Deixis in The Song Lyrics of Arctic Monkeys' "AM" Album: A Pragmatic Analysis

A THESIS

Submitted as a Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement for Getting

Bachelor Degree of Literature

in English Department

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English Department

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Hasanuddin University

MAKASSAR

2023

LEGITIMATION

THESIS

DEIXIS IN THE SONG LYRICS OF ARCTIC MONKEYS' "AM" ALBUM: A

PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS

BY

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It has been examined before the Board of Thesis Examination on Friday, 3rd May 2024

and is declare to have fulfilled the requirements.

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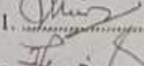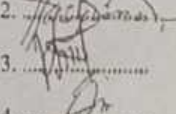
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On May 3rd, 2024, the Board of Thesis Examination has kindly approved a thesis by M. Aqshal Mubarak (F041181301) entitled *Deixis In The Song Lyrics Of Arctic Monkeys' "AM" Album: A Pragmatic Analysis* submitted in fulfi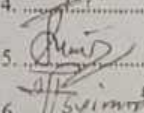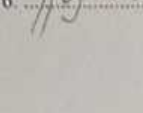llment of one of the requirements to obtain Sarjana Degree in English Literature Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University.

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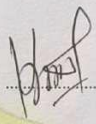**BOARD OF THESIS EXAMINATION**

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The thesis by M. Aqshal Mubarak (F041181301) entitled *Deixis In The Song Lyrics Of Arctic Monkeys' "AM"*

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Hereby, the writer declares that this thesis is written by himself. This thesis does not contain any materials which have been published by other people, and it does not cite other people's ideas except quotations and references.

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APPROVAL FORM

With reference to the letter of Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University No. 1258/UN4.9.1/KEP/2023 regarding supervision, we hereby confirm to approve the undergraduate thesis draft by **M. Aqshal Mubarak** (F041181301) to be examined at the English Literature Study Program of Faculty of Cultural Sciences.

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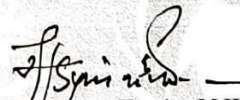
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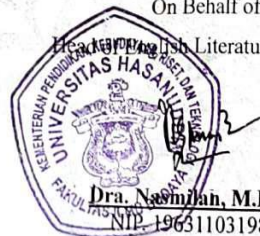**Drs. Simon Sitoto, M.A.** | **Drs. Husain Hasyim, M.Hum.**
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly, the writer wishes to express gratitude to Allah SWT, the one true God, for His infinite blessings, health, opportunities, guidance, and strength that have been instrumental in the completion of this thesis. The author continually sends prayers and peace to the final prophet, Muhammad SAW, who has led us into this enlightened age.

This thesis is the result of considerable effort and perseverance through numerous challenges. It would not have been possible without the assistance and support of many individuals. Therefore, the writer would like to take this opportunity to express heartfelt thanks to them.

1. The supervisors of this thesis, **Drs. Simon Sitoto, M.A.** and **Drs. Husain Hasyim, M.A.** for their invaluable time, support, counsel, recommendations, and direction throughout the writing of this thesis.

2. The examiners of this thesis, **Dr. Kamsinah Darwis, M.Hum.** and **Ainun Fatimah, S.S., M.Hum.** for their priceless contribution of time, support, and suggestions during the entire process of this thesis completion.

3. The beloved parents of the writer, **M. Talib** and **Salbiah** for their countless prayers, love, support, and invaluable upbringing and advice. The writer would also thank the big family for all the support.

4. All the lecturers from the English Department and the Faculty of Cultural Sciences for the knowledge imparted during the undergraduate studies of the writer.

5. All Staff of English Department and Faculty of Cultural Sciences for their assistance throughout the completion of this thesis.

6. The dear friends of the writer: Mas Akram, Pace Ai, Joel, Abiel, and Resha or their invaluable physical and emotional support throughout the thesis completion process.

