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A Micropragmatic Analysis of Personal and Discourse Deixis in Von der Leyen at the Summit of World Leaders

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Abstract: This pragmatic study strives to investigate how the personal and discoursal deixis of Von der Leyen's speech in the conference of world leaders on climate change are represented. It is hoped that the study uncovers these concepts through the use of language. As a result, the researchers employ a quantitative-qualitative approach of analysis depending on Levinson's (1983) model of deixis distribution in the selected utterances. The researchers select the speech of Von der Leyen to be under scrutiny. The findings of the quantitative analysis show that personal deixis are more frequent than discourse deixis by (65%). It also shows that "we" is the most commonly used personal pronoun by (48%). As for the qualitative analysis, it is found that introducing the personal deixis indicate solidarity among the whole nations to protect the world from the environmental crisis.

1.Introduction

Pragmatics is the study of meaning in context, or perhaps all facets of human linguistic activity. As Levinson (1983, p. 9) points out, pragmatics is an examination of the links between language and context that are encoded in the language structure. According to Mey (2001), micropragmatics research is concerned with the level of language use. It is focused with the consideration of pragmatic tasks elicited by the comprehension of language symbols used in reference and implication during conversation.

While the fundamental unit of micropragmatics is the utterance, any 'micropragmatic' study always leads to the macro domain. This is consistent with the conceptual and methodological qualities of the most often used parameters in description deixis, context, implicature, and so on. The study of illocutionary power at the utterance level is known as micropragmatics. Contrariwise to this approach, macropragmatism looks at discourses/texts as collections of utterances that act as carriers of the speaker's global intentionality (the deliberate action caused by a variety of speech act configurations, also known as speeches events) and as the source of numerous effects (Cap, 2011).

Deixis, in general, reflects the link between language and its contextual environment. And because the primary role of language is to promote communication between individuals in their context, the only unambiguous way to determine the meaning of any word in a written text or an utterance is through deixis. Deixis is critical in communication (Lyons, 1995,).

In this paper, the researchers focus on two types of deixis; personal and discoursal.

1.2 Pragmatic Analysis

Levinson (1983) defines pragmatics as the study of the relationships between language and circumstance that affect the composition of grammars. According to Yule (1996), studying meaning as conveyed by a speaker or writer and perceived by a listener is referred to as pragmatics or reader. Pragmatics assumes that language is a sociocultural artifact that individuals use to not only disseminate information that may alter others' worldviews, but also to interact with others: to perform actions such as asking for things, inquiring about information, apologising, inviting, complimenting others on their accomplishments, and persuading them of certain facts. (Austin, 1962).

1.2.1 Deixis:

According to Levinson (1983, p. 83), the Greek word deixis refers to the role of highlighting or noting down certain grammatical aspects in an utterance. The study of deixis is primarily concerned with how languages encode contexts of utterances or speech events, and thus the interpretation of utterances, which is dependent on the analysis of utterance contexts.

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Encoding the encoder's spatiotemporal context and subjective experience into an utterance is also defined as "deixis". For the speaker, the use of "pure deictic terms" like "I" and "this" can serve as a sort of cognitive centre of orientation. It's possible that what's here for me may not be there for you, for example. It has long been assumed that there is a middle ground between lexical and pragmatic meaning, but this has been shown to be incorrect (Levinson, 1983).

As linguists grapple with deixis, they should keep in mind a fundamental truth: natural languages are primarily designed to be used in face-to-face communication, and thus their analysis is limited to the extent to which they are taken into account (Lyons, 1977).

1.2.1.1 Person Deixis:

The grammatical category of person expresses the many roles that people play in a speech event: speaker, addressee, and others. The different people participating in a communication event are encoded via person deixis. Furthermore, the participants must be encoded, which requires determining who the speaker and the addressee are (Giergji, 2015). The speaker addresses the listener in the first person (I), the second person (you), and the third person (he, she, it) about whom the speaker is speaking (Renkema, 1993,p. 77).

The term "person deixis" refers to the fundamental roles in a speech event, namely the speaker, the addressee, and the person or persons who are neither the speaker nor the addressee (Cruse, 2000).

