

PRESUPPOSITION ANALYSIS IN HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to examine the presupposition of the utterances by Yule's pragmatic theory in *Hotel Transylvania* movie. This research is to find out the language function represented by the main characters in *Hotel Transylvania* by using Searle's illocutionary acts theory. Thus, it used a descriptive qualitative method to examine character's conversations by analyzing the context of the events in the story as well as how the characters deal with each event around. As a result, the researcher found all six types of presuppositions, consisting of existential presupposition, factive presupposition, lexical presupposition, structural presupposition, non-factive presupposition, and counterfactual presupposition. As well as five types of language functions of characters' utterances such as assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives. The researcher revealed the most frequently presupposition used in this research is lexical presupposition with assertives as the prominent language function used. The researcher concluded that conversations depicted through characters could be successful if each character understands the context of the utterances delivered and has a shared knowledge between them.

Keywords: *Presupposition, language function, pragmatic.*

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji praanggapan dalam ujaran menggunakan teori pragmatik George Yule di dalam film Hotel Transylvania. Penelitian ini juga dilakukan untuk menemukan fungsi bahasa yang direpresentasikan oleh karakter di dalam film Hotel Transylvania yang dianalisis menggunakan teori tindak ilokusi Searle. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif untuk mengkaji percakapan karakter dengan menganalisis konteks peristiwa dalam cerita serta bagaimana karakter menghadapi setiap peristiwa di sekitarnya. Sebagai hasil penelitian, peneliti menemukan keseluruhan bentuk praanggapan yaitu: praanggapan eksistensial, praanggapan factual, praanggapan leksikal, praanggapan non-faktual dan praanggapan kontra-faktual. Serta keseluruhan bentuk fungsi bahasa yaitu: asertif, direktif, komisif, ekspresif dan deklaratif. Peneliti mengungkapkan bahwa bentuk praanggapan yang paling banyak digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah praanggapan

leksikal dengan asertif sebagai bentuk dominan fungsi bahasa yang digunakan. Peneliti menyimpulkan bahwa percakapan yang digambarkan melalui karakter bisa berhasil apabila masing-masing karakter memahami konteks ujaran yang disampaikan dan memiliki pengetahuan yang dipahami bersama diantara keduanya.

Kata kunci: *Praanggapan, fungsi bahasa, pragmatik.*

A. INTRODUCTION

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that concerns to speaker's meaning (Yule 3). It means pragmatics concerns with the study of meaning as in communication between the speaker and the hearer. Moreover, by studying pragmatics, people can discuss the intended meaning, assumption, purpose, and goal of the conversation between the speaker and the hearer. To avoid miscommunication, it is necessary to have the same context understood by the speaker and the hearer because sometimes the speaker's assumption is implicit and confusing. In the pragmatics field, there is meaning carried by the speaker that contains intended meaning, namely presupposition.

Presupposition learns the initial assumptions of the speaker before making a speech so that what is conveyed can be understood by the hearer. In this part, the listener also has to consider the context in which the speaker uses the utterances to understand the utterances of the speaker. An utterance must convey some information although it is not mentioned. This information is then processed by the speaker as the presupposition. There may have been any mistake occur in delivering a message or information from the speaker to the hearer. The information that the speaker intends to the hearer may be different. It will make many interpretations from the hearer according to the speaker's statement. Shared knowledge between the speaker and the hearer is needed in this case, because through presupposition, written or verbal language can be understood even though it is not stated in detail.

Presupposition talks about the assumptions that may accompany the statement. The presupposition is also an assumption which the speaker assumes to be mutually manifest to the hearer and has intensively made it clear to both sides in communication through encoded linguistics means. Assumption can be done by making an inference (the hearer's use of additional knowledge to make sense of what is not explicit in an utterance). Such phenomenon is presented in the utterance: "Mary's dress is red". In this utterance, the assumption of the listener is "Mary has a dress". That is something assumed to be true in a sentence that asserts other information. This is called presupposition.

To analyze how the speaker's assumptions are typically expressed, presupposition has been associated with the use of a large number of words, phrases, and structures. The analysis is based on Yule, there are six types of presupposition: Existential Presupposition, Factive Presupposition, Lexical Presupposition, Structural Presupposition, Non-factive Presupposition, and Counter-factual Presupposition (27-28). Presupposition appears in dialogic communication. In dialogic communication both speaker and hearer actively presuppose the utterance or the message conveyed in their

interaction. Presupposition can occur in verbal and non-verbal language not only in daily conversation but also in movie conversation.

