

DEIXIS FOUND IN THE FIRST VICTORY SPEECH OF JOE BIDEN AS UNITED STATES PRESIDENT

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ABSTRACT

This research aimed to analyze Deixis found in The First Victory Speech of Joe Biden as United States President On 7 November 2020. Deixis is a part of Pragmatics that being used to understand the words and phrases context which identify person, time, and place. The object of the research was to identify the deixis found in the Joe Biden's speech by categorizing to person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis, and to find the most dominant deixis used in the speech. A qualitative research method was applied in this research. The data source in this research was the transcript of Joe Biden's victory speech as the President of the United States. The data was collected by document review, and the data was analyzed by using theory of Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono (2012) which had three steps: Data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. The result showed as the most dominant deixis found in Joe Biden's speech was person deixis with total 198 deixis and the least category found was temporal deixis with total 12 deixis

Keywords: Pragmatics, Deixis, Joe Biden's Speech

1. Introduction

Every place has its own language to be used as communication tool. Language is variety, and it has been developed from time to time. According to Ondondo (2015), language is the primary form that expresses messages by written or spoken in communication. Therefore, language has important role for human beings to communicate with

each other. Not only in formal situations, but also in informal situations, language is always being used by humans. In addition, language is a part of literature consisting of semantics, pragmatics, prepositions, speech acts, deixis, and others (Liawati, Rizkiani, & Jamaludin, 2020). Sometimes, people do understand the

language, but they accidentally put themselves in a misunderstanding situation because of context issue. Besides of using correct grammar form, context interpreting is also the key to a good communication both in utterance and written forms. For that reason, language analysis is interesting and essential to be learned.

There is a study about language called as Linguistics. Linguistics is a study that analyze language form, context, meaning including all the factors that relate to the language itself. Then, there are two fields in Linguistics, they are Macro-Linguistics and Micro-Linguistics. According to Mahmood (2017), Macro-Linguistics is an analysis of Linguistics that concerns interdisciplinary fields such as Sociolinguistics, Neurolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, Computational Linguistics, etc. In contrast, Micro-Linguistics is an analysis of Linguistics analysis that focus on core levels such as Morphology, Phonology, Phonetics, Syntax, Semantics, and Pragmatics.

As defined by Yule (2014), Pragmatics is a study of implied meaning in writing or speaking. In addition, Pragmatics is also relating the knowledge about a language such as vocabulary and patterns with the context used (Griffiths, 2006). Based on the definitions above, it can be stated that Pragmatics is more about how people recognize and interpret the meaning of a text than how it is stated. For example, "It's very hot here!". This is one of the Pragmatics examples that happens in daily situations. When a person says the statement above, literally it can be understood that the speaker is feeling cold. Pragmatically, the speaker might have hidden message

to someone who is also in the same place to do some action.

In the other hand, if the listener interprets the statement only by literally, there will be no action done in this situation. Another example is "I heart you!". The "heart" in this context does not mean the organ in body, it means love. Because heart is usually used as love symbol in communication, and by saying "I heart you" can be interpreted as same as "I love you". Besides of two examples above, there are still many words or phrases that can be analyzed in daily life. Even though the two examples analysis above have different context analysis, but both are still categorized as Pragmatics in Linguistics. In short, Pragmatics itself also has branches.

Pragmatics has subfields, they are implicature, speech acts, presupposition, and deixis. Deixis can be defined as a linguistics expression, word, or phrase to point a discourse object or property that is contextually accessible (Birner, 2013). Also, the expression, word, or phrase that mentioned above must be related to time, location, and person. In fact, time, location, and person mostly occur in utterance or written forms in communication. Therefore, deixis analysis objective is to identify and interpret the context of time, location, and person in an utterance or text.

2. Literature Review

There are three categories of deixis, they are person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis (Yule, 2014a). Firstly, person deixis has deictic expressions that related to person including first person, second person, or third person pronouns such as I, me,

you, we, her, him, them, that man, etc. Secondly, spatial deixis describes deictic expressions that related to place such as here, there, above, near, behind, etc. Lastly, there is temporal deixis which refers to deictic expressions of time such as now, then, later, tomorrow, yesterday, etc. For example:

Ann says, "I need you in the office tomorrow, Brian."

