CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the general framework of the study. These consist of background, questions, objectives, significance of the study, and clarifications of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Retno Marsudi served as Indonesia's Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2014 to 2024, frequently representing the country in global forums. Prior to this role, she held various diplomatic positions, including ambassadorial posts in Australia, the Netherlands, Norway, and Iceland, and director-level roles within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Her extensive experience in international diplomacy led President Joko Widodo to appoint her as Foreign Minister (Saraswaty, 2021).

As part of Indonesia's presidential system, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs plays a crucial role in managing foreign relations and representing national interests abroad. According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2021), the foreign minister acts as the government's official representative on the global stage, promoting Indonesia's position and influence. Retno's appointment reflected her expertise and alignment with these responsibilities.

Retno Marsudi frequently represented Indonesia in international forums during her tenure as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Under her leadership, Indonesia served as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council (2019–2022) and actively addressed global issues such as climate change, peace, and international security. Through speeches at platforms like the UN General Assembly and ASEAN, she consistently emphasized multilateral cooperation, reflecting Indonesia's commitment to global problem-solving and international diplomacy (Marsudi, 2020).

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) serves as a key platform where member states address global issues (United Nations, 2025). In her 2024 UNGA speech, Retno Marsudi underscored the humanitarian crisis in Palestine,

advocating for the protection of marginalized communities and promoting peace through inclusive, non-oppressive approaches (Marsudi, 2024).

In the same year, Retno represented Indonesia at the International Court of Justice (ICJ) Public Hearing in The Hague to defend Palestinian rights. According to the ICJ, public hearings allow parties to present their legal arguments before the court. During this session, Indonesia urged the ICJ to take action against Israeli aggression. Retno's participation reaffirmed Indonesia's stance on global justice and its support for oppressed populations (Ulya, 2024).

Retno Marsudi's speeches as Indonesia's Minister of Foreign Affairs have a significant influence on Indonesia's international relations. Through speeches, foreign ministers can convey foreign policy messages, promote national interests, and build diplomatic relations. For instance, speeches in international forums often emphasise Indonesia's commitment to global issues such as climate change, maritime security, and economic cooperation.

The effectiveness of messages delivered in speeches is closely related to the ability to engage the audience. In the realm of political communication, the context not only facilitates clarity but also enables politicians to forge stronger connections with their constituents. This phenomenon is particularly prominent in international political contexts and is linked to deixis within the field of linguistics.

Deixis is a basic concept in linguistics that deals with words or phrases whose meaning depends on the contextual situation. In further understanding of deixis, it can be seen from the opinions of experts. According to Levinson (1983), the phenomenon of deixis is the relationship between language and context reflected clearly in the structure of language. The method used by the language to encode or formalise the context elements around an utterance or speech event. As a result, deixis also addresses how an examination of that background affects how the utterance is interpreted.

Through the definitions, it can be stated that deixis is a linguistic science that focuses on the phenomenon of contextual meaning acquisition by considering the information and grammar used by speakers. In another interpretation, deixis is

like a 'pointer' in a sentence that tells who, where, or when something is being talked about, but it depends on the situation hence the meaning of each utterance can be different according to the context at the time of communication.

According to Levinson (1983, p. 62) deixis has five types namely person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. These categories highlight how deixis is integral to understanding meaning in context. Moreover, from a semantic perspective, Palmer (1981, p. 102) stated that there are three types of deixis: person deixis, place deixis, and time deixis. Through these three types, Palmer highlights the importance of meaning in speech. Both perspectives on deixis types are different. Palmer (1981) focuses on the importance of meaning in the utterance, and Levinson highlights the integral part of understanding meaning in context through his types.

This study takes discourse deixis as the topic of this study. The selection of discourse deixis as a research topic is because discourse deixis reveals how language users organise and structure discourse in real terms, making communication coherent and meaningful. Through discourse deixis, researchers can gain a better understanding of how speakers and writers organise coherence, guide listeners' attention, and ensure that their messages are clear and logically connected (Keenan & Faltz, 1985, p. 115).

Discourse deixis is one of the deixis that focuses on expressions used to denote a particular part of a discourse, where it often relates to a segment of conversation or text. These expressions help place the utterance within an ongoing dialogue or narrative. According to Levinson (1983, p. 85) discourse deixis is the modeled use of phrases to refer to a particular part of a discourse that contains an utterance and its context. The deixis aspect of discourse deixis can be incorporated into the discourse in various ways, which shows how the discourse relates to the surrounding context.

This study focuses on Discourse Deixis found in Retno Marsudi's speeches at UNGA and ICJ's Public Hearing in 2024. The author chooses this topic of discussion because Retno Marsudi as the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia 2014-2024 period often uses deixis elements in her speeches. Therefore, analysing

the use of discourse deixis in Retno Marsudi's speech is relevant to examine how language is used in addressing political and social issues.

Numerous other studies related to deixis studies have been conducted with various topics and fields. Generally, research on deixis focuses on the topic of social deixis and discourse deixis. One of the studies was conducted by Reziana (2023) who examined the types and functions of deixis in speeches delivered by Korean idol public figures at international conferences. This study identified 38 utterances containing discourse deixis types, whose functions are divided into two, namely anaphoric and cataphoric functions.

