

## Analyzing Deixis in the Lyrics of the Pop Ballad 'It's You' by Sezairi

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### Abstract

Deixis, a key concept in linguistics, involves expressions whose meanings are context-dependent, such as personal pronouns, temporal markers, spatial terms, and demonstratives. While deixis has been extensively studied in spoken and literary discourse, its function in song lyrics, particularly its role in conveying emotional depth and narrative coherence, remains underexplored. This study aims to address that gap by examining the use of deictic expressions in the pop ballad *It's You* by Sezairi. Using a descriptive-analytic qualitative method, this research involves identifying, classifying, and analyzing deictic forms in the song's lyrics. Through in-depth textual analysis, the study seeks to uncover the role of these expressions in shaping both the narrative structure and emotional resonance of the song. The findings reveal that personal deixis is the most dominant (77.27%), followed by temporal deixis (12.12%), demonstrative deixis (6.06%), and spatial deixis (4.55%). Personal deixis contributes significantly to emotional intimacy and listener relatability. Temporal and spatial deixis serve to ground the lyrics within specific emotional or situational contexts, while demonstrative deixis establishes shared reference points that guide the listener's focus. Together, these deictic elements effectively convey themes of love and belonging, demonstrating the intricate relationship between language, meaning, and listener interpretation in contemporary music. This study contributes to both linguistic and musicological scholarship by highlighting how deictic expressions function as powerful tools for emotional and narrative construction in song lyrics.

**Keywords:** Sezairi; Pragmatic; Deixis; Song; Lyrics

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## INTRODUCTION

Pragmatics is a crucial area of linguistic inquiry that explores how speakers convey and interpret meaning within various contexts. It goes beyond the literal interpretation of language to examine the intended meanings behind utterances. Smith said this branch of linguistics investigates how individuals use language as a dynamic tool for communication, focusing on the interplay between linguistic expressions and the situational, cultural, and interpersonal contexts in which they occur (Illiycin & Kusworo, 2023). As a central subfield of linguistics, pragmatics analyzes the real-world application of language and how meaning is shaped by speaker intention, social norms, and environmental factors (Harahap et al., 2024). It also considers how social relationships and non-verbal cues influence interpretation (Utami & Sahril, 2023). The scope of pragmatics encompasses several core concepts, most notably deixis, presupposition, implicature, and speech acts, which collectively underscore the contextual and often subjective nature of language use (Illiycin & Kusworo, 2023). These components reveal the flexible relationship between language and social interaction, highlighting how linguistic

meaning is not fixed but continuously reshaped by communicative context (Setyawati et al., 2024).

Among these concepts, deixis plays a particularly foundational role by anchoring language to its context of use. Originating from the Greek term *deiktikos*, meaning "to point," deixis refers to expressions whose full meanings rely on contextual variables for interpretation (Safitri, 2024). Such expressions depend on extralinguistic factors such as the identity of speaker and listener, temporal and spatial references, and discourse positioning to convey meaning (Simatupang & Fathonah, 2020). Common examples include personal pronouns like *I* and *you*, demonstratives like *this* and *that*, and adverbs of time and place like *now* and *here*, all of which shift meaning based on their use within a particular communicative setting (Bunyarang Suriya & Prasongsook Sooksil, 2022). Levinson's typology of deixis identifies five primary categories: personal deixis (Identifying discourse participants, for instance *I* and *you*), spatial deixis (specifying location, for instance *here* and *there*), temporal deixis (relating to time, for instance *now* and *then*), social deixis (indicating social hierarchy and relations), and discourse deixis (highlighting components within the discourse itself) (Safi'i, 2025). This framework continues to inform analysis across a wide array of genres, including both spoken interaction and artistic texts such as poetry and song lyrics.

In expressive media such as song lyrics, deixis serves a central function in shaping emotional resonance and guiding interpretation. Songs operate as emotional and artistic expressions, blending linguistic creativity with musical composition. According to (Pristianingrum & Damayanti, 2022), a song is a musical composition woven with poetic text, where both verbal and musical structures are crucial for conveying meaning. Lyrics serve not only as narrative vehicles but also as means of emotional and cultural expression, creating intimate spaces for listener engagement. Deictic expressions in lyrics enhance this engagement by establishing direct, often personal connections with the audience. Raj & Muniapan said when paired with musical elements such as melody, rhythm, and harmony, deixis contributes to a cohesive emotional and narrative structure (Hamdani, 2023). These linguistic and musical elements together enable the audience to experience the narrative from within, rather than as external observers. For example, personal deixis via pronouns like *I* and *you* creates a sense of intimacy, allowing listeners to either identify with the speaker or feel personally addressed. Spatial deixis through expressions like *here* and *under* places the listener within imagined or metaphorical locations, enriching the lyrical world.