Movie is one of the media which is appropriate and interesting to be analyzed to find the phenomena of presupposition. The phenomena of presupposition can be found in the movie since it is the portrayal of society. Many people say that movies or three motion pictures are cultural artifacts created by certain cultures which reflect the cultures. Movie makers usually choose a certain setting for the movie, since the setting will influence the language used in the movie. It means that the language used in the movie is not different from the language used in daily conversation in real life. There are various characters with many dialogues and different utterances that can be analyzed related to the presupposition.

Based on the illustration above, the researcher chose to analyze the presupposition in the movie entitled *Hotel Transylvania*. The movie was released in 2012 and directed by Genndy Tartarovsky. In this movie, there were so many presuppositions indicated in the dialogues between the characters. At first glance, maybe the audience will easily understand the storyline of this movie because the target audience in this movie includes the ages of children to adults. However, if examined more deeply, it turns out that the sentences uttered by the characters have implied and/or explicit meanings related to the topic chosen by the researcher. Therefore, based on the discussion above, the researcher proposes to convey a study entitled “Presupposition Analysis in *Hotel Transylvania* Movie”.

Based on the background above, the aims of this study (1) is to classify presuppositions used by character’s utterances and (2) is to find out language functions in each presupposition found in *Hotel Transylvania* movie by Genndy Tartarovsky in 2012.

B. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

1. Presupposition

In pragmatics, the presupposition is an appeal to the idea that the speaker assumes a certain information is already known by the listener. Since it deals with something that is known, the information will generally not be stated and consequently will be considered as part of what is communicated but not said (Yule 25). With this theory, the speaker can deliver a sentence that he or she assumes the listener (as opposed to speaking to) can understand, but perhaps another listener (in the same room) who hears the utterance and does not have a shared knowledge with the speaker may not understand the meaning of the sentence.

The speaker’s assumption in their sentence is sometimes implicit and makes the listener confused to identify certain information from the speaker. Assumption can be done by making an inference, or the listener uses additional knowledge to understand what is not explicit in an utterance, based on their shared knowledge. The listener must consider the context in which the speaker uses the utterances to understand the speaker’s utterance.

To learn more specifically, Yule classifies presupposition into six types, namely existential presupposition, factive presupposition, lexical presupposition, structural presupposition, non-factive presupposition, and counter-factual presupposition.

2. Functions of Language

Searle developed the theory of speech acts into a concept where acts characteristically performed by uttering expressions in accordance with certain constitutive rules (9). The basic form of constitutive rules according to Searle is: X is considered as Y in the context of C. For example, when you lift the finger in an auction house then you are considered bidding, what you do is considered as an offer. This case shows that the contribution of speech acts in linguistic communication as action is performed while uttering a language.

From those explanations above, the researcher can simplify it through Yule's opinion that speech acts is an action performed via utterances (47). People always try to express themselves in various ways. And they do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words but also perform actions via those utterances. Utterances (or words) can change the world, as an example that often encounter, when you have made many mistakes at school and the principal has given several reprimands and sanctions, then one day the principal says "you are expelled right now", this utterance of the expression is more than just a statement. It can be used to perform the act of ending your school.

To get clearer, Searle offers a classification based on the difference between the two 'directions of compatibility' between language and reality, from word to world, on the one hand, and from the world to words, on the other. They are assertives, directives, commissives, expressives and declaratives.

3. Context

Context is an environmental aspect that is physically or socially linked in a speech or text. It cannot be separated in understanding the meaning of an utterance. As quoted by Yule, context means the situation surrounding or accompanying the production of an utterance (21). The situation referred to in this quote covers both linguistic and non-linguistic contexts. The linguistic context is the language surrounding or accompanying the piece of discourse under analysis. While the non-linguistic context includes the type of communication event, the topic, the setting including location and time of situation, the participant and the relationship between them, the background of knowledge, and the assumption underlying communication.

Another definition comes from Leech, that we know pragmatics: how the language is used in communication (1). The nature of language will not be entirely understandable except understanding pragmatics: language is used in communicating. In other words, a context contained in the language is the basis of the language itself. Moreover, Levinson asserts that pragmatics is the study of the relations between language and context that are basic to an account of language understanding (21). By this means, the context must participate in the process of the assessment to understand the full meaning. Since pragmatics is the basic sciences that examine the relationship between language and context as the basis of consideration for understanding language,

in the context of language study, the context must participate (inseparably) in the process of the assessment to understand the full meaning. If the context was ignored, then the study can no longer be called a pragmatic study, but rather a structural study of language, not pragmatically.

