

A Pragmatic Analysis of Deixis and Reference on Billie Eilish Songs: Bad Guy & When the Party's Over

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Abstract: This pragmatic study aims to examine the different types of deixis from Cruse theory and references using pragmatic analysis in When The Party's over and Bad Guy songs under descriptive qualitative. The result found from the analysis is that both songs use all five types of deixis. The personal deictic words occur, the first person that mainly refers to the singer or the songwriter. The second person refers to the addressee that remarked by "you and your" and the last is the third person "it or she" refers to something or someone that becomes the main thing or character in songs. Furthermore, the use of spatial deixis is less for both songs. Only one projected term is included in both songs. Next, the temporal deixis that appeared in both songs is different. Temporal deixis has two types of deixis, but in "Bad Guy," only one type of temporal deixis, which is verb tense, while in "When the party's over" the pure deictic, and verb tense occurred. The last, the social and discourse deixis with different deictic words also occurred in both songs. Hopefully, the result could be the reference for students in the Linguistic Field in analyzing the written discourse with a Pragmatic Approach.

Keywords: *deixis, pragmatic, reference, song*

INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, listening to music is not only a hobby. It can be a tool to boost the mood of someone when listening to the music or appreciating the lyrics. Thus, people will achieve pleasure and experience mood change by listening to music (Piragasam et al., 2013). Many kinds of music, such as rock, jazz, pop, R&B, and rap, have spread everywhere. One of the genres which pop Elektro, is one of the popular genres right now. Therefore, musicians in this genre are famous. One of them is Billie Eilish, a popular teen musician at the top of billboard charts. She is a young singer from California-bred singer/songwriter who creates genre-blurring outcast anthems that bridge the gap between ethereal indie electronic and dark alternative pop. She endeared herself to a devoted audience during her breakthrough years in the late 2010s, when she was still a teenager, with angst and introspective lyrics that refused to shy away from mental health issues. Following a sold-out headlining tour, she has released her chart-topping, Grammy-winning debut album, *When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?* in 2019.

Besides, the writers see her songs mostly contain illustrations because her lyrics are not easy to interpret. Nevertheless, if we want to interpret it, it can be interpreted to anything. Crowther (1995) defines a *song* as "a typical short piece of music words that are song lyrics." It is another way to convey people's feelings and emotions to someone else through lyrics. The lyrics attempt to take the audience to a world created by his/her imagination, then causing them to think and react (Raj & Muniapan, 2012). People listen to a song and try to comprehend the lyrics or the meaning of it. In other words, the listener is trying to find out what the songwriter means. The study of what the speaker means is called pragmatics. In addition, According to Saeed (2003: 182), pragmatics is the study of how we apply linguistic knowledge in context. Thus, the writer tries to analyze using a pragmatic approach to know what the songwriter means in their lyrics in this article.

In this study, Deixis and Reference will be the point to be analyzed as part of the pragmatic study based on Cruse theory. Because every utterance is associated with pointing to someone, something, a place, or a time, deixis analyzes a conversation, utterance, or sentence. The meaning will be apparent if the listener or reader knows who, where, and when the utterance is said. Many previous researchers have conducted similar studies. For example, Rahmi's (2018) research titled "A pragmatic study on deixis in the song lyric of Deen Squad Album." The researcher analyzed ten religious songs classified into types of deixis based on their criteria. Next, the study was from Amaliah (2017) that analyzed the three types of deixis using George Yule's (1996) theory and interprets the reference meaning of deixis found in Harris J's Salam Album religious song lyrics. In addition to the same songs, Hasanah (2016) conducted a study to identify five types of deixis, interpret the reference meaning of deixis and find out the most dominant type of deixis found in the song lyrics. The lyrics were analyzed using a pragmatic approach by using the theory of Alan Cruse about deixis. Islamic song in British pop genre.

However, the writers chose two songs by Billie Eilish, *Bad Guy* and *When the Party's over* because these songs have the same theme about toxic relationships. The song is a different genre from previous studies, which is pop Elektro. Moreover, the writer used Cruse's theory to be analyzed. Thus, three aspects will be analyzed: 1) What types of deixis are contained in songs? 2.) What is the reference meaning in songs? And 3.) What is the dominant type of deixis in songs?