Temporal deixis with terms such as *today* or *every night* evokes time-bound emotions such as urgency or nostalgia. Demonstrative deixis using markers like *this* and *that* draws attention to emotionally significant elements within the lyrics. The interaction between deixis and melody further enables nuanced expressions of emotional and psychological states. Moreover, deixis adds semantic depth and relational meaning to musical texts, allowing listeners to connect intellectually and emotionally with the song's content. This dual engagement highlights the power of deictic expressions to foster immersion and intensify affective experience. Within the realm of pop ballads, deixis is often employed to heighten narrative and emotional impact. Known for their emotionally charged lyrics and themes of love, longing, and personal reflection, pop ballads frequently rely on deictic markers to personalize the story and draw the listener into the singer's inner world.

This research explores the application of deixis in the pop ballad *It's You* by (Sezairi, n.d.), a song noted for its lyrical intimacy and emotional depth. Drawing on Levinson's deictic framework, the analysis investigates how various types of deixis contribute to narrative construction and emotional engagement (Sabtiana, 2025). Building on prior

explorations of deixis in music, the purpose of this study is to determine the most prevalent types of deixis found in the lyrics and to assess how they function in influencing the listener's understanding and emotional engagement. To achieve this, the research is driven by two main questions (1) What is the most frequently occurring type of deixis in *It's You*? and (2) How do deictic expressions function in conveying emotional nuance and contributing to the narrative structure of Sezairi's *It's You*? Through this investigation, the study seeks to demonstrate how deictic markers in pop ballad lyrics operate not only as stylistic features but also as integral mechanisms for emotional storytelling. Ultimately, this focused analysis of *It's You* sheds light on the pragmatic strategies embedded in contemporary pop music, illustrating the interdisciplinary relevance of deixis in bridging linguistic theory and musical expression. By highlighting the interplay between language and emotion in musical contexts, this study offers insight into the communicative power of lyrics and their role in shaping human experience.

## METHOD

### Research Design

This study seeks to examine the types of deixis employed in the lyrics of *It's You*. The analysis centers on four primary categories: personal, temporal, spatial, and demonstrative deixis. In addition to identifying these types, the study explores how deictic expressions contribute to the narrative structure and emotional impact of the song. Deixis is regarded as a crucial element in creating an emotional bond between the singer and the listener, as well as in enhancing the conveyance of the song's message. The study adopts a qualitative descriptive-analytic approach. Textual analysis and interpretation are employed as the primary methods. The lyrics are examined in depth to identify deictic expressions and to determine their contextual functions within the overall structure of the song. The analysis reveals how deixis reflects the speaker's perspective, situates time and space, and illustrates the social relationships embedded in the narrative.

This research is grounded in existing studies on deixis and qualitative methodology. According to (Suratullah et al., 2023), qualitative research enables an in-depth investigation of experiences, perceptions, and behaviors. (Oktazsya Marjelina Lorenza et al., 2024) emphasize that this method offers a comprehensive understanding of cultural and social phenomena. (Dwitama, 2025) highlights its ability to uncover meaning through social interaction. (Pandey, 2019) notes that qualitative research positions the researcher as the primary instrument for collecting and interpreting data, focusing on contextual understanding. In this study, the researcher analyzes song lyrics as linguistic expressions rich in emotional and social meaning. As (Mahardika, 2024) suggests, qualitative methods are particularly suited for exploring how communication operates within specific cultural contexts. Therefore, this approach is appropriate for analyzing deixis in song lyrics, as it captures not only grammatical functions but also pragmatic and affective dimensions of language.

### Collection of Data

The data for this study was obtained from the complete lyrics of the song *It's You* by (Sezairi, n.d.), a singer from Singapore. First released in April 2018, the song gained widespread attention for its emotional and heartfelt lyrics. The lyrics were sourced from AZLyrics.com, a widely used public lyric database. Although generally accurate, the lyrics were cross-checked to ensure reliability for academic purposes. The analysis began by identifying deictic expressions throughout the lyrics and classifying them into four main categories: personal, temporal, spatial, and demonstrative deixis. To provide a clear

overview of the data preparation steps, the following table summarizes the classification process used in this study.