The other study with a similar topic, namely discourse deixis, was conducted by Rahmaddiah (2024). This study focused on da'wah speeches delivered by the preacher Mufti Menk on his YouTube channel. As a result, 85 utterances containing discourse deixis types were found, along with their anaphoric and cataphoric functions.

In addition, research related to social deixis was conducted by Azzahra (2024), who examined the speech of a political figure, namely the President of the United States Joe Biden. Based on the classification of deixis types and functions, this qualitative research found 74 data containing social deixis expressions. The function of social identity is the most dominant because Biden often refers to various segments of American society to highlight diversity and inclusiveness. The function of social identity is the most dominant because Biden often refers to various segments of American society to highlight diversity and inclusiveness.

The last research was conducted by Lusiana (2024), who discussed discourse deixis and social deixis with the object of news coverage related to the death of Queen Elizabeth II. This study also classifies the types and functions of deixis on each topic. For social deixis, the type identified is absolute social deixis with the function of social identity. Meanwhile, for discourse deixis, the most common type and function is anaphoric.

All of the above studies have one similarity to this study, in particular, that these four studies use the same focus of study, namely deixis. The above studies

also discuss what types and functions are contained in the object. However, the current research compiles the four previous studies as reference materials. Some previous studies raised the topic of deixis with various objects such as news media, video scripts, and speeches.

The current research chooses deixis discourse as the topic and speech as the object of analysis. Speech is chosen as the object of research because speech according to Lanham (1993, p. 55) is a form of planned communication to convey ideas and discourse to the audience. Speech as a form of communication to deliver discourse to the audience requires the existence of linguistic structures and styles used to make the delivery of messages meaningful and relevant to the audience. In addition, the other significant reason for the current research is to develop concepts in analysing the use of deixis in communication, especially international political communication.

Based on the explanation above, this study aims to analyse the use of discourse deixis in speeches delivered by Retno Marsudi at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing 2024 to discuss global issues. This study meticulously examines the problem and understands the types of discourse deixis following those in the speech by linking it with several relevant theories. This study has been entitled 'Discourse Deixis of Retno Marsudi's Speech at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing 2024'.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the previous statement of the problems, the research questions are formulated as follows:

a. What are the types of discourse deixis of Retno Marsudi's Speeches at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing (2024)?

b. What are the functions of discourse deixis of Retno Marsudi's Speeches at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing (2024)?

c. How did the discourse deixis build the power of Retno Marsudi's Speeches at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing (2024)?

1.3 Research Objectives

Following the above research questions, this study aims to find answers to these questions with a purpose:

a. To identify the types of discourse deixis of Retno Marsudi's Speeches at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing (2024).

b. To investigate the functions of discourse deixis of Retno Marsudi's Speeches at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing (2024).

c. To investigate how the discourse deixis builds the power of Retno Marsudi's Speeches at UNGA and ICJ Public Hearing (2024).

1.4 Research Significance

This study has two research significance, namely that the results of This study can be useful and provide various lessons to readers both theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretical Significance

This study uses a pragmatic approach to examine the speeches delivered by Retno Marsudi. In the pragmatic approach, this study pointed out the phenomenon of structure and language style of discourse deixis by Retno Marsudi as the speaker. According to the theory of discourse deixis, this study used the related theory of Levinson (1983) to provide a theoretical basis for their analysis. This study presents the context through Retno Marsudi's speeches at events held by the UN in 2024. Therefore, this study conducted based on Levinson's (1983) and Van Dijk's (2008 & 2009) theory, can contribute to illustrating the understanding of the phenomenon of discourse deixis, especially the use of discourse deixis in international social and political conferences.

2. Practical Significance

This study aims to indicate how to use discourse deixis in political conferences, especially in discussing global issues, and provide concrete observations for some other people and researchers in the future to improve significant communication through social interaction. The phenomenon of discourse deixis users especially in the social and political realms can be

comprehensively reviewed through This study, to enhance the understanding of readers and other researchers in the future.

1.5 Clarifications of Key Terms

Definitions of certain key terminology are provided below to prevent misunderstandings regarding some of the concepts that are commonly utilized in this study:

- **Pragmatics** refers to the study of how aspects of language use that are dependent on context contribute meaningfully to the interpretation and structure of grammatical expressions (Levinson, 1983).
- **Deixis** refers to how language encodes the language features of the context of an utterance or speech event, and thus also concerns how the interpretation of an utterance depends on the analysis of the context of the utterance (Levinson, 1983).
- **Discourse Deixis** refers to the use of a linguistic expression that refers to a particular part of the discourse or text, either one that has been mentioned before or one that will be discussed later. In this case, the meaning of a discourse is closely related to its discourse structure (Levinson, 1983).
- **The UNGA** refers to the main deliberative body in the UN, where all member states have equal rights in decision-making. The UNGA is tasked with discussing and passing resolutions on peace, security, development, human rights, and international law issues.
- **ICJ Public Hearing** refers to an open hearing process held by the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The hearing aims to hear legal arguments from the parties involved in a case, both plaintiff and defendant countries. The process is transparent and accessible to the public, including the media and international organizations.