7. All of the batch friends, from KM Caritas KMFIB-UH and PERISAI KMFIB-UH for the precious experiences and memorials

8. Finally, the author wishes to express profound gratitude to Nur Fadhilah Ayu Syahrani. Her companionship during the writer's time in the English Language Study Program, as well as her unwavering love and support in all aspects, have been invaluable.

The writer acknowledges that this thesis may have imperfections and welcomes any constructive feedback or suggestions. In conclusion, the writer sincerely hopes that all the efforts will be blessed by Allah SWT. Amen.

Makassar, 05 May 2024

The Writer,

M. Aqshal Mubarak

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ABSTRACT

M. AQSHAL MUBARAK. **Deixis in the song lyrics of Arctic Monkeys' "AM" album** (supervised by Simon Sitoto and Husain Hasyim.)

The objectives of this research are to explain different types of deixis present in the song lyrics and to reveal the references and the functions of the deictic words used in the song lyrics of "AM" album by Arctic Monkeys using Cruse's theory. In analyzing the data, the writer is using descriptive qualitative approach. The writer has selected 6 out of 12 songs using purposive sampling technique. The collection of the data involves listening and transcribing the song lyrics via reputable music website. The findings of this research showed that (1) Arctic Monkeys' "AM" album contains five distinct types of deixis: person, spatial, temporal, social, and discourse deixis, with nearly every song containing examples of all five varieties, except for two songs, namely "I Wanna Be Yours" which lacking both spatial and discourse deixis while "505" only lacks discourse deixis, and (2) deixis serve distinct purposes, including person, spatial, temporal, social, and discourse. Person deixis indicates participant role, spatial deixis indicates singer's location, temporal deixis indicates time, social deixis indicates intimacy, and discourse deixis indicates clause connection.

Keyword: *deixis, song, lyrics*

ABSTRAK

M. AQSHAL MUBARAK. **Deixis in the song lyrics of Arctic Monkeys' "AM" album** (dibimbing oleh Simon Sitoto dan Husain Hasyim.)

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menjelaskan berbagai jenis deiksis yang terdapat dalam lirik lagu serta mengungkap referensi dan fungsi kata deiksis yang digunakan dalam lirik lagu album "AM" Arctic Monkeys dengan menggunakan teori Cruse. Dalam menganalisis data, penulis menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Penulis telah memilih 6 dari 12 lagu dengan menggunakan teknik purposive sampling. Data dikumpulkan melalui mendengarkan dan menyalin lirik lagu melalui situs musik terkemuka. Temuan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa (1) Album "AM" Arctic Monkeys berisi lima jenis deiksis yang berbeda: deiksis persona, tempat, waktu, sosial, dan wacana, dengan hampir setiap lagu berisi contoh kelima jenis deiksis tersebut, kecuali dua lagu-lagu kecuali dua lagu yaitu "I Wanna Be Yours" yang tidak memiliki deiksis spasial dan wacana, sedangkan "505" tidak memiliki deiksis wacana, dan (2) deiksis memiliki tujuan yang berbeda, termasuk orang, spasial, temporal, sosial, dan wacana. Deiksis persona menunjukkan peran partisipan, deiksis tempat menunjukkan lokasi penyanyi, deiksis waktu menunjukkan waktu, deiksis sosial menunjukkan keintiman, dan deiksis wacana menunjukkan hubungan klausa.

Keywords: *deiksis, lagu, lirik*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on providing the background description and elucidating the objectives of the study.

A. Background of the study

Language acts as the principal tool for human interaction, facilitating the exchange of ideas, thoughts, and emotions among individuals. The world has a huge variety of languages, and each one has its unique way of speaking and sounds that show off its own culture. People use these languages to talk, write stories about the past, share knowledge, and express their feelings in beautiful ways.