Table 1. Deixis Expression Classification Process

No	Step	Description
1	Data Collection	The lyrics of <i>It's You</i> were obtained from AZLyrics.com, a widely used and publicly accessible online lyric database.
2	Verification	Cross-checked for accuracy with official sources.
3	Identification	Close reading of each lyric line to locate deictic expressions.
4	Categorization	Grouped deixis into four types: personal, temporal, spatial, and demonstrative.
5	Analysis	Examined how each deixis type conveys meaning, evokes emotion, and shapes narrative.

## Analysis of Data

The data analysis in this study was carried out through four structured stages to ensure a thorough examination of deixis usage in the lyrics of *It's You*. The first stage involved identifying and classifying all deictic expressions found in the lyrics, covering four main types: personal, temporal, spatial, and demonstrative deixis. This classification aimed to determine which type of deixis was most dominant and how each contributed to constructing the song's meaning. The second stage focused on contextual and functional analysis of each identified deixis. Personal deixis, expressed through the first-person pronoun *I*, for example “I just can't believe what I have found”, reflects a strong sense of intimacy and emotional closeness. Temporal deixis, as seen in the use of *just* “I'm just so stumped”, highlights a moment of emotional immediacy.

Spatial deixis appears in expressions like *here* “Standing here by me”, which locates the emotional presence within a specific setting. Demonstrative deixis, such as *that* “You're all that I've needed”, emphasizes emotional emphasis on a specific referent or feeling. The third stage involved interpreting the overall role of deixis in shaping the narrative structure and emotional resonance of the song. The accurate use of deixis can strengthen the lyrical narrative and deepen the listener's emotional engagement. (Murti Wardhani & Eka Febiyanti, 2024) state that deixis plays a crucial role in interpreting song lyrics, especially when listeners struggle to understand the context. Knowing who is being referred to, as well as when and where an utterance takes place, helps listeners grasp the full meaning of the lyrics. This aligns with (Nasution, 2023) view that through deixis, songwriters effectively draw listeners into the emotional core of the song, enhancing their understanding and emotional connection. The final stage concluded that deixis functions not only as a linguistic marker but also as a powerful tool for conveying narrative meaning and emotional expression. Thus, deixis analysis offers deep insight into how language is used in music to create meaningful and emotionally resonant experiences.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Result

This study focuses on identifying and analyzing deixis expressions in the song *It's You* by (Sezairi, n.d.). It emphasizes four main types of deixis: personal, temporal, spatial, and demonstrative. These types are examined to understand their role in shaping meaning and emotion in the lyrics. Table 2 summarizes the classified deixis found in the song, providing clear examples and functions within the lyrical context. The use of the table helps clarify how deixis contributes to the narrative structure and emotional depth of the song. This research shows that deixis is essential in conveying emotional experiences through language in song lyrics.

Table 2. Type of deixis in "It's You" by Sezairi

No.	Type of Deixis	Frequency	Total	Percentage (%)
1.	Personal		102	77.27
	I	24		
	You	36		
	We	1		
	Me	16		
	My	24		
	Our	1		
2.	Temporal		16	12.12
	Before	1		
	Today	1		
	Every night	1		
	Just	5		
	Now	8		
3.	Spatial		6	4.55
	Under	1		
	Here	2		
	Right through	3		
4	Demonstrative		8	6.06
	That	5		
	This	3		
	Total		132	100

The primary aim of this study is to identify and examine the deictic expressions present in the lyrics of the song *It's You* by (Sezairi, n.d.). The analysis indicates that personal deixis is the most prevalent type found in the song, accounting for 77.27% of all instances. This predominance suggests that the lyrics of *It's You* highlight a strong personal and emotional bond between the singer (as narrator) and the listener. The high frequency of personal deixis also reflects the songwriter's personal involvement in conveying deep emotional messages. In addition to personal deixis, other types identified include temporal deixis (12.12%), demonstrative deixis (6.06%), and spatial deixis (4.55%). Temporal deixis highlights the importance of specific moments in time within the song's narrative, providing temporal context to the emotions expressed. Meanwhile, demonstrative and spatial deixis serve as complementary elements that enhance the visualization and proximity of meaning in the lