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# The References of Using Deixis in the Novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini

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# Abstract:

There are two objectives of this research; 1) to identify the types of deixis used in the utterances in the novel The Kite Runner; and 2) to explain the references of using deixis found in the novel. The method used in this research is qualitative descriptive method because the data were analysed in the form of words and utterances. The theory used in this research is Deixis theory by Stephen C. Levinson's, also supported theory of references by Yule. The result of this research shows that there are five types of deixis found in the novel The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini, those are: person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. The references of using deixis found anaphora and cataphora. Based on the data deixis that have been found and analysed by the researcher in this research, person deixis is more dominant used in the novel, and for the use of references, anaphora reference is more dominant used than cataphora reference in the novel The Kite Runner.

**Keywords**: Deixis, references, anaphora, cataphora

# INTRODUCTION

Human is social beings who always communicate every day. Communication between human requires the main means of language. Language is an introduction to humans to interact and communicate to transfer ideas, and desires that are in mind to the interlocutor. The language used in communication is an intermediary from someone who has the intent and purpose to be conveyed to their interlocutor. In the delivery of language to the society, there are important elements that influence the language when used. One of the elements is context. Language can be delivered through various contexts, so that the context greatly influences the form of language that will be used by the speakers of the language. Elements of context began to be considered important for linguists in the early 1970s. Linguistic experts realized how important the context in interpreting a language. Understanding of the meaning behind language can be interpreted by linking the language according to the context in which the language is spoken. Differences in language context can cause different language meanings. The sociolinguistic branch that discusses the context in its analysis is pragmatics. It is accordance to Levinson's opinion about pragmatic, he argues that pragmatic is study of the relationship between language and the context underlying the explanation of language. In pragmatics, the act by which a speaker or writer uses language to enable a hearer or reader to identify something is called reference. These references related to the use of deixis which deixis also deals with meaning in communication. Deixis is branch of pragmatic that study about word which there is element of its meaning that related to the context or situation. In the other word, deixis is pronoun of the word. Each word has meaning, so every deixis has meaning, too. This is in accordance to Levinson (1983) about deixis, he argues that words or phrases that require contextual information to convey meaning are deictic.

# LITERATURE REVIEW

# **Pragmatic**

Pragmatic is a linguistic branch that studies the meaning of language externally. Pragmatic study is the study of learning the meaning of language by looking at the language context used. Context is an important element that influences the use of language, because if you do not pay attention to the context, there will be errors in interpreting a language. Levinson (1983: 9) argues that pragmatic is the relationship between language and context which is the basis of an explanation of language comprehension.

# **Deixis theory**

One pragmatic study is deixis. Deixis comes from Ancient Greek *deiktikos* which means "show". A related word, "deixis", is used in pragmatics and linguistics and it refers to a process whereby either words or expressions are seen to rely utterly on context. Levinson (1983) accentuates the role of the context; he argues that deixis is the reflection of the relationship between language and context and defines deixis. Deixis is contextual, lexical and grammatical information that refers to certain things, whether objects, places or times. In other words, deixis is defined as an expression that is bound to the context, where the center of deixis orientation is the speaker of the language. The contextual information of the utterance mentioned by Levinson (1983) consists of information about the speaker, the addressee, the time and the place. He also argues that deixis is a clear and tangible way of

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realizing the relationship between language and its context in the structure of language itself.

# Types of deixis

#### 1. Person Deixis

Person deixis refers to the role of participants involved in language events when the utterance is spoken. This is dexis usually a person pronoun. Deixis people is divides into three categories, the first person category, the second person category, the third person category.

a. The first person category, which is referring to speakers to themselves.

Amir: I'm not sure I want to fly a kite today. (Hosseini, p. 67) (saya tidak yakin saya ingin menerbangkan layang-layang hari ini)

The first person deixis **I** in the statement above refers to Amir who answered Hassan's invitation.

b. The second category of people, which refers to the other person addressed by the speaker.

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The Soldier: Hey you! I know you! (Hosseini, p. 7) (Hei kamu, saya kenal kamu!)
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The second person deixis **You** in the above statement refers to Hassan.

c. The third person category, which refers to people who are not speakers or interlocutors in the conversation.

