

AN ANALYSIS OF PERSONAL DEIXIS USED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE *LA LA LAND* MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This research focused on analyzing personal deixis. It was in pragmatics scope. There were two aims in this research. First was to identify what categories of personal deixis are used by the main character in *La la land* movie. Second was to explain why the most dominant category of personal deixis is used by the main character in *La la land* movie. A descriptive qualitative method was in this research. The data of this research were utterances that consist of personal deixis. Then, the source of data was *La la land* movie. The results of this research were the main character used three categories of personal deixis in *La la land* movie. They were first personal deixis found 43 data, second personal deixis found 23 data, and third personal deixis found 20 data. The total data were 85 data. The most dominant category used by the main character in *La la land* movie was first personal deixis. The main character often used first personal deixis in this movie. It was because it represented Sebastian's struggles to solve his problems of his life, such as finding a job as a jazz pianist, reaching his dreams in Los Angeles as the famous jazz musician and had his own jazz club.

Keywords: Pragmatics, Deixis, and Personal Deixis

INTRODUCTION

“The movie is a dynamic visual media” (Kurniasih, at tal., 2018). It consists of characters are problems, emotions, and scenes. The plot is also raised in this movie based on the purpose of the story. It is very important to audiences to know well the whole story of this movie.

There are many kinds of movie, such as a romantic, a comedy, a drama, a musical movie, etc. *La la land* is one of romantic drama movie that full of music. It is also categorized a romantic musical comedy-drama movie. It is written and directed by Damien Chazelle. There are two main characters in this movie,

Sebastian is played by Ryan Gosling and Mia is played by Emma Stone.

La la land is very interesting to be analyzed. There are some reasons to support this research. The first reason is the title. The name of *La la land* stands for “Los Angeles” and “land”. “Los Angeles” is the place used for the background of this movie. Then, the word “land” is presenting the place of dreams. So, this movie describes that Los Angeles is the right place to get goals and dreams. The second reason is *La la Land* got fourteen nomination at the 89th Academy Awards of 2017. The third reason is *La La Land* has a charming plot. It tells two characters were Sebastian and Mia. Sebastian was a pianist jazz. He worked in one of cafe in Los Angeles. Personally, he has a problem to decide between becoming a pianist jazz as his idealism or playing a pop song as the cafe owner’s request. Meanwhile, Mia was the girl who had a special obsession to be an actress. She tried many times to join several auditions, but she was failed. Sebastian and Mia met in unlucky situation. They interacted each other in different personalities. Then, conflicts, emotions, happinesses, sadnesses were raised in

their life. They had big struggles to achieve their dreams as an actress. The fourth reason is the main character in *La la land* often uses personal deixis to communicate with other characters.

Personal deixis is one of theories in Pragmatics. It is the single way in which the relationship between language and context related in the structures of languages themselves (Levinson, 1983: 54). Personal deixis is very interesting to be analyzed. It is because most of characters always use this personal deixis to give further information to the readers. Here is the example of personal deixis.

Datum

Context: Sebastian and Mia were in the studio. They were talking about animals. Actually, they did not like animals.

Sebastian : Do **you** need to be anywhere right now ?

The word **you** is the second person of singular. It refers to Mia.

There are some previous researches relating to this topic. The first previous research was "*A Deixis Analysis of song lyrics in Taylor Swift's red album*" by Debi Ratna Wati (2014). Her research used John I.Saeed theory, than this

research uses Levinson theory. The second previous research was " *The Analysis of Deixis Found in Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters Movie and Its Application to Teach Writing at the Tenth Grade of Senior High School*" by Tri Kusumawardani (2016). She focused on all types of deixis, but this research focused on personal deixis. The last previous research was " *An Analysis of Deixis Used by English Teachers of the Eleventh Grade Students of Man Sukoharjo in Academic Year of 2016/2017*" by Fatimah Aqillah Irani

(2017). Her Source of data of her research was English teachers, than the source of data in this reseach is *La la land* movie. Based on some previous studies above, this research will analyze personal deixis used by the main character in the *La la land* movie.

Purposes of this research are to identify categories of personal deixis is used by the main characters in *La la land* movie and explain the most dominant category of personal deixis is used by the main characters in *La la land* movie.