Departing from the definitions above, the researcher uses context in general to analyze the language used in the utterances found on the object of research to make it easier for the researcher to examine the function of language from those utterances.

4. Synopsis of *Hotel Transylvania* Movie

Genndy Tartarovsky's *Hotel Transylvania* was released on September 28th, 2012 by Columbia Pictures. An animation fantasy comedy movie directed by Genndy Tartarovsky and produced by Michelle Murdocca, Sony Pictures Animation. It is a story about the world of the monster where the owner of *Hotel Transylvania*, Dracula, makes a comfortable place to stay for monsters to take a rest from human civilization. To celebrate the 118th birthday of his daughter, Mavis, Dracula invites some of the most famous monsters including Frankenstein's monster, Mummy, a Werewolf family, and the Invisible Man. Dracula has to protect Mavis from falling in love with Jonathan, an ordinary human traveler who unexpectedly came to the hotel before the hotel's guests learn there is a human in the castle which may endanger the hotel's future.

C. METHOD

The researcher used descriptive qualitative research methodology to conduct this research. According to Miles and Huberman, qualitative research does not give the numeral or statistics, but it depends on how the knowledge of the researcher is in analyzing the data (1). Qualitative research was used to emphasize describing the phenomenon in its content by interpreting the data. The data analysis in this research was in the form of a description. Creswell also explains that qualitative research is descriptive in that the researcher is interested in process, meaning, and understanding gained through words or pictures (145). Thus, from the understanding of the theory, the researcher used descriptive qualitative research because the researcher would like to describe the types of presupposition found in the movie entitled *Hotel Transylvania* in the form of utterances.

1. Data and Data Sources

The source of data in this research is *Hotel Transylvania* Movie by Genndy Tartarovsky (2012). Meanwhile, the data are presented through words, phrases, clauses, sentences, dialogues from character's utterances throughout the movie.

2. Data Collection

The methods of data collection used by the researcher were observation and taking notes. In observation, the researcher watched *Hotel Transylvania* movie and paid attention to the conversation that occurred in the movie. The next step was taking notes that the researcher recorded the contents, analyzed, and classified the types of presupposition and revealed the function of each type. This step was conducted by noting quotations, descriptions, page, and time of scene from the script analysed.

3. Data Analysis

Data reduction is the first step of analyzing data in this research. The researcher categorized utterances contain presuppositions represented in Hotel Transylvania Movie based on Yule's theory. The second step is data display. In this step, the researcher displayed the narrative data from the utterances of the characters related to the topic analyzed. The researcher put codes next to the data according to the page of the script, duration of the scene, and types of presuppositions to make the researcher easier to recheck and to get understood by the readers. The last step to analyze the data in this research is conclusion drawing. In this step, the researcher concluded the result of the research based on the research problems connected the conclusion to the research objectives.

D. Results and Discussion

In this point, the researcher aims to identify presupposition theory by George Yule that are presented through characters in the movie and followed by types of language functions of presupposition that have been found whilst following the order of page script and the timeline of the scene. The researcher will observe the character's utterances by using illocutionary force theory which John Searle offered and defined the classifications of speech acts to indicate the language functions.

1. Result

In findings, the researcher finds all types of presupposition as well as language functions indicated as the data in the research. Conversations between one and another character in the movie that related to the topic were used in this research.

a. Existential Presupposition

Ps 2| Ds 00:04:24-00:04:33| Ep.



Dracula: It's time, my darling Martha. The place we always talked about for Mavis. No one will ever harm her here.

This conversation happened after Dracula's worker informed him that the hotel was ready after being build. Then, he walked inside a room to find a picture of him, Mavis, and Martha. Whilst looked at it with a somber face, he said the dialogue above to his deceased wife. It was revealed later in the movie with the real reason for the promise.

The place we always talked about for Mavis.

>> The place exists

This was a presupposition of existential, for the phrase ‘the place’ is a definite noun. This sentence presupposed that the place they have been talking about for Mavis’ safety existed. With existential presupposition to mean the place exists, this sentence had a function of assertive. In this case, Dracula stated what he believes as, in the fact that the time has come, a safe place for their Mavis has been finished building.

b. Factive Presupposition

Ps 1| Ds 00:01:10-00:01:16| Fp.



Dracula: Peek-a-boo!

(Baby crying)

Dracula: No, no, no, no, no. I didn't mean to startle you, my little baby. Shh, shh, shh.

