

ANALYZING THE DEIXIS OF SOUNDTRACK SONG OF MULAN “REFLECTION”

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Abstract

The objectives of this study are to identify and analyze the different types of deixis that are utilized in the song lyric, as well as to determine which deixis is the most prevalent. The writers chose Christina Aguilera’s song entitled Reflection that rising to the top again nowadays which composed in beautiful lyric that touch listeners’ heart. The qualitative research method was applied in this study. There are three sorts of deixis, according to the findings: personal deixis, temporal deixis, and spatial deixis. Based on discussion, personal deixis is the dominant in the lyric with 72.31% chances appearing compare to the rest.

Keywords: Deixis; Song Lyrics; Reflection

INTRODUCTION

Language is the bridge of communication for a speaker and hearer to interact between one another in society. There are many ways to express language, like through story, news, advertisement, gesture, music and more. Music is one of universal language that can be understood by almost everyone, like it stated by Juslin and Sloboda (2010) in Natalia and Santoso (2020), music is an emotional expression by means of language. Through music, people can express their feeling, sense, idea in the lyric of their song freely. Basically “song is a poem that uses music and uses the figurative language in its lyric, and lyric is a component on song which like a stories or conversation between people” credited to Ardhyanti and Supriyatiningsih (2020). As the result, the music is connected to linguistic study. Linguistic has a variety of branches, from phonology, phonetics, sociolinguistics, semiotics, pragmatics, and many more (Herdiyanti, 2020). In this research, the writers would be focus on pragmatic with the aim to identify one of the form, named deixis.

It is known from Kusumadewi and Anggraeni (2020) that deixis come from the Greek word ‘deiktitos’ which means indicating or pointing. It is a form that is attached to speaker’s context, with the most basic distinction being between expressions like ‘near speaker’ and ‘far from speaker’ (Ginting & Syahri, 2021). Almost similar, base on Wasdili and Santoso (2021), deixis is the study of the relationship between language and meaning in the structure of language. It refers to certain things like people, time, locations, objects depending on the sources of who and when the word is spoken. According to Yule (2010) in Sinaga, Herman and Marpaung (2020), deixis is pronouns like you, me, she, he, it and them, as well as the words such as this and that, now and then, here and there, today, yesterday, or tomorrow. Through those definitions, claimed by Nisa, Asi and Sari (2020) for music lover, it is essential to study deixis to understand the context of the song lyric better.

The researchers are interested in analyzing deixis in Christina Aguilera’s song “Reflection” because it begins to become famous again nowadays over the Disney live action movie called “Mulan” which conveys the deep meaning that touch many listeners. The research focused on

people, time, and locations. According to Putri and Yana (2020), those three categories are the part of the types of deixis, specifically: Personal deixis, Temporal deixis, and Spatial deixis which below are explanations for each.

1. Personal deixis

Afrilian, Rozelin, and Rahmi (2019) cited in Salamudin and Efransyah (2021) declared that personal deixis separated into three parts, they are: (a) first person (I), singular pronouns equally I, me, mine, my, and myself, then prural pronouns like we, our, us, ourselves and ours; (b) second person (you), like you, yourself, your, yours are; and the last (c) third person (she, he, or it and they). The writers drew a conclusion that person deixis is treated in pointing a person.

2. Temporal deixis

According to Levinson (1983) in Ainiyah, Sili, & Ariani (2019), temporal deixis is described as reference to the time when an statement is made. For examples are now, tomorrow, yesterday, last week, then, and so on for potraying that the speakers have in their mine (Thao, 2020). The writers deduced that person deixis is implemented in pointing a time.

3. Spatial deixis

Dwipayani, Subagia and Gede (2020) voiced out spatial deixis is the connection of the speaker and the listener. There are two types of spatial deixis: proximal (near the speaker), and distal (far from the speaker) namely: this, those, that, there, here, these. The writers decided that person deixis is used in pointing a location.

METHOD

To conduct this study, the writers applied descriptive qualitative method. According to Ospina (2004 in Kusumadewi & Anggraeni, 2020), qualitative method is a method of conducting an investigation of systematic empirical into its meaning. Based on Pubra (2018) cited in Ginting and Syahri (2021), it defines the activities and circumstances of the simple data, it is done at the same time as data collection. There are steps that researchers must take in order to collect data, including:

1. gathering references subject related to this study then listen to the song,
2. browsing Christina Aguilera's song lyric titled "Reflection", and
3. printing the lyric of song.

While the stages for data analysis are being completed in:

1. categorize and analyze deixis into its several sorts,
2. make a list of the the frequency,
3. determine the major type of the lyrics, and
4. describe and explain before drawing conclusion.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

By following the steps of the method, the writers collected the references by looking the key terms of the similar studies from the internet. The information which had been gathered lead the writers to take some importants direction to conduct the study in effectively and efficiently. As paying close attention to that, the writers started browsing the lyric of the song online. The

bar showed so much potential websites to be picked up, however the writers decided to choose the best option, the first one, the search bar gave. After the lyric was stored, to begin analyzing, the writers printed it on paper to make the step easier to be done.

