"Analyzing Deictic Expressions in the political Oratory of king Martin Luther & president Yasser Arafat: Discourse & Pragmatic Perspectives with Linguistic Implications"

"تحليل التعبيرات الإشارية في الخطاب السياسي للملك مارتن لوثر والرئيس ياسر عرفات: منظور الخطاب والبراغماتية مع تأثيرات لغوية"

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Abstract
The intricate nature of political discourse, with its layered meanings and strategic communication, presents a fertile ground for linguistic investigation, particularly in the domain of deixis. Deixis, a linguistic phenomenon that anchors utterances to particular contexts of time, place, and identity, plays a pivotal role in shaping the interpretation and effectiveness of political messages. Recognizing the significance of deixis in political statements, this study embarks on a comprehensive analysis to uncover how deictic references are utilized within political discourse to achieve specific pragmatic and discursive outcomes. By adopting the theoretical frameworks of discourse analysis and pragmatics, and drawing inspiration from Levinson's seminal work, the research aims to dissect the intricate use of personal, temporal, and spatial deixis in political speeches.

The problem the study addresses stems from the observation that political leaders extensively employ deixis to navigate complex social, cultural, and political landscapes, thereby influencing public opinion and reinforcing their agendas. However, the strategic deployment of deictic expressions in political discourse and their implications for political communication remain underexplored. This gap highlights the need for a nuanced understanding of how deixis contributes to the persuasive power of political rhetoric, shapes collective identities, and delineates temporal and spatial boundaries within political narratives.

To address this gap, the study sets forth several aims: firstly, to identify and categorize the major forms and functions of deixis in political statements; secondly, to quantify the frequency and distribution of personal, temporal, and spatial deixis in a corpus of political speeches; and thirdly, to analyze the pragmatic and discursive strategies underpinning the use of deixis, thereby unveiling its role in crafting persuasive political messages. Through a meticulous examination of political speeches, employing both quantitative and qualitative research methodologies, the study endeavors to elucidate the

multifaceted ways in which deixis operates at the interface of language and politics.

The expected findings aim to reveal that personal, temporal, and spatial deixis are not merely linguistic ornaments but are strategically employed to underscore the legitimacy of political claims, foster group cohesion, and negotiate power dynamics. By demonstrating how deixis reinforces political narratives and persuades audiences, this research seeks to contribute to the broader understanding of language's instrumental role in political discourse. Moreover, the study's insights are anticipated to offer valuable pedagogical implications, equipping educators and students of language and political science with analytical tools to critically engage with political rhetoric.

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المستخلص:

يُعَدُّ الخطاب السياسي، بطبيعته المعقدة ومراميه المتعددة ومستوياته المختلفة، أرضًا خصبةً للتحقيق اللغوي، وخاصةً في مجال الإشاريات (Deixis). تُعَدُّ الإشاريات ظاهرة لغوية ترتكز فيها الأقوال على سياقات معينة من الزمان والمكان والهوية، وتلعب دورًا حاسمًا في تشكيل تفسير الرسائل السياسية وفاعليتها. وانطلاقًا من الاعتراف بأهمية الإشاريات في التصريحات السياسية، يهدف هذا البحث إلى إجراء تحليل شامل للكشف عن كيفية استخدام الإشاريات في الخطاب السياسي لتحقيق نتائج عملية وخطابية محددة. يعتمد البحث على أطر نظرية من التحليل الخطابي وعلم التداولية، مستلهماً من أعمال ليفنسون البارزة، بهدف تحليل الاستخدام المعقد للإشاريات الشخصية والزمنية والمكانية في الخطابات السياسية. تتناول المشكلة التي يعالجها البحث ملاحظة أن القادة السياسيين يستخدمون الإشاريات بشكل واسع للتنقل عبر المشاهد الاجتماعية والثقافية والسياسية المعقدة، وبالتالي يؤثرون في الرأي العام ويعززون أجنداتهم. ومع ذلك، فإن الاستخدام الاستراتيجي للتعبيرات الإشارية في الخطاب السياسي وتأثيراتها على الاتصال السياسي لم يُستكْشَف بشكل كافٍ. يُبرز هذا الفجوةَ الحاجةَ إلى فهم دقيق لكيفية إسهام الإشاريات في القوة الإقناعية للخطاب السياسي، وتشكيل الهويات الجماعية، وتحديد الحدود الزمنية والمكانية داخل السرديات السياسية. لمعالجة هذه الفجوة، يضع البحث عدة أهداف؛ أولاً، تحديد وتصنيف الأشكال والوظائف الرئيسية للإشاريات في التصريحات السياسية؛ ثانياً، قياس تواتر وتوزيع الإشاريات الشخصية والزمنية والمكانية في مجموعة من الخطابات السياسية؛ ثالثاً، تحليل الاستراتيجيات العملية والخطابية التي تدعم استخدام الإشاريات، وبذلك الكشف عن دورها في صياغة الرسائل السياسية الإقناعية.