Music is the universal language of emotions that has captivated humanity for centuries. Listening to music or reflecting on its lyrics has the potential to elevate the spirit of an individual, leading to a positive change in the emotional state. In essence, music has the ability to uplift people's moods and alter their emotional disposition (Piragasam et al., 2013). Initially, music primarily fulfilled the role of traditional ceremonies and rituals (Merriam, 1964). However, with the progression of society, music has undergone a significant transformation, evolving into a commodity that is commercialized and treated as an economic entity.

Language in music is a potent and versatile tool that shapes the emotional landscape of songs, enhances storytelling, fosters personal expression, and fosters

of community. Through the seamless integration of lyrics and melody,

ate a profound and intimate connection with their listeners, touching

d minds in ways that words alone cannot achieve (Raj & Muniapan, 2012).

Deixis examines how words, phrases, and elements used in a sentence relate to the surrounding situation. Deixis is conventionally categorized into several types, including person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis (Farahmand and Hatami, 2012). Comprehending deixis is vital for understanding how language operates in real-world scenarios, enabling effective communication and meaningful interactions with others.

Numerous individuals enjoy listening to music, yet many do not fully comprehend the lyrics, often relying solely on hearing. It is essential to recognize that song lyrics carry significance, and it is incumbent upon listeners familiar with the music to grasp this meaning. Effective expression of the lyrical content necessitates a thorough understanding of each word's definition, the contextual backdrop within which the lyrics are situated, and any intertextual references employed. Without such comprehension, the interpretation of song lyrics remains broad and lacks the depth required for discerning their intended message, resulting in varying interpretations. Thus, by delving into the contextual and referential aspects of the lyrics, listeners can attain a deeper understanding of the song's message and effectively convey its meaning.

Arctic Monkeys is a renowned British rock band that has captivated music enthusiasts worldwide with their distinctive sound and compelling songwriting. Formed in 2002 in Sheffield, England, the band rose to prominence in the mid-2000s with their debut album "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not," came the fastest-selling debut album in UK chart history. Known for their witty lyrics, infectious melodies, and energetic performances, Arctic

Monkeys have continued pushing the boundaries of alternative rock, solidifying their status as one of their generation's most influential and critically acclaimed bands.

Arctic Monkeys' "AM" album, released in 2013, shows their artistic evolution with a fusion of indie rock and R&B influences. The album's captivating melodies, emotive lyrics, and bold experimentation solidify Arctic Monkeys' position as one of the most influential bands of their generation. With acclaimed singles like "Do I Wanna Know?" and "R U Mine?". "AM" stands as a timeless and compelling addition to their discography.

B. Identification of the problem

1. There are several kinds of deixis used in the song lyrics of Arctic Monkeys' "AM" Album to be identified.

2. It is challenging to understand the functions of deixis used in the album.

3. The analysis on how deixis alters the song's overall message needs to be explored.

4. The research on how the use of deixis affects the listener's interpretation of the song's lyrics is difficult to examine.

C. Scope of the problems

Based on the problems stated above the writer focuses on analyzing the types, references, and functions of deixis used in the Arctic Monkeys' album titled "AM".

D. Research Questions

1. What are the types of deixis presented in the song lyrics of the "AM" album by Arctic Monkeys?

2. What are the references of the words refer to and the functions of the deictic words used in the "AM" album by Arctic Monkeys?

E. Objective of the study

1. To explain the types of deixis present in the song lyrics of the "AM" album by Arctic Monkeys using Cruse's Theory

2. To reveal the references of the words refer to and the functions of the deictic words used in the song lyrics of "AM" album by Arctic Monkeys.

F. Significance of the study

It is hoped that this research will benefit both theoretical significance and practical significance.

1. Theoretical Significance :

The significance of this study theoretically speaking is able to identify the types of deixis and the meanings used in the song lyrics that can contribute to the teaching of pragmatics.

2. Practical Significance :

This research is expected to be a reference for those who are interested in doing research on deixis analysis.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter consist of key aspects concerning the previous studies to support the analysis as well as the theoretical background which related to pragmatics.

