DEIXIS ANALYSIS ON THE HALSEY’S SONG LYRICS “MANIC” ALBUM

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ABSTRACT

Deixis is important to help the listener or addressee distinguish between what the speaker says and what is intended. It is possible that the listener might misinterpret a reference in vague utterance. The meaning of a sentence or utterance becomes understandable if the addressee knows who, when, and where it is spoken. In this study, researcher examines the types and meaning of deixis used in Halsey's songwriting lyrics. The study involves qualitative data analysis. The data are obtained through listening to song lyrics, understanding lyrics, looking for deixis, and finally noting down the data. After obtaining the data, the data are analyzed in some ways; identifying the types of deixis in Halsey’s song lyrics “manic” album, describing the meaning of deixis words that found in that song lyrics, and concluding the result of the data analysis. The result of the study showed that there are 130 data of deixis. They are divided into 105 data of person deixis, 5 data of place deixis, 1 datum of time deixis, 17 data of discourse deixis, and 2 data of social deixis in Halsey’s song lyric album. Person deixis was investigated as the most dominant type of deixis in the lyrics. All deixis had their meanings based on the situations of the song.

Keywords: deixis, song lyrics, Halsey

1. INTRODUCTION

Song lyrics are a part of music that can convey feelings and emotions to others who hear it. It is very important for listeners because it gives a message or inspiration. Sometimes, the listeners get different interpretations to understand the meaning of the song lyrics. When the listeners do not understand the meaning of
the song lyrics, the message of the song cannot be delivered properly. The first way

to understand the meaning of the lyrics is to know the meaning of the word.

One of the ways to understand the meaning of the words or phrases is by using deixis. Deixis is a word, phrase, or expression that permits it to travel together as to who is spoken, the time, and the location in which the language unit is spoken. As Levinson (1983) in Febriza (2020) states that deixis is a word which its reference always moves or changes relying on the context to indicate person, time, place, social distinction, and role in discourse. The meaning of a word or phrase becomes clear when the listener or reader know who, where, and when the words are spoken. The researcher speculates that there must be words of phrases in the song lyrics that have references. When people do not know what is referred to, then the meaning will be difficult to understand. Thus, the study of deixis in song lyrics is important and interesting.

There are a few researchers who have conducted research about deixis. Those researchers have different object with using different perspective and theory in presenting the topic. First research related to this study is from hasanah (2016). She analyzed deixis in the song lyrics of Harris J’s “Salam” album”. Her research discussed the types of deixis, the dominant deixis appear, and the reference of those deixis. Second previous study is Antari’s research (2017). He analyzed deixis in the song lyrics of Raef the Path album. The research examined the types of deixis, the most deixis used, and the reference of the deixis in the Path album using theory of Alan Cruse. Third previous study is from Wati (2014) entitled “A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics in Taylor Swift’s “Red” Album”. This research focused on the kinds of deixis and the meaning of deixis.

From the explanation above, most of those researches analyzed the types of deixis and found the most deixis frequently used song lyrics. In this current study, the researcher examined deixis by using different object of research and different theories. Therefore, the researcher was interesting in conducting the research of deixis analysis that aimed to describe the types and meaning of deixis in song lyrics of Halsey’s “Manic” album.
2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses qualitative research to explain the research data. Qualitative research is descriptive analysis. Descriptive qualitative research is a method which focuses on words matter than numbers and there is no statistical procedure (Frankel and Wallen, 2009:422). A theoretical basis is used as a guide to research focus consistent with the facts in the field. The researcher uses qualitative methods to analyze the types and meanings of deixis in the lyrics of Halsey's album "Manic".

The researcher chooses a lyrical song from Halsey's "Manic" album as a source of data. However, this study only takes five song from that album; “You Should be Sad”, “Graveyard”, “I Hate Everybody”, “Without Me”, and “Killing Boys”. The research data are the words or phrases that contain deixis found in Halsey's "Manic" album lyrics. The data are collected in several steps: listening the song of “Manic” album, understanding the song lyrics, identifying the words or phrases that relate to the research problems, and writing down the data.