The conversation happened at the beginning of the film. Dracula, in bat form, flew into the baby’s room then he transformed into human form making a pretty scary gesture with his hand as if he was going to bite someone. Instead, Dracula said peek-a-boo to baby Mavis wanting to play with her, thus startling her, making her cry. Dracula also startled with the baby crying, picked her up and sang her a song to calm her down.

I didn't mean to startle you, my little baby.

>> He startled her

For a fact taken from the script that baby Mavis was crying, it suggested that Dracula did startle little Mavis, making her cry. Dracula’s dialogue said he ‘didn’t mean to’ could be perceived as he regretted his action which happened.⁷⁵⁷

In addition, this sentence functions as expressives. By saying ‘did not mean to’ it also meant that Dracula expressed his sorrow by regretting what he did. He was stating that he felt regret startling and making Mavis cry.

c. Lexical Presupposition

Ps 29| Ds 00:47:10-00:47:14| Lp.



Dracula: Okay. You see these tables? You can spend the entire day pulling them out and placing them, party planner.

Jonathan: Fantastic. I'm trapped here. Now I know how your daughter feels.

(TABLE SCRATCHING FLOOR)

Dracula: Enough! *Enough! Stop! Go to a corner, you're in a timeout!*

Jonathan: Timeout? I'm a grown man! Ahh!

This conversation happened at the ballroom, the place for Mavis' birthday party. It was between Dracula and Johnny when Dracula found out that Johnny still had not left the hotel. So Dracula put Johnny in party preparation duties to set the tables. Johnny, at that point, did not know that the tables can be moved by instructing them. After pushing the tables with his strength causing a screeching sound, Dracula got annoyed and put him in a timeout. He casted magic that made Johnny faced the corner and sucked his thumb.

Enough! Stop! Go to a corner, you're in a timeout!

>> He was still doing something, until stopped and sent to the corner to a timeout.

This sentence showed a lexical presupposition. By using the word 'stop' another meaning can be assumed to be true. In this case, the word 'stop' presupposed Johnny was still doing something until Dracula sent him to a corner in a timeout condition.

In this scenario, this sentence had declaratives function. When Dracula stopped Johnny and sent Johnny to a timeout, he changed the world via his words. Dracula was the owner of the hotel, and at the moment Johnny was playing the role of a party planner. Therefore, Johnny was Dracula's staff. Dracula had an institutional role, technically speaking. When he stopped Johnny from dragging the table across the floor, he changed the world because he stopped Johnny from doing his job, from ruining the table, and also from making loud noises across the ballroom.

d. Structural Presupposition

Ps 2 | Ds 00:06:05-00:06:07 | Sp.



Gremlin husband: We always look forward to coming every year, Count. We enjoy the safety so much.

Dracula: Of course. *That's why we built it*

The conversation occurred between Dracula and The male gremlin. Dracula was welcoming all of the guests who were passing by him in the hotel's lobby. As the owner of the hotel, it was customary for Dracula to welcome and ensure the comfort of his regular guests.

That's why we built it

>> *Monsters' safety is the reason why the hotel is built.*

This sentence had a structural presupposition. In this case, the sentence used wh-form to explain and remind the gremlin that the fact the hotel was built was to protect the monsters from the human. With the structural presupposition to state a fact of the reason why the place was built, this sentence also had assertives function. This sentence referred to what Dracula believes to be the fact of why the hotel was built.

e. Non-factive Presupposition

Ps 42 | Ds 01:12:58-01:13:02 | Nfp.



Frankenstein: *Imagine if that guy knew he was talking to the real Drac.* He'd run for the hills!

This conversation happened at a monster's festival when Dracula and his friends tried to chase Johnny to stop him from leaving. After the climax, Johnny left the hotel to get back home by airplane. The monsters on their way to Johnny encountered a human festival about monsters which blocked their way to the airport. All the humans there had

costumes on, so the monsters blend in pretty well. They had several conversations with the human who had no idea he was talking to real monsters. After the monsters proved they are monsters, only then the humans knew their identity and they did not freak out. They were amazed and they even helped Dracula to get to the airport.

Imagine if that guy knew he was talking to the real Drac.

>> *That guy didn't know he was talking to the real Drac.*

This sentence was proof of non-factive presupposition. By using the word 'imagine', it can be assumed that the information was not true. In the end, it presupposed that guy did not know he was talking to the real Dracula. In addition, this sentence had assertives function. For, it stated the idea of a fact that the human did not know about Dracula's identity as Frankenstein believed this to be true.

f. Counter-factual Presupposition

Ps 21 | Ds 00:33:22-00:33:26 | Cfp.