METHOD

The category of this research is used the descriptive qualitative method. This reasearch used Levinson theory (1983).

Utterances are the data of this research. Then the source of data of this

research *La la land* movie. It is taken from (<https://scriptpdf.com/la-la-land-script-pdf/>). The research only focuses on personal deixis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Tabel 1 The Data of Personal Deixis

No	Category of Personal Deixis	Pronoun	Amount	Total	Percentage
1	First Personal Deixis				
	a. Singular				
	1. Subjective	I	30	35	43
	Objective	me	5		
	b. Plural				
	1. Subjective	we	8		
2	Second Personal Deixis				
	a. Singular				
	1. Subjective	you	22	23	23

	2. Objective	you	1			
3	Third Personal Deixis					
	a. Singular				20	23%
	1. Subjective	he & she	14	14		
	b. Plural					
	2. Subjective	they		5		
	Total Amount				85	100%

The data of personal deixis found based on 5 kinds of personal deixis using levinson theory. Based on findings of data above, The type of first personal deixis had 43 data, the second of personal deixis has 23 data, and the third of personal deixis had 20 data. Then the total amount of data were 85 data.

1. First Personal Deixis

The type of first of personal deixis was divided into two types. The first one was singular and the second one was plural.

a. First Personal Deixis of Singular

In this type of personal deixis for subjective had 30 data. That was **I**.

Here is the example of data:

Datum 1 (1/FP/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian talked to Laura in the apartment in the morning. When Sebastian talked to Laura in the apartment in the morning, they talked

about spilling the beans. Laura was showing a paper containing the total of bills. On the contrary Sebastian needs to start having money. Sebastian said that he did not need the bills shown again. Laura wanted to reveal a secret to Sebastian. Then, Laura asked Sebastian, "when did you open the box?" Sebastian did not want other members of his club know about this.

Laura : When are you going to unpack these boxes?

Sebastian : when **I** unpack them in my club.

The example above showed that Sebastian was talking with Laura. There was **I** as the data of the first personal deixis for singular type. **I** was the main character or Sebastian. The word **I** had the function of Subjective. It had the function of subjective because **I** was stated before verb.

Datum 2 (2/FP/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian and Laura were in the apartment. When Sebastian at the party tonight. Sebastian was present at the restaurant to see and greet the boss of the restaurant owner. Sebastian talked alone with Boss. Sebastian headed in the direction of the piano to prepare for a party, also waiting for the arrival of a new friend named Mia. Sebastian told Laura in the apartment. Sebastian reveals to Laura that Sebastian has a new friend at the party that night.

Laura : You'll talk about the weather

Sebastian : Ok. Then **I** have someone

The example of data above was the conversation between Sebastian and Laura. The word **I** was Sebastian as the main character. **I** represented the function of Subjective.

Datum 3 (3/FP/Sbj)

Context: The dialogue between Sebastian and Laura about Laura attitude in his apartment. Laura sat on the chair with her legs raised over the chair while Sebastian told Laura to get off the chair. Then, Sebastian told to Laura "I'm very serious".

Laura : You need to get serious.

You live like a hermit.

You're driving without insurance.

Sebastian : **I**'am serious

That data showed the dialogue between Sebastian and Laura. The word **I** was the first personal deixis. **I** was the function of subjective. **I** satated in the first sentence before verb. Pronoun **I** indicated the main character.

Datum 4 (4/Fp/Sbj)

Context: This conversation was in Sebastian's apartment. Sebastian was talking to Laura. They talk about their future.

Laura : You need to get serious.

You live like a hermit.

You're driving without insurance.

Sebastian : **I** had a very serious plan for my future.

The word **I** was the first personal deixis. **I** was the main character. **I** had the function of subjective.

Datum 5 (5/Fp/Sbj)

Context: I was Sebastian. When Laura revealed that Sebastian wanted to leave without carrying traffic obligations, it

could be dangerous for Sebastian if he did not bring a license. Sebastian had discussed another topic with Laura, they were competing to get someone who was idolized to be the same person, Shanghai'ed.

Laura : You need to get serious.
You live like a hermit.
You're driving without insurance.