من المتوقع أن تكشف النتائج المتوقعة أن الإشاريات الشخصية والزمنية والمكانية ليست مجرد زينة لغوية، بل تُستَخدم بشكل استراتيجي لتأكيد شرعية الادعاءات السياسية، وتعزيز التماسك الجماعي، والتفاوض على ديناميات القوة. من خلال إظهار كيفية تعزيز الإشاريات للسرديات

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السياسية وإقناع الجماهير، يسعى هذا البحث إلى الإسهام في فهم أوسع للدور الأداتي للغة في الخطاب السياسي. وعلاوةً على ذلك، يُنتَظَر أن تقدم رؤى الدراسة تطبيقات تربوية قيمة، تُعِين المعلمين والطلاب في مجال اللغة والعلوم السياسية على تطوير أدوات تحليلية للتفاعل النقدي مع الخطاب السياسي. الكلمات المفتاحية: الخطب السياسية، ليفنسون، الإشاريات الشخصية، الإشاريات المكانية، الإشاريات الزمني.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الملك مارتن لوثر، الرئيس ياسر عرفات، الخطب السياسية، ليفنسون، الإشارة الشخصية، الإشارة المكانية، الإشارة الزمنية.

Section One: Introduction

Recent research in linguistics has highlighted the significance of deixis across various languages globally. Levinson (2006) suggests that deixis reflects fundamental aspects of everyday interactions among people, as it involves directing attention to specific entities within particular contexts. This area of study examines how languages encode certain attributes of statements and how these statements are understood by examining the surrounding contexts.

Within this framework, pronouns can function as deictic elements in language. Take, for example, the sentence "John thinks he will be right soon," where the pronoun "he" is used non-deictically, referring back to the previously mentioned "John." Thus, the understanding of "he" depends on previously mentioned information, establishing an anaphoric relationship between the pronoun and the noun phrase. This differentiation introduces two distinct types of reliance observed in spoken or written discourse. While deictic expressions depend on the context for their meaning, non-deictic expressions do not rely on the surrounding context for interpretation.

Linguistic research focusing on deixis and its impact on communication has seen significant growth recently. The investigation into deixis within political discourse has become crucial for understanding the messages conveyed by prominent individuals.

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Accordingly, this study seeks to provide a pragmatic analysis of deixis within influential speeches made by two notable personalities advocating for liberation.

1. 1 The Problem

Languages are tools created by humans for the purpose of fulfilling their needs and expressing emotions within a framework of communication. In this realm, liberating speeches emerge as pivotal elements utilized by leaders to challenge oppressive actions imposed on them. These speeches transcend mere verbal expression, embedding profound meanings that necessitate an extensive analysis of both their explicit and implied content. This research intends to undertake a discourse-pragmatic examination by applying Stephen Levinson's theoretical perspective. The focus will be on exploring the use of personal deixis in two significant speeches: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" and the address by former Palestinian President Yasser Arafat to the UN General Assembly in 1974. These speeches are unified by the overarching themes of national liberation and the pursuit of justice.

1. 2 Research Questions

The examination of deixis occupies a central place among linguists and scholars interested in language usage and its functional aspects. Consequently, this research aims to address the following inquiries:

1. What roles, indications, and messages do personal deixis play in each of the two speeches؟

2. In what ways does spatial deixis contribute to conveying a sense of exclusivity in the speeches؟

3. What underlying messages and meanings are communicated through both speeches?

1. 3 The Aims

The field of deixis significantly enhances the functional capacity of language in linguistic studies. With this in mind, the objectives of this research include:

1. 3 .1 Conducting an innovative analysis of a political speech advocating for liberation, specifically the one given by Dr. Martin

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Luther King, a leader in the African-American fight against oppressive treatment by whites who viewed his people as slaves. Additionally, the study will examine the speech given by the former Palestinian President Yasser Arafat to the UN General Assembly in 1974.

1.3.2. Investigating the deictic components within these speeches and exploring the embedded messages of inclusivity, they contain.

1.4 The Hypotheses
It is hypothesized that:

1.The examination of deictic elements in political discourse clarifies the overarching intentions and messages conveyed, enhancing the comprehensive understanding of the context.

2. Analysis of deictic usage in political speeches enables listeners and readers to accurately identify the specific intentions and messages intended by the speaker.

Section Two: Theoretical Background

2.1 Deixis and its Taxonomy

Clearly, multiple categories of deixis exist, as proposed by Levinson (1983). He identifies three primary types: personal, temporal, and spatial deixis, and uses the terms "I-now-here" as a framework to illustrate his concept of deixis. This section aims to provide a broad summary of these three deictic categories.

Nonetheless, these investigations aim to explore the potential of referential or indicative markers. Additionally, these markers can be divided into various groups. For example, personal deixis involves the employment of personal pronouns, while temporal deixis pertains to words that denote time, like "tomorrow" and "yesterday." The third category encompasses spatial references, illustrated by terms such as "here" and "there."

O'Keeffe et al. (2011) highlight that the study of deixis is crucial across various linguistic disciplines, including discourse analysis and pragmatics. It reveals the link between linguistic forms and their contextual meanings. This suggests that expressions vary distinctly based on their structures and the purposes they serve within specific contexts. Moreover, the application of deixis enables speakers to convey implicit meanings during interactions, facilitating a deeper level

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of understanding among those who speak or grasp the same language.

Kreidler (2014) posits a fundamental division between pragmatic functions, distinguishing between deictic and non-deictic forms. This division hinges on whether an expression carries contextual meaning within a cultural framework. Deictic expressions are those that exhibit context sensitivity, conveying specific meaning intended by the speaker. For instance, the term "yesterday" in the phrase "I couldn't attend the meeting yesterday" functions deictically, indicating a particular time as intended by the speaker. In contrast, in the phrase "yesterday's life," the term "yesterday" lacks specific temporal reference, illustrating a non-deictic use.

2.2 Types of Deixis

2.2.1 Deixis with Personal References

The initial category pertains to person deictic forms, exemplified by pronouns such as 'I' and 'we'. These pronouns reflect elements of the speaker's individual identity within a specific communicative context. Additionally, they encode the role that the speaker plays within that context. Rühlemann & O'Donnell (2015) propose that certain pronouns contain a minimal component that distinguishes between inclusiveness and exclusiveness. Inclusiveness is primarily demonstrated through the pronoun 'we', where the speaker's intention is to either include or exclude the addressee. When 'we' is used to encompass both the speaker and the addressee, it demonstrates inclusivity. Conversely, it serves an exclusive function when the intention is to include the speaker while excluding the addressee.

2.2.2 Deixis with Temporal References

Levinson (1983) proposes that the second category of deixis involves expressions related to time or temporal references, such as "today" and "now." These expressions convey the speakers' relationship to the specific time at which an utterance is made. English exhibits various aspects of temporal deixis, often classified as adverbs of time. Examples include phrases like "now and then" and the usage of English tenses, such as present and past. According to Levinson (1983), English tenses serve a similar function, ensuring that utterances maintain some level of contextual relevance through deixis.

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The moment when a speaker delivers an utterance is referred to as the "coding time" (CT), while the moment when an utterance is received is denoted as the "receiving time" (RT). "CT" is centered around the speaker, whereas "RT" is oriented towards the listener, as elucidated by O'Keeffe et al. (2011). In face-to-face interactions, where communication occurs in real-time, both "CT" and "RT" are equally relevant.

"CT" primarily aligns with present tenses, reflecting the time of the utterance. Conversely, events preceding the moment of speaking are represented in the past tense within "CT." Within this framework, time deixis manifests in two forms: proximal and distal. Proximal deixis denotes a time close to the speaker, exemplified by terms like "now," typically indicating present moments. Distal deixis, on the other hand, refers to a time distant from the speaker, as seen in terms like "then," often signifying past events, as suggested by Kermer (2016).

2.2.3 Spatial Forms of Deixis

Spatial deixis assists in defining the relationship between speakers and referents based on indicated locations or suggested spaces within the discourse context. This usage encompasses specific linguistic elements such as demonstratives ("this" and "that"), adverbs of place ("here" and "there"), place-indicating prepositions ("below" and "behind"), and motion verbs ("go" and "come"). Notably, spatial deixis often correlates with the distance from the speaker's position.

Furthermore, the concept of distance reflects proximity to a center, elucidated through either proximal or distal aspects. For example, while "here" signifies a proximal location near the speaker, "there" denotes a distal location, farther away from the speaker. Additionally, the significance lies in the metaphorical extension conveyed by spatial deixis. Grenoble (1998) interprets the speaker's use of such forms as a means of communication and a tool for emphasizing emotional states or personal attitudes, transcending mere spatial distance. Yule (2008) asserts that this usage underscores the importance of attitudinal stance in conveyed meanings, regardless of physical proximity

Section Three: Methodology

3.1 Data Collection, Description and Validity

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This section outlines the methodology to be employed in subsequent sections. Specifically, Levinson's (1983) framework will be utilized to examine deixis in the political speeches of Martin Luther King and Yasser Arafat. These speeches were selected to illustrate the functional role of deixis in political discourse, thereby ensuring the diversity of perspectives inherent in political themes and enhancing the validity of the analyzed data.

Data collection involves a thorough analysis of the two speeches to identify instances of the three forms of deixis as outlined by Levinson (1983). Additionally, this process entails categorizing the representation of these forms of deixis, with the aim of tracking their frequency throughout the speeches. Furthermore, pragmatic analysis will be conducted following Levinson's (1983) framework, while discourse analysis will be guided by Brown and Yule (2012).

3.2 The Model Adopted

In order to analyze deixis representation, the methodology involves several steps aligned with Levinson's (1983) framework. Initially, all expressions containing deixis are located within the text. These expressions are then categorized according to the three forms of deixis: person, time, and place. Subsequently, the frequency of deixis in each expression and its corresponding deictic type are counted to identify the most common forms. Instances of each type are individually analyzed, interpreted, and examined to understand their functions within the discourse.

Furthermore, pragmatic analysis will be conducted following Levinson's (1983) framework, in conjunction with insights from previously reviewed studies. Additionally, the analysis will explore the discourse role of deixis in accordance with Brown and Yule (2012). Emphasizing the importance of context, as advocated by Wu (2004), the analysis will consider contextual references, features, and functions. This approach aims to uncover personal experiences within Levinson's modal framework while dealing with the three forms of deixis.

Section Four: Data Analysis

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4.1. Personal deixis

Each speech emphasizes the significance of the pronoun 'We' within its discourse, highlighting a collective national identity through deixis. For example, King's rhetoric exemplifies this sense of belonging:

'We must always carry out our fight, We must not permit our innovative protest to wane، As we proceed, we must commit ourselves'، 'We cannot retreat, We can never find contentment' We will achieve, we are finally liberated.'

In the same line, 'we' have Arafat's uses of his national plural reflection in his words:

'We possess unwavering confidence'،'We persist on the path towards this just objective'،'We have collaborated with all endeavors'،'We oppose the presence of this occupation', and'We stand in opposition to the harming of civilians.'

4.2 Temporal deixis

Examining the two political speeches in detail reveals insights into the utilization of various forms of deixis, unveiling a multitude of meanings embedded within their contextual cues. For example, Arafat and King's speeches prominently feature temporal deixis, evidenced by the recurrent utilization of temporal expressions.

"Now, as we stand at this pivotal moment in history, it is time to fulfill the pledges of democracy. Now is the moment to ascend from the shadowy depths of segregation to the bright avenue of racial equality. Now is the time to elevate our country from the mire of racial inequity to the firm foundation of unity. Now is the time to transform justice into a tangible reality for every one of God's children."

These phrases demonstrate the temporal applications within the speeches, notably indicating the present. A similar temporal focus is observed in the utilization of present tenses alongside these expressions.

4.3 Spatial deixis

Spatial deixis is less prevalent in both speeches. Instead, terms such as "refugee camps," "towns," "cities," and "villages" are utilized.

Phrases like "This is what we want," "This is what the world expects," and "Here I wish to underline" exemplify spatial deixis, emphasizing the speaker's connection to land and place.

4.4 Results and Discussing
4.4.1 Personal Forms of Deixis

The initial focus of this study pertains to 'personal deixis,' wherein the two politicians express themselves. It is crucial to discern and acknowledge the interpretation of personal pronouns in relation to the reference point. The results reveal the distribution of the three personal forms of deixis (I, We, and You) statistically. Specifically, 'We' appears 64 times, significantly more frequent than the other two personal deixis: "you," occurring 10 times, and "I," present 20 times.

Levinson (1983) posits that 'we' entails complex referentiality, as its meaning is not categorical. Instead, it is not entirely interpreted or traced solely within utterances but rather in relation to the entire context, with its most significant aspect being the intentions conveyed by the speaker. In this context, the analysis of 'we' in the two speeches illustrates various referents: the politician, the politician and their audience or supporters, encompassing all Arabs and Americans, and ultimately referring to all humankind collectively.

The pragmatic application of 'We' reveals nuances of both inclusiveness and exclusiveness. It is evident that 'We' encompasses the political speaker and their nation, whose rights are advocated in both speeches. This categorization is deeply embedded in the discourse. Additionally, 'We' denotes exclusivity for those outside the speaker's nation, establishing a deictic center to distinguish between 'us' and 'others'. Moreover, examination of the deictic usage in the texts indicates the speaker's preference for "We" over "I", emphasizing a holistic perspective and intent.

Moreover, the deliberate use of this particular deictic form serves the persuasive purpose of the speaker's message concerning national rights, proving most impactful among other deictic forms. Additionally, Levinson (1994) interprets the use of "We" as a demonstration of profound pragmatic politeness compared to the more individualistic "I". Furthermore, Haverkate (1992) suggests that the inclusive application of the deictic "we" results in specific mitigating effects, thereby

avoiding personal imposition of the speaker's opinion. It functions as a strategy of inclusive proximization, capturing the attention of others towards the issue at hand.

4.4.2 Temporal Forms of Deixis

Another aspect that establishes a particular deictic focus is the temporal dimension of deixis. This aspect delineates a specific temporal locus where time indicators are presented in their various forms. The analysis reveals a total of 37 occurrences of temporal deixis, categorized into temporal adverbials and time-indicating expressions. The limited variability of this form underscores its emphasis on the present moment, wherein the speaker and listeners are actively engaged.

Conversely, past uses denoted by terms like "last" serve dual functions. Firstly, they denote events that occurred prior to the delivery of the political speech, enhancing the coherence and continuity of the discourse.

Chovanec (2014) contends that tense, as a temporal concept, lends itself to clearer interpretation. Present forms typically denote a general time reference, while specific moments are highlighted within the speeches. Notably, all three English tenses are utilized in the speeches under examination. Present forms signify the speaker's current persistence, while past forms indicate distance from earlier significant events. Similarly, future forms evoke a sense of distance akin to past forms, albeit with a hopeful outlook evident in both speeches.

4.4.3 Spatial Forms of Deixis

The third form of deixis pertains to spatial orientation, indicating specific locations within the discourse. As outlined by Marmaridou (2000), this form correlates with the speaker's position or their relationship to their audience. In our investigation, instances of specifying particular locations are relatively rare. This suggests a static positioning, with no perceptible shifts occurring between the speaker and the listeners. In essence, the spatial orientation observed in both speeches denotes a static rather than dynamic spatial relationship.

The major findings from the text, highlighting the utilization of deixis in political speeches, particularly focusing on the speeches by

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Martin Luther King Jr. and Yasser Arafat, can be summarized and highlighted as follows:

- Personal Deixis

-'Emphasis on Collective Identity': The pronoun 'We' is extensively used in both speeches, illustrating a strong sense of collective national identity and belonging through personal deixis.

