PRESUPPOSITION USED BY THEODORE LAWRENCE IN LITTLE WOMEN MOVIE BY GRETA GERWIG

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Abstract: Movies serve as a reflection of real-life interactions, and the characters' utterances that convey background knowledge, emotions, and intentions. Therefore, Pragmatics field is often used to study their expressions' meaning, especially with the theory of Presupposition. Therefore, this study aims to identify and classify the types of presuppositions found in Theodore Lawrence's utterances by reviewing the related study before handing down to the self-investigation. This study utilizes qualitative analysis of the movie dialogues to understand the intentional meaning of the character's utterances in relation to the conversation context, as well as using SLR method (Systematic Literature Review) of the knowledge from other researchers. This study is also supported by several relevant related studies, by using the existing data from theories, journals, and other educational platforms. After conducting the research analysis, the researcher found that lots of related studies use the theory of George Yule (1996) to define the types of presupposition. In other words, the researcher concludes that to analyze Theodore Lawrence's utterance in the "Little Women" movie, the researcher is reviewing the study from the previous researchers that have been conducted this type of presupposition field analysis.

Keywords: Little Women, Movie, Pragmatics, Presupposition, Types, Yule.

INTRODUCTION

As social beings, humans naturally rely on others for their survival. To meet this need, humans communicate with each other. Communication serves the purpose of

conveying messages to others, and, of course, humans require a means to do this. One way to phrase this is by saying that humans use communication as a tool to connect with others, share information, and collaborate on various tasks, which is essential for their survival and well-being.

According to (Fasold & Connor-Linton, 2006) stated that language is a distinctive attribute that humans possess. It can be said that language in this context refers to the fact that the human form of language differs from other beings, such as animals and plants. It serves as a means of communication or an essential need for humans because its primary function is to convey intentions, ideas, or emotions through its varied forms, such as gestures, verbal expressions, and writing. Without this function, we would only perceive language as random sounds, random writing, or other physical variations that occur in the surrounding environment.

When someone communicates with easily understood sentences or without implied meanings, it is certainly easily grasped by the listener. However, when someone conveys a message containing implied meanings, the listener must understand the speaker's intentions for communication continuity to occur. That is why the purpose of human communication with others is to convey messages or intentions. Therefore, the field of linguistics is very important because that's where humans can learn language scientifically.

Linguistics is a field of study that explores language as one aspect of human life. In linguistics, we learn one of the characteristics of language, which is meaning. Language carries meaning because that's why we use language, to communicate with each other effectively, conveying 'what we mean'. There are two types of meaning studied in the field of linguistics: semantics and pragmatics. (Leech, 1983) states that both semantics and pragmatics are related to meaning, but they are different.

According to (Yule, 1996), he stated that pragmatics is the study of meaning that is expressed by the

writer or speaker and understood by the reader or listener. Because of this, the focus of this study is primarily on understanding the intentions behind people's utterances rather than it is on the individual meanings of the words or phrases used in those utterances. It encompasses phenomena including implicature, speech acts, relevance, and conversation, as well as nonverbal communication.

This field of study examines how people interpret meaning in particular contexts and how the situation influences what they say or the analysis of the meaning behind what is expressed by a speaker or writer and received by a listener or reader. According to (Mey, 1993), pragmatics is related to language and its users. This field delves into the conditions of human language usage as they are determined by social contexts.

Furthermore, Levinson (1983:27) states that pragmatics is the study of deixis (at least in part), implicature, presupposition, speech acts, and aspects of discourse structure. In some cases, numerous communication issues are occurring around us lately related to the communication process. One of the problems in the communication process is the listener's errors in grasping or capturing the intended meaning of the speaker. To understand the speaker's intention, the listener must consider the context possessed by the speaker. In short, pragmatics is the study of how people use language in context and why they use language in certain ways.

One essential aspect of the field of pragmatics is presupposition. A presupposition is the shared knowledge held by the speaker and the listener that underlies a speech act. Both the speaker and listener must share this knowledge to ensure that the speaker's intentions are accurately interpreted by the listener, allowing the communication process to proceed smoothly. It describes presupposition as something the speaker assumes as a case before making a statement. The speaker, not the sentence, holds presuppositions. He categorizes presuppositions into six types: (1) Existential presupposition, (2) Factive presupposition, (3) Non-factive presupposition, (4) Lexical

presupposition, (5) Structural presupposition, (6) Counterfactual presupposition. It can be said that presupposition is an assumption or belief related to speech.

