

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter presents six parts of the introduction. They are research background, statements of the problem, research objective, research significance, conceptual framework, and previous study.

#### **1.1. Research Background**

These days, the whole world is being hit by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Domestic and international access is limited. Every foreign traveler who wants to enter a country must undergo a quarantine period. In Indonesia, the quarantine period for foreign travelers that must be carried out is 5x24 hours based on Circular No. 17 of 2022 concerning International Travel Health Protocols during the COVID-19 Pandemic. In addition, everyone must comply with the health protocols implemented in all countries, such as washing hands after activities, wearing a mask, and keeping a distance.

One of the variants of the COVID-19 virus is Omicron. The omicron virus has almost the same symptoms as the common cold. When there was a spike in cases of the omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus, many people were in denial, saying that they only had a common cold due to drastic climate change. So, they undergo self-quarantine until the symptoms disappear. What is meant by extreme climate change is when scorching weather turns into heavy rain suddenly. This happens almost every day, so it is somewhat disturbing activities outside the home.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has claimed many lives. There are various victims of COVID-19, such as people without symptoms, people with mild symptoms, and people with severe symptoms causing death. COVID-19 has spread viciously to many elements of society, such as health workers, police officers, teachers, students, office workers, and the elderly, who rarely even go out of their homes.

The outbreak of the COVID-19 Pandemic has also had an impact on communication patterns between people. When some countries implement a lockdown, people cannot meet each other and communicate face to face directly. So, when speaking, people cannot see the gestures and facial expressions of the interlocutor. All activities are carried out online, whether at school, office, or other activities.

The impact of all activities carried out online causes interaction between people to be reduced. Communication which is a means of exchanging information becomes difficult. Communication is an essential thing for human life. The speaker carries out the communication process to the hearer and vice versa. Through the communication process of delivering and giving messages or information, people can understand each other about the information from the messages conveyed. Thus, there is a lot of ambiguous information circulating or information that is difficult to understand. This can happen because the topic is not conveyed due to vague references. Reference in the language is called deixis.

Based on Lyons cited in Setiakawanti & Susanti (2018), deixis is a study reference that uses expressions whose interpretation is relative to the usual extra linguistic context of the term, for example; who is speaking, the time and place of the conversation, the sign of the speaker or the area in the discourse. In addition, Yule (1996) stated that pragmatics is associated with the study of the meaning of communication and requires interpretation of what someone means in a given context. Context is one of the essential elements of successful verbal communication that needs to be considered. A great deal of communication is context-bound. Words change their meaning depending on the context they are used.

Many expressions are used in a language that refers to someone, something, or some idea. Indeed, many expressions have fixed referents in the real world; however, there are some words or expressions that don't have fixed referent points, and they are constantly changing their referents in the verbal communication based on who the speaker is when they are uttered, and in which context they are used. Linguists use the term *deixis* to refer to such words or expressions. Deixis, based on Levinson (2004) is classified into five; person deixis, time deixis, place deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis.

Several previous researchers have widely used deixis as an analytical tool for analyzing discourses that have similarities in the object of the study. These previous studies serve as a reference for relevant studies, which can help the researcher continue writing.

The first previous research was conducted by Nusi Heriyadi and Eli Diana from Dehasen Bengkulu University. The title of their study is *An Analysis of Social Deixis in The Dressmaker Movie*. The research has done in 2020. This research used deixis to analyze social deixis in a comedy movie through all utterances. Their research uses Levinson's theory to identify the types of social deixis and Hollingshead's theory to identify the functions of social deixis in *The Dressmaker Movie*. The method of their research is qualitative descriptive. Their study found 950 social deixis expressions categorized into two kinds of social deixis. The mostly found kind of social deixis was relational social deixis, in which 924 expressions were found in the movie. Another kind of social deixis found in the movie was absolute social deixis, in which 26 expressions. The equation with this study is to analyze social deixis using Levinson's theory, and the difference is that their research uses a comedy movie while this research uses formal remarks.

Furthermore, the research was conducted by Muchamad Rizal Febriza. The title of his study is *A Deixis Analysis of Online Newspaper in Jakarta Post*. The research has done in 2020. The research discussed the deixis used in an online newspaper, *Jakarta Post*. His research was conducted by using the descriptive qualitative method. He uses Alan Cruse's theory to classify the types of deixis. The results of his study found 928 words in the article categorized into five types of deixis such as; 42 words of person deixis, two words of spatial deixis, seven words of temporal deixis, three words of social deixis, and six words of discourse deixis. The equation with this study is the topic, namely deixis, and the difference is his

research uses Alan Cruse's theory, and the data is written. In contrast, this research uses Levinson's theory, and the data is utterance.

