

**DEIXIS USED IN *THE BREADWINNER* NOVEL**

**A GRADUATING PAPER**

**Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for Gaining  
the Bachelor Degree of English Literature**



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## FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

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I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

Yogyakarta, 20 November 2024



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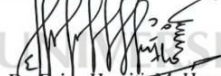
kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

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## ABSTRACT

Like all linguistic words and expressions, deictic expressions have references and meanings. However, the issue is that not all deictic expressions may be comprehended by only observing their pragmatic meaning. To understand how deixis functions, context is necessary. The title of this study is Deixis Used in *The Breadwinner* novel by Deborah Ellis. This research, focuses on analyzing the deixis words that the characters use. The objectives of this study are to identify the most prevalent deixis employed by the characters in the novel, to characterize the type of deixis, and to understand the reference of deictic phrases. The data was extracted from Deborah Ellis's novel *The Breadwinner* and examined using George Yule theory. This study used a descriptive qualitative methodology. As the outcome of this study, 624 character utterances includes deixis were investigated. In the George Yule theory identified three main categories of deixis based on the data. 32 data (5%) correspond to temporal deixis, 61 data (10%) to spatial deixis, and 531 data (85%) to person deixis. Certain deictic expressions belong to only one category of deixis. Certain deictic phrases, such as *my*, *myself*, *myself*, and *mine*, refer to the speaker or character and have only one reference. There are 79 data on deictic term "*I*" which includes first-person deixis that is the character's most often used deictic expression.

**Keywords:** *The Breadwinner*, *Personal Dexis*, *Spatial Deixis*, *Temporal Deixis*, *Reference*



## ABSTRAK

Setiap kata atau ungkapan dalam bahasa memiliki makna dan referensi, begitu pula deiksis. Namun, ada beberapa ekspresi yang tidak dapat dipahami hanya berdasarkan makna pragmatismenya. Untuk memahami mekanisme deiksis, diperlukan konteks. Studi berjudul Deiksis yang Digunakan dalam Novel *The Breadwinner* mengkaji kata-kata deiksis yang digunakan oleh karakter dalam buku yang ditulis oleh Deborah Ellis. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mendefinisikan jenis deiksis, memperoleh pemahaman tentang referensi deiksis, dan menemukan deiksis yang paling banyak digunakan oleh karakter dalam buku tersebut. Data diambil dari novel Deborah Ellis *The Breadwinner* dan dianalisis menggunakan teori George Yule. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ada 624 data dari ucapan karakter yang mengandung deiksis. Dari data tersebut, tiga jenis deiksis utama yang ditemukan oleh George Yule ditemukan: 531 data (85%) yang termasuk dalam deiksis persona, 61 data (10%) yang termasuk dalam deiksis spasial, dan 32 data (5%). Beberapa frasa deiksis termasuk dalam satu kategori. Ungkapan deiksis seperti “my”, “myself”, “me”, dan “mine” merujuk kepada individu atau pembicara. Tokoh-tokoh menggunakan kata deiksis “I”, yang termasuk dalam deiksis persona sebanyak 79 data.

**Kata kunci:** *The Breadwinner*, *Personal Deixis*, *Spatial Deixis*, *Temporal Deixis*, *Reference*

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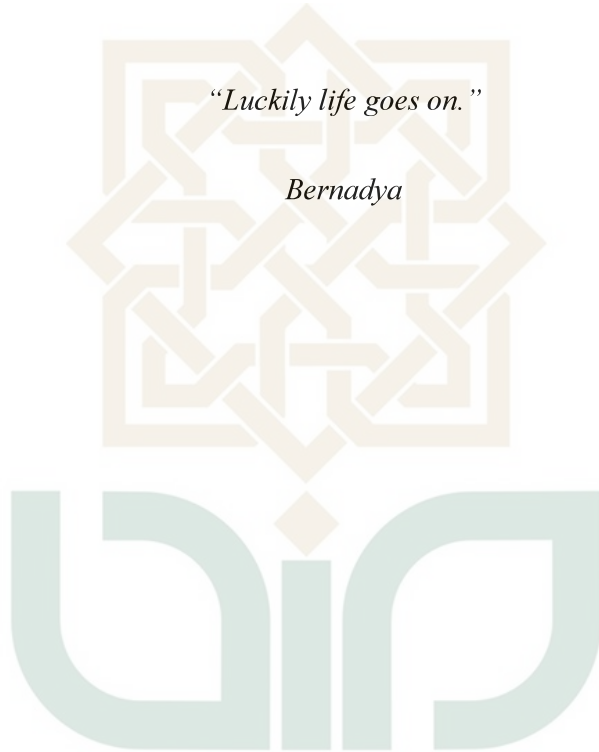
## MOTTO