1.2.1.1.1 First Personal Pronoun:

According to Levinson (1983), the first person represents a "deixis reference" that points to the sender or speaker, in other words, it is the "grammaticalization" of the message's sender to himself.

1.2.1.1.2 Second Personal Pronoun:

According to Renkema (1993), the second person refers to the addressee or listener who has received the message from the first person "I." He continues by stating that observing the manner in which the first and second person communicate demonstrates the unique nature of their relationship.

1.2.1.1.3 Third Person Pronoun:

According to Levinson (1983,p. 62), the third person pronoun "he, she, they" refers to individuals or objects that are neither the sender nor the receiver of the communication. Generally, this form of pronoun is not employed deictically, but rather anaphorically, to refer to previously stated individuals or entities in the discourse.

1.2.1.2 Discoursal Deixis:

Discourse deixis encodes a reference to the utterance's location within the developing discourse (Levinson, 1983). In other words, discourse deixis is a term that refers to a certain type of discourse that includes a speech or a signal, as well as its relationships to the surrounding text. This deixis uses the deictic terms "this" to refer to a future portion and "that" to refer to a previous portion.

Moreover, Conversation deixis, according to Cruse (2004), refers to utterances that refer to a specific section of the discourse. Many terms and phrases in English are employed in discourse deixis to express the relationship between speech and prior discourse, such as but, therefore, inclusion, to the contrary, yet, besides, after all, and so on.

Lyons (1977,p. 362) asserts that "the utterance can be both deictic and anaphoric (which is when an utterance makes reference to the same referent in a previous time) at the same time".

3.Methodology:

The researchers collect the data from the internet which involve the speech of President of the European Commission, Von der Leyen at the climate summit hosted by the US president on the anniversary of Earth Day. The researchers depend on the quantitative- qualitative approach to scrutinize two types of deixis; personal and discoursal. This research adopts Levinson's taxonomy of deixis to explore the selected data.

4. Data Analysis:

In her speech, the president uses many deictic expressions, such as "we, I, our, us, this, that" and so on as shown in the following table

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Table 1: Types of Deixis, Frequencies and Percentages

Types of Deixis	Frequency	Percentage
First person	35	65%
Second person	2	3%
Third person	1	1%
Discourse Deixis	16	30%
Total	54	100%

Table (1) shows that the president uses many personal pronouns, such as first person pronouns with the number of (35) while the second person pronouns are (2). The third person deixis is only (1).

Furthermore, discourse deixis are employed (16) times in the president's speech and that represents (30%) of the total number of deixis. As result, the most prominent types of those deixis are the first person pronouns since they represent (65%) of the total number of pronouns .

4.1 Person Deixis:

As shown in table (2), various person deixis are employed in the text, such as "we, I, our, my, us, their and you".

Table 2: Frequency of personal Deixis in the Selected Data

Types of Person Deixis	Frequency	Percentage
We	17	48%
I	1	1%
Our	9	25%
My	2	5%
You	2	5%
Their	1	1%
Us	3	8%
Total	35	100%

The abovementioned table illustrates the total number of person deixis. The pronouns are mentioned as follows: "we" is employed (17) times, "our" (9) times, "us" (3) times, "my and you" (2) times each, "I and their" (1) time each. So, "we" is the most frequent pronoun that is used in the president's speech.

4.2 Discourse Deixis:

As the following table shows, discourse deixis is used by the speaker to highlight and emphasize different ideas, such as this, that and it.

Table 3: Frequency of Discourse Deixis

Discourse Deixis	Frequency	Percentage
This	9	56%
That	1	1%
It	6	17%
Total	16	100%

The table confirms that this is the most common deixis in the text with (9) times. It is also employed (6) times and finally that which is utilized (1) time only. Therefore, this as discoursal deictic expression is the most frequent in the text.

