

THE WAYS OF EXPRESSING DEIXIS IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

Deixis is a linguistic notion within the domain of pragmatics. Pragmatics studies the way individuals produce and comprehend communicative acts of speech in a concrete speech situation. The ability to produce and comprehend these acts requires a special knowledge of context. That's why deixis is a crucial element of pragmatics. It is closely related to the context of an utterance and the structure of language. Deictic elements are present not only in literary texts but in other pragmatic texts such as newspaper articles or even everyday speech. There are two main divisions of deictic elements. According to traditional linguists there are three main types of deixis: Person deixis, Temporal deixis and Spatial deixis. Modern linguists recognize two extra divisions. They are: Social deixis and Discourse deixis.

The phenomenon of deixis has been of considerable interest to philosophers, linguists, and psychologists. It raises a great number of puzzles about the proper way to think about the semantics of natural languages, and about the relation of semantics and pragmatics. It also reminds us that natural languages have evolved for primary use in face-to-face interaction, and are designed in important ways to exploit that circumstance. The word deictic has its roots in the Greek word 'deiktikos', meaning 'able to show'. A related word is deixis, used in pragmatics and linguistics where it refers to a process whereby either words or expressions are seen to rely on context. Deixis is an important field studied in pragmatics, semantics and linguistics. Deixis refers to the phenomenon wherein understanding the meaning of certain words and phrases in an utterance requires contextual information. Words or phrases that require contextual information to convey any meaning are deictic. It means "pointing" via language. Any linguistic form used to accomplish this "pointing" is called a deictic expression. Deictic expressions are sometimes called indexicals. All these expressions depend on the speaker and hearer sharing the same context.