The last previous research was conducted by Annur Karima Zulyanputri, Lia Maulia Indrayani, and Ypsi Soeria Soemantri. The title of their study is *The Correlation between Social Deixis and Social Class in a Speech by Nobel Prize Winners: A Sociopragmatic Study*. The research has done in 2020 by using qualitative descriptive research of sociolinguistics. This research analyzed and described social deixis and its correlation with social class in an award-winning speech. Their research uses Levinson's theory to identify the types of social deixis and Block's theory to determine key dimensions of social class. The results of their study were five utterances identified in which relational social deixis is applied, and four social class dimensions can be determined from the five utterances. The equation with this study is to analyze social deixis using Levinson's theory. The difference is that their research uses additional theory to identify social class dimensions and their relation with social deixis. In contrast, this research aims to discover the function of social deixis.

Considering this research has been supported with proper theories, in this research, the researcher chose a verbal communication remark by President Biden in the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly. President Biden is one of the Member States delegates who attended the United Nations General Assembly and spoke about the world's issues. The pandemic is not the only issue the world faces. Racism, intolerance, inequality, climate change, poverty, hunger, armed conflict, and other ills remain global challenges. These challenges call for global

action, and the General Assembly is a critical opportunity for all to come together and chart a course for the future.

The reason for choosing President Biden as the object of this research is that President Biden is one of the presidents who campaigned and began serving as US President during the COVID-19 outbreak. He could not meet US citizens directly to voice his aspirations. President Biden is one of the most influential presidents in the world. The research objective is to investigate the kinds of social deixis and its functions.

## **1.2. Statements of Problem**

As a tool to communicate, language is essential, and every word in a language has a deixis expression; it also works in remarks. When a remark contains many deixis expressions, there will be many referents and meanings to help people understand the remarks' context. For example, the use of social deixis in President Biden's Remark in the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly. Based on the statement above, the following problems are formulated:

1. How is social deixis used in President Biden's Remark in the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly?
2. What is the function of social deixis in President Biden's Remark in the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly?

## **1.3. Research Objective**

Refers to the research question above, this research has some purposes, as follows:

1. To identify and describe social deixis kinds that were used in President Biden's Remark in the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly.
2. To discover the function of social deixis used in President Biden's Remark in the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

#### **1.4. Research Significance**

The results of this study are expected to contribute significantly to readers and researchers in one of the fields of linguistics, namely pragmatics, especially about social deixis. The significance of this study is divided into two, namely theoretical significance and practical significance.

Theoretically, the results of this research are expected to benefit the development of linguistics, especially pragmatics and social deixis. The result of this research can be used to enrich the knowledge on analyzing utterances using social deixis types and their function. Besides, this research is expected to be an additional source for the next researcher. It gives more knowledge to the student who studies and is interested in learning social deixis.

Practically, the English Department students can use the result of this research as samples of grammatical complexity analysis of the utterances. For lectures or teachers, this research can be used as a reference to increase the student's ability to master context. And also, other researchers can use the result of this research as an input to conduct research using the same data from another point of view.

## 1.5. Conceptual Framework

A theoretical framework is a structure that can hold and support a theory of a research study. In this part, the researcher presents and reviews the related and relevant theories to the topic of this research. The conceptual framework of this research is presented as follows.

The research of deixis aims to investigate references of the utterance in President Biden's remarks. The research uses the Pragmatics approach. Pragmatics is associated with the study of the meaning of communication and requires interpretation of what someone means in a given context (Yule, 1996: 3). Context is one of the important elements of successful verbal communication that needs to be considered. A great deal of communication is context-bound. Words change their meaning depending on the context they are used.

In the utterance, knowing the references of the context is needed. Deixis may be understood as linguistics pointing to relevant portions of the context of an utterance (Perkins, 1992: 100). Deixis is a Greek term meaning "pointing via language." Deixis is always present in everyday conversation, movies, and even reading texts such as novels and short stories. Deixis is words pointing to something such as living things, objects, time, place, and discourse. Deixis is used to explain who the speaker is, what is being said, the time and place when the utterance occurs.

According to Levinson's theory, there are five types of deixis: person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, discourse deixis, and social deixis. Every kind of deixis has a different function. Person deixis is the use of the form of reference to



designate a person or group when the utterance is uttered. Spatial Deixis uses a form of reference to the location in an event when the utterance takes place. Temporal deixis is a reference that describes the period when the utterance takes place. Discourse deixis is a reference word that explains something when the phrase is uttered. The last, social deixis, is the provision of a form of reference according to the differences in social strata between speakers and hearers.