A. Previous Studies

Studies related to this research have been conducted by various other researchers. The first is the research "A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics in Michael Bolton's Album" by Yowanda Agustin (2019). The objectives of the research are to identify the type of deixis and to explain the reference of the meaning of deixis in the song lyrics of Michael Bolton's album using Alan Cruse's theory. The result of the study revealed that Michael Bolton's album incorporates various types of deixis in its song lyrics, including person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis.

Another study was conducted by Lestari and Rustipa (2022) with the title "A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics in Sam Smith's "Love Goes" Album." The study aims to examine the different types of deixis utilized in Sam Smith's songs from the album "Love Goes" and to demonstrate how these deixis elements influence and modify the meanings of the songs, drawing on Yule's theory for analysis. The result of the study indicates the presence of various deixis types, including person deixis, ical deixis, and temporal deixis. These deixis elements were identified and l thoroughly in the data.

The third research was conducted by Dzulfikar (2020) with the title "Deixis Analysis of the Lyrics of the Songs on Maroon 5's "Overexposed" Album." The study aimed to identify the various types of deixis present in the song lyrics of Maroon 5's album "Overexposed" and to analyze the specific functions served by each type of deixis found using Yule's theory. The research revealed the presence of three types of deixis in its songs: person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis. Person deixis is used to refer to someone or something, spatial deixis points to a location, and temporal deixis indicates the time of the utterance.

The last research was conducted by Wati (2014), A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics In Taylor Swift's "Red" Album." The study was conducted to find out the kinds and meanings of the word deixis according to textual meaning and the effect of deixis on the meaning of the whole lyrics in Taylor Swift's "Red" album using Saeed's theory. The findings of the study indicate the presence of three types of deixis: person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis. Person deixis encompasses first person (used for self-identification), second person (used to address someone), and third person (used to refer to others). Spatial deixis is utilized to describe the location of participants in a speech event, while temporal deixis is employed to specify time periods.

The above studies show that the difference between previous studies and this research is that all of the above researches identify the types and meanings of deixis used from their respective object of research, whereas this research centers lly on analyzing the types and functions of deixis found in the song lyrics ctic Monkeys' album "AM."

B. Theoretical Background

1. Pragmatics

Pragmatics has multiple definitions provided by linguists, and each linguist holds their understanding and principles regarding the field. For instance, according to Cruse (2006), pragmatics is the study of the elements of meaning that rely on the context in which they are used. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that deals with the communication of meaning within specific contexts. It is concerned with meaning (Kreidler, 1998). Besides, Griffith (2006) argued that pragmatics is concerned with the use of tools in meaningful communication. In addition, pragmatics studies the use of language in context and the context-dependence of several linguistic interpretations (Lycan, 1995). It has consequently more to do with the analysis of what people mean by their utterances than what the words or phrases in those utterances might mean by themselves.

Pragmatics can be defined by other linguists such as Fasold & Linton (2006), who claim that pragmatics concerns both the relationship between the context of use and sentence meaning and the relationship among sentence meaning, context of use, and speaker's meaning. Besides, Yule (1996) stated that pragmatics is the study of meaning as communication by the speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). In short, he said that pragmatics is the study of what speakers mean or speakers meaning. Levinson (1985, p. 27) also says that "pragmatics is the study of deixis (at least in part), implicative, presupposition, :ts, and aspect of discourse structure."

Based on the preceding discussion, the writer concludes that pragmatics is the examination of meaning influenced by context. It delves into people's intended meanings, goals, and various actions. Pragmatics is a subfield of linguistics that has emerged from diverse linguistic, philosophical, and sociological traditions, focusing on the relationship between natural language expressions and their applications in particular scenarios.

2. Context

Context is important when talking about pragmatics, particularly when deixis is involved. According to Yule (1996), pragmatics is defined as a study that entails interpreting what people mean in specific contexts and how context affects what is said. The dynamic concept of context is best understood as the ever-changing environment. Context extends beyond mere reference; it embodies action and activity. Understanding context is essential to making sense of things. It is also what enables our words to have genuine pragmatic significance and to be recognized as genuine pragmatic acts (Mey, 2001).