Sebastian : I got Shanghai'ed

The word I was the main character. I was the first personal deixis. Subjective was the function of I.

Datum 10 (10/Fp/Obj)

Context: Sebastian talked to Bill. Bill was the restaurant owner. Sebastian came to the restaurant to perform by playing a piano. he was allowed to perform here to fill a party on Christmas Day. The boss asked Sebastian to sing a Christmas song.

Boss : Seb.

Sebastian : Bill. Thanks for having me back

Me had the function of objective, because object was stated after verb. The word **me** was Sebastian.

b. First Personal Deixis of Plural

Datum 39 (39/Fp/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian and Mia. They were in the apartment that full of surprises for Mia. During they were in the apartment, Mia asked Sebastian about the time for having the place. The place was used for having new a video clip. Finally, Sebastian made decision to go on a tour with a jazz club band. The purpose of the tour was mae recordings.

Mia : when are you done with the tour

?

Sebastian : We tour we can make the

record

The example above showed that Sebastian was talking with Mia. There was **we** as the data of the first personal deixis for plural type. **we** was the main character or Sebastian. The word **we** had the function of Subjective. It had the function of subjective because **we** was stated before verb.

Datum 42 (42/Fp/Sbj)

Context: We was Sebastian and Mia. They were at home. They had a party at home in the morning. After that they saw

and discussed each other about their job. Mia wanted to be the member of his group as the singer and dancer.

Mia : Yes. I wanted you to have a job so you could take care of yourself and start your club

Sebastian : So why aren't we celebrating?.

The word we was Sebastian and Mia. **We** had the function of subjective. It was because Subject was stated on the first sentence.

2. Second Personal Deixis

This type was found only one type. That was singular.

a. Second Personal Deixis of Singular

In this type of personal deixis for subjective had 23 data. That was **you**. Here is the example of data:

Datum 44 (44/Sp/Sbj)

Context: Laura was in Sebastian's apartment. Sebastian was speaking to Laura. They were talking about tidying up at home. The condition of the house was still messy. When Sebastian was tidying up at home suddenly there was Laura. Laura was coming at his

apartment. Then she interested in cleaning and tidying Sebastian's house.

Sebastian : **You** gotta stop breaking into my home

Laura : You think Mom or Dad would call this a home ?

The example above showed that Sebastian was talking with Laura. There was **you** as the data of the second personal deixis for singular type. You was the main character or Laura. The word You had the function of Subjective. It had the function of subjective because **You** was stated before verb.

Datum 45 (45/Sp/Sbj)

Context: She was in Sebastian's apartment. Sebastian turned to the living room to meet Laura. Sebastian talked to Laura about the opinions of the people around them, there were also residents who revealed that people could turn into a place. Laura listened to Sebastian's story. She felt strange to hear it. Sebastian asked Laura, "Did Laura immediately believe the news?".

Sebastian : **You** believe that ?

Laura : Seb...

The word **you** were Laura. **You** had the function of subjective. It was because Subject was stated on the first sentence.

Datum 47 (47/Sp/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian and Laura were in the apartment, they were talking about the payment of Sebastian's apartment bill. Laura was calling a person who asked the bill. When that person left them, Sebastian thought that it was unromantic words. Sebastian asked, "why can Laura conclude that the words expressed are romantic but dirty words?".

Sebastian : Why do **you** say romantic

like it's a dirty word ?

Laura : Unpaid bills are not romantic. Call her.

The word you were Laura. You had the function of subjective.

Datum 48 (48/Sp/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian and Laura were in the apartment at noon. They shared their ideas each other. They talked about the problems of their life. Sebastian had some difficulties in having his life needs, such as the payment of the bill, the

problems in his job. Sebastian was also confused to Laura. Laura often talked unpolitely. Sebastian said "it's hard to make people understand".

Sebastian : What **you** understand is.....

Laura : I love you. Unpack your boxes

The word you were Laura. You had the function of subjective. It was because subject was located on the first sentence.