There are three steps to analyze the data; identifying the types of deixis in Halsey’s song lyrics “Manic” album by using theory of Levinson (1983), describing the meaning of deictic expressions or deixis words that found in that song lyrics, and last concluding the result of the data analysis.

3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The objectives of this study are to identify the types of deixis and explain the meaning of deixis in Halsey’s song lyrics “Manic” album based on Levinson’s theory. There are five types of deixis found in “Manic” album; person, temporal/time, spatial/place, discourse, and social deixis. The researcher found 130 data of deixis. The findings could be depicted in brief on the table 1.

Table 1. Number of Deixis Found in Halsey’s Song Lyrics “Manic” Album

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO</th>
<th>TYPES OF DEIXIS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Person</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Time</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Discourse</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Social</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1.1 **Person Deixis**

Person deixis is a subject whose participation in language events or conversations at the time the utterance is used. Person deixis indicates the participants in a speech event, such as the speaker, addressee or the person spoken to, and the person who are neither speaker nor addressee. The researcher found different total data for each song in Halsey Manic album, as described in table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Song</th>
<th>Person Deixis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>First person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>You should be sad</td>
<td>I (10 data), My (2 data), Me (1 datum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Graveyard</td>
<td>I (6 data), me (2 data),</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>I hate everybody</td>
<td>I (12 data), me (4 data), My (4 data)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Without me</td>
<td>I (8 data), me (4 data), My (1 datum)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Killing boys</td>
<td>I (10 data), me (4 data), My (1 datum)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above showed that the total person deixis is 105 data from the songs “You Should be Sad”, “Graveyard”, “I Hate Everybody”, “Without Me”, and “Killing Boys”. There are 5 pronouns of person deixis that found in those five songs; “you”, “I”, “my”, “me”, and “they”. The examples analysis of person deixis will be explained as follow:

Datum 1 (YSBS – 1)

“I gotta get it off my chest”
I and My in the utterance above refers to the first person deixis. I show the pronoun that indicates the person who speaks or writes. My shows the singular possessive pronoun that indicates the speaker as an object. I and My designate the singer of the song, she is Halsey. In that utterance, Halsey wanted to let her boyfriend go in order to save his heart because Halsey's boyfriend was so selfish. He never considered her feelings.

Datum 2 (YSBS – 2)

“Know nobody else will tell you”

The word you in the utterance above belongs to the second person deixis. According to the dictionary (Merriam Webster), you means one or persons called the singular or plural in any grammatical relationship except possessive. In the song, the word you refers to the person who is addressed in the song. In her remarks, Halsey told her boyfriend that no one would tell him how she felt at the moment, but even so Halsey never regretted the relationship, no resentment or anger.

Datum 3 (GV – 6)

“They say I may be making a mistake”

The word “they” is the third person deixis. According to the dictionary (Merriam Webster), “They” has many meanings in the dictionary. The first explanation is used to refer to people who are an undefined group of people. The second explanation is used with a single pronoun antecedent distinction. The following explanation is used with a single antecedent to refer to the unknown or undetermined. The following explanation is used to refer to one person whose gender is intentionally unexpressed, and the later explanation is used to refer to one person who refers to the gender. The word they in the Halsey’s song means a group of people who are not specifically described in the song. The meaning of they is about people who think Halsey did something wrong but Halsey did not care of it because Halsey focused on finding her boyfriend wherever he was.

2.1 Place Deixis
Place deixis indicates a location, place or area relate to the speaker. The researcher only found five data of place deixis in the song.

Datum 4 (WM – 9)

“Name in the sky”

Sky in the utterance above includes in place deixis. Based on the dictionary, sky means the area above the earth, in which clouds, the sun, etc. can be seen. In Halsey’s song, sky refers to the place deixis associated with the presupposition of location in an event. The meaning of sky in the song shows that Halsey wants to take her boyfriend to a good place, the most beautiful place.

Datum 5 (GV – 9)

“I would followed all the way to the graveyard”

Graveyard in the utterance above refers to place deixis. Graveyard in the dictionary indicates the place of last rest of people, people died. Based on the song, graveyard points to a location, the most terrifying place where Halsey would still be looking for her lover. Halsey will not stop looking for her boyfriend until she finds him, even if it means going to graveyard.