-'Statistical Prevalence': 'We' appears 64 times, indicating its significant frequency over 'I' (20 times) and 'You' (10 times), underscoring the speeches' collective focus.

-'Inclusiveness and Exclusiveness': The use of 'We' not only includes the speaker and their nation but also delineates a boundary of exclusivity against those outside this collective, serving to distinguish 'us' from 'others.'

-'Persuasive Intent': The choice of 'We' over 'I' suggests a strategy aimed at holistic inclusion, enhancing the persuasive message regarding national rights and collective action.

-Temporal Deixis

-'Focus on the Present Moment': Temporal deixis is primarily centered on the present, with 37 occurrences of time-indicating expressions that emphasize current engagement and urgency.

-'Dual Function of Past References': Past references serve to enhance discourse coherence by situating past events in relation to the current moment, enhancing the narrative's continuity and historical grounding.

-'Utilization of English Tenses': The speeches employ all three English tenses (past, present, future), indicating persistence, historical distancing, and hopeful anticipation respectively.

-Spatial Deixis

-'Static Spatial Orientation': Spatial deixis in both speeches is characterized by references to specific locations (e.g., "refugee camps,"

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"towns") without indicating dynamic spatial movement, suggesting a static relationship between the speaker and the audience.

– 'Limited Use Compared to Personal and Temporal Deixis': Spatial references are less prevalent, indicating a stronger focus on temporal and personal deixis within these political narratives.

These findings highlight the nuanced and multifaceted use of deixis in political speeches, demonstrating how personal, temporal, and spatial deixis are strategically employed to forge a collective identity, emphasize urgency, and anchor the discourse in specific spatial contexts. The analysis sheds light on the pragmatic and discursive roles of deixis in enhancing the coherence, persuasiveness, and emotional impact of political rhetoric.

Conclusion

The analysis of deixis in the political speeches of Martin Luther King Jr. and Yasser Arafat offers profound insights into the linguistic strategies employed by political leaders to engage, persuade, and mobilize their audiences. The findings from this investigation underscore the critical role of personal, temporal, and spatial deixis in constructing compelling political narratives. Here's a conclusion drawn from these findings:

The strategic use of personal, temporal, and spatial deixis in political speeches serves as a powerful linguistic tool that accomplishes several key objectives:

1. Forging Collective Identity: The predominant use of personal deixis, especially the pronoun 'We', effectively fosters a sense of unity and collective identity among the audience. This not only enhances the inclusivity of the message but also strategically delineates the boundary between 'us' (the in-group) and 'others' (the out-group), reinforcing solidarity and collective action towards common goals.

2. Emphasizing Urgency and Present Focus: Temporal deixis, with its emphasis on the present moment, plays a pivotal role in conveying the urgency of the political issues at hand. By highlighting the current time as a decisive, pivotal moment for action, political leaders

underscore the immediate relevance of their message, encouraging prompt engagement and support from their audience.

3. Anchoring the Narrative in Space and Place: Although less prevalent than personal and temporal deixis, spatial deixis contributes to grounding the speeches in specific geographical and cultural contexts. This not only enhances the relatability of the message but also underscores the spatial dimensions of political issues, reinforcing the speaker's connection to particular lands, struggles, and aspirations.

4. Enhancing Persuasive Power: The combined use of these deictic forms amplifies the persuasive power of political rhetoric. By simultaneously invoking a shared identity, a sense of urgency, and a concrete spatial context, leaders are able to craft messages that resonate deeply with their audiences, compelling them to envision a shared vision and mobilize towards its realization.

5. Strategic Flexibility and Adaptability: The nuanced use of deixis reflects a strategic flexibility in political communication, allowing leaders to adapt their message to different audiences and contexts while maintaining a coherent and compelling narrative.

In summary, the study of deixis in political speeches reveals its indispensable role in enhancing the effectiveness of political communication. Through the strategic use of personal, temporal, and spatial deixis, political leaders are able to construct narratives that resonate with their audiences on a deep level, fostering collective identities, emphasizing the urgency of their agendas, and grounding their messages in specific, relatable contexts. This linguistic strategy not only enhances the coherence and persuasiveness of political rhetoric but also plays a crucial role in mobilizing support and fostering a sense of shared purpose among the audience.

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