*“Never underestimates yourself, keep fighting.”*

*Raihan Akram Al Aqib*

*“Luckily life goes on.”*

*Bernadya*



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## DEDICATION

This graduating paper is dedicated to:

1. My beloved parents
2. My mother-in-law
3. My other half
4. Dr. Ening Herniti, M.Hum., as my advisor
5. All lecture's in English Literature of Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga  
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6. All the readers of this graduating paper



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The researcher recognizes that this graduating paper still got a lot of flaws and issues. Thus, I would be happy to receive constructive feedback and future improvement suggestions. I hope the readers can find value from this graduating paper.

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# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of Study**

Language is a set of sound signals that members of a group have decided to use in order to communicate, cooperate, and identify themselves (Chaer, 2014: 32). Another definition of language as explained by Chaer (2014: 11), Language is an arbitrary, productive, dynamic, diversified, and human system that takes the form of sound. According to the aforementioned definition, language is a system, which means that it may be created and shaped by a variety of infinitely built components. Language is an integral part of society. Efficient communication is achieved when language is used purposefully and effectively.

Since individuals always use language to communicate with one another, language and user influence are inextricably linked. In its social context, the impact may manifest as a scenario. The variety of language forms in society is a result of this. Chaer and Agustina argue that the basic elements of language, particularly form, give birth to linguistic variations, which are changes between one utterance and another that might be minor or significant (Chaer & Agustina, 1995: 13). It is possible to infer from the foregoing description that both linguistic and non-linguistic elements contributed to the variations.

Words and sentences alone are insufficient linguistic components for communication. This includes situational aspects like who is speaking and who is listening, in addition to linguistic factors that affect language use. Linguistics is usually defined as the study of language as a whole, comprising its several

branches, such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics (Chaer & Agustina, 1995: 82). This research will focus on deixis that part of pragmatics.

A word is the smallest meaningful unit of language that may be employed independently, claim Bolinger and Sear (Baker, 2011: 9). Numerous terms in several languages have distinct definitions, conceptions, and references (Chaer, 2014: 44). Chaer used the term "horse" as an example, which literally means "a kind of four legs animal that can be ridden" and has a real-world application (Chaer, 2014: 44). However, because the references are not consistent, certain terms have semantic meanings but no pragmatic meanings. Some pronouns, such as this, that, he, and she; temporal expressions, such as now, yesterday, and then; or phrases that use the adverb "like last" night cannot be properly defined. Deixis thus seems to be the cause of this type of issue

The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms defines deixis as the function of an item or feature that relates to a point of reference (like me, you, and them) and a relative location or position (like here and there) (Baldick, 2015:62). The situation determines how this function is understood when spoken because its reference is not continuous, a deictic expression is a word or phrase that lacks a pragmatic meaning. The context determines the meaning. Only by looking at the utterance's context can determine the reference.

This study chooses to analyze a novel in order to have deeper knowledge. In contrast to short stories and novelettes, which are middle-length works, Abrams defines a novel as an extended work of fiction produced in prose (Abrams, 2009: 226). The novel is growing in popularity in literature quite quickly. That novel is worth talking about because so many novels are written every year. This study supports Ratna's assertion that novels have more significant interpersonal elements than other types of literature. The novel's most comprehensive narrative elements and its comprehensible linguistic style, which is widely utilized in society, are the reasons behind this (Ratna, 2004: 335-336). That is why it is important to explore the novel.

This novel presents various efforts and conversations made by Parvana to fight for her homeland again. In this novel, Parvana does not bear alone. She will engage extensively with other characters in the story, even though the majority of them are not close to her, and many are older than her or from outside her family. Therefore, in this novel, there are many conversations carried out by Parvana, thus attracting researchers to discuss deixis.

