

## AN ANALYSIS OF DEIXIS IN “BEST SONG EVER” LYRICS BY ONE DIRECTION

*Analisis Deiksis Lirik Lagu “Best Song Ever” One Direction*

Naskah Dikirim: 28 Februari 2022; Direvisi: 25 Mei 2022; Diterima: 25 Mei 2022

**Khafidoh Hidayati**

Universitas Nahdlatul Ulama Sidoarjo

[khafidoh.hiya@gmail.com](mailto:khafidoh.hiya@gmail.com)

How to cite (in APA style):

Hidayati, K. (2021). An Analysis of Deixis to Song Lyrics “Best Song Ever” by One Direction. *Etnolingual*, 5(2), 152—158. <https://doi/10.20473/etno.v4i2.34016>

**Abstrak:** Lagu “Best Song Ever” karya grup vokal One Direction merupakan lagu yang bergenre pop yang cukup terkenal. lagu ini awalnya dipopulerkan di London, Inggris pada tahun 2013. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis dan mengidentifikasi deiksis yang terdapat dalam lagu “Best Song Ever” karya One Direction. Subjek yang digunakan penelitian dari penelitian ini adalah lirik lagu “Best Song Ever” oleh One Direction. Peneliti menganalisis dan mengkaji setiap syair lirik dalam lagu “Best Song Ever” karya One Direction untuk mempermudah dalam melakukan pengambilan sampel lirik terhadap deiksis dalam lagu. nantinya hasil data deiksis dalam lirik lagu “Best Song Ever” oleh One Direction akan ditinjau ulang guna mengidentifikasi lanjut serta mengategorikan jenis deiksis, kajian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan luaran hasil analisis yang realistis. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis telah menganalisis sebuah lagu yang berjudul “Best Song Ever by One Direction” dan menemukan beberapa jenis kesalahan deiksis yang sering muncul pada setiap bait lirik lagu tersebut, yaitu deiksis persona dan deiksis temporal/waktu. Deiksis yang dominan dalam lirik lagu “Best Song Ever” karya One Direction adalah deiksis persona.

**Kata Kunci:** Analisis, Deiksis, Lirik lagu

**Abstract:** The “best song ever” by the vocal group One Direction is a popular pop genre song. This song was originally popularized in London, England in 2013. This study aims to analyze and identify the deixis contained in the song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction. The subject of this research is the lyrics of the song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction. The researcher analyzes and examines each lyric in the song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction to make it easier to sample the lyrics of the deixis in the song. Later, the results of the deixis data in the song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction will be reviewed to further identify and categorize the types of deixis; this study

*uses a qualitative method with realistic analysis results. In this study, the author has analyzed a song entitled "Best Song Ever by One Direction" and found several types of deixis errors that often appear in each verse of the song's lyrics, namely persona deixis and temporal/time deixis. The dominant deixis in the lyrics of the song "Best Song Ever" by One Direction is the persona deixis.*

**Keywords:** *analyze, deixis, song lyric*

## INTRODUCTION

The song is one form of expression to communicate beautifully. Through songs, a person can express his feelings indirectly to others. The song is also considered an art of communication to express feelings, emotions, feelings, etc. In communicating, humans do not only use writing or just speaking, communicating through songs is one way that can give a person peace of mind because they can express or vent their hearts through the beautiful stanzas of words that are rhythmic and pitched.

According to Yen-yen, Iman (2020), and Saarikalio (2010), music can affect mood and behavior. Most music is important to people's lives because it can bring joy and mood to help people create a beautiful atmosphere. Music has a relationship between the lyrics and the meaning of the song because music has a specific meaning to the listener and depends on the meaning of the lyrics related to the listener's experience. Poetry is an expression that people have about what they have experienced, heard, or seen through the lyrics of a song. The experience presented through expression is of interest to the listener, with the characteristics of the songwriter using the game world and language.

Yen-yen, Iman (2020) quoting from Santoso, et al (2014) Language functions like a personal work of language, that is the speaker states the attitude towards what is presented. Language is the meaning of context that processes studies to know the meaning of the text through study pragmatics. Pragmatics is the learning aspect of contextual meaning from the language that uses it. However, it depends on the speakers, listeners, and other things in the context of speech.

According to Aas, and Acep (2019), deixis is everyday communication and text, such as short stories and speech. Language utterances often use Deiki to indicate the state of a persona. Space and time. The jargon (from Greek) Yule (1996) supports this best. The basics we do in language. For example, in the sentence "I love him". The pronouns "I" and "he" can only be understood in the context of speech. The only known expression in the context of the speech is called deixis. This supports Diesel's (2012) saying so Audio events are conceptualized from a different angle. In short, you refer to different entities when used by different speakers, like me and you here and there. The purpose of this study is to analyze and identify the deixis contained in the song "Best Song Ever" by One

Direction.