METHOD

This study used descriptive qualitative. According to Nassaji (2015), descriptive research aims to draw and classify the phenomenon. Therefore, this study applied qualitative design because it described the song lyrics and its characteristics by using Allan Cruse's theory to find out the deixis and its reference from the lyrics.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Pragmatic

The pragmatic research studies meaning as communicated by the speaker/writer and interpreted by the listener/reader (Yule, 1996). Therefore, it is about recognizing what the writer means by their writings, the researcher as the analyst has to interpret the meaning from the written text; in this case, they were lyrics. There are some scopes in pragmatic, according to Amaliyah (2017), as follows:

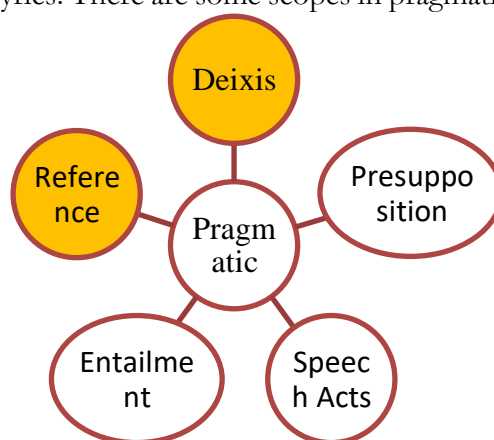


Figure 1 Scope of Pragmatic. (Amaliyah, 2017)

Definition of Deixis

Deixis (deictic) is a term used in linguistic theory to refer to those aspects of language that refer directly to the personal temporal or locational characteristics of the situation in which an utterance occurs and whose meaning is this concerning that situation. (Crystal,1998). The deixis analyzes the conversation, utterance, or sentence because every sentence points out people, things, places, or times. The meaning will be apparent if the listener or reader knows who, where, and when the utterance is made.

Types of Deixis

Allan Cruse (2000) postulate that there are five varieties of deixis: The Person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis.

- Person Deixis

The speaker, sometimes known as the first person, is the subject of person deixis. The speaker, also known as the first person, the addressee, also known as the second person, and those who are neither speaker nor hearer, are referred to as the third person in a speech situation. All of these can be found in both singular and plural versions, and a few of them are case-sensitive.

Yule claims that (1996:5). The speaker and the addressee are involved in person deixis, which is divided into three parts:

1. First-person (I). The First-person deixis is a reference that refers to the speaker or both the speaker and the referent grouped with the speaker and expressed in singular pronouns (I, me, myself, mine) and plural pronouns (I, me, myself, mine) (we, us, ourself, our, ours).
2. Second person (you). The second person deixis is a deictic reference to a person or persons identified as addressee, such as(you, yourself, yourselves, your, yours).
3. The third person (he, she, it). The third Person Deixis is a deictic reference to a referent(s) who are not identified as the speaker or addressee and usually imply the gender the utterance refers to, such as he, she, and they, him, himself, her, herself.

- Spatial Deixis

It is a type of deixis that indicates a spatial location. Deictic devices in a language obligate a speaker to create a frame of reference for herself or himself. This and that are examples of spatial deixis, as are locative adverbs like here and there and demonstratives/determiners like this and that (Cruse, 2000).

For Example:

It is too cold **here** under the snow drop. Can we go **there**, into the house?

- Temporal Deixis

Temporal deixis is a type of deixis in which a time or times are involved, and it uses the moment of utterance as a reference point to find points or intervals on the time axis (Cruse, 2000). Temporal deictics are used to find points or intervals on the time axis, using the moment of speech as the ultimate reference point. The time axis is thus divided into three broad divisions: before the moment of utterance, at the moment of utterance, and after the moment of utterance.

For Example: We will have dinner **tomorrow (Friday)** night! Friday is tomorrow.

