

Analysis of Deixis in “An Irish Goodbye” Short Film

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ABSTRACT

The research aims to analyze the types, and the dominant type of deixis used in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script. In completing the analysis, this research uses the qualitative research method. In the data collection technique, the researcher uses document analysis. This research used a set of words or film script as the data in the forms of monologues delivered by Alex, an Irish man, as the main character is taken from “An Irish Goodbye” a short film directed by Cody Farren. Five types of deixis are focused to be analyzed in this research. All the types of deixis covering personal pronouns, social, discourse, place, and time deictic expressions as in Levinson (1983) are found in the “An Irish Goodbye” short film script. In person deixis, the deictic expression found are personal pronoun. The results of the research indicate that (1) there are 273 data of five deixis types found in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script, consisting of: 80 data (29.30%) of person deixis, 21 data (7.70%) of spatial deixis, 131 data (47.99%) of temporal deixis, 33 word (12.08%) of social deixis, and 8 data (2.93%) of discourse deixis. Hence, the temporal deixis (131 deictic words or 47.99%) is the most frequently used deixis.

Keywords: pragmatics, deixis, deictic, film

1. Introduction

Language is essential to our everyday existence. One of the most beneficial products of human civilization is language, which enables interaction and communication between individuals and their communities. Language can also teach, develop, and abstract a variety of environmental phenomena. Everyone is aware of how crucial language is in social situations. Language is not only used in oral or written form, furthermore, it also can be used in other fields such as song, movie, poetry, novel, and many more (Korneeva, 2019). Listeners or hearers may find it simpler to comprehend the communication's goal with the help of the media. Since language serves a variety of purposes, we must utilize clear and understandable language to prevent miscommunications between speakers and listeners.

Nwanwene (2002) defines film as a series of motionless images projected onto a screen so fast as to create in the mind of anyone watching the screen an impression of continuous motion. Films, as literary works, can be a very entertaining medium. Because they are made in a variety of genres, convey moral lessons, visually appealing with vibrant animation and distinctive effects, easily available and reasonably priced, and frequently include cultural and linguistic content, films become the most cherished literary works. Film language acts as a means of communication. The audience may also automatically learn the language from the films they watch.

The term pragmatics is defined differently by each linguist. Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader) (Yule, 1996). The discipline of pragmatics examines how people communicate using language. Its foundation is the study of premises, which enables it to ascertain how premises impact and contribute to the effectiveness of human language. Language is the primary way in which people communicate with each other. Nonetheless, because language users are social beings, they interact and utilize language in a culture that restricts their access to language and communication tools. Pragmatics studies the use of language in human communication as determined by the condition of society (Mey,

2001). Deixis belongs to the area of pragmatics because it directly involves the relationship between the structure of language and the context in which it is used (Levinson, 1983). Levinson (1983) classified deixis into five types; person deixis (first, second, and third person), place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis.

Person deixis is concerned with the role of participants within an utterance (Levinson, 1983). Person deixis is deixis with the role of participants in the conversation, such as speaker, addressee, and addressee. Person deixis usually localizes an entity about the position of the speaker and/or hearer. First and second-person pronouns typically refer to the speaking and hearing speech-participant (s), whereas third-person pronouns designate the non-speech or narrated participant. Person deixis consists of three categories, namely first person, second person, and third person. The first person is used by the speaker that refer to himself as a subject of discourse, for example, I (singular) and we (plural), The second person is used to refer to the hearer to one or more addressees, the example of the second person is you, and third person is used to refer to persons or things other than the speaker and hearer, example, *he, she, and it* (singular) and *they* (plural).

Place deixis is also described as spatial deixis, where the relative location of people and things is indicated (Levinson, 1983). Place or spatial deixis is typically expressed using deictic words and phrases, such as *here, there, this, that, near, and far*. "Here and there" is an adverb of place that is used in spatial deixis. Spatial deixis involves expressions that refer to objects, locations, and directions about the speaker's or listener's position or the shared space. Deictic expressions like *here, there, this, and that* help establish spatial relationships and orient interlocutors within the physical or imagined space being discussed.