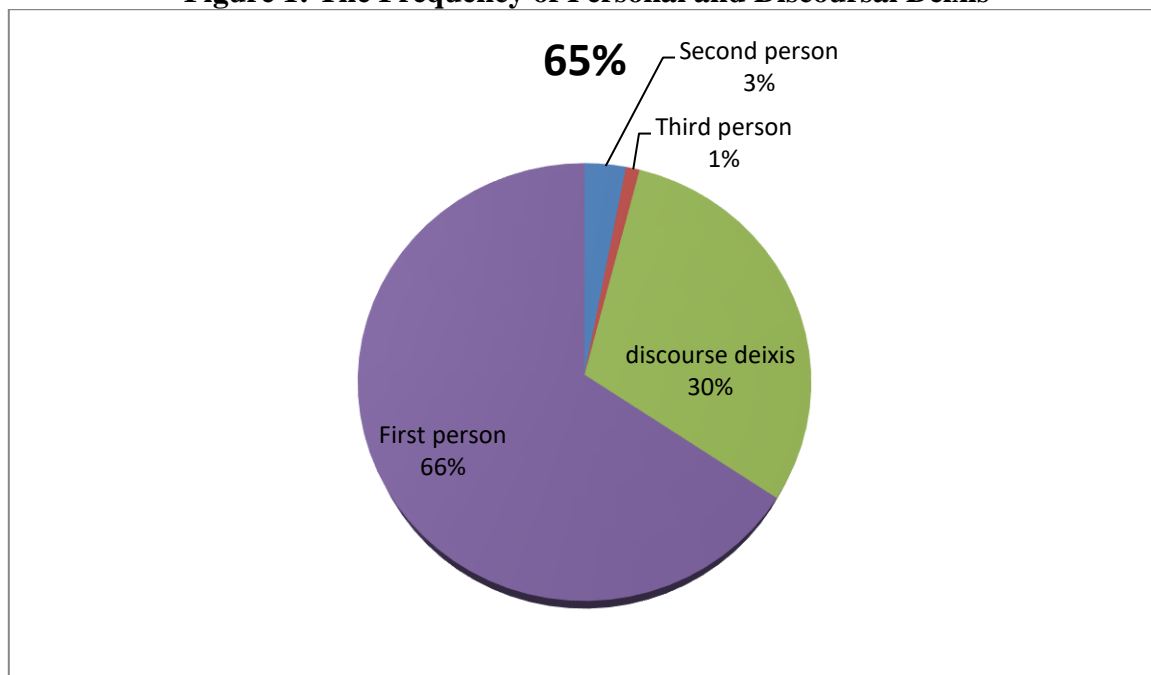**5. Findings and Discussion:**

The researchers depend on Levinson's taxonomy of personal and discoursal deixis in analysing the selected text. According to data analysis, it is found that many personal deixis are employed in the text, such as "we, I, us, our, my, you and their". It is also showed that personal deixis are more frequent than discourse deixis by (65%).

The qualitative analysis shows that utlising the personal deixis, such as "we" refers to the issue of unity in Von der Leyen's speech among the nations to prevent the negative effect of climate change.

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Discoursal deixis, such as "this" indicates the direct reference to her utterances that run over the environmental crisis to be the main topic.

The quantitative analysis reveals that "we" is the most used than the other personal pronouns by (48%). It is followed by the pronoun "our" (9) times, us (8%), my and you (5%) and finally, I and their (1%). The following pie chart illustrates the basic percentages:

Figure 1: The Frequency of Personal and Discoursal Deixis

6. Conclusions:

The micropragmatic analysis of this political speech in this paper introduces an important role of employing two types of deixis in in the selected text. The notion of deixis refers to a set of linguistic terminologies that are operated to mean "pointing".

The analysis presented highlights two types of deixis; personal and discoursal. Person deixis are empoyled with all their categories, first person, second person and third person pronouns whereas discourse deixis are introduced by three types only. The findings show that personal deixis are the most common pronouns in the president speech and the pronoun "we" is the most prominent one.

Regarding the discourse deixis are followed next and "this" is the most prominent pronoun in the selected text. The frequent use of these deixis expressions illustrates the importance of reference and context, which has the same significance as the literal meaning of the word to convey a complete meaning.

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