Social deixis is used based on the character's role because of social differences so that different words emerge, called honorifics. There are two basic kinds of social deixis; relational and absolute (Levinson, 1983: 90). Relational social deixis is a deixis reference to some social characteristic referent regardless of the relative rank of the referent, or deixis reference to social relations between the speaker and the hearer. Meanwhile, absolute social deixis is a deixis reference expressed in a particular form of greeting that does not include a comparison of the ranking of the speaker and the recipient. (Heriyadi, dkk, 2020)

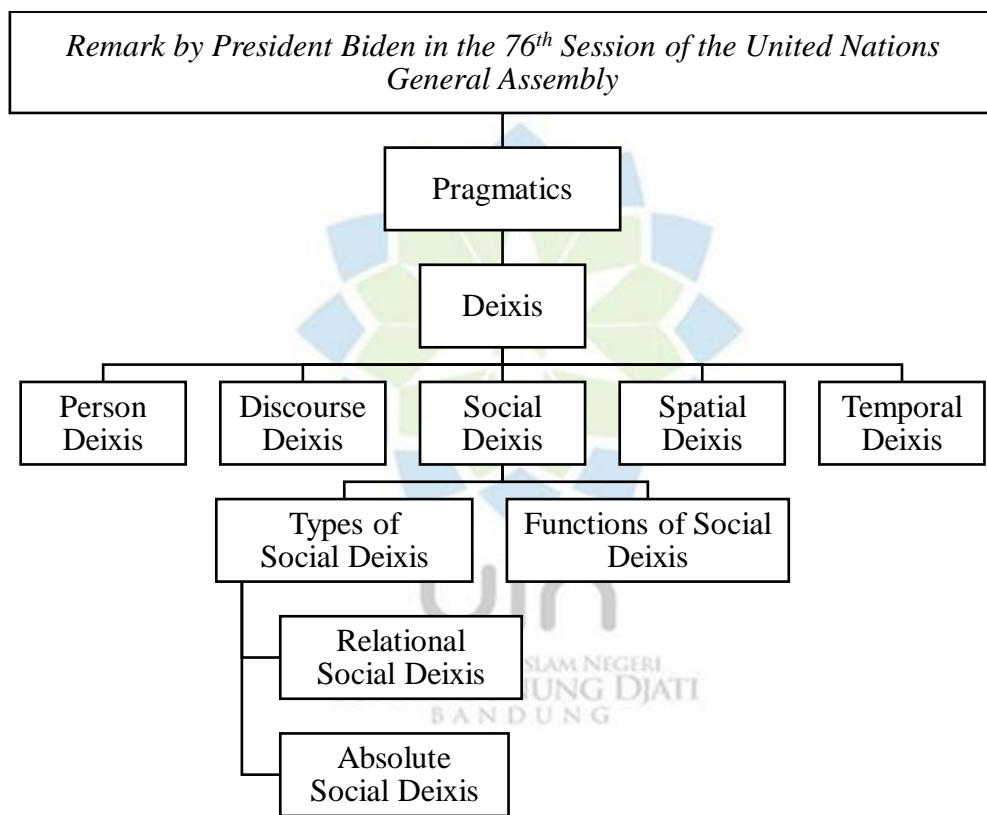
According to Levinson (Levinson, 1983: 90-91), the kind of relational social deixis is as follows (1) speaker and referent (referent honorifics); (2) speaker and addressee (addressee honorifics); (3) speaker and bystander (bystander of audience honorifics) and (4) speaker and setting (formality levels). Meanwhile, the kind of absolute social deixis is as follows (1) authorized speaker and (2) authorized recipient.

To answer the second research question, the researcher uses theory according to Levinson (Levinson, 1983: 91-92) and Chaniago (Chaniago, 2007:

228), there are some functions of the use of social deixis. They are (1) social status differentiation; (2) politeness; (3) social identity and (4) closeness relationships.

For a better understanding, all of the conceptual frameworks of this research can be illustrated in the following figure:

**Figure 1.1 Conceptual Framework**



## 1.6. Definition of Key Terms

### 1. Pragmatics

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the use of language and how the context affects meaning. The scope of pragmatics consists of presupposition, implicature, entailment, speech act, and deixis.

### 2. Deixis

Deixis is a study reference that uses expressions whose interpretation is relative to the usual extra linguistic context of the term, for example, who is speaking, the time and place of the conversation, the sign of the speaker, or the area in the discourse.

### 3. Social Deixis

Social deixis provides a form of reference according to the differences in social strata that occur between speakers and hearers.

### 4. Remark

A remark is a short speech or a part of a speech. It is something that someone says or writes to express an opinion or idea.

### 5. President Biden

Joe Biden is the 46<sup>th</sup> president of the United States who began his inauguration on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021, alongside Kamala Harris. Biden entered office amid the COVID-19 Pandemic, an economic crisis, and increased political polarization.

### 6. The United Nations General Assembly

The United Nations General Assembly is the principal policy-making organ of the Organization. Comprising all Member States, it provides a unique forum for multilateral discussion of the full spectrum of international issues covered by the Charter of the United Nations.