

Deixis Analysis in First Chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students by Andrea Hirata

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**Deixis Analysis in First Chapter of *The Rainbow Troops*
Novel: *Ten New Students* by Andrea Hirata**

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Abstract

One of the language learning subjects that can help human in using it is pragmatics. Pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning. Therefore, there must be a relationship between language and the context. The most obvious way to reflect the relationship between language and context is through deixis. Deixis is derived from the Greek word means pointing. There is no a language event without deixis or without any deictic expressions. A language event without such terms could not serve the communicative needs of its users anything like as well as a real human language. In this mini research, I chose to analyze an Indonesian novel entitled "*Laskar Pelangi*" (The Rainbow Troops) written by Andrea Hirata which had been translated in English by Angie Kilbane because in a novel there must be a context that surrounds the language. Moreover, in the context and the language there must be deixis between them to make the novel cohesive, coherent and acceptable for the reader. Therefore, a novel is a good material to be analyzed in finding the deixis. Based on some elaborations above, I can conclude that the use of deixis in The Rainbow Troops novel written by Andrea Hirata in 2009 need to be analyzed in the term of what types of deixis used in the novel and what the dominant type of deixes used in the novel.

Keywords: pragmatics; deixis; Indonesian novel

1. Introduction

Language is a part of human's life because it functions as an instrument for communication with each other. Language is more than a symbol. By using language, people can communicate with each other for many purposes. The existence of language in a human community is a natural phenomenon. It can be used either written or spoken.

The most obvious way to reflect the relationship between the structure of languages and contexts is through deixis. Deixis cannot be fully understood without

1 **Culturalistics: Journal of Cultural, Literary, and Linguistic Studies, [v] (i), [Year], [articlepage]** **7**

the additional contextual information (Fillmore, 1997)^[1]. The term deixis refers to a class of linguistic expressions that are used to indicate elements of the situational context, including the speech participants, the time and location of the current speech event (Levinson, 2004)^[3].

2 According to Levinson (1983:68)^[4] there are five types of deixis namely person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, discourse deixis and social deixis. Person deixis refers to the encoding of the **10** participants' role in the speech event such as speaker, addressee, and others/hearer, in which **8** the utterance in question is delivered. Moreover, Levinson (1983: 73)^[4] stated that time deixis **13** deals with the encoding at temporal points of the spoken or written message while place deixis deals with the encoding of special locations relative to the interlocutors **12** speech event. Furthermore, Levinson (1983:85)^[4] explained that discourse deixis encodes reference to portions of the unfolding discourse in which the utterance is located. At last he defines that social deixis differs from the other 4 deixis. **8** does not refer to the time, place, or person, but it more refers to the social ranking between the speaker and the addressee in the society using language.

In this mini research, I would like to analyze a novel. I chose to analyze a novel because Mushin (2000)^[5] explored that in a novel there must be a context which surrounds the language. Moreover, in the context and the language there must be deixis between them to make the novel cohesive, coherent and acceptable for the reader. Therefore, a novel is a good material to be analyzed in finding the deixis.

There are many novels that are under my consideration. However, finally I decided to analyze an Indonesian novel entitled "*Laskar Pelangi*" (The Rainbow Troops) written by Andrea Hirata which had been translated in English by Angie Kilbane. My personal interest is also influenced my consideration in picking the novel as my object of research. The Rainbow Troops is a best seller novel which is sold more than 5 million copies. It also Indonesia's most powerful book which tell us a story that reflects an education discrimination in a rural area of Indonesia.

The Rainbow Troops novel, set on Belitung Island, Indonesia, tells the story of a tight-knit group of students and their teachers fighting for education and dignity, even as as they face continual hardship. Fabulously rich in natural resources, Belitung is also home to chronic poverty and educational discrimination. This amazing story tells of a persistent young teacher and her tireless efforts to fight for her ten students' right to an education. Together, they take the reader on a journey through the beauty of childhood friendship, the inspiration of love, and the power of education. The students' magnetic personalities and unflagging determination are sure to inspire.

There are 48 chapters in The Rainbow Troops novel. Therefore, I only choose one chapter to be analyzed in this mini research. I have several considerations in choosing the first chapter of this novel including it represents the setting of the story; it also describes clearly the background of the story and it explains the main characters in the story as well (Ilana, 2000)^[5]. Based on some elaborations above, I can conclude that the use of deixis in the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops **9** novel written by Andrea Hirata in 2009 need to be analyzed in the term of what types of deixis used in the novel and what the dominant type of deixes used in the novel.

2. Methods

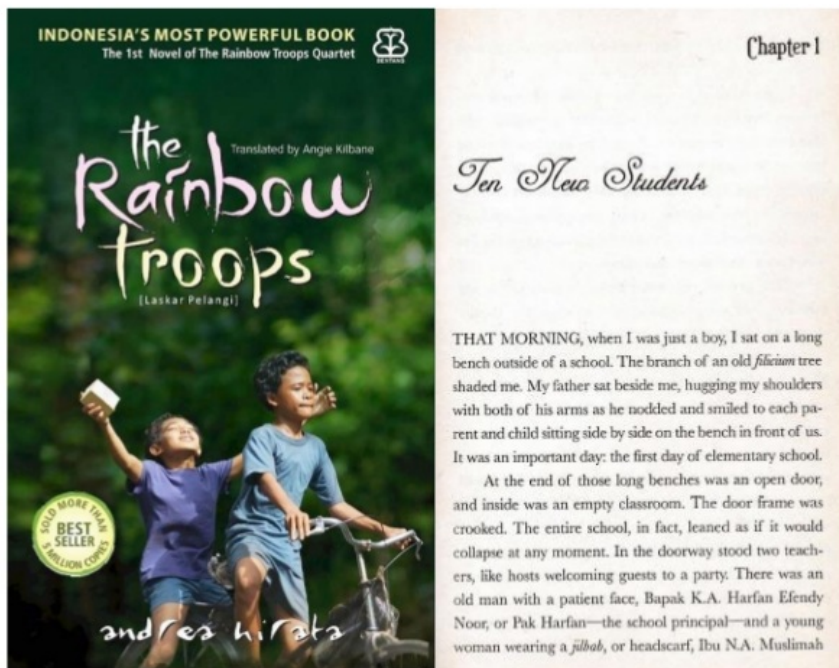


Figure 1. The first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students written by Andrea Hirata in 2009

The object of this research was the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students written by Andrea Hirata in 2009. That novel will be analyzed to find the deixis or deictic word used in the first chapter. Later on the deixis will be classified based on each category (person, time, place, discourse and social). After being classified, the deixis of each category will be calculated to find what type of deixis which is dominant used in the novel. Therefore, this analysis was considered as a descriptive work, using mixed methods of quantitative and qualitative approaches.

3. Results and Discussion

Table 1

Samples of person deixis used in the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students by Andrea Hirata ^[2]

No.	Realizations (clause/sentence/paragraph)	Deictic words	Referent
1.	THAT MORNING, when <u>I</u> was just a boy, <u>I</u> sat on a long bench outside of a school. The branch of an old filicium tree shaded <u>me</u> . <u>My</u> father sat beside <u>me</u> ,	I My Me	The writer

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	hugging my shoulders with both of his arms as he nodded and smiled to each parent and child sitting side by side of 5 he bench in front of us . It was an important day: the first day of elementary school .	His	The writer's father
		He	
		Us	The writer and his father
2.	There was an old man with a patient face, Bapak K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor, or Pak Harfan—the school principal—and a young woman wearing a <i>jilbab</i> , or headscarf, Ibu N.A. Muslimah Hafsari, or Bu Mus for short. Like my father, they also were smiling.	My	The writer's father
		They	Bapak K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor (Pak Harfan) and Ibu N.A. Muslimah Hafsari, (Bu Mus)
3.	Yet Bu Mus' smile was a forced smile: she was apprehensive. Her face was tense and twitching nervously. She kept counting the number of children sitting on the long benches, so worried that she didn't even care about the sweat pouring down onto her eyelids. The sweat beading around her nose smudged her powder makeup, streaking her face and making her look like the queen's servant in <i>Dul Muluk</i> , an ancient play in our village.	She	Bu Mus
		Her	
		Our	The writer and Bu Mus
4.	"Nine people, just nine people, <i>Pamanda</i> Guru, still short one," she said anxiously to the principal. Pak Harfan stared at her with an empty look in his eyes.	She	Bu Mus
		Her	
		His	Pak Harfan
5.	I too felt anxious. Anx 5 is because of the restless Bu Mus, and because of the sensation of my father's burden spreading over my entire body . Although he seemed friendly and at ease this morning, his rough arm hanging around my neck gave away his quick heartbeat. I knew he was nervous, and I was aware that it wasn't easy for a 47-year-old miner with a lot of children and a small salary to send his son to school. It would have been much easier to send me to work as a helper for a Chinese grocery stall owner at the morning market, or to the coast to work as a cox 5 to help ease the family's financial burdens. Sending a child to school meant tying oneself to years of costs, and that was no easy matter for our family .	I	The writer
		My	
		Me	
		He	The writer's father
		His	
		Our	The writer and his father

Table 2

Samples of time deixis used in the first chapter of *The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students* by Andrea Hirata^[2]

No.	Realizations (clause/sentence/paragraph)	Deictic words	Referent
1.	THAT MORNING, when I was just a boy, I sat on a	That	The morning when the

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	long bench outside of a school.		utterance used.
2.	Although he seemed friendly and at ease this morning, his rough arm hanging around my neck gave away his quick heartbeat.	This	The morning when the utterance used.
3.	This morning they were forced to be at this school, either to avoid reproach from government officials for not sending their children to school, or to submit to modern demands to free their children from illiteracy.	This	The morning when the utterance used.
4.	Last year Muhammadiyah Elementary School only had eleven students.	Last year	A year before the utterance used.
5.	Today was Bu Mus' first day as a teacher, a moment she had been dreaming of for a very long time. She had just graduated the week before from <i>Sekolah Kependidikan Putri</i> (Vocational Girls' School), a junior high school in the capital of the regency, Tanjung Pandan.	Today	The day when the utterance used.
		The week before	A week before the utterance used.

Table 3

Samples of place deixis used in the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students by Andrea Hirata^[2]

No.	Realizations (clause/sentence/paragraph)	Deictic words	Referent
1.	At the end of those long benches was an open door, and inside was an empty classroom.	Those	The long benches
2.	In the doorway stood two teachers, like hosts welcoming guests to a party. There was an old man with a patient face,	There	The doorway
3.	The face of each parent showed that they weren't really sitting on those long benches.	Those	The long benches
4.	This morning they were forced to be at this school, either to avoid reproach from government officials for not sending their children to school, or to submit to modern demands to free their children from illiteracy.	This	The school in the story (Muhammadiyah Elementary School)
5.	We were neighbors, and we were Belitong-Malays from the poorest community on the island. As for this school, Muhammadiyah Elementary School, it too was the poorest village school in Belitong. There were only three reasons why parents enrolled their children here .	This	The school in the story (Muhammadiyah Elementary School)
		Here	

Table 4

Samples of discourse deixis used in the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students by Andrea Hirata

No.	Realizations (clause/sentence/paragraph)	Deictic words	Referent
1.	It was an important day: the first day of elementary	It	an important day: the

	school.		first day of elementary school.
2.	The entire school, in fact, leaned as if it would collapse at any moment. In the doorway stood two teachers, like hosts welcoming guests to a party.	It	The entire school
3.	I knew he was nervous, and I was aware that it wasn't easy for a 47-year-old miner with a lot of children and a small salary to send his son to school.	It	The difficulties for a 47-year-old miner (the writer's father) with a lot of children and a small salary to send his son to school.
4.	It would have been much easier to send me to work as a helper for a Chinese grocery stall owner at the morning market, or to the coast to work as a coolie to help ease the family's financial burdens.	It	The easier way for the writer's father to send the writer work as a helper for a Chinese grocery stall owner at the morning market, or to the coast to work as a coolie to help ease the family's financial burdens.
5.	The fact that he only needed one more student would make this speech even more painful to give.	That	The fact about the school which only needed one more student