Temporal deixis or time deixis is a reference to the time, mostly towards the adverbs of time, when an utterance is spoken Levinson (1983). It refers to an event of an utterance, which takes place any time relative to the speaking time and is, therefore, represented by tense, time adverbials, and sometimes by spatial prepositions. The most pervasive aspect of temporal deixis is tense (Levinson, 2000). Temporal deixis is used to express temporal relations between the speaker, the listener, and the discourse. The encoding of a spoken or written message at specific temporal points is referred to as time deixis. Any phrase that denotes a specific time is known as a temporal deixis, such as *now, then, soon, tomorrow, tonight, yesterday, today, etc*. Deictic expressions such as *now, then, today, yesterday, and tomorrow* attach events or actions about the speaker's or listener's present, past, or future. Temporal deixis allows for the sequencing of events, discussing durations, and coordinating temporal references in conversation.

Social deixis should set the limits to those aspects of language structure that encode the social identities of participants, or the social relationship between them, or between one of them and the persons and entities referred to (Levinson, 1983). The purpose of social deixis is to demonstrate social differences, particularly those about social interactions between the speaker and the listener or between the speaker and other participants. Social deixis focuses on linguistic markers that reflect social hierarchies, power dynamics, and social roles within speech. These markers include honorifics, titles, and kinship terms that convey respect, formality, or familiarity. Social deixis separated into two kinds; relational and absolute social deixis. Relational social deixis is a deictic reference to some social characteristic of referent apart from any relative ranking of referents or deictic reference to a social relationship between the speaker and addressee, such as *my husband, teacher, cousin, mother, etc*. Absolute social deixis is a deictic reference usually expressed in certain forms of address which will include no comparison of the ranking of the speaker and addressee, such as *your highness, Mr. President, your majesty, etc*.

Discourse deixis concerns the use of deictic expressions that refer to some portion of discourse in an utterance that is still speaking on the same discourse (Levinson, 1983). Discourse Deixis refers to the use of expressions that signal a relationship between an utterance and the prior or subsequent discourse. Discourse deixis includes temporal deictic terms (*next, before, last week*), spatial deictic terms, utterance initial expressions that indicate a relationship with the preceding discourse (but in conclusion, well), and the use of demonstratives (*this, that*) to refer to the preceding or following discourse.

There are also several previous studies found that also examine deixis in film or movie script as the the object of research. First, is research written by Artelu & Indah (2023) entitled "Analyzing

Five Types of Deixis in Cruella Movie". The purposes of this study were to find out the five types of deixis in the movie. The results of this research are that deixis in the movie consists of five deixis, namely: [1] person deixis, consisting of the first person, the second person, and the third person, [2] place deixis, [3] time deixis, [4] discourse deixis, and [5] social deixis. Second, a research entitled *Deixis Analysis on Zootopia Movie Script: A Pragmatic Study* conducted by Budiarta, I. W., & Gaho, R. (2021). The study aims to analyze the types of deixis on Zootopia movie script. The results show there are all types of deixis were found on Zootopia movie script, especially the type of time deixis found in various kinds of temporal. Third, a research entitled *An Analysis of Deixis on the Character in Brave Movie* investigated by Maduwu, Y. T. A., & Rozzaq Wijaya, R. K. A. . (2024). This research aims to analyze the types and functions of deixis in the movie Brave. The research categorizes 60 instances of deixis into five types-person, time, place, discourse, and social deixis-with personal deixis identified as the most common among them. Fourth, a research entitled *Deixis in the Movie of Spiderman (No Way Home): Pragmatic Analysis* written by Rahmawati, D., & Aziez, S. (2023). Fifth, a research entitled *An Analysis of Deixis in The King's Man (2021) Movie: Pragmatics Study* conducted by Mustaqiem, Harfianto Martha & Simatupang, Ervina CM. (2023). The goal of this research is to identify the different types of deixis and the most dominant deixis in the Kings'man Movie. The first question is to determine what types of deixis are found in The King's Man Movie, and the last is to determine the types of deixis that are most commonly used in The King's Man Movie. The researcher discovered 786 deixis data. The data was categorized to person, time, place, discourse, and social deixis while the most dominant types of deixis is person deixis.

In this study, the researcher wants to analyze deixis in short story script of "An Irish Goodbye". The aims of this study are to identify the kinds of deixis and to find the dominant types of deixis that are used in the short story script. The researcher uses pragmatics approach to analyze the deixis. *An Irish Goodbye*, directed by Cody Farren, refers to when a person leaves a party or an event unannounced. A disconsolate man draws comparisons to this when he struggles to write a suicide note for his parents. Through a melancholy yet humorous monologue, he criticizes and provides observations on contemporary Irish youth culture. The film won Best in Louth awarded by Louth International Film Festival (LIFF) in 2022. The LIFF is a film festival that celebrates creative and challenging cinema from around the world. The festival also supports emerging filmmakers. For such reasons, the researcher chooses to design a research entitled *Analysis of Deixis in "An Irish Goodbye" Short Film*. The researcher hopes this research will be helpful for the readers to understand and to know the use of deixis especially from short film festivals.