Furthermore, depending on the context of the utterances themselves, Parvana uses many of the same deictic terms that are found in *The Breadwinner*, but they have several references. Ineffective deictic expression interpretation will also contribute to the reader's erroneous interpretation of the narrative. Therefore, by analyzing this issue, the researcher is eager to describe the deixis employed by the characters in a novel; it is structured to be helpful for future research, particularly in pragmatics.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the background research above, this research is intended to analyse deixis in the novel *The Breadwinner* written by Deborah Ellis. Thus, this research aims to get answers to the research questions which are formulated below:

1. What types of deixis are used in *The Breadwinner* novel written by Deborah Ellis?
2. What is the most dominant type of deixis used in Deborah Ellis's *The Breadwinner* novel?

## **1.3 Objective of Research**

Based on the research questions above, this research has two objectives of study, they are:

1. To describe the types of social deixis that are used in *The Breadwinner* novel.
2. To describe the most dominant type of deixis used in *The Breadwinner* novel and why it was dominantly used.

## **1.4 Significances of Study**

Two purposes have been established for this research; academic and practical. This study attempts to provide an academic understanding of Deixis in the novel *The Breadwinner*. The goal of the research is to advance the field of pragmatics with its findings. In particular, this study could prevent misunderstandings about the speaker or speakers and the addressee. Practically speaking, this research is also important as knowledge in everyday life. First of all, teachers can use it as

teaching material for pragmatics, particularly deixis. Second, because deixis enables writers to comprehend the production and interpretation of utterances, it can help them write better. By using this research as a reference, this study also benefits English language learners. Finally, readers will find the study's conclusions helpful in comprehending the novel's content. It can assist them in gaining a thorough understanding of the meaning behind the character's statements.

### **1.5 Literature Review**

Deixis is covered in a number of articles and publications. Daulay, (2021) was the first study. The novel serves as the study's object, and the author applies Fillmore's theory. The precise goals of this study are to ascertain (1) the type of social deixis employed in the Kite Runner novel, (2) the most prevalent form of social deixis and the reasons behind its dominance, and (3) the impact of social measurement inside the Kite Runner novel. Because it uses information in the form of dialogue, this look employs a qualitative descriptive technique. Since the study statistics were gathered from textual sources, documentation evaluation was employed in the present research.

The second research was written by Sugiarti (2022). The author of this study used the Fillmore theory in addition to using the film as an object. A descriptive qualitative method was employed in this research. Because the data was gathered in accordance with the study's goals, the researcher employed purposive sampling procedures, which produced more representative findings. The study's findings point to five different types of social deixis that are employed in the Four Lions

film: person marking, different methods of distinguishing speech levels, different ways of using names, titles, and kinship terms, different performance styles that can be regarded as social actions, and linguistic performance styles that can go hand in hand with other social activities.

The next research was written by Karimah (2021). The purpose of this study is to analyze the many forms of social deixis in *Snow*, a book by Orhan Pamuk that is a translation of the original Turkish-language book *Kar*. The deixis hypothesis, which was first presented by C.J. Fillmore and addresses social forms of deixis, was used by the researcher. This study employs a qualitative descriptive method, which uses participant language to explain the phenomena in the book according to the context. Three steps were taken by the researcher to get the data: (1) reading all of the chapters in the *Snow* novel in order to identify the data that is scattered throughout the book and to comprehend the story's overall context; (2) compiling a list of the deictic expressions that are scattered throughout the book; and (3) the researcher gathering the data in a table and categorizing it according to the type of social deixis. This led the researcher to identify five categories of social deixis and 40 kinds of deictic expression.

The fourth research was written by Gusmadi (2019). The purpose of this study is to outline the various forms and applications of deixis in Andrea Hirata's novel *Edensor*. This study's methodology is qualitative descriptive. Andrea Hirata's *Edensor* novel serves as the study's data source. Document techniques used in data collecting include underlining or marking, taking notes, and recognizing words or sentences. Techniques for data analysis are carried out,

including finding words or sentences that include deixis, elucidating, analyzing, interpreting, and drawing conclusions. The analysis indicates that the novel Edensor by Andrea Hirata contains 69 pieces of data, specifically: (1) 35 first-person deixis data, which are separated into three parts: first-person deixis singular (me and me) and plural (us and us); person deixis both singular (you) and plural (you); third-person deixis singular (he) and plural (they) and plural (them); (3) 16 time deixis data (now, later, earlier, and first); (2) 12 deixis data places (here, situ, and there); (4) 3 discourse deixis data (that); and (5) 3 social deixis data (hajj, teachers, and lecturers).