Datum 49 (49/Sp/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian and Mia were walking at night to go home after finishing the house party event. All the way, they were talking at Griffith Park while singing a love night song. They talked about a plan when they met in the studio. In fact, Sebastian invited Mia to meet in the studio lot. A studio lot was the place for Mia working. in the morning Mia was working in a coffee shop. Then Sebastian met Mia in that place. Mia was serving some guest to have some cups of coffee. After that Sebastian invited Mia to go out for a walk in the morning to see a studio for their meeting at night. At night they met in the studio. Mia saw Sebastian was taking a piece of cake. Sebastian was

already afraid of being found out by people who were in the studio. They ran and left from the studio. It took quite a long time. Sebastian revealed to Mia, "Mia need time to set a break?".

Sebastian : You got a break coming up?

Mia : I'm off in ten

The word you were. You had the function of subjective. It was because subject was located on the first sentence.

3. Third Personal Deixis

This type was divided into two types. The first one was singular and the second one was plural.

a. Third Personal Deixis for Singular

In this type of personal deixis for subjective had 14 data. That was **she** and **he**. Here is the example of data:

Datum 67 (67/Tp/Sbj)

Context: She was Laura. Sebastian told to Laura, suddenly Sebastian knew that Laura in apartment. Sebastian looked at the apartment. This place was very messy. It was because Laura was trying to find the document of home payment. Finally, Laura had found that document and showed to Sebastian impolitely..

Sebastian : **She** look up

Laura : You think Mom or Dad would call this a home ?

The example above showed that Sebastian was talking with Laura. There was **she** as the data of the third personal deixis for singular type. **She** was Mia. The word **she** had the function of Subjective. It had the function of subjective because **she** was stated before verb.

Datum 68 (68/Tp/Sbj)

Context: When Sebastian told to Laura. Suddenly Sebastian knew Laura in apartment. Sebastian was walked around to Laura. Sebastian saw that his home was messy caused by Laura. She was looking for the document of home payment and showed to Sebastian. Laura tried to fight Sebastian loudly. Then Sebastian explained that "only 37 years old now 50 years old". Laura was the adult.

Sebastian : **She** 37 quickly going on 50.

Laura : You think Mom or Dad would call this a home ?

The word **she** was Laura. **She** had the function of subjective. It was because Subject was stated on the first sentence.

Datum 75 (75/Tp/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian talked to Laura, they were in apartment. Sebastian and Laura talk and looked for place where the bill for the home payment saved. Laura wanted to say to Miles David about Sebastian's secret.

Laura : Yeah? What if I told you
Miles Davis pissed on it ?

Sebastian : That's almost insulting
.... (Then) Did **he** ?

The word he was Miles David. . He had the function of subjective. It was because Subject was stated on the first sentence.

Datum 76 (76/Tp/Sbj)

Context: Sebastian and Laura in apartment. Sebastian and Laura talked about Sebastian's privacy. After attended the party at night, Sebastian found the new friend, his name is Keith. Sebastian saw a tattoo on his face. Sebastian gave the information to Laura that he had a new friend.

Sebastian : He's got a face tattoo

Laura : Sebastian.....

The word he was Keith. He had the function of subjective. It was because Subject was stated on the first sentence.

b. The Third of Personal Deixis for Plural

In this type of personal deixis for subjective had 5 data. That was They. Here is the example of data:

Datum 81 (81/Tp/Sbj)

Context: They were Sebastian and Laura. Sebastian talked to Laura. They talked about the location which was people often talked too much about it around in the apartment. Sebastian arrived in the apartment at the morning . His eyes saw Laura that sat in the living room. Then, Sebastian asked Laura, whether she believe or not what people talking about tapas samba. Sebastian and Laura were very curious about this place. Finally, they invited others to visit tapas samba.

Laura : Seb.....

Sebastian : Who wants to tapas while

they samba ?

The example above showed that Sebastian was talking with Laura. There was **they** as the data of the third personal deixis for singular type. **They** was the main character or Laura. The word **they** had the function of Subjective. It had the function of subjective because **they** were stated before verb.

Datum 83 (83/Tp/Sbj)

Context: They were Sebastian and Mia. When Sebastian was speaking to Mia, they were talking about a jazz club. All people around them did not like jazz and they hated jazz. It was because they never knew about jazz comprehensively. Then, Sebastian gave a suggestion that they should know well about jazz. At least, they should listen this genre music before they hate.