The aim of this study is to determine and analyze the type of deixis found in Christina Aguilera's song "Reflection". The analyzing was done by matching the references of deixis with the word, one-by-one, from the lyric carefully. The writers looked up the equal one to stay in the context of the study. The collection of the deixis were found and separated into the categories; personal, temporal, and spatial before they were counted to get to know the frequency of each in percentage following by determining the most dominant deixis from the result.

The following table demonstrate the results:

Table 1. Deixis Types and Frequency in Song *Reflection*

No	Type of Deixis	Deictical word	Quantity	Total	Percentage
1	Personal	Me	IIII	47	72.31%
		You	III		
		I	IIII IIII IIII IIII		
		My	IIII III		
		That girl	II		
		Someone	III		
		We	III		
2	Temporal	Every day	I	10	15.38%
		Now	II		
		When	IIII		
		All time	II		
		There	I		
3	Spatial	World	III	8	12.31%
		Inside	IIII		

Discussion

After conducting the study, the writers discovered that personal deixis is the most prominent deixis in Christina Aguilera's song called Reflection. From the table 1, it was discovered that there are 41 personal deixis which represented by the words me, you, I, my, that girl, someone, and we. Personal deixis was also demonstrated to appear in almost every verse of the song. The second comes from temporal deixis which represented by the words every day, now, when, all time, and there, while for the last one comes from two spatial deixis; world and inside.

1. Personal deixis

There are three types of personal deixis in Reflection song lyric, as shown in table 1: first person deixis, second person deixis, and third person deixis. The writers discovered seven personal deixis, four of which are first person deixis (me, I, my, and we); one second person deixis (you); and two third person deixis (that girl and someone). For example, in the lyrics "*But you'll never know me*", includes two form of personal deixis, first person deixis (me) and second person deixis (you). First person deixis, "me", refers to the singer as the object. Then, the "you" refers to the people around her, such as the listener. Another example, "*Who is that girl I see*" in the

chorus is having two forms of personal deixis: the first person deixis (I) and the third person deixis (that girl). In here, first person deixis, “I”, refers to the singer as the subject. Then, “that girl”, refers to another person, but from the story, it actually refers to her own self in different personality that she has been faking it for times. The song is completed by 47 personal deixis that discovered by the researchers.

2. Temporal deixis

There are five total temporal deixis in the song: every day, now, when, all time, and there. In the lyric “*When will my reflection show*”, the writers found “when” which indicate a question that the singer has been asking to know the answer to finally be free from faking personality because the following lyric is “*Who I am inside?*”; she wants to see the real her when she faces a mirror or something that can reflect her appearances. The word “*every day*” in the lyric just basically refers to the time that the singer has been through. It connects with “*all time*”, from “*Someone else for all time?*”. Another example for spatial deixis can be found in “*Now I see*”, still trying to connect with how the singer feel about the fake personality she struggles, since after that the lyric shows “*If I wear a mask*”, it means, even though she has covered everything and acted like someone else, she cannot fool herself to be like that anymore. Those spatial deixis closed up the song with 10 words.

3. Spatial deixis

The deixis that points to a location is known as spatial deixis. Table 1 shows that the researchers recognized two spatial deixis terms: world and inside. Each word has their own verse, for a sample, “*I will show the world*” and fortunately it is followed by “*What's inside my heart*”. The lyric connects to one another, retelling the story of the singer to the listener.

After seeing the result of other researches, the writers find that all the songs which trying to be interpreted in deixis form have all those three deixis above; personal deixis, temporal deixis, and spatial deixis. All of them have similar pattern which is the most dominant deixis is personal deixis, the second one is spatial deixis, and the last will be followed by temporal deixis (Sitorus & Herman, 2019; Thao & Herman, 2020; Sinaga, Herman, & Marpaung, 2020; Salamudin & Efransyah, 2021). To compare it with the outcome of this study, it has slightly different in the percentage. The most showed up deixis always happens to be personal deixis in all those songs. Pointing or mentioning a person from the singer perspective is very important to project the feeling of the composer well. However, the divergent comes from the second superior deixis. The writers notice that *Reflection* by Cristhina Aguilera has more temporal deixis than spatial deixis which mostly as the second prominent deixis that can be found in lyric of the songs of other researchers.

CONCLUSION

Supported by the findings and the preceding explanation, the forms of deixis contained in the lyric were personal deixis (first person, second person, and third person), temporal deixis, and spatial deixis. Compared with the rest of deixis, personal deixis is the song’s dominant deixis like other researches.

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