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Baba: Did something happen to him, Amir Agha? (Hosseini, p. 88)
(Apakah sesuatu terjadi padanya, Amir Agha?)
```

The third person deixis **him** in the statement above refers to Hassan who was not involved in the conversation.

#### 2. Place Deixis

Place deixis which refers to a place inside language events.

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No surprise. Most of the important people live here now. (Hosseini, p. 281) (Tidak mengherankan. Sebagian besar orang penting tinggal disini sekarang.)
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The word **here** refers to a place, namely the Wazir Akbar Khan district where Rahim Khan is speaking to Amir.

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# 3. Time Deixis

Time deixis refers to the time span of time utterances uttered.

It was destroyed a few years ago. (Hosseini, p. 267)

(Itu dihancurkan beberapa tahun yang lalu)

The words **a few years ago** in that sentence refer to when the orphanage was destroyed. It is a pronoun from the orphanage found in the previous sentence.

## 4. Discourse Deixis

Discourse Deixis is to refer to certain parts of the discourse that have been given or are being developed.

Amir: Come back with **it!** (Hosseini, p. 73) (kembali dengan itu!)

The word **It** in the sentence refers to the previous discourse, the blue kite that Hassan pursued.

#### 5. Social Deixis

Social deixis refers to social relations between speakers and their interlocutor.

These **Roussi** are not like us. They understand nothing about respect. (Hosseini, p. 126)

(Orang-orang Rusia ini tidak seperti kita. Mereka tidak mengerti tentang kehormatan)

The word **Roussi** in that sentence refers to Russian soldiers who came from Russians who were different from their nation, Pashtuns from Pakistan.

## References

Reference is the act by which a speaker or writer uses language to enable a hearer or reader to identify something, (Yule: 1996). Reference in discourse is to combine one sentence to another sentence and show the focus of a discourse. To analyse discourse, there are two references that can be used, anaphora and cataphora. Yule (1996) argues that "Anaphora is process of continuing to identify exactly the same entity as denoted by the antecedent". (p.23). It can be concluded that anaphora is reference that refers to the thing that has been mentioned before. Yule (1996) argues that "cataphora is the use of a word (typically a pronoun) to introduce someone or something that is more fully identified later". (p.127). It can be concluded that cataphora is a reference that refers to the thing that has been mentioned after the utterance.

# RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The type of research in this study is qualitative research, because the data were analysed in the form of words and utterances. Qualitative research is aimed at understanding social phenomena from the point of view of participants. Denzin and Lincoln regarded qualitative words imply emphasis on process and meaning that is not examined strictly or has not been measured in terms of quantity, intensity, or frequency. This research is to identify, to classify deixis in types, and to explain references of the use of deixis. Therefore, the type of research used by the researcher in this research is a qualitative descriptive analysis research method.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

# Types of Deixis Used in the Novel *The Kite Runner*

Based on data have been analyzed, the researcher found five types of deixis in the novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. There are sixty-seven data from the all types of deixis that the researcher got such as person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. For the best explanation, the researcher presents the data of the types of deixis below:

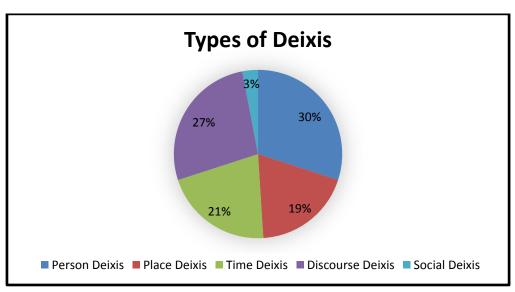


Diagram 1: Types of Deixis

The diagram above shows the division of types of deixis that found in the novel *The Kite Runner*. Types of deixis that are found by the researcher in the novel *The Kite Runner*, Person Deixis found twenty data, place deixis found thirteen data, time deixis found fourteen data, discourse deixis found eighteen data, and social deixis found two data. Based on the pie chart above, it can be concluded that person deixis is more dominant found than other deixis in the novel *The Kite Runner*.

# **Reference of Deixis**

There are two references of deixis that are found by the researcher in the novel *The Kite Runner*, those are anaphora reference and cataphora reference. For the best explanation, the researcher presents the data of reference that used in the the novel *The Kite Runner* below:

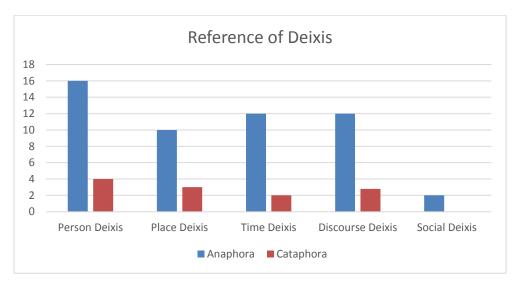


Diagram 2: Reference of Deixis

The diagram above shows the division of reference that used in the novel *The Kite Runner*. Reference of deixis that are found, anaphora reference found sixteen data of person deixis, ten data of place deixis, twelve data of time deixis and discourse deixis, two data of social deixis. Cataphora reference found four data of person deixis, three data of place deixis, two data of time deixis, six data of discourse deixis, and none data of social deixis. Based on the chart above, it can be concluded that the anaphora reference is more dominant used in person deixis than cataphora reference in all types of deixis used.

# **CONCLUSION**

The purpose of this research is to identify the types of deixis and to explain the references of deixis that used in the novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini with deixis theory of Stephen C. Levinson (1983). This research is important because the researcher considers that deixis and reference is the important studies for understanding the meaning of the words. Based on the data that have been analyzed, in this research the researcher makes conclusion, first conclusion, the types of deixis that found in the novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini are Person Deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. The type of deixis which is more dominant used in the novel is person deixis. Many characters in the novel use person deixis as replacement of their name and it repeatedly continuously and more often so it makes person deixis is more dominant used in the novel than the other deixis. The use of place deixis is to show place intended by the characters,

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the use of time deixis is to show time about something happened, the use of discourse deixis is to show the event that being improved, and the use of social deixis is to show the social status of character in the novel *The Kite Runner*. The second conclusion is references of deixis that used in the novel *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini are anaphora and cataphora. Based on the data that have

been analyzed, the reference of deixis which is more dominant used in the novel is anaphora reference in person deixis. The characters used anaphora references of the deixis word more often than cataphora reference. It means that the reference of five types of deixis word used in the novel more often mentioned before deixis word than mentioned after deixis word.

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