

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This chapter discusses the theoretical framework and presents previous related studies. The theoretical review includes definitions and concepts pertinent to the research topic. It defines pragmatics, deixis and its types, reference, and context. This study will focus on Cruse's five distinct forms of deixis as the theoretical foundation. Additionally, I will review previous studies to compare their findings with those of this research, highlighting the contributions and gaps addressed in the current study.

#### **2.1. Definition of Pragmatics**

Linguists have defined pragmatics in various ways, reflecting its complexity as a subfield of linguistics that investigates how the meaning of words can shift depending on the context of communication. Pragmatics examines the use of language to convey meaning within specific situational contexts (Kreidler, 1998, p. 302). Cruse offers a similar definition, describing pragmatics as the study of meaning features that are dependent on context (Cruse, 2006, p. 3). Griffith (2006, p. 1) also views pragmatics as the exploration of features that facilitate meaningful conversation.

According to Yule (1996, p. 3), pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader). It focuses on the message that the speaker aims to convey and the significance of the words used. For effective communication, it is essential to understand the expressions employed by the speaker to communicate feelings, thoughts, facts, and ideas.

The pragmatic approach encompasses four main areas: first, the study of speaker meaning; second, the study of contextual meaning; third, the investigation of how additional meaning is communicated beyond what is explicitly stated; and fourth, the study of the expression of relative distance (Yule, 1996, p. 3).

## **2.2. Definition of Deixis**

Deixis is a term derived from the Greek verb meaning "to indicate" or "to point out." In pragmatics, deixis refers to words or phrases that directly refer to entities, such as objects, processes, attributes, and circumstances. Essentially, deixis enables speakers to identify or point to objects within both linguistic and non-linguistic contexts. When both the speaker and the addressee are situated in a shared environment, it is often clear what or whom is being referenced

Cruse (2000, p. 319) identifies five main types of deixis: person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis. The following descriptions provide an overview of each type of deixis:

### **2.1.1. Person Deixis**

Person deixis primarily focuses on the relationship between the speaker(s) and the addressee. In English, pronouns serve as key examples of deictic words (Kreidler, 1998, p. 145). Yule (1996, p. 10) states that "person deixis clearly operates on a basic three-part division," represented by the pronouns for the first person ('I'), second person ('you'), and third person ('he', 'she', or 'it'). This framework distinguishes the roles within a speech event: the first person refers to the speaker or writer, the second person addresses the person(s) being spoken to, and the third person refers to those who are not involved in the conversation (Cruse, 2000, p. 319).

First-person deixis refers to the individual who is speaking or writing, employing singular pronouns (e.g., I, me, my, myself) as well as plural forms (e.g., we, us, our, ourselves). Second-person deixis identifies the addressee(s) with pronouns such as you, your, yours, yourself, and yourselves. Third-person deixis pertains to individuals who are neither the speaker nor the addressee, often indicating the gender of the subject being discussed, using pronouns like he, she, they, him, her, them, their, himself, and herself.

Person deixis is realized through the use of personal pronouns (Renkema, 2004, p. 122). In a communicative context, the speaker employs first-person pronouns while addressing the addressee with second-person pronouns. As noted by Cruse (2000, p. 319), "the speaker is

referred to as the first person, the addressee as the second person, and other significant participants in the speech situation, who are neither speaker nor hearer, are known as the third person”.

The following table illustrates the variety of person deixis:

Table 2.1. Variety of Person Deixis

	Singular	Plural
1st person	I/me	we/us
2nd person	you	you
3rd person	he/him, she/her, it	they/them

*Note.* Reprinted from *Meaning in Language: An Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics* (p. 320), by D. A. Cruse, 2000, Oxford University Press, Copyright 2000 by David Alan Cruse.

### 2.1.2. Spatial Deixis

Spatial deixis, also referred to as place deixis, pertains to the specification of locations for persons and objects within a dialogue (Kreidler, 1998, p. 145). It is employed to communicate the position of entities in relation to the speaker. According to Cruse (2006, p. 166), spatial deixis expresses place in space with reference to the speaker, utilizing terms such as “this,” “that,” “these,” “those,” “here,” and “there.” While spatial references situate individuals and places relative to each other and the speaker, fixed references to location denote specific coordinates, such as latitude and longitude (Cummings, 2005, p. 26).