On the other hand, without presuppositions, speakers and listeners often experience disruptions in understanding each other's exchange of information. One of the factors that frequently causes problems in the communication process is the listener's error in obtaining or grasping the intended meaning of the speaker, especially in the form of implicit information, that is, presuppositions. Presuppositions occur not only in everyday conversations but also in movies. This is because films depict society, and the actors engage in communication or conversation to exchange thoughts, much like in real everyday life. In movies, presuppositions are used to convey background knowledge, emotions, and intentions.

One of the best films in 2019 was Greta Gerwig's "Little Women", written and directed for Sony Pictures. "Little Women" has been adapted several times for film and television, but the latest version is Greta Gerwig's adaptation. Gerwig's adaptation of "Little Women" is a courageous and modern telling of the affectionate stories that represents the contributions of other aspirational women while depicting their remarkable skills. The film follows the story of the four March sisters, each with different characters and dreams, Jo (Saoirse Ronan), a rebellious and independent spirit; Meg (Emma Watson), partly pragmatic and partly romantic; Beth (Elizza Scanlen), kind-hearted and prioritizing family above all; and Amy (Florence Pugh), the youngest, fond of painting, a bit mischievous and selfish, yet possessing practical and realistic thinking. They grew up in Concord, Massachusetts during the nineteenth century after the Civil War, and all four are highly talented young women.

Timothée Chalamet portrays Theodore "Laurie" Lawrence, who the March sisters knew as children and who lives next door. Jo's personality appeals to Laurie's character and she finds it interesting. His presence gives

Jo's story a more exciting element. As the narrative develops, Laurie begins to feel an attachment to Jo, which complicates their relationship. Jo rejects his proposal because, despite his initial romantic interest, she views Laurie more as a friend than as a possible partner. At ease, Laurie determines himself on a travel that leads him to become close with Amy, the youngest March sister, and eventually blossoms into a love affair and marriage.

Hopefully, this research can be an effort to enrich the theory of presupposition in relation to language and its context, as well as gives information about presupposition for those who intend to continue this research by adding some evidences related to the phenomena of presupposition.

METHOD

This article utilizes the literature review method, which critically evaluating and enables researchers to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of knowledge. The method used in this study also involves conducting a literature search using open-access databases and websites, such as Google Search and Scholar, also other open-access platforms, such as University Journals, Researchgate, and Neliti. On the other hand, those studies were seeked with the search words, such "Little Women", "Movie", "Pragmatics", "Presupposition", "Types", "Yule" as reflected from the keywords that can be found in the abstract.

The researcher found five studies that are relevant with the topic ranged by the latest year, which consist of articles and theses that have been conducted the result. Thus, one study that needs to be compared with the other studies. The researcher include that study, because it has the same film title, that is "Little women".

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

There are the five studies that researchers figure out that are significant to this article's topic, that is Presupposition analysis. The first one (Sari Ayu P., 2019) is the thesis by Ayu Puspita Sari took presupposition as

their research title. Its objective is to find the true meaning and the dominant type of presupposition in the utterances produced by Najwa and Ma'ruf Amin in the Mata Najwa Talk Show "Politik Sarung Ma'ruf Amin". Her findings are all Yule's types of presupposition were found in that talk show, based on Holmes' theory of context in utterances. With a total of 18 out of 53 total data points (34%), Structural Presupposition is the first most popular type of presupposition used in that talk show. The two most often used types of presupposition, Factive and Counter-Factual, are ranked 10 out of 53 total data points (18.8%), with the same results. Existential Presupposition ranks third in terms of usage, accounting for 8 out of 53 total data points (15%).