3.1 Time Deixis

Time deixis provides a form of coding for the time used when an utterance is spoken.

Datum 6 (IHE – 8)

“And I can force a future like it’s nothing”

Future in the utterance above is an included in time deixis. Based on the dictionary (merriam webster), future has many meanings, they are existing at a later time, and of, relating to, or constituting a verb tense expressive of time yet to come. Based on the song, future refers to something that will happen later, namely Halsey’s heartache for her partner who already knows the end of their love story.

4. Discourse Deixis
Discourse deixis is a word, a phrase or an expression that has a reference in the text. The example of discourse deixis in Halsey's song lyrics will be explained below.

Datum 7 (YSBS – 10)

“I tried to help you, it just made you mad”

It in the utterance above is an included in discourse deixis. It is a type of pronoun that is devoted to replacing a person or thing. Based on the song, Halsey tells how much she loves her boyfriend, and Halsey tries to change her boyfriend to be a better person but Halsey's boyfriend gets angry.

5. Social Deixis

Social deixis is referents based on social distinctions in speech event. The researcher found two data of social deixis. The example of social deixis in Halsey's song lyrics can be seen as follow.

Datum 8 (YSBS – 13)

“That you would never ever touch me again, won’t see your alligator tears 'cause no I’ve had enough of them”

Alligator tears in the above speech are included in social deixis. Social differences "alligator tears" refer to a person's role, the aspect of the sentence that reflects or sets out or is determined by certain realities of the social situation in which action of speech takes place. Based on the song, the alligator tears refer to Halsey’s boyfriend as defined by a man who acted out a woman. For that reason, Halsey does not trust her boyfriend anymore. Halsey chooses to leave her boyfriend.

The results of data analysis showed that five types of deixis found in the song lyrics of Halsey Manic album. They are person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, discourse deixis and social deixis. The dominant type of deixis used in the lyrics of this Manic album song is person deixis. Person deixis is used in Manic song album to show the role or subject participants in the story of the song. The dominant person deixis words used are 78 data in the words "I and You. Person deixis is classified into three types: first, second, and third person. On this Manic album, the first person is encoded using the deixis word "I, me, my". The second person deixis is pointed out by the word "you” and “your”. Then, the third person
plural deixis is "they". The deixis meaning includes who the speaker or who is the addressee, where, and when the utterance was uttered, indicate the word after or before. Deixis person always appears in every song in a manic album. This shows that person deixis is a crucial part of the song. Furthermore, person deixis is the most widely used in any song on a manic album compared with other types of deixis.

The second type of deixis that appears on the Manic album is place deixis. It indicates the encoding of location relative to the singer in the song. Place deixis can be interpreted as several areas or places where song events occur based on their context. The meaning of place deixis is about understanding the location in the song. The next type is time deixis. Time deixis concerns the coding of the moment or the time of an event relate to the time of speaking. Time deixis provides information about the time in the song. The meaning of time deixis is that the listener will have a point of view about the time of the story in the song.

The next type is discourse deixis which shows a reference to certain parts of the discourse. The researchers found lyrics that show the discourse deixis as many as 16 data. The last type is social deixis shows reference based on social distinctions of the participants, especially aspects of social relations between speakers and listeners. The researcher only found 2 data that showed social deixis.

3 CONCLUSION

After analyzing the data, the researcher concludes that there are five types of deixis found in Halsey's "Manic" album lyrics, namely person, discourse, place, social, and time deixis. Five types of deixis are found in almost every song in "Manic" album. Person deixis becomes the most dominant type of deixis found in Halsey's "manic" album. It showed that the songs pointed to the role of participants in the lyrics. As the function of deixis that deixis encodes many different aspects of the circumstances surrounding the utterance with the utterance itself. It links what is said in an utterance to when, where, and by whom they are used. In this way the listeners will understand what the story is about. Although there will be many differences in perception when listening to a song, with deixis it is easier to interpret
the songs that are heard. It is not only in songs, but also in other media such as movie, novel, social media, etc.

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REFERENCES