2. Method

A qualitative study is applied in this research. The researcher acts as the instrument through which the data are collected and analyzed (Miles & Huberman, 1994). The researcher uses a qualitative method to analyze the use of deixis in *An Irish Goodbye Short Film* script. The data in this research are analyzed based on the deictic framework proposed by Levinson (1983) that covers personalpronoun deixis, time deixis, place deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. In this research, the data collection method uses documentary techniques including; reading, studying, analyzing, identifying, classifying, and collecting the required information related to the study.

The data are collected by doing the steps, as follows: First, the researcher watches and listens to the monologue of *An Irish Goodbye Short Film* from the YouTube channel of Cody Farren, the producer, director and writer of the short film to understand the script in detail. Second, the researcher views the script of *An Irish Goodbye short film* provided by YouTube. Third, the researcher compares the script with the short film since the research finds that several of the monologues in the short film do not fit with the available script. Fourth, the researcher marks and collect all the fit script to be analyzed.

After marking and collecting the data from the script of the short film, the researcher analyzes the data as follows: First, the researcher determines some words expressions that include in deictic expressions. Second, the researcher classifies the deictic expressions that have been determined based on their criteria. Third, the researcher analyzes the types of deixis, namely: person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. Afterwards, these data of deixis

are tabulated and demonstrated in percentage using a table to indicate the frequency of the occurrences of each type of deixis and its percentage

3. Results and Discussion

The researcher collects the data by viewing the script facilitated by YouTube and listening the actor’s utterances from An Irish Goodbye Short Film to obtain the real script. After collecting the data, the types of deixis in the short film of An Irish Goodbye are classified based on the types of deixis. This research discovers that the types of deixis occur in the script of An Irish Goodbye are person deixis, temporal deixis, spatial deixis and discourse deixis. In the song lyrics of “Who I am”, personal deixis occurs and is followed by three types of personal deixis. It can be seen in this table:

Table 1. Personal Deixis

No	Personal Deictic Words	Deixis
1.	First Person	I (27), my (8), we (8), me (7), our (8), myself (1), itself (1 time), ourselves (1)
2.	Second Person	You (2), they (2), their (1), them (1),
3.	Third Person	He, (2), she (3), It (8)

The table above, shows personal deixis and all three types of personal deixis occur in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script. In the short film, the researcher found 80 personal deictic words. There are 61 words as first-person deixis, 6 words as second-person deixis, and 13 words as third-person deixis. The use of first-person deixis in this song is represented by the use of deictic words “I, my, we, me, our, myself, itself, ourselves”. The words indicate second-person deixis that is shown by the deictic expression “you, they, their, them”. The third person deixis is represented by use of deictic words “she, he, it”. From the findings, the use of personal deixis that is followed by the three types of personal deixis occurs. The function of personal deixis is to indicate the use of personal pronouns in the short film script.

The spatial deictic word indicates the location in space relative to the speaker (Cruse, 2006). From the short film script of “An Irish Goodbye”, spatial or place deixis is found and classified.

Table 2. Spatial Deixis

No	Spatial or Place Deictic	Deixis
1.	Distal Term	there (3), that (7), then (1)
2.	Proximal Term	this (2),
3.	Project Term & Specific Location	the womb, the world, the house, the pub, on Earth, the state of the world, in the kitchen floor, Law School, South

The table above can be seen that 21 spatial deictic words are found. The spatial deictic words found are 11 words of distal term, 2 words of proximal term and 9 words of project term and specific location. It is concluded that all spatial or place deixis types occur in the script of “An Irish Goodbye” short film.

Temporal deictic word indicates the timing of an event relative to the time of speaking (Cruse, 2006). From the short film script of “An Irish Goodbye”, the researcher identifies and classifies the song which show that the temporal deixis or time deixis occur.