The result of the research is expected to be useful as a learning reference regarding deixis in the song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction and can be useful for sharpening knowledge about deixis in a song lyric.

## **THEORETICAL REVIEW**

There have been many related studies on this research, some of which are research by Nguyen (2020) with the journal-title “An Analysis of Deixis to Song Lyrics “My Heart Will Go on” by Celine Dion” Deixis refers to words and phrases, such as “me” or “here” that cannot fully understand without additional contextual information or deixis that point to the time, place, or situation in which a speaker is speaking. Deixis is used in most conversations or writing of literary works such as the writing of song lyrics. At this time, the researchers are interested in analyzing how many deixis such as personal deixis, place deixis, and time deixis are used in the lyric’s song by Celine Dion. Lyrics of a song are the same as poetry because the song is a poem sung. In this research, the researchers used Celine Dion ‘s lyrics and analyzed every single word. The problem raised in this research was What kinds of deixis were found in the lyrics of the song “My Heart Will Go On” by Celine Dion. Some theories were used in this research namely Bouk (2016), Brown and Yule (1983), Peccei (1999), and Yule (1996). Qualitative research was conducted in this research with the source data taken from the lyrics of the song. The lyrics were analyzed using the theories and to be classified into the types of deixis based on the theories provided. After analyzing the data, the researchers found that there were three parts of deixis depicted in the lyric’s song, namely: Personal deixis, Spatial deixis, and Temporal deixis.

A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics in Calum Scott’s “You Are the Reason”. Elsaria Sitorus dan Herman. 2019. This research is entitled A DEIXIS ANALYSIS OF SONG LYRICS IN CALUM SCOTT “YOU ARE THE REASON”. The mini-research aims to analyze the kinds of deixis and the dominant deixis in the song lyrics “you are the reason” by Calum Scott. The discussion began by taking the lyric “you are the reason” as the most popular song at this time. Deixis comes from classical Greek *deiknunai*. It means to show or point out which is used to denote those elements in the utterance which form directly to the situation. The study in this paper is concerned with how the researcher explains the kinds of deixis and the dominant deixis used in this lyric. Qualitative research was used as the method of the research. The data used to complete this study is song lyrics. From the data analysis taken from this lyric song, the researcher found that there are 67 words including kinds of deixis in this song. From the data analysis, the researcher found there are three kinds of deixis, they are Person deixis is used to point to objects (it, these, those

books), all pronouns (I, you, we), possessives (your, our, they're), Spatial deixis used to point to a location (here, there, close to). Temporal indexical is expressed in time adverbials like "now, soon, lately, recently, ago, today, tomorrow, yesterday" and the last is Temporal deixis used to point to a time (now, then, next week, last month). Finally, the researcher hopes this research will be useful to sharpen the reader in understanding deixis.

The advantage of this research compared to previous research is that it uses the subject of songs from One Direction which did not exist in previous studies. This study focuses more on two types of deixis, namely person deixis and temporal deixis, but the type of person deixis is more dominant. Because the language used in the lyrics of the song is very easy to understand, it is easy to classify the deixis in the research.

## RESEARCH METHOD

Song lyrics "Best Song Ever" by One Direction because in previous research no one has examined the deixis in the lyrics of the song "Best Song Ever" by One Direction. The writer collected deixis in song lyrics "Best Song Ever" by One Direction, the writer analyzed the deixis of the data that had been collected using qualitative research methods.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

After analyzing the data that has been obtained, the researcher has found the deixis contained in the song entitled "Best Song Ever" by One Direction. In this study, the researcher used several steps, as follows: first, the researcher transcribed the song lyrics; second, the researcher classified the deixis contained in the song into several types including person deixis, temporal deixis; This can be proven by the details of the tables below:

Table 1. Deixis Analysis

NO	Lyric of song	Types of deixis
1.	Maybe it's the way she walked (wow) Straight into my heart and stole it Through the doors and past the guards (wow) Just like she already owned it	She (second person deixis), my (first person deixis), past (temporal deixis)
2.	I said, "can you give it back to me?" She said, "never in your wildest dreams"	I (first person deixis), you (second person deixis), she (second person deixis)