Table 5

Samples of social deixis used in the first chapter of *The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students* by Andrea Hirata^[2]

No.	Realizations (clause/sentence/paragraph)	Deictic words	Referent
1.	There was an old man with a patient face, Bapak K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor, or Pak Harfan —the school principal—and a young woman wearing a <i>jilbab</i> , or headscarf, Ibu N.A. Muslimah Hafsari, or Bu Mus for short.	Bapak K.A. Harfan Efendy Noor, or Pak Harfan	The school principal of Muhammadiyah Elementary School, the poorest village school in Belitong
		Ibu N.A. Muslimah Hafsari, or Bu Mus	The teacher of Muhammadiyah Elementary School, the poorest village school in Belitong
2.	Yet Bu Mus' smile was a forced smile: she was apprehensive.	Bu Mus'	The teacher of Muhammadiyah

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			Elementary School, the poorest village school in Belitong
3.	“Nine people, just nine people, <i>Pamanda Guru</i> , still short one,” she said anxiously to the principal.	<i>Pamanda Guru</i>	Pak Harfan
4.	Pak Harfan stared at her with an empty look in his eyes.	Pak Harfan	The school principal of Muhammadiyah Elementary School, the poorest village school in Belitong
5.	Anxious because 5 of the restless Bu Mus , and because of the sensation of my father’s burden spreading over my entire body.	Bu Mus	The teacher of Muhammadiyah Elementary School, the poorest village school in Belitong

Based on the analysis and the findings above, here are the summary of the deixis used in the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students by Andrea Hirata:

Table 6

Deixis used in the first chapter of The Rainbow Troops Novel: Ten New Students by Andrea Hirata

Types of Deixis	Number of Deictic Word	Percentage (%)
Person Deixis	159	75.0
16 he Deixis	6	2.8
Place Deixis	10	4.7
Discourse Deixis	9	4.3
Social Deixis	28	13.2
Total	212	100

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 Table 6 reveals that the total number of deixis found in the first chapter: Ten New Students of The Rainbow Troops novel written by Andrea Hirata is 212. The deixis that mostly used in this story is the person deixis with the frequency of 159 (75 %). The following deixis is social deixis that appears 28 times (13.2 %). The place deixis appears with the frequency of 10 (4.7 %) while the discourse deixis appears with the frequency of 9 (4.3%). The time deixis hardly used in this novel and it appears only 6 times (2.8 %).

5. Conclusions

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 Deixis reflects the relationship between the structure of language and the context. Therefore it helps users to understand the structure of the language and the context

¹ **Culturalistics: Journal of Cultural, Literary, and Linguistic Studies**, [v] (i),
⁶ [Year], [articlepage]

surrounds it. The term deixis refers to a class of linguistic expressions that are used to indicate elements of the situational context, including the speech participants, the time and location of the current speech event.

Based on the data analysis, the writer found five types of deixis in the first chapter: Ten New Students of The Rainbow Troops novel written by Andrea Hirata. The total number of deixis in this story is 212. The deixis that mostly used by the writer is the person deixis with the frequency of 159 (75 %). The following deixis is social deixis that appears 28 times (13.2 %). The place deixis appears with the frequency of 10 (4.7 %) while the discourse deixis appears with the frequency of 9 (4.3%). The time deixis hardly used in this novel and it appears only 6 times (2.8 %).

Through the findings of deixis above, it can be concluded that deixis reflects the relationship between the structure of language and the context which cannot be separated and it must be communicated contextually and pragmatically.

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