Table 3. Temporal Deixis

No	Temporal Deictic	Deixis
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1.	Pure deictic word and specific time	after party since the beginning until recently today when we were six years old then
2.	Verb Tense	think (3), was (3), born, are (5), guess, had (2), labor, causes, strangled, die, made, doesn't, tell, don't, know, is (5), would, leave, saying, gave, became, decided, kill, clicked, thought (4), would, write, making, wouldn't, come, do (3), expect, write, does (2), will (2), fix, raises, ask, has (3), live (2), were, say, taught, talk, televised, aren't, loosed, can, get, shooting, proclaimed, sells, trick, waiting, talk, has, taught, left, made (2), leave, return, say (3), mocking, make (2), suffering, molded, push, keep, burned, acted, made, should (2), would, be, was, gonna, leave, take, want, walk, come, seen, broke, trust, missed, keep, call, sharing, isn't, having, go (2), hope, done, burning, seems, could, hear, feeling, destined, didn't, means, feels, read, blinking

From the table above, researcher identifies temporal deixis. In the script of short film “An Irish Goodbye” researcher finds 131 temporal deictic words, consisting of 6 pure deictic word and specific times and verb tenses contributing to a comprehensive 125 total of occurrences. From the whole script, the words “are” and “is” dominate in the verb tense of temporal deictic.

Social deixis concerns the social information that is encoded within various expressions, such as relative social status and familiarity. From the script of short film “An Irish Goodbye”, the researcher identifies and classifies the script which shows that the temporal deixis or time deixis occur.

Table 4. Social Deixis

No	Social Deictic	Deixis
1.	Relational	mother (3), father, friends, lover, parents (3), teachers
2.	Absolut	politicians, martyr, hero, Irish (3), man (2), generation (3), a nation, heroes, heroines, drug dealer, worker, people (4), erson, dealer, non-listener, Native Americans

From the table above, the researcher finds 33 Social deixis, consisting of 9 relational social deixis and 24 absolute social deixis. The words “mother” and “parents” dominate relational social deixis, while the word “people” dominates absolute social deixis.

Discourse deixis is a deictic reference to a part of discourse relative to the speaker’s current location in the discourse. This type of deixis can be distinguished from their function (anaphora and cataphora). From the short film “An Irish Goodbye”, the researcher identifies and classifies the short film which show that the Discourse deixis occurs.

Table 5. Discourse Deixis

Discourse Deictic	that (6), there (2)
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From the table above, it can be seen that the researcher found 8 discourse deictic words. And the word “that” dominates the whole short film script.

Details of data analysis as the dominant types of deixis in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script are drawn in this table below.

Table 6. The percentage of dominant types of deixis

No	Types of Deixis	Frequency	Percentage
1	Personal Deixis	80	29.30 %
2	Spatial Deixis	21	7.70 %

3	Temporal Deixis	131	47.99 %
4	Social Deixis	33	12.08 %
5	Discourse Deixis	8	2.93 %
	Total	273	100 %

There are five types of deixis are found in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script, encompassing personal deixis, time deixis, place deixis, social deixis and discourse deixis. Based on the table 6, the researcher obtains 273 data containing deixis in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script. Temporal deixis is the most being found (131 Deictic words or 47.99%). In the second position, personal deixis is the most being found (80 deictic words or 29.30%). The third position is social deixis (33 deictic words or 12.8%). In the fourth position is spatial deixis (21 deictic word or 7.70%). And, in the last position is discourse deixis (8 deictic words or 2.93%). As a result, the most dominant type of deixis found in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script is temporal deixis.

4. Conclusion

The research presents a full investigation of deixis, an area of pragmatics, through the analysis of “An Irish Goodbye” short film script. Deixis includes person, spatial, temporal, social, and discourse deixis, has an essential role for improving communication and delivering meaning. The research obtains 273 data containing deixis in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script. Temporal deixis is the most being found (131 Deictic words or 47.99%). In the second position, personal deixis is the most being found (80 deictic words or 29.30%). The third position is social deixis (33 deictic words or 12.8%). In the fourth position is spatial deixis (21 deictic word or 7.70%). And, in the last position is discourse deixis (8 deictic words or 2.93%). As a result, the most dominant type of deixis found in “An Irish Goodbye” short film script is temporal deixis. Furthermore, a broader analysis of film or movie genres should be considered by researchers who will examine deixis in films or movies. Researchers also may vary the deixis analysis to another area such as songs, poetry, novels, podcasts, conversation, articles, news and so on to enrich understanding in deixis research.

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