3.	And we danced all night to the best song ever We knew every line, now I can't remember How it goes but I know that I won't forget her Cause we danced all night to the best song ever	We (first-person deixis), night (temporal deixis), now (temporal deixis), I (first person deixis)
4.	I think it went oh, oh, oh I think it went yeah, yeah, yeah I think it goes (ooh)	I (first person deixis)
5.	Said her name was Georgia Rose (wow) And her daddy was a dentist Said I had a dirty mouth (I got a dirty mouth) But she kissed me like she meant it	Her (second person deixis), I (first person deixis), she (second person deixis)
6.	I said, "can I take you home with me?" She said, "never in your wildest dreams"	I (first person deixis), you (second person deixis), she (second person deixis), your (second person deixis)
7.	And we danced all night to the best song ever We knew every line, now I can't remember How it goes but I know that I won't forget her Cause we danced all night to the best song ever	We (first-person deixis), night (temporal deixis), now (temporal deixis), I (first person deixis)
8.	I think it went oh, oh, oh I think it went yeah, yeah, yeah I think it goes (ooh)	I (first person deixis)
9.	You know, I know, you know I'll remember you And I know, you know, I know you'll remember me And you know, I know, you know I'll remember you And I know, you know, I hope you'll remember How we danced, how we danced (one, two, one, two, three)	You (second person deixis), I (first person deixis), me (first person deixis), we (first person deixis)
10.	And we danced all night to the best song ever We knew every line, now I can't remember How it goes but I know that I won't forget her Cause we danced all night to the best song ever	We (first-person deixis), night (temporal deixis), now (temporal deixis), I (first person deixis)
11.	I think it went oh, oh, oh I think it went yeah, yeah, yeah	I (first person deixis)

	I think it goes (ooh) Best song ever It was the best song ever It was the best song ever It was the best song ever	
--	--	--

Based on the table above, the author has classified the types of deixis contained in the song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction. With these groupings, the author can easily analyze the types of deixis that exist.

According to Fitriani, the first-person pronoun is a reference to the speaker himself. In other words, the first-person pronoun refers to the speaker. Personal pronouns can be divided into two parts: singular and plural. The singular pronouns come in several forms, such as me. Plural pronouns, on the other hand, have several forms: we, us, and ours.

The indication of the results of the deixis research on the song is the use of words that are light and easy to understand. Then the song uses more personal deixis and temporal deixis, but more personal deixis appears because the song tells the story of someone who falls in love at first sight through a first-person perspective. In the previous study, the first song entitled "My Heart Will Go On" used a lot of person deixis, which means that in the text it explains or shows that the song refers to the person being spoken of in the song. Meanwhile, the second song entitled "You are The Reason" still uses more personal deixis, which means that the song explains the meaning that refers to the person being spoken of in the song.

It can be interpreted that these songs use more personal deixis because the theme of the song talks about a person or describes someone who is being talked about and refers to the inclusive or plural form.

## CONCLUSION

In this study, the author has analyzed a song entitled “Best Song Ever” by One Direction and found several types of deixis that often appear in each verse of the song's lyrics, namely person deixis and temporal/time deixis using qualitative research methods. The dominant deixis in the lyric song “Best Song Ever” by One Direction is person deixis. It means that the song can help as a medium to learn about several types of deixis such as personal deixis and temporal deixis which are widely found in the song.

## REFERENCES

Asmarita, A., & Haryudin, A. (2019). An Analysis Deixis in Ridwan Kamil’S Speech At

- the Asia Africa Conference (Kaa). *PROJECT (Professional Journal of English Education)*, 2(5), 622. <https://doi.org/10.22460/project.v2i5.p622-627>
- Fitriani, & Moncayo, G. (n.d.). PENGGUNAAN DEIKSIS DALAM PEMBELAJARAN BAHASA INDONESIA SISWA KELAS XI SMA NEGERI 11 MAKASSAR. 1–18.
- Natalia, Y. Y., & Santoso, I. (2020). Person Deixis and Spatial Deixis of King Dangdut By Rhoma Irama Songs. *PROJECT (Professional Journal of English Education)*, 3(3), 348. <https://doi.org/10.22460/project.v3i3.p348-353>
- Sitorus, E. (2019). A Deixis Analysis of Song Lyrics in Calum Scott “You Are the Reason.” *International Journal of Science and Qualitative Analysis*, 5(1), 24. <https://doi.org/10.11648/j.ijjsqa.20190501.14>
- Van Thao, N., & Herman, N. (2020). An Analysis of Deixis to Song Lyrics “My Heart Will Go on” by Celine Dion. *Communication and Linguistics Studies*, 6(2), 23. <https://doi.org/10.11648/j.cls.20200602.12>
- Sunjani, Riki. (2012, 19 Desember). All About Pragmatics. Youth Hand Success. <http://youthandsucces.blogspot.com/2012/12/deixis-deiksis-deixis-merupakan-cabang.html>