From the example above, there are two pronouns of "I" and "you" which refer to subject and object in the sentence. To interpret these pronouns, deixis is needed to point and analyze the contexts. Based on Levinson explanation in (Horn & Ward, 2004) that deixis involves subjective, attentional, intentional, and context-dependent structures into natural languages, which is also critical for human capability to understand a language. Therefore, it can be understood that the deixis found in the sentence above is person deixis and temporal deixis because there is pronoun "I" that refers to Ann as the speaker, and "You" refers to Brian as the listener, also "Tomorrow" as time expression.

Meanwhile, if there is no reference to a meaning in the utterance or text, a deictic expression will not be able to be categorized as deixis. To illustrate, there is phrase of "We spread love!" that written on the wall or road. This phrase will not be able to be analyzed and categorized as deixis because the pronoun "We" does not refer to anyone clearly unless there is person or community name in the phrase too. Sometimes, people use deictic expressions in their utterance or text as generalization even though the references of deictic expressions are not clear. Thus, deixis analysis relates

the deictic expression with its reference.

There is previous research that related to deixis analysis in a speech. The research title is Deixis in Donald Trump's Speech to UN General Assembly, and it is written by Retnowaty (2019). The aim of the research is to find out the deixis that used in Donald Trump's Speech to UN General Assembly. In the research, Retnowaty had found the conclusion by after identifying and analyzing the deixis types. Moreover, Retnowaty had sorted the deixis and found the most dominant found in the speech. By combining the theories of Yule and Levinson, Retnowaty found person deixis, spatial/place deixis, temporal/time deixis, discourse deixis and social deixis in Donald Trump's Speech to UN General Assembly. In the conclusion, the most used deixis is the person deixis with total 279 of 344 total deixis found in the speech.

In this research, the researcher is interested to analyze deixis that found in Joe Biden's victory speech as the new president of United States on 7 November 2020, because this speech has not been used by any researchers in analyzing deixis. The video of the speech was posted by the official BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) in their YouTube Channel, it also has been being watched for 2.5 Million times and still counting ("Joe Biden's first speech as US president-elect US Election @BBC News live - BBC," 2020). As well as the video, this news article which including the speech transcript also has been announced by online on some other website, one of them is by ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) News website ("US president-elect Joe

Biden claims victory. Read his speech in full,” 2020). By using the speech transcript on the website, the researcher does the research based on Yule (2014) deixis categories theory to find the categories and which deixis category is mostly used in the speech.

3. Research Method

Research design or method is structure of the requirements for collection and analysis of data with purpose to combine information that related to the research with economy in procedure (Kothari, 2004). It is not only discussing about what method the researcher uses in the research, but also about how the data of research is collected, how the data is being analyzed, and how the result is presented. Because the object in this research is Joe Biden’s victory speech transcript, the research method is by using qualitative research. Qualitative research focuses more to human or social issues and making interpretation of the result with flexible structure (Creswell, 2014).

According to Catherine Marshall and Gretchen B. Rossman in Sugiyono (2012), Data collection by qualitative researchers can be gathered by the participation in setting, direct observation, interview, in the depth interviewing, and document review. Then, the data collection in this research is by document review. Furthermore, the researcher collect the data by finding the transcript of

related Joe Biden’s speech which found on ABC News website.

After data collection, next step is data analysis. Miles and Huberman in Sugiyono (2012) stated that qualitative data analysis was done interactively and continued to completion. Based on the statement, there are three steps of analyzing data. They are data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. Therefore, the first step to analyze the data in this research is by deducting the other data that not related to deixis expressions and only highlighting the data which is categorized and classified as deictic expression based on Yule (2014) deictic categories. Because data display can be showed by graphic, table, flowchart, etc., the researcher uses table to show the most used deictic expression in Joe Biden’s victory speech transcript. Based on the table, the researcher also explains by using narrative text as the conclusion drawing.