Understanding utterances and expressions heavily rely on the contextual framework. Key elements within this framework, as highlighted by Cruse (2006), the most crucial facets of context include (1) the series of preceding and subsequent utterances or expressions ('co-text), (2) the immediate physical setting, (3) the broader context involving social and power dynamics, and (4) the shared knowledge presumed between the speaker and the listener. These components ꞉ly contribute to the understanding and interpretation of verbal cation.

In conclusion, context is crucial in pragmatics as it enables understanding utterances and expressions. It encompasses the ever-changing environment, encompassing action and activity. Key elements of context include preceding and subsequent utterances, the immediate physical setting, broader context involving social and power dynamics, and shared knowledge presumed between speaker and listener. Understanding context is essential for making sense of words and recognizing genuine pragmatic acts.

3. Deixis

Many linguists have different definitions and explanations about deixis. Yule (1996) stated that deixis is derived from the Greek word that means 'pointing to via language.' Moreover, deixis can be defined as a pointing or indicating. Indicating means interpretation of utterances depends on analyzing the context of the utterance. Next, deixis is the relation of reference to the point of origin of the utterance (Grundy, 2000). Deixis is the study of deictic or indexical expression in language. It can be regarded as a special grammatical property instantiated in the familiar categories of person, tense, place, and so on (Levinson, 2004). According to Hurford et al. (2007), deixis takes some elements of its meaning from the context or situation of the utterance in which it is used.

In all languages, deictic words exist, which indicate objects or entities in the physical and social context of the speaker and listener. The meaning of these words can only be understood by considering the specific context in which they are English examples of deictic words such as first, pronouns including I, you, they, and we, which point to participants in any speech act. Second, is

locative expressions like here, this/these, that/those, and there, which designate the space of the speaker. Then, temporal expressions such as now, then, yesterday, today, tomorrow, last week, next month, and so on, depending on the time when they are used (Kreidler, 1998).

In utterance, there are some types of deixis. Some linguists have different opinions on the kinds of deixis. According to Yule (1996), deixis has three types, namely person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis. Deictic words or deictic expressions can be used to indicate people, which is called person deixis (I, you), location, which is called spatial deixis (here, there), or time, called temporal deixis (now, then). Despite this, Levinson (1983) proposed that person deixis, place deixis, and time deixis belong to the traditional categories. He explained it to a wide array of deixis types which are discourse and social deixis. Cruse (2000) also divided deixis into five main types which are person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. Cummings (2005) divided the types of deixis into four fields, which are person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, and discourse deixis since social deixis is already included in person deixis.

In essence, deixis involves using language to point or indicate specific people, times, and places within an utterance. For example, when someone says, "I will put this here," the listener understands that the speaker (referring to themselves as 'I') intends to place something (referred to as 'this') in a specific location (referred to as 'here'). This understanding is based on the context of the utterance itself. (Yule,

ased on the provided explanation, the writer can conclude that deixis is the

t focuses on analyzing words or phrases directly related to individuals,

time, place, social setting, and discourse. It involves encoding various aspects of the circumstances in which an utterance is made and explores the relationship between the structure of language and its context. Deixis also examines how the context of an utterance or speech event is grammatically represented and how utterances are interpreted based on contextual analysis.

a. Person Deixis

Person deixis primarily revolves around the speaker and is closely associated with using pronouns. (Kreidler, 1998) The primary function of person deixis is to signify the person responsible for making the utterance or sentence. Additionally, it designates the fundamental roles in a speech event: the speaker (first person), the addressee or the one being spoken to (second person), and individuals who are neither the speaker nor the addressee (third person). (Cruse, 2000).