The last or the fifth research was written by Utami (2017). The objectives of this study are to characterize the deixis type, comprehend the reference of deictic expressions, and identify the most prevalent deictic expression and reference among the deictic expressions employed by Jonas in Lois Lowry's novel *The Giver*. The information is extracted from Lois Lowry's English novel *The Giver* and examined using Stephen C. Levinson's hypothesis. This study used a descriptive qualitative methodology. The study's findings indicate that 296 of Jonas's statements contain deixis, yielding 869 data points. According to Levinson, this study identifies five main categories of deixis from the data. These include 689 (79.29%) person deixis data, 43 (4.95%) time deixis data, 18 (2.07%) place deixis data, 43 (4.95%) social deixis data, and 76 (8.75%) discourse deixis data.

From the five studies above, it can be stated that the difference between this study and the five studies above is the use of theory. The theory used in the study

above is the theory of Levinson and Fillmore, while the theory used in this study uses the theory of George Yule. The similarity between this study and the study above is that they both discuss deixis. This study also uses the studies above as a reference in writing.

### **1.6 Theoretical Approach**

Given that the goal of this study is to describe the type of deixis, which deixis is the most prevalent? This study also explains the novel's use of the most often utilized deixis. Mey states that "pragmatic studies the use of language in human communication as determined by the conditions of society" (Mey,2001:6). The condition of society has the power to influence and have an impact on interpersonal communication. One of theories in pragmatics is deixis.

Because its reference is not consistent, deixis is a term or phrase that lacks a clear pragmatic meaning. Only by looking at the utterance's context can determine the reference. The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literary Terms defines deixis as the function of an item or feature that relates to a point of reference (like me, you, and them) and a relative location or position (like here and there) (Baldick, 2015:62). The situation determines how this function is understood when spoken. Furthermore, this research applies George Yule's theory which categorizes the deixis into three majors: person deixis, time (temporal deixis), place (spatial deixis) (Yule, 1996: 9-16).

## **1.7 Research Methods**

A research project uses a plethora of guidelines, exercises, processes, and strategies to achieve its objectives. According to Sugiyono, a research method is a scientific approach to gathering data for a specific use and goal (Sugiyono, 2013: 2). The following are the methods used in this study to organize quality research.

### **1.7.1 Type of Research**

The researcher uses the descriptive qualitative method in this research. A research design is required as a plan for doing this investigation. According to Creswell (2014), study design is a specific approach for collecting data, analysing data, and reporting on the findings. Descriptive qualitative research is the qualitative research method used in this study. The study is classified as descriptive qualitative since the information was gathered through spoken words.

### **1.7.2 Data Source**

The researcher chose the novel *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis. This novel tells the story of the struggle of Parvana and her family in facing the cruelty committed by the Taliban. The selection of this novel is also in accordance with the object of research desired by the researcher. This novel uses a conversational writing style so it is suitable for use in this study. In the conversational writing style used by this novel, there are sentences that contain deixis.

The deictic expressions used in the dialogue between the characters in Deborah Eliss's novel *The Breadwinner* serve as the research's data source. Primary data sources were employed in this investigation.

### **1.7.3 Data Collecting Technique**

The documentation method was used to gather the data for this research. Reading comprehension and note-taking were used. The selected novel was first read by the researchers. The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis was selected by the researchers. To get more precise results, the book was then read multiple times. Mark the utterances second. The researchers underlined any passages with deixis. In this section, the researchers concentrated on the statements made by the characters. Identify the deixis determining whether or not the novel's characters used deixis in their speech was the next step after reading. Fourth, group the deixis into categories. George Yule's theory was used to categorize the identified data based on the type of deixis. Ultimately, the researchers came to a conclusion regarding the identified and examined data.

### **1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique**

Miles and Huberman proposed the data analysis approach utilized in this study, stating that qualitative analysis has three primary phases (Miles & Huberman, 1994: 10-11). The initial phase of analysis is called data reduction. "It is a process that includes gathering, organizing, streamlining, abstracting, and recording the information that has been obtained" (Miles & Huberman, 1994:10). Since it may be used to organize the data and eliminate unnecessary components, data reduction is a crucial component of analysis that helps the researchers reach and validate their conclusions. The study's results came from a literary work that was the length of a novel. The researchers then started choosing utterances with

deixis in order to analyze the data. The researchers then concentrated on determining what kind of deixis was employed in the statements. The deixis variations were then categorized by the researchers using Yule's approach.