Now (at 09;00 pm), Jonas wants to eat breakfast. Now refers to 09.00 pm

- Discourse Deixis

According to Cruse (2004), Conversation deixis refers to expressions that refer to a specific area of the discourse. Many words and phrases in English, such as: but, therefore, inclusion, to the contrary, however, besides, after all, and so on, are used in discourse deixis to express the relationship between utterance and past discourse.

- Social Deixis

The use of forms that represented the speaker's social standing in connection to the addressee or someone else, such as familiar form, polite form, or honorific, is referred to as social deixis—the demonstration of social deixis, for example, in French. In English, *Vous* and *Tu* mean “You.” *Vous* refers to a person older than the speaker or with whom the speaker is meeting for the first time. Moreover, *Tu* describes the speaker as being the same age or younger and familiar with the speaker.

Definition of Reference

Cruse (2006: 3) defines reference as the general term for identifying things in the world and deixis as the mechanism for achieving the reference. Furthermore, Yule (1993: 17) asserted that reference denotes the speaker's or writer's ability to help the listener or reader identify something. Furthermore, According to Levinson (1983), deixis is 'pointing or indicating.' Indicating means interpretations of utterances depends on the analysis of the context of utterance. In addition, according to Grundy (2002)., deixis is the reference to the point of origin of the utterance.

Every language has deictic words that 'point' to 'things' in the physical-social context of the speaker and addressee, and referents can only be determined by knowing the context in which they are used. As a result, the reference of each expression can be identified, with the assumption that the listener already knows the information of the referring expression. Finally, the writers concluded that there is a link between deixis and reference in determining the origin of an utterance.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Types of deixis in Billie Eilish Songs

The writer have analyzed the deixis in both songs, which is five kinds of deixis, there are person deixis, spatial/location deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis, and the result found as discussed below::

1. Person Deixis

Person deixis designates the basic roles in a speech event, the speaker, addressee, and the person or persons who are neither speaker nor addressee (Cruse, 2000)

NO	SONG	PERSONAL DEICTIC WORDS		
		First Person	Second person	Third Person
1	Bad Guy	I, My, Me	You, Your	It, She
2	When the party's over	I, My, Me, We, Our	You	It

Table 1. Personal Deixis

Based on the table above, it is seen that from two songs of Billie Eilish, three types of personal deixis occur. From the first song, Bad Guy the personal deixis is complete and followed by three types of person deixis. The writer found seven deictic words “I, My, Me, You, Your, It, and She.” There are three deictic words in the first person: “I, My, and Me”; two words as the second person, which is “You” and “Your”, and two words as the third person, which is represented by “It” and “She”.

2. Spatial Deixis or Place Deixis

The spatial deictic word indicates the location in space relative to the speaker (Cruse, 2000). From two songs of Billie, the writer classified the songs to show the spatial deictic words that used in both songs

NO	SONG	SPATIAL DEICTIC WORDS		
		Distal Term	Proximal Term	Projected term and Specific Location
1	Bad Guy	-	-	My knee
2	When the party's over	-	-	Home

Table 2 Spatial Deixis

It can be seen from the table above that the use of spatial deictic words is less for both songs. From different types of spatial deictic, this is a distal term, proximal term, and projected term only projected term that occurs in both songs. The first song is "Bad Guy" which only one deictic word shows the projected term: "my knee." The writer also found one spatial deictic word specifically projected term in "when the party's over the song" which is "home."

3. Temporal Deixis

The temporal deictic word indicates the timing of an event relative to the time of speaking (Cruse, 2006). The writer classified two of the songs into temporal deictic words that divided into two types of time deictic words that can be seen as follows:

NO	SONG	Temporal or Time Deictic Words	
		Pure deictic word and Specific Time	Verb Tense
1	Bad Guy	-	Will, wanting to, take control, get mad,
2	When the Party's Over	Sometimes, goodbyes	Will, Comin home, the party's over

Table 3 Temporal Deixis

From the table above, the writer classified time deictic words into pure deictic words and verb tenses. Then, it can be seen that for the first song, "Bad Guy" there is no pure deictic word. However, five deictic words represented verb tense: "will, wanting to, take control and get mad." Then, the second song contains two types of deictic words. Pure deictic words indicated by "sometimes" and "goodbyes." While verb tense indicated by "will, comin home, the party's over."

4. Social Deixis

Social deixis indicates the position of the referent on the scales of social status and intimacy relative to the speaker (Cruse, 2006). Social deictic words occur in both songs of Billie as follows:

NO	SONG	SOCIAL DEICTIC WORD
1	Bad Guy	You, no one, mama, girlfriend, dad, my mommy
2	When the party's over	You

Table 4. Social Deixis

The table shows that the social deictic word used in the first song, "Bad Guy" is more than in "when the party's over." The writer found six words indicate social deictic words. Those words are "you, no one, mama, girlfriend, dad, my mommy". Furthermore, the song "When the party's over" only has one deictic word: "you."

5. Discourse Deixis

Discourse deixis word is also called text deixis. Discourse deixis refers to such matters as using some term pointing to discourse elements (Cruse, 2002). The use of discourse deixis usually refers to specific text containing the utterance as a signal and its relation to the surrounding text.

NO	SONG	DISCOURSE DEICTIC WORDS
1	Bad Guy	That bad type
2	When the Party's over	That

Table 5. Discourse Deixis

It can be seen from the table above that both songs do not use many discourse deictic words. There is one deictic word for each song. From the first song, "Bad Guy," the word "that bad type" represented discourse deixis. Moreover, the "that" in the "When the party's over" song indicated the discourse deixis.

Reference Meaning of Billie Eilish Song

The use of deictic words that refer to a person, spatial, temporal, social, and discourse has been explained previously. However, those words do not refer to anything. According to (Cruse, 2006) reference is the general term for identifying the things in the world, and deixis is the mechanism to achieve the reference. Yule (1993) stated that reference indicates the ability of the speaker or writer to enable the listener or reader to identify something. Here are two songs by Billie that the writer analyzed the reference meaning of those deictic words:

Reference Meaning of Song "Bad Guy"

The existing personal deixis in the "Bad Guy" song are:

NO	SONG	PERSONAL DEICTIC WORDS		
		First Person	Second person	Third Person
1	Bad Guy	I, My, Me	You, Your	It, She

Table 6. Personal Deictic Words in Bad Guy Song

Starting from the first person, the deictic word "I" can be interpreted as the songwriter, singer, or perhaps the listener who listens to the music. The listener can place themselves as the subject "I" when listening to the music. Furthermore, the other first-person deixis is "My" that is categorized as

the possessive pronoun for a singular person. The deictic word "My" appeared four times in lyric. It is interpreted as belonging to the singer or songwriter. The meaning can see as the following

NO	Phrase/ Word	Meaning
1	My bloody nose	The singer/songwriter's nose that bleeding
2	My knees	The songwriter's knees
3	My soul	The songwriter/singer's soul
4	My mommy	The songwriter/singer's mom

Table.7 First Person Deixis "My" Interpretation

The lyrics are shown below:

- (1) White shirt now red, my bloody nose
- (5) Bruises on both my knees for you
- (8) My soul? So cynical
- (23) My mommy likes to sing along with me

The next is the first person deixis "Me". It is categorized as the objective case for the first singular person, especially for the songwriter or singer. The objective is usually placed after a verb or preposition.

The example lyrics are below:

- (21) Own **me**, I'll let you play the role
- (23) My mommy likes to sing along with **me**

NO	Phrase/ Word	Meaning
1	Own me	Can have the chance to have the singer/songwriter
2	Sing along with me	Mom likes to sing with singer (Billie)

Table 8. First Person deixis Me interpretation

Moving to the second deixis person, the deictic words that appear are "you and your". There are many lyrics that appear for both of them, some sample as following:

Bad Guy Lyrics with you and your:

- (2) Sleepin', you're on your tippy toes
- (9) So you're a tough guy
- (14) Make your mama sad type
- (15) Make your girlfriend mad tight
- (16) Might seduce your dad type
- (19) I like it when you take control
- (20) Even if you know that you don't