Cruse (2000) also noted that person deictic words include pronouns (I, you, him, mine, yours, hers, myself, yourself, herself). Possessive adjectives (my, your, her) and verb inflection (I love, you love, he or she loves). Nevertheless, the form of plural and singular is used to analyze the deictic expressions of person deixis. For instance, the first-person plural 'we' is generally produced by a single speaker who represents a group. Therefore, grouping the pronouns and possessive adjectives in singular or plural forms is crucial before deciding the referent.

The example of person deixis for a quick understanding is the sentence, "Forever I won't be afraid," where the pronoun 'I' serves as an instance of person represents the first person, referring to the speaker, indicating the person he sentence. In summary, person deixis involves studying how the roles

of participants are encoded in utterances. This can be directly reflected in the grammatical categories of a person, and there is a need for a distinct pragmatics framework to explore the various participant roles and understand how they are grammaticalized in different languages.

b. Spatial Deixis

The Spatial deixis is known as locative expression (Kreidler, 1998). Cruse (2006) points out that spatial deictic words refer to locations in space relative to the speaker. The simplest examples are adverbs like 'here' and 'there,' which can indicate places near or not near the speaker. Demonstratives, such as 'this' and 'that,' also serve as essential spatial deictic words, although they often convey more abstract meanings. For instance, "this theory" and "that theory" don't necessarily refer to literal spatial positions but instead indicate a sense of proximity or distance from the speaker on a conceptual level. 'This' and 'here' are referred to as proximal deictic words, while 'that' and 'there' are categorized as distal deictic words.

In Yule's (1996) view, proximal terms are usually interpreted in relation to the speaker's location or something near the speaker, while distal terms indicate something away from the speaker. Spatial deixis depends on the position of objects or people relative to the speaker as the deictic center. However, spatial deixis encompasses not only distance or location but also movement or motion, like specifying particular locations such as "in the bedroom" or "in London." Instead of proximal and distal deictic words, spatial deictic words are also concerned about

deixis. According to Yule (1996), projected deixis is used to manipulate on. This term is used by deictic words in their usual way, but the deictic

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center is not the speaker but some other participant in the speech event, most commonly the addressee (Cruse, 2000). An example of projected deixis is 'Come here!'. The word come is interpreted as the movement towards the speaker. Grundy (2000) mentioned the other place deictic words, including here (proximal), there (distal), left, right, up, down, above, below, in front, behind, come, go, bring, and take.

An example of spatial deixis is seen in the sentence "I'll always be there," where the term 'there' indicates the location of the speaker. It falls under the category of distal deixis, signifying a position away from the speaker. The writer's conclusion highlights three types of spatial deixis based on location: proximal, distal, and projected deixis.

Based on the explanation provided, spatial deixis is the study of how to encode expressions related to location, which requires contextual information about the place of the utterance. Spatial deixis can refer to objects in a pragmatically given area close to the speaker's location, and it also involves a speaker's ability to project themselves into different locations.

c. Temporal Deixis

Temporal deixis is closely related to time deixis. (Levinson, 1983). According to Cruse (2006), temporal deictic words indicate the timing of an event with the time of speaking. The function of temporal deixis is to position points or intervals on the time deixis, with the moment of utterance serving as the reference

There are three major divisions of the time deixis: before the moment of utterance, at the time of utterance, and after the time of utterance. The only pure English temporal deictic words are now, which basically means 'not now,' and can point either into the future or the past. As an illustration, consider the sentence, "I was much younger then. You will be somewhat older then." Many temporal deictic words provide additional information, such as "tomorrow," referring to the day following the time of speaking, and "last year," denoting the year before the one that includes the time of speaking (Cruse, 2000). Additionally, according to Cruse (2006), verb tense can also be considered a deictic word, as seen in examples like "I washed the dishes," "I am washing the dishes," and "I will wash the dishes." It serves to distinguish three points in time: the time when the event occurred (past), the time when the utterance was made (present), and the reference time (future).