Frankenstein: I don't have no cousin.

Dracula: No, no, you do. He's your 6th cousin; 3 times removed.

Jonathan: [Hold's up his right arm] On your right arm side.

Frankenstein: [to his right arm] You have a cousin?

Dracula: Frank, *if your arm can talk, it would tell you that the original owner of your arm had a brother...*

Jonathan: ...Who married a woman....

Dracula: ...Who was... [Makes killing gesture]

Jonathan: ...For strangling a pig.

This conversation happened between Jonathan, Dracula, and Frankenstein in the hotel's lobby. Dracula had finished dressing Jonathan as a monster to disguise him, so no one would know that he is a human. Dracula then took Jonathan to secret passageways to get rid of him without anybody knowing. Unfortunately for Dracula, he did not manage to find the right way to outside the hotel. Instead, they ended up in the lobby where Frankenstein and all the other monsters were gathered. So to avoid suspicions, Dracula told Jonathan to stay inside the passageway and he went to talk with the monsters. At the same time, Mavis popped up behind Jonathan and made conversation with him, which led Jonathan to his monster identity as the cousin of Frankenstein, named Johnnystein. Johnny then was spooked and jumped out of the passageway when a spider popped up in front of him to greet Mavis. Seeing Johnny,

Frankenstein immediately questioned Dracula about who Johnny was dressing as Frankenstein look-alike.

If your arm can talk, it would tell you that the original owner of your arm had a brother...

>> The arm cannot talk, thus it cannot tell about its original owner

This sentence is included as a counter-factual presupposition. Since this sentence was an assumption of what is a counter of true. Seeing the use of if-clause, it can be presupposed that the arm cannot talk. In this case, this sentence functions as commissives. It can be seen by the use of the phrase 'it would' that it's suggesting an action to be done in the possible future by the arm. Thus, the arm was supposedly the doer of the possible future if it could talk.

2. Discussion

In this part, the researcher presents the discussion based on the findings of the research. In accordance with presupposition theory by George Yule and functions of language by John Searle, the findings in this research implicate the representation of presuppositions and its functions in *Hotel Transylvania* Movie by Genndy Tartarovsky in 2012.

Through the findings, the researcher realized and found out that the study of meaning between speaker and listener cannot be separated from studying the context of the conversation. Especially when studying presupposed meaning. It might not be possible to understand the information shared if the participants did not share common knowledge surrounding the situation of the conversation. Furthermore, the researcher found that presupposition can be used to turn a fake fact into a fact regarding the speaker's knowledge and intended meaning.

The context gathered through the scene of the movie suggests that Wayne pranked Griffin by pulling his pants down. But Wayne's dialogue suggests that the kids pulled Griffin's pants down. By redirecting the participants' assumption, Wayne also redirects the meaning he presupposed. What originally is his doing, now become the kids' doing based on his dialogue.

In addition, the researcher used indicators of language function which is defined by Searle to determine the functions for each data that used presupposition. According to the theory, there were five types of functions of language, they are assertives, directives, commissives, expressives and declaratives. The researcher indicated the functions for each data right after the analysis of presupposition and for the result the researcher has found all five types of language function of the data.

Although there were times presupposition in this movie is used as the material for the movie's jokes. It still can be analyzed, and it still functions as a regular language tool, specifically as an action performed via utterances. In which there were several classifications; committing the truth as the speaker's belief, making someone do something, as future action, and changes the world via utterances. It has been proven in the findings that all the presuppositions used by the characters can be identified and indicated using Searle's theory of speech act which he classifies into five types of language functions.

E. CONCLUSION

This research focused on finding the presupposition and its function in the *Hotel Transylvania* Movie. Through the explanation in previous chapter, it can be concluded that studying presupposition will not be successful without the context accompanying the information. As well as the information shared between speaker and listener cannot be successful if the participants did not share the common knowledge behind the information. Otherwise, if the participants did not share the common knowledge underlying the information shared, miscommunication is possible to happen and often leads to disagreement.

Based on the analysis of the used presuppositions, the analysis of language functions can be conveyed. Five types of speech acts' classifications that indicate the language function was found in the movie script, they are assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives as defined by Searle (1969). Therefore, the data served as an action performed via utterances, which are committing the truth as the speaker's belief, making someone do something, as future action, and changes the world via utterances. Through these data, it can be said that each data that used presupposition in the movie has functioned as defined by Searle.

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