(42) But maybe it's 'cause I'm wearing your cologne

NO	Phrase/ Word (You)	Meaning	Phrase/ Word (Your)	Meaning
1	Stanza 2	The singer's ex-boyfriend	Stanza 13	Ex-boyfriend's mom
2	Stanza 9		Stanza 15	Ex- boyfriend's new girlfriend
3	Stanza 19		Stanza 16	Ex-boyfriend's dad
4	Stanza 20		Stanza 42	Ex-boyfriend's cologne means the singer smells like him

Table 9. Second Person Deixis Meaning

In the lyrics, the second person deictic words “you” and “your” interpreted that the singer had a boyfriend; however, that person is bad. Thus, the singer wants to say through the lyrics that she can be a bad person to disturb the people surrounding her ex-boyfriend after breaking up

The third person deictic words are:

(9) So you're a tough guy

(10) Like **it** really rough guy

(19) I like **it** when you take control

The use of "it" as the third person in stanza (10) refers to the character of the singer's ex-boyfriend. Moreover, the use of "it" in stanza (19) refers to the condition where her ex-boyfriend takes control of the situation between them. The second deictic word as third-person deixis is "she." The deictic word "she" can be seen as below:

(23) My mommy likes to sing along with me

(24) But **she** won't sing this song

(25) If **she** reads all the lyrics

(26) **She**'ll pity the men I know

The deictic word "she" in stanza (24), (25), and (26) refer to the singer's mom. From the lyrics, it can be seen that the singer and her mom are close, and they usually sing together. However, the singer stated that if her mom reads the lyrics and sings this song, her mom will pity her ex-boyfriend because the lyrics contain many rude words that attack her ex-boyfriend.

The next type of deixis in this song is spatial or location deixis. The use of spatial is less in this song. There is only one spatial deictic word for the specific location. The word is "my knee." It can be seen in the lyric (5) Bruises on both my knees for you. The location of my knee here means that there are bruises that are located in the singer's knee because of the deed of her ex-boyfriend.

Move to the following type of deixis, which is temporal deixis. There are some temporal deixis in Bad Guy, such as Will, wanting to take control, and get mad. The temporal of deixis that the writer mentioned here is indicated by the word when. The interpretation can be seen on the table:

NO	Temporal Deixis	Interpretation
1	Will	It happens in the future

2	Wanting to (stanza 7)	The time that the singer's want to do something that she want
3	Take control (stanza 19)	The situation or time when ex-boyfriend has control to do anything to the singer
4	Get mad (stanza 38)	The time when ex-boyfriend mad because of the singer

Table 10. Temporal Deixis Interpretation

The next type of deixis is social deixis. There are some social deictic words in Bad Guy such as you, no one, mama, girlfriend, dad, and mommy. The reference is presented in the table.

NO	Social Deixis	Referring
1	You	Ex-boyfriend
2	No one	Nobody
3	Mama	Ex-boyfriend's mom
4	Girlfriend	Ex-boyfriend's girlfriend
5	Dad	Ex-boyfriend's dad
6	My mommy	Singer's mom

Table 11. Social Deixis Reference

The last type of deixis is discourse deixis. Only one word for discourse appears in this song. The word in stanza (13) "that bad type" is the discourse deictic word. The word is referring to the singer's bad attitude that she can do like the rest of stanza of lyrics (14), (15), and (16) that are presented below:

Discourse deictic word in the lyric:

(13) I'm **that bad type**

(14) Make your mama sad type

(15) Make your girlfriend mad tight

(16) Might seduce your dad type

Reference Meaning of Song "When The Party's Over"

The personal deixis that exists in this song are :

NO	SONG	PERSONAL DEICTIC WORDS		
		First Person	Second person	Third Person
1	When the party's over	I, My, Me, We, Our	You	It

Table 12. Personal Deictic Words in When the Party's Over Song

Begin with the first person deixis that occurs "I, My, Me, We, Our". The deictic word "I, My and Me" refers to the singer or songwriter as usual. The subject "I" here is like telling the story about themselves. Also, the word "My" belongs to the singer/ songwriter's object. Then "Me" refers to the singer as the object. The next first-person deictic word is "We" which refers to the singer and her couple. Then "our" refers to the relationship. It can be seen in the lyric (16) Once we've both said our goodbyes. The singer and her lover want to end their relationship. Next is the second person deixis, which is the word "you" that refers to the singer's ex-boyfriends. Then the last is the third

person deixis "it." It means that the singer pretends to like the situation when her boyfriend leaves her. The next type of deixis is spatial deixis. The deictic word "home" in stanza (12) means that the singer's home is where she feels comfortable alone.