Although demonstrative terms like “this” and “that” can convey broader meanings, spatial deixis primarily emphasizes their use to refer to particular objects. Cruse (2006, p. 166) classifies “this” and “here” as proximal deixis, indicating closeness to the speaker, while “that” and “there” are categorized as distal deixis, referring to locations that are farther away. Moreover, place deixis encompasses not only the speaker’s position but also the movement of entities in relation to that position (Cruse, 2006, p. 166).

In addition to proximal and distal deixis, spatial deictic expressions include projected deixis, which refers to locations where the speaker is not the central point of reference but rather other participants in the discourse, typically the addressee (Yule, 1996, pp. 12-13). For instance, in the phrase "Come to bed!", the term "come" implies movement toward the speaker. Grundy (2000, p. 36) identifies additional spatial deictic terms such as "now", "then", "earlier", "later", "in an earlier chapter", "above", "in the paragraph above", "already", "next", "in the next sentence".

### **2.1.3. Temporal Deixis**

Temporal deixis, also known as time deixis, refers to expressions that indicate a point in time relative to a temporal reference point, typically the moment of speech (Renkema, 1993, p. 123). Levinson (1983, p. 62) describes temporal deixis as encompassing deictic words, including adverbs and adverbials such as "now," "then," "today," and "last month." These expressions signify the timing of events in relation to the speaker's reference point, helping to identify intervals along the time axis (Cruse, 2006, p. 179).

Temporal deixis includes terms such as "yesterday", "today", "tomorrow", "now", and "then". In addition to serving as indicators of time, verbs in a sentence can also convey temporal aspects through their tense.

The time axis can be categorized into three primary segments: (i) the time preceding the moment of speech, (ii) the moment of speech itself, and (iii) the time following the moment of speech. Examples of temporal deictic terms include "now," "then," "tomorrow," and "last year" (Cruse, 2006, pp. 179-180).

### **2.1.4. Social Deixis**

Social deixis refers to the ways in which the rank or social standing of the person being addressed relates to the speaker. According to Cruse (2006, p. 166), it encompasses the social context of communication,

highlighting the interpersonal relationships between participants. Saeed (2003, p. 188) points out that certain languages utilize pronouns to convey information about the identities and social affiliations of those engaged in discourse.

In contrast to English, languages such as German, French, Korean, Japanese, and Balinese possess complex systems for grammaticalizing social interactions, clearly reflecting the social hierarchy in communication. These systems effectively illustrate the speaker's higher or lower social standing relative to others (Cummings, 2005, p. 22). While English does not have specific pronouns to denote social deixis, understanding the social context is crucial for interpreting the relationships between participants (Cummings, 2005, p. 22)

Additionally, in English, social deixis can sometimes be inferred through the use of modal auxiliary verbs, such as “would” and “could,” particularly in requests or inquiries for permission. These verbs often signal respect and courtesy, revealing the speaker’s acknowledgment of the addressee's social position relative to their own (Cummings, 2005, p. 22).

#### **2.1.5. Discourse Deixis**

Discourse deixis, also known as text deixis, pertains to expressions that reference elements of discourse, such as using “this” to indicate forthcoming components and “that” to refer to previous ones. This type of deixis helps establish connections between currently or previously occurring elements and upcoming items, thereby linking preceding and subsequent discourse. Additionally, adverbs like “therefore” and “furthermore” often relate to components of the discourse (Cruse, 2000, p. 324).

Levinson (1983, p. 87) provides examples of expressions such as “but,” “therefore,” “in conclusion,” “to the contrary,” “still,” “however,” “anyway,” “well,” “besides,” “actually,” “all in all,” “so,” and “after all.” These terms illustrate the relationships between statements and preceding

discourse elements. Furthermore, as noted by Cummings (2005, p. 29), discourse deixis can also function as an anaphoric reference, identifying a past reference and offering additional information about it. Anaphoric expressions use specific function words to refer back to earlier discourse (Kreidler, 1998, p. 145).

The distinction between discourse deixis and anaphora is not always clear-cut. Levinson (1983, p. 86) distinguishes them by noting that discourse deixis refers to the utterance itself, while anaphora refers back to the same entity that was mentioned in an earlier utterance.

### **2.3. Definition of References**

The use of deictic terms can be seen as straightforward; however, these terms often hold no inherent meaning on their own. Reference occurs when a speaker employs words to assist a listener in identifying something. Cruse (2006, p. 3) defines reference as a broad concept that encompasses the act of recognizing entities in the world, with deixis serving as a method for achieving reference.

Yule (1996, p. 17) explains that referencing expressions are linguistic forms that incorporate deictic words. As a result, it is possible to discern the reference of each sentence and assess whether the listener is expected to possess the relevant knowledge to interpret it accurately. Inference plays a crucial role in creating effective references, as it enables the audience to connect what the speaker states with the underlying meanings that must be inferred (Yule, 1996, pp. 17-18).

In summary, reference and deixis are interrelated in the context of speech. Deixis refers to the entities mentioned in an utterance, while reference encompasses the implications that the speaker conveys when mentioning those entities.

### **2.4. Definition of Context**

Context plays a crucial role in understanding pragmatics, deixis, and reference. Pragmatics examines meaning in relation to context, as emphasized by Cruse (2006, p. 3). For listeners or readers to grasp the meaning of statements

containing deictic expressions, they must understand the relevant context. Cruse (2006, p. 35) highlights that the context of an utterance is essential for its interpretation, especially in resolving ambiguities in verbal or written communication (Mey, 2001, p. 39).

Mey (2001, p. 41) notes that actions are also considered when determining context. The term "exophora" refers to when a text references actions as separate linguistic elements, demonstrating how a referent can consistently point to someone or something by considering factors like person, time, and place.

Cruse (2000, p. 35) identifies several key elements of context that influence interpretation: (1) the co-text, or the words that precede and follow an utterance; (2) the immediate physical situation; (3) the broader social context, including power dynamics and relationships; and (4) the shared knowledge assumed between the speaker and listener. When both parties possess similar background knowledge, it becomes easier to understand the meaning of utterances.

In conclusion, context—whether spoken or written—refers to any information necessary for comprehending an expression or sentence that refers to a person, place, or thing. Thus, context is vital for completing the meaning of an utterance or sentence.

## **2.5. Previous Related Studies**

Several studies explore deixis in song lyrics, providing a foundation for this research. The first study, conducted by Hasanah (2016), titled “A Pragmatic Study on Deixis in the Song Lyrics of Harris J’s ‘Salam’ Album,” aimed to identify the five types of deixis present in the lyrics, determine the dominant types, and interpret their meanings. Using a pragmatic approach and Cruse’s deixis theory, Hasanah employed a descriptive qualitative method, analyzing twelve songs from the album. The findings indicated that the lyrics contained person, spatial, temporal, social, and discourse deixis, with person, spatial, and temporal deixis being the most prevalent due to the thematic focus on moral principles and personal experiences.

The second study by Simbolon et al. (2020), titled “An Analysis of Deixis on the Song Lyrics of Ed Sheeran’s ‘Divide’ Album,” investigated the types of deixis in four songs from the album. Using content analysis and a qualitative design based on Bühler’s theory, the researchers found person, temporal, and spatial deixis. Person deixis emerged as the most frequently used type.

The third study, “An Analysis of Deixis in Raja Campursari of Didi Kempot’s Song,” by Arwy and Silitonga (2013), aimed to identify the deixis types and their frequency in ten song lyrics. Employing a descriptive qualitative method, the study concluded that all five types of deixis were present, with person deixis being the most common, reflecting the artist’s focus on personal experiences.

In summary, these studies share commonalities with this research, such as focusing on deixis, utilizing song lyrics as data, and employing a qualitative descriptive method. However, they differ in their specific focuses: Hasanah (2016) centered on Cruse’s theory and reference meanings; Simbolon et al. (2020) used Bühler’s theory to identify dominant types; and Arwy and Silitonga (2013) examined the reasons for the prevalence of certain deixis types. This study will similarly analyze the five types of deixis according to Cruse’s theory, with a specific focus on the *Midnights* album by Taylor Swift, aiming to uncover the types of deixis, identify the dominant type, and interpret their reference meanings.