

A Pragmatic Study of Deixis in Oscar Wilde's Short Story "The Happy Prince"

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Summary:

The purpose of this paper is to examine the various types of deixis that can be discovered in Oscar Wilde's short story "The Happy Prince." Because it examines the different kinds of deixis present in this story, this study employs a descriptive qualitative methodology. It follows Levinson's (1983) categories of deixis: person, time, place, discourse, and social deixis. Reading the story, identifying the deixis, and categorizing the various kinds of deixis are the tasks involved in data analysis. The findings of the study revealed that Oscar Wilde's short story "The Happy Prince" has 434 deixis. The person deixis is used as the most frequent type of deixes in this short story, accounting for 283 (65.20%). The following deixis is social, which appears 71 times (16.35%). Temporal deixis occurs 34 (7.83%) times, while the discourse deixis appears 27 (6.17%). The last type of deixis is spatial deixis, which has a frequency of 19 (4.37%).

1. Introduction

Since language serves as a means of human contact and communication, it is more than just a symbol and plays a significant role in human life. Language serves a variety of functions that allow people to engage and communicate with one another. It is a normal occurrence for humans to use language for connection and communication. It is possible to exploit this natural phenomenon both orally and in writing. Pragmatics is one branch of linguistics that studies language in order to assist humans in using it. Pragmatics is the science that deals with all of these

context-specific elements of meaning that are systematically separated from the production of content or logical structure (Khalilia, 2017). According to Yule (1996, p. 3), pragmatics is the study of the writer sense. Redefining the specific responsibilities of the receiver/readers and the narrator/researchers in the process of progress is pragmatic. Additionally, it is important for the audience to develop a new meaning of what the writer of the story intended to convey when they say anything. It wants to be aware of exactly what the narrator wants because there are multiple explanations from the readers or viewers. Setiakawanti, and Susanti (2018) pointed out that one area of pragmatics research that examines language-based appointment is called deixis. Studying deixis will make it simpler to communicate using context.

According to Nurhikmah (2019), deixis must emphasize the different meanings that words might have, even when they are employed in the same context, in addition to being a grammatical component. According to Azzawi and Ali Hussien (2021), deixis is one of the significant concepts in discourse analysis and a crucial connection between our spoken language and the real-world context. It is also one of the most significant linguistic instances that language analysis cannot overlook. It is also regarded as one of the most noticeable aspects of the language.

Many language expressions rely on both the speaker and addressee's physical or social context for comprehension. Understanding these words requires knowing their context. Context covers both the speaker's physical and textual context. Words may be interpreted differently depending on their context. Deixis refers to the indexical meaning of words like "here and there," "this and that," "now and then," .

Because there must be a context surrounding the language in a text, the researcher decides to investigate a short story. Furthermore, the language and the situation must be deixis. As a result, a short story is an excellent subject for analysis in order to determine the deixis. Oscar Wilde's short story "The Happy Prince" was

chosen for this article by the researcher because of its widespread popularity. This short story served as the source of the data.

2. Literature Review

Pragmatics is a discipline of linguistics that studies language in use and how context influences meaning. It addresses topics like deixis, conversational implicature, text organization, speech act theory, and presupposition. Deixis is relevant to conversational and pragmatic analysis because it directly concerns the relationship between language structure and the context of deixis.

Herman and Pardede (2020) stated that a key component of pragmatics is deixis. When talking about language use, pragmatics is one field of study that cannot be ignored because it directly addresses the relationship between language structure and context. Considering that interpretation depends on the speaker's intention and the circumstances, it is a powerful feature of speech or conversation. Personal pronouns, demonstratives, adverbs of time and tenses, and other linguistic structures are examples of how deixis is expressed in English.

The word "deixis" describes a wide range of grammatical concepts. A Greek word that signifies "pointing" is the source of the word "deixes". 'Deictic phrases' or 'indexicals' are the linguistic form with which this 'pointing' is accomplished (Yule, 1996). The situational context, the hearer's and speaker's intentions, and their distance from one another all influence how these utterances are interpreted. The speaker and the audience must be in the same context for the utterance to be understood. For instance, if someone sees a piece of paper with the words, "I will be back in two hours," written on it, the reader is unaware of the writer's precise time of departure and cannot predict when they will return.

Thomas (1995) stated that deixis is an expression that refers to words whose meaning depends on the context of the utterance. In discourse, a reader cannot understand and comprehend their meaning unless they are aware of the context

whereby they are expressed. Deixis is an essential component of pragmatics as it addresses the relationship between the speaker and the person being addressed. It demonstrates the relationship between verbal statements and situational context. Their meaning is dependent on the circumstances. It is a collection of 'pointing' terms used to highlight a specific context (Levinson, 1983).

According to Levinson (1983, p. 54), deixis fundamentally disturbs the ways in which language teaches or the grammatical components of the framework of expression or communication event, and consequently, it disturbs customs in which the analysis of that framework of expression is necessary for understanding expression.

Deictic expressions include demonstratives, person pronouns, tense, specific time and place adverbs, and other grammatical components related to the context of an utterance (Levinson). Person deixis (me, you), place deixis (here, there), and temporal deixis (now, then) can all be used to indicate people or discourse deixis with demonstratives (this and that, these and those). Social information is the focus of social deixis as well.

2.1 Types of Deixis

Levinson (1983) distinguished five types of deixis: person, time, place, discourse, and social deixis. These types of deixes described in the sections below.

a. Person Deixis

The grammatical categories of the individuals engaged in an utterance are the subject of person deixis. Grammatical personal refers to the listeners who are not directly involved, the speaker and addressee who have a direct role, and the people who are referenced in the speech. It can be seen as follows:

Table 1: Person Deixes

Person	Singular	Plural
First Person	I	we

Second Person	you	you
Third Person	She, he, it	they

b. Temporal Deixis

Another name for temporal deixis is time deixis. Temporal deixis is the encoding of temporal points and spans in relation to the time at which an utterance was pronounced, according to Levinson (1983, p. 62). Stated differently, the terms that relate with speaking time. Without knowing the precise time of writing, we are unable to decipher an advertisement that states, "Reductions will begin next week," if we do not know the speaking time. It might not be evident if the reduction started a week earlier or if it will start later. The phrase "next week" is used in regard to the precise moment when "advertisement" is spoken or written.

Examples of deictic forms of temporal deixis that are typically represented by a single deictic word include adverbs of time (today, yesterday, now, then, etc.) that reflect the time of the utterance. The phrase "complex time adverbial" (last month, next year, etc.) combines a non-deictic measure word with a deictic modifier. This type of reference is known as calendrical reckoning Levinson, 1983, p. 75 as cited in Al-Tekreeti, 2016).

c. Spatial (Place) Deixis

The encoding of specific locales in relation to the interlocutors in speech is known as place deixis. It depends on where the words are said. Adverbs of place, like "this (these) and "here," are used to describe something that is close to the speaker, and "that (those) and "there" are used to describe something that is distant from the addressee. Put differently, place deixis is a term used to indicate a location in relation to a speech participant's location.

d. Discourse Deixis

Reference to specific sections of the developing discourse where the speech is situated is encoded by discourse deixis (Levinson, 1983). Discourse deixis is a term used to describe specialized discourse that incorporates the speech or as a signal and its connections to other texts. This deixis uses the deictic words "this" to refer to an upcoming portion and "that" to refer to a previous section.

e. Social Deixis

Among the several types of deixis, social deixis is distinct. Social status and positions between the speaker and the addressee in the language-using culture are referred to as social deixis, not the time, place, or person. Levinson (1983) stated that encoding social disparities between a speaker and their addressee or between a speaker and certain referents is known as social deixis. That is to say, social deixis is a way of expressing different social statuses and levels.

3. Data and Methodology

The descriptive-qualitative research methodology was employed in this study. This study examines the various forms of deixis in this short story applying Levinson's (1983) categories of deixis: person, time, place, discourse, and social deixis. The data was extracted from Oscar Wilde's short story "The Happy Prince". Reading the story, identifying the deixis, and categorizing the different kinds of deixis are the tasks involved in data analysis.

4. Findings and Discussions

The researcher examined and analyzed the five various kinds of deictic expressions used in Oscar Wilde's "The Happy Prince". The kinds of Deixis used in this short story are shown in table (2) below:

Table (2): Deixis used in Oscar Wilde's Story "The Happy Prince"

Types of Deixis	Frequency	Percentage
Person Deixis	283	65.20%

Discourse Deixis	27	6.22%
Spatial Deixis	19	4.37%
Social Deixis	71	16.35%
Temporal Deixis	34	7.83%
Total	434	100%

Table (2) shows that Oscar Wilde's short story "The Happy Prince" has 437 deixis. The person deixis is used most frequently in this short story, accounting for 283 (65.20%). The next deixis is social, which occurs 71 times (16.35%). The time deixis occurs 34 (7.83%) times, whereas the discourse deixis appears 27 (6.22%). The last type of deixis that appears is spatial deixis, which has a frequency of 19 (4.37%).

Person Deixis:

Person deixis that appears in this short story is shown as follows in table (3):

Table (3): Person Deixis in "The Happy Prince"

	Person deixis	Frequency of occurrence
1st person	I	65
	we	7
2nd Person	you	41
3rd person	they	24
	she	16
	he	104
	It	26
Total: 283		

Table (3) states the number of person dexies used in the "Happy Prince", the third person deixis is the most prevalent deictic type. Third person pronouns (he) is used extensively in the story to express the feelings and behaviors of the characters. This viewpoint gives viewers a wider perspective on the narrative and sheds light on the experience of the characters as well as the social problem they encounter. Although

they do occur infrequently, first person and second person deixis are less common than third person deictic expressions in this story.

Temporal Deixis:

Temporal deictic expressions that exist in this short story are shown in table (4) below:

Table (4): Temporal Deixis in "The Happy Prince"

Time Deixis	Frequency of occurrence
now	6
once	2
day	5
night	7
morning	2
evening	1
week	1
year	1
Winter	2
before	2
after	5
Total: 34	

Table (4) states the number of time dexies used in the "Happy Prince". Time deixis is employed in this short story to show the temporal context of acts and events, assisting in determining when events take place in relation to the experiences of the characters. As the swallow fulfils the prince's dreams, the use of expressions such as "every night" and "the next day" serve to create a timetable for his acts. This establishes a temporal rhythm that emphasizes how urgent the swallow's mission to aid the poor is. Additionally, the story's emotional impact is enhanced by describing the seasons (such as winter) and particular periods (such as darkness) which show

how time passes and how it affects the characters and their situations. In Oscar Wilde's "The Happy Prince", discourse deixis is evident in the employment of demonstratives that allude to previously mentioned individuals, occasions, or concepts. Social deictic expressions appear several times throughout the short story, particularly during character interactions. Titles like "Prince" are used to denote roles and social standing.

Spatial Deixis:

Spatial (place) deictic expressions that exist in this short story are shown in table (5) below:

Table (5): Spatial Deixis found in "The Happy Prince"

Spatial Deixis	Frequency of occurrence
Here	7
There	12
Total : 19	

Table (5) states the number of spatial dexies used in Oscar Wilde's "Happy Prince". References that point to particular places in this short story are examples of spatial deixis. For example, "here" is used as the prince's reference to his place as a statue in the city highlights both his permanent position and the viewpoint from which he views the world. Furthermore, "there" is also used when the swallow frequently refers to the locations he visits, for example, when he contrasts the prince's location with the dwellings of the impoverished or the splendor of the palace.

Discourse Deixis:

Discourse deictic expressions that are found in this story are shown in table (6) below:

Table (6): Discourse Deixis in "The Happy Prince"

Discourse Deixis	Frequency of occurrence
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This	6
That	21
Tota:27	

Discourse deixis describes how language alludes to certain aspects of the discourse, like the speaker's goals, the conversation's setting, or certain allusions made through the exchange. Table (6) states the number of discourse dexies used in Oscar Wilde's "Happy Prince". In this short story discourse deixis is evident in the employment of demonstratives that allude to previously mentioned individuals, occasions, or concepts. When the narrator employs expressions such as "this prince" or "that city", for instance, it denotes particular aspects of the texts that are essential to comprehending its setting. By establishing a link between the characters and their experiences, this kind of deixis makes it easier to adhere to the story's emotional and thematic strands. Furthermore, Wilde's use of discourse deixis directs the reader's attention to the values woven throughout the story by highlighting the contrast between the princess outward attractiveness.

References that point to particular places in Oscar Wilde's "The Happy Prince" are examples of spatial deixis in the short story. For examples, "here" is used as the prince's reference to his place as a statue in the city highlights both his permanent position and the viewpoint from which he views the world. Furthermore, "there" is also used when the swallow frequently refers to the locations he visits, for example, when he contrasts the prince's location with the dwellings of the impoverished or the splendor of the palace.

Social Deixis:

Social deixis that are found in this short story are shown in table (7) below:

Table 7: Social Deixis in "The Happy Prince"

Social Deixis	Frequency of occurrence
Prince	8
Swallow	55
wife	1
Brother	1
Mother	4
Father	2
Total : 71	

Table (7) states the number of social dexies used in Oscar Wilde's "Happy Prince". Social deixis describes how language in this story depicts character social interaction and hierarchies. Social deictic expressions appear several times throughout the short story, particularly during character interactions. Titles like "Prince" are used to denote roles and social standing. Despite being a noble bird, the swallow is frequently viewed as lesser in the social ladder, whereas the prince is treated with respect because of his previous royal status. Additionally, the way in which the prince asks the swallow to aid the underprivileged illustrates a social dynamic in which the swallow, in spite of his freedom, is forced to obey out of compassion, while the prince, is in a place to ask for help.

Conclusions

Pragmatics as a branch of linguistics investigates language in use and how context effects meaning. Deixis is crucial to conversational and pragmatic analysis because it deals directly with the link between language structure and context. The findings of this study show that Oscar Wilde's short story "The Happy Prince" has 437 deixis.

The person deixis is used as the most frequent type of deixes in this short story, accounting for 283 (65.20%). The following deixis is social, which appears 71 times (16.35%). The time deixis occurs 34 (7.83%) times, while the discourse deixis appears 27 (6.17%). The last type of deixis to arise is spatial deixis, which has a frequency of 19 (4.37%).

All kinds of deixis are used in Oscar Wilde's "The Happy Prince". But, the most common used deixes type is person deixis. Third person pronouns (he) is used extensively in the story to express the feelings and behaviors of the characters. References that point to particular places in the story "The Happy Prince" are examples of spatial deixis in the short story. For examples, "here" is used as the prince's reference to his place as a statue in the city highlights both his permanent position and the viewpoint from which he views the world. Time deixis is employed in this story to show the temporal context of acts and events, assisting in determining when events take place in relation to the experiences of the characters.

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دراسة برجماتية للإشارات في القصة القصيرة "الأمير السعيد" لأوسكار وايلد

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الكلمات المفتاحية: الاشارات، تحليل، أنواع، القصة القصيرة

الملخص:

يهدف هذه البحث إلى دراسة الأنواع المختلفة من الإشارات التي يمكن اكتشافها في القصة القصيرة لأوسكار وايلد "الأمير السعيد". ولأنها تدرس الأنواع المختلفة من الإشارات الموجودة في هذه القصة، فإن هذه الدراسة تستخدم منهجية وصفية نوعية. تتبع هذه الدراسة تقسيم ليفنسون (1983) لفئات الإشارات وهي: الشخصية، والزمانية، والمكانية، والخطابية، والإشارات الاجتماعية. قراءة القصة، وتحديد الإشارات، وتصنيف الأنواع المختلفة من الاشارات هي المهام المتضمنة في تحليل البيانات. تظهر نتائج هذه الدراسة أن القصة القصيرة لأوسكار وايلد "الأمير السعيد" تحتوي على 434 من الأشارات. يتم استخدام الاشارات الشخصية باعتبارها النوع الأكثر شيوعاً من الاشارات في هذه القصة القصيرة، حيث يمثل 283 (65.20٪). يأتي بعدها الاشارات الاجتماعية، وتظهر 71 مرة (16.35٪). وتظهر الاشارات الزمنية 34 مرة (7.83٪)، بينما تظهر الاشارات الخطابية 27 مرة (6.17٪). أما النوع الأخير من الاشارات الذي يظهر فهو الاشارات المكانية، والذي تبلغ نسبة ظهورها 19 مرة (4.37٪).