Next is the temporal deixis in this song: "Sometimes and Goodbyes" for pure deictic words and verb tenses such as "Will, Comin home, the party's over." Those are the words I stated as temporal deixis because indicated by the word 'when' The interpretation of these temporal deictic words is as follows:

NO	Temporal Deictic Words (Pure Deictic Words)	Interpretation
1	Sometimes (stanza 15)	Uncertain time
2	Goodbyes (stanza 16)	Separation time
NO	Temporal Deictic Words (Verb Tense)	Interpretation
1	Will	It happens in the future
2	Comin home (stanza 12)	The time when arrived at home. In the future happen
3	The party's over (stanza 11)	When the party has finished or after party. Later on happen

Table 13. Temporal Deictic Words Interpretation

The next type of deixis is social deixis. In this song, the deictic social word is only "you," which refers to the singer's ex-boyfriends. The last type of deixis is discourse deixis. In this song, only one word is discourse deixis which is "that." (6) *I could lie, say I like it like that, like it, like that.* It can be seen in this stanza, the word "that" refers to personal deixis "it" that has meant the condition or situation that her boyfriend leaves her. She likes to pretend that she is okay with that thing. As usual, she will feel heartbreak and leave her boyfriend.

Dominant type Of Deixis in Song Lyric of Billie Eilish

After analyzing the type of deixis for Bad Guy and When the party's over also make the reference of them. The findings of frequency of each deixis that used in both songs are presented as follow:

NO	Types of Deixis	Frequency
1	Person Deixis	14
2	Spatial Deixis	2
3	Temporal Deixis	9
4	Social Deixis	7
5	Discourse Deixis	2

Table 14. Frequency of Five types Deixis in Both Songs

From the table, it can be seen that both songs of Billie occur 5 types of deixis in each song, as the result, there are 14 times person deixis occur for both of songs of Billie "Bad Guy" and "When The Party's over". And then from the findings, in personal deixis, the most dominant personal deixis that used is the first person that appeared 5 first person such as use first person I, Me, My, We, and Our in both songs

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

From the previous discussion, the writers finally conclude that both songs have the same theme and use the deixis to make it easy to describe the function of personal, pronoun, time, location, and lexical feature. Also, it is helpful to catch the reference meaning that includes who, where, and when the lyric tells about. The analysis found that both songs use all five types of deixis: personal deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social deixis, and discourse. The personal deictic words occur, the first person that mainly refers to the singer or the songwriter. The second person refers to the addressee that is remarked by "you and your" and the last is the third person. "It or she" refers to something or someone that becomes the main thing or character in songs.

Furthermore, the use of spatial deixis is less for both songs. From three types of spatial deixis, the distal term, proximal term, and projected term, the only projected term is included in both songs. Also, the projected term that occurred in the song is only one for each song. The next is temporal deixis. The temporal deixis that appeared in both songs is different. Temporal deixis has two types of deixis, but in Bad Guy, only one type of temporal deixis is verb tense, while in the Party's Over, the pure deictic and verb tense occur. In addition, the social and discourse deixis with different deictic words also occurred in both songs.

As a recommendation, future researchers can look into the use of deixis in two or more different songs by two or more different artists to know the meaning of lyrics that are difficult to interpret. Besides the song, the advertisement, announcement, or poem could be a written discourse to be analyzed with the deixis and reference to know the meaning of the difficult words to interpret. Furthermore, the future researcher can analyze with another aspect under pragmatic study such as presupposition, speech act, and entailment for written discourse. In addition, this article could be the reference for students in the Linguistic Field in analyzing the written discourse with a Pragmatic Approach.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The writers declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship and or publication of this article

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