Harry hastily, snatching his copy of Advanced Potion-Making off the table as she lunged at it with a claw like hand.

The context above is that Harry made a conversation with Hermione. They talked about book that Harry brought. Hermione accused the book Harry brought. But Harry said that belonged to him. From the data above, it can be concluded that it is included to zero anaphora. The reason is because the main character omit word related to the utterances that he produced. The missing word is “book” after word “library’s”. But, even he did not produce that, the hearer still caught the idea of what Harry Potter want to identify. It is clear that pragmatically Harry wanted to clarify that that was not the library’s book. Therefore, it is a kind of ellipsis or zero anaphora. The extension of the anaphoric reference or anaphora is the frequently appeared type is that it is proven that what Yule stated in his book entitled Pragmatics is right. He stated that the pattern of antecedent anaphora is more common than cataphora (Yule, 1996). It is clear that anaphoric reference is the frequently appeared type of reference used in some composition of writing, included this previous novel which was written by J.K. Rowling entitled Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. But last not the least, all reference as the subsequent expression is just common pronoun, such as: I, you, we, they, she, he, and it.

As the extension also, this fact support the theory of Yule who had stated that anaphora is the most common type applied in spoken and in written texts. It can be proven by the existence of narration and the utterances which has anaphora’s number are more than the others. Analysing some data in this novel, the author of this novel seems that she do not want to make the reader feels confuse. It is better to write down the antecedent first than the subsequent expression.

Based on the concept of anaphoric reference, this type of reference refers back to a word or phrase which exists and presented in the previous sentence, or in the previous information. It seems back to the old information in the prior sentence or utterances. So that, this concept which the existence of antecedent is earlier than the anaphor server a marker for knowledge which has already possessed by the reader. This type also clear that the anaphora could be a tool or a reminder for the reader of the information which was read by the reader. This type also becomes the frequently appeared type because the presence of anaphora help the reader related to what

happen in the next narration, and utterances so that the reader still understand what the anaphor refers in the next.

After conducting the study using steps which were explained in the previous chapter, there are some ways that are used by J.K. Rowling in applying reference. She put the antecedent in the previous narration, in the previous character utterances, and in utterances which directly uttered by main character namely Harry Potter. Also in cataphora, she put the antecedent commonly in one utterance, after the anaphor. This type also clear that the anaphora can be a tool or a reminder for the reader of the information which was read by the reader. This type also becomes the most frequent type because the presence of anaphora help the reader related to what will happen in the next narration, and utterances so that the reader still understand what the anaphor refers in the next. Based on these facts, it is clear that actually the writer does not want to make the reader confuse by putting to many cataphora.

## **Conclusions**

From findings and discussion, this study can be concluded that reference which has three types are exist in the novel of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince which was published by the Bloomsbury. The data are those utterances which are produced by the main character namely Harry Potter containing reference. Those three types are the anaphoric reference or anaphora which pattern is an antecedent - anaphor, cataphora which pattern is the reversal of anaphora or anaphor antecedent, and the last one ellipsis or zero anaphora where the speaker omit one or more than word in uttering his utterances but the hearer still understand what the speaker want to identify. This research also found out that the frequently appeared type of reference applied in J.K. Rowling's novel entitled Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince is anaphora or anaphoric reference. The frequency of anaphora in this study is 119. After anaphoric reference, there is ellipsis which frequency is 8 data, and the last one cataphora which has 5 data only.

The frequently appeared type of reference is anaphora and the extension of this is that by J.K. Rowling as the famous writer applied anaphora for her composition frequently. It proven that what Yule have stated is right that anaphora is the most common type of reference in many kind compositions. The way she wrote anaphora is by locating the antecedent in the previous narration, in the previous other character's utterance, and also in one utterance which uttered by the main character namely Harry Potter.



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