The second study (Astikasari & Masykuroh, 2021) investigated the presupposition found in Raya and The Last Dragon Movie. They choose to use movies as their research subjects because the oral exchanges between the actors in them and the underlying assumptions are more likely to mimic real-world interactions. The investigator observes that a significant amount of assumptions are made by the characters in Raya and the Last Dragon. Another study (Agustina Susi P., 2016) that is included is the analysis in the thesis titled "An Analysis Of Presupposition In The Dialogues Of The Old Man And The Sea Novel" by Susi Pristiya Agustina, which aims to identify assumptions or perceptions conveyed through dialogues in the novel. The researcher examined 11 existential statements, 2 factual statements, 4 lexical statements, 6 structural statements, 4 non-factual statements, and 4 counterfactual statements made by speakers to listeners in the novel.

In addition, there is also two studies that the researcher found relevant to this topic article. But, it is not authentic since the language lies in that study is Indonesian. The first article by (Asmaul Husna et al., 2018) which subjected the film "Rudy Habibie(Habibie dan Ainun 2)". The research method employed in their article is a descriptive approach with a qualitative method. Aside from that, they cited (Sugiyono, 2010:337) that data analysis in qualitative research is carried out during the data collection

process and after the completion of data gathering within a specific period. So, the data analysis employed in their research is descriptive analysis.

Subsequently, (Julianti Sasmita Pongoh, 2021) this study has the same subject of research, that is the film. It analyses the pragmatics presupposition in the film Little Women by Greta Gerwig. In this research, the researcher attempts to identify, classify and analyze the types and meanings of presupposition in the film Little Women by Greta Gerwig. The result shows that there are five types of presupposition and their function applied by the characters in their dialogues. This research is expected to give contributions to the development of linguistic studies, particularly in Pragmatic analysis. It is also expected to help the readers to have knowledge of the pragmatic presupposition.

On the other hand, the study that the researcher stated, that need to be analysed as well is the study by (Margareta Febriana et al., 2022). Their article has the same movie lies as the main source of the data, but their analysis aims to figure out the Deixis part used in "Little women" movie. The field of our study is also similar, as it includes in Pragmatics topics. To note as well, they made the tabulation graphic to represent how frequent each types of deixis occurred in one whole movie, based on only Jo march point of view, a little bit distinguished with the focus of my article which keep on the utterances produced by Theodore Lawrence. It is stated in their article that they are interested in studying deixis, because deixis is one of branches of pragmatic that important to learn because to know the purpose of it can help the readers or listeners to understand what the speakers means in the utterance.

The researcher can conclude that the studies above are mostly make use of documentation method by (Arikunto, 2009) and (Yule, 1996) theories to comprehend their studies. Yule's theory of presupposition would rather be used by them, to get detailed and explicit analysis through Little Women's movie, allowing the researchers to analyze presupposition in various contexts. Several of them also make comparison with the (Levinson, 1983) types of

presupposition, but did not apply it in their studies, since his classifications are broader and too complex to be applied in this study.

The researchers also adopted the idea of Bogdan and Taylor (as cited in Djamal, 2015:9), who define qualitative research as a method that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from individuals or observable behaviors. The research data are mostly analyzed using documentation analysis techniques based on Arikunto's theory (2009). This choice is justified by the examination of information documented in records, making it a valuable reference and example for researchers interested in utilizing a similar research approach.

Furthermore, after reviewing the studies, the researcher can conclude that the difference between the researches above with the others lies in the title of each study, as well as the object analysis, and how they classificate the result of their presupposition studies. These studies analyze the presuppositions found in distinct movies, with the same aim, to identify the use of types of

presupposition within characters' dialogues in the movie.

CONCLUSION

Communication and language in human interactions is essential, highlighting the role of communication as a tool for conveying messages and connecting with others. This article provides an overview of the previous related studies, so that the researchers have a background information and get a clear supported theories, in order to conduct a similar presupposition analysis using the context of the movie "Little Women". The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative method, involves conducting a literature search using open-access databases and websites, such as Google Search and Scholar, as well as other open-access platforms, such as University Journals, Researchgate, and Neliti.

The researcher found five studies that are current with the criteria ranged by the latest year, which consist of articles and theses that have been conducted the result. They are assumed to provide valuable insights into the intentional meaning of

the characters' speech in relation to the conversation context, emphasizing the significance of pragmatics and presupposition in understanding language and communication.

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