Sebastian : **They** don't get where it came from all these people

Mia : I thought it was just Kenny G.

The word **they** were Sebastian and Mia. They had the function of subjective. It because Subject was stated on the first sentence.

Based on the table of data that had shown in findings, It showed the total amount data was 85 data of personal

deixis. Personal deixis was divided into three categories. The first one was first personal deixis found data. In this category, there were two types, singular and plural. For singular, it was found two functions, subjective and objectives. The function of subjective was found 30 data, it was **I**. Then, the function of objective was found only 5 data, it was **me**. For plural, it was found 8 data. It was **we**. pronoun **we** referred to Sebastian and Laura, Sebastian and Mia. The second one of the category of personal deixis was second personal deixis found 22 data. In this category, there was one type, singular. In singular type, it was found also two functions, subjective and objectives. The function of subjective had 22 data, it was **you** and the function of objective had 1 data, it was **you**. The third category of personal deixis was third personal deixis found 20 data. This category had two functions, subjective and objectives. The function of subjective got 14 data, they are **he and she**. On the contrary, the function of plural got 5 data, it was **they**.

Based on the description of data above, it could be concluded that the most dominant category of personal deixis in *La la land* movie was first

personal deixis. The main character was Sebastian. He often used first personal deixis in *La la land* movie. He applied this category in two types, singular and plural. Singular was for **I** as subjective function and **me** as objective function. Then plural was for **we**. The use of **I** mostly used in this movie than **we**. It indicated that pronoun **I** had big roles in this movie, such as to be patient with his friend, girl friend, and boss etc. Talking about *La la land* movie was talking about the main character's efforts to reach his dream. Sebastian had struggles to solve his problems in his life. The first problem was finding a job as a jazz pianist. He tried to apply the job to Bill in the restaurant. Bill was the restaurant owner. He was very kind and cooperative person to Sebastian. The second problem was reaching his dream in Los Angeles as the famous jazz musician. the third one was trying to be patient with his friend Laura who had impolite attitude, but she was a kind girl. The last one was having and taking care for his love, Mia. Sebastian meet Mia in the restaurant, when Sebastian and his jazz group performed. During a jazz music was played, Mia was interested in Sebastian performing. From this first meeting, Sebastian and Mia loved each other. Even they loved and

worked together the whole of the time, It was not the guarantee to have a solid couple. Their love was not eternal anymore. Generally, The main character used first personal diexis in this *La la land* movie to represented their struggles and efforts for his dreams and goals of his life.

The comparison between this research and three previous studies that were Debi Ratna Wati's research (2014), Tri Kusumawardani's research (2016), Fatimah Aqillah Irani's reasearch (2017). In Wati's research, first personal deixis **I** explained the writer's life story of the song. Kusumawardani and Irani's reseaches often used second personal deixis, **you**. In Kusumawardani's research, pronoun **you** showed the story of two brothers who found meals in the middle of the jungle. Then, pronoun **you** in Irani's research showed the process of learning and teaching English in the thirteen grade.

From some previous studies above, this research had the same results as wati's research. Both reseaches found the dominant category of first personal deixis **I**. Even both of them had the same results, but they have different in having problems of their life. If Wati's research

showed the love and feeling story of the song writer itself that was realized in the song lyrics. On the contrary, the results of this research showed the main

character's struggles. He struggled to get his dreams to be a famous jazz musician and had his own jazz club.

CONCLUSION

Sebastian is the main character. The main character used three categories of personal deixis in *La la land* movie. The first one was first personal deixis there are 43 data. The second one of the category of personal deixis was second personal deixis found 23 data. and the last one was The third category of personal deixis was third personal deixis found 20 data. The total data were 85 data. Based on the description of data above, it could be concluded that the

most dominant category of personal deixis in *La la land* movie was first personal deixis.

The most dominant category used by the main character in *La la land* movie was first personal deixis. It represented Sebastian's struggles and efforts to solve his problems of his life, such as finding a job as a jazz pianist, reaching his dreams in Los Angeles as the famous jazz musician and had his own jazz club.

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