Data display is the second stage of qualitative data analysis. An informational collection that is arranged correctly allows for the making of inferences and the execution of actions. The process of evaluating and analyzing the acquired data for additional analysis, one at a time, might be aided by the data presentation. In this study, the data is presented in the form of a table. The table contains the deixis types of deixis used, deictic expressions, and references. Then the number of data containing deixis is calculated and displayed in the form of a percentage.

The last step in data analysis is drawing conclusions. To understand the significance of the data under the study and how it relates to the research questions, the researcher needs to take a step back to grasp what is meant by the studied data and its consequences for the research questions. The significance of the data reported at this level is determined by the researchers. After that, the final conclusion needs to be verified to make sure it is accurate. In this step, the researchers came to conclusions about the findings of their research.

### **1.8 Paper Organization**

There are four chapters in this graduating paper. The introduction, which covers the prerequisites for conducting the research, is the first chapter. The study's background, research question, objectives, significance, literature review, theoretical approach, research methodology, and paper organization are all

included in the introduction. The theoretical basis, which describes the theory used to support the facts, is then presented in the second chapter. The explanation of deixis and pragmatics will be covered in this chapter. The examination of Deixis in *The Breadwinner* is covered in the third chapter. The analysis of the information gathered by the researcher from *The Breadwinner* novel will be the main emphasis of this chapter. The research's result and recommendations are presented in the final chapter.



## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 4.1. Conclusion

Certain deictic terms are used by the characters in *The Breadwinner* to allude to certain topics in their speech. Based on George Yule's form of deixis, the researcher can finally draw the conclusion that 624 data points from the novel's character utterances contain deixis. Based on George Yule's theory of deixis, this study identifies three main types of deixis from the data.

There are 531 data of personal deixis in *The Breadwinner* novel. The data is divided into three parts, namely, first-person deixis, second-person deixis, and third-person deixis. In first-person deixis, 248 data were found. In the first person, deixis uses deictic expressions, namely, "I", "my", "me", "we", "us", "our", and "ourselves". In second person deixis, 155 data were found. In the second person, deixis uses deictic expressions, namely "you" and "your". In the third person deixis, there are 128 data. In third person deixis, there are uses of deictic expressions, namely; "him", "he", "his", "her", "she", "they", "them", and "their".

There are 61 data points about temporal deixis in *The Breadwinner* novel. The data is divided into three parts, namely, past temporal deixis, present temporal deixis, and future temporal deixis. In the past temporal deixis, 22 data were found. In the past temporal, deixis uses deictic expressions, namely, "last week", "last night", and "yesterday". In the present temporal deixis, 32 data were found. Present temporal deixis uses deictic expressions, namely, "now", "this morning",

and “this afternoon”. In future temporal deixis, 7 data were found. Future temporal deixis uses deictic expressions, namely, “tomorrow” and “next time”.

There are 32 data of spatial deixis in *The Breadwinner* novel. The data is divided into two parts, namely, proximal spatial deixis and distal spatial deixis. In proximal spatial deixis, 18 data were found. Proximal spatial deixis uses the deictic expressions “here”, “this street”, and “on the railing”. In distal spatial deixis, 14 data were found. Distal spatial deixis uses deictic expression “there”, “a school yard”, “at home”, “in the market”.

The most dominant type of deixis used in this novel is first person deixis which include 248 data from the novel. The first person deixis in this novel is divided into 7 deictic expression. The deictic expression are “I” with 79 data, “my” with 38 data, “me” 33 data. “we” 36 data, “us” 29 data, “our” 32 data, and “ourselves” 1 data.

#### **4.2.Suggestion**

Even though this research could be better, it will still be helpful if people want to use it as a reference or for further research. This study can be used as a reference to help future researchers understand how to interpret deixis. Additionally, this study contains a few sub-chapters that can be thoroughly examined. For example, by using different objects, the next researchers can concentrate on analysing one of the deixis types. It is also challenging for the next researcher to relate the deixis theory to another research. For instance, it may be related to translation since the way deixis is used in different languages may vary

depending on the language system. In addition to deixis, future researchers may use the same novel but a different theory, like speech acts.



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