4. Result and Discussion

The analysis in this research is by categorizing and classifying the deixis used in Joe Biden’s first victory speech transcript. As mentioned, in previous chapter, the researcher uses Yule (2014) deixis categories which are person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis. At the end of the discussion, the result shows which deixis is found mostly in the Joe Biden’s first victory speech transcript. The classification of deixis categories is summarized and presented in tables.

Table 1. Person Deixis in Joe Biden’s Victory Speech Transcript

No.	Deictic Expressions	Frequency	Percentage
1	He	3	1.52%

2	Her	3	1.52%
3	His	2	1.01%
4	I	45	22.73%
5	Me	11	5.56%
6	My	15	7.58%
7	Our	25	12.63%
8	She	5	2.53%
9	Their	8	4.04%
10	Them	1	0.51%
11	They	7	3.54%
12	Us	10	5.05%
13	We	37	18.69%
14	You	23	11.62%
15	Your	2	1.01%
	Total	198	100%

Based on Table 1 as above, the total of person deixis found in Joe Biden’s victory speech transcript is 198, and the highest number of words used is “I” with total 45 times and 22.37%. Then, the lowest number of words used is “them” with total only 1 time and 0.51%. The 5 examples of the findings of person deixis are as below.

1. I see my buddy, senator Tom Carper

2. and I think Senator Coons is there and I think the Governor is around and former governor Ruth Ann Minner
3. They have delivered us a clear victory, a convincing victory, a victory for we, the people
4. What I must admit has surprised me tonight
5. And I am humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me

Table 2. Spatial Deixis in Joe Biden’s Victory Speech Transcript

No.	Deictic Expressions	Frequency	Percentage
1	Here	3	15.00%
2	There	6	30.00%
3	This	11	55.00%
	Total	20	100%

Based on Table 2 as above, the total of spatial deixis found in Joe Biden’s victory speech transcript is 20, and the highest number of words used is “This” with total 11 times and 55.00%. Then, the lowest number of words used is “Here” with total only 3 times and 15.00%. The 5 examples of the findings of spatial deixis are as below.

1. and I think Senator Coons is **there**
2. Anyway, folks, the people of **this** nation have spoken
3. we have seen all over **this** nation
4. I sought **this** office to restore the soul of America
5. the middle class, and to make America respected around the world again, and to unite us **here** at home

Table 3. Temporal Deixis in Joe Biden’s Victory Speech Transcript

No.	Deictic Expressions	Frequency	Percentage
1	Now	6	50.00%
2	Then	1	8.33%
3	Tomorrow	1	8.33%
4	Tonight	4	33.33%
	Total	12	100%

Based on Table 3 as above, the total of temporal deixis found in Joe Biden’s victory speech transcript is 12, and the highest number of words used is “Now” with total 6 times and 50.00%. Then, the lowest number of words used is “Then” and “Tomorrow” with total only 1 time and 8.33% of each word. The 5 examples of the findings of temporal deixis are as below.

1. **Tonight** the whole world is watching America
2. And **now** together, on eagle's wings
3. What I must admit has surprised me **tonight**
4. Renewed faith in **tomorrow** to bring a better day
5. And **now**, the work of making that vision is real

Table 4. Deixis Categories Found in Joe Biden’s Victory Speech Transcript

No.	Deixis Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1	Person Deixis	198	86.09%
2	Spatial Deixis	20	8.70%
3	Temporal Deixis	12	5.22%
	Total	230	100%

From the table 4 as listed above, it can be summarized that total deixis found in Joe Biden’s Victory Speech Transcript is 230 deixis. Then, the highest deixis found is person deixis with total 198 and 86.09%. Followed by spatial deixis with total 20 deixis and 8.70%, after that the temporal deixis becomes the lowest deixis found with total 12 deixis and 5.22%.

5. Conclusion

From the result and discussion of the analysis, it can be stated that there are three deixis categories found in the Joe Biden’s Victory Speech Transcript. These three deixis are person deixis, spatial deixis, and temporal deixis. Also, the most common category found is person deixis with total 198 deixis and the least category found is temporal deixis with total 12 deixis. Therefore, it can be concluded that Joe Biden used person deixis the most on his first victory speech in

the United States presidential election on 7 November 2020.

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