Based on the provided explanation, the writer can conclude that time deixis involves encoding temporal points and spans relative to the time of the utterance on the calendar, as exemplified by words like "today," "yesterday," and "tomorrow," which respectively designate specific time frames. Typically, temporal deixis relies on verb tenses (past, present, or future). Its primary function is to locate specific points or intervals in time, with the moment of utterance serving as the ultimate reference point.

d. Social Deixis

Social deixis words are expressions used to indicate the position of the on scales of social status and intimacy in relation to the speaker (Cruse, various languages, like French, the concept of social deixis is evident in

the usage of T/V (*tu*/*vous*) pronouns. These pronouns are employed to address the recipient based on the relationship between the speaker and the addressee. T/V pronouns are closely tied to notions of politeness, which also influence the ways people address each other. In the French language, there are instances of both asymmetrical and symmetrical usage. An example of the asymmetrical use occurs in a school environment where students address their teacher as "*vous*," while the teacher addresses the students as "*tu*." This distinction signifies a difference in social hierarchy. The more common symmetrical use involves "*vous*" (referred to as the 'polite form'), signifying either a form of respectful psychological distance or a formal context, or both. Conversely, "*tu*" (known as the 'familiar form') indicates intimacy or informality, or both. The rules governing these distinctions are quite nuanced—this explanation provides a basic approximation. English does not employ T/V pronouns, but similar to numerous languages, politeness influences the selection of appropriate forms of address, such as *Pete, Smith, Mr. Smith, Professor Smith, Sir Smith,* and so on (Cruse, 2006)

There are two main types of social deixis, namely (1) absolute social deixis and (2) relational social deixis.

1. Absolute Social Deixis refers to certain social characteristics of a referent, especially a person, independent of any other referents. This type of social deixis is often expressed through specific forms of address that directly reflect the absolute status of the addressee, such as "My President" or "Your Honor."

   l Social Deixis, on the other hand, refers to the social relationship between

   er and the addressee, bystanders, or other referents in the extralinguistic

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context. Examples include distinctions between the French second-person pronouns or the speech levels found in Southeast Asian languages, which depend on the relative status of the speaker and the addressee.

Social deixis refers to the use of pronouns in languages like French to indicate the social status and intimacy of a referent. These pronouns are closely tied to politeness and influence how people address each other. In French, there are asymmetrical and symmetrical usage, with "*vous*" signifying respectful psychological distance or formal context, and "*tu*" indicating intimacy or informality. There are two main types of social deixis: absolute social deixis, which refers to the social characteristics of a referent, and relational social deixis, which refers to the social relationship between the speaker and the addressee, bystanders, or other referents in the extralinguistic context.

e. Discourse Deixis

Discourse deictic word is also called text deixis. Discourse deixis pertains to the use of demonstratives like "this" to refer to future discourse elements, as in "listen to this, it will kill you!" and "that" to refer to past discourse elements, as in "that was not a very nice thing to say." The function of discourse deixis is to connect previously mentioned items to those yet to come, bridging points from earlier parts of the discourse to later portions. (Cruse, 2006).

Certain sentences, such as "therefore" and "furthermore," inherently contain elements of discourse in their meaning. (Cruse, 2000). Furthermore, Levinson

ovided examples of English words and phrases that signify the connection

an utterance and the preceding discourse. These include "but," "therefore,"

"in conclusion," "to the contrary," "still," "however," "well," "besides," "actually," "all in all," "so," "after all," and so forth.

In conclusion, discourse deixis, or text deixis, involves using demonstratives like "this" and "that" to refer to future and past discourse elements, respectively. Its purpose is to connect previously mentioned items to upcoming ones, maintaining continuity in the discourse. Certain sentences, like "therefore" and "furthermore," inherently contain elements of discourse in their meaning. Additionally, various English words and phrases, such as "but," "therefore," and "so," facilitate the connection between utterances and prior discourse. These linguistic devices play a crucial role in guiding the flow of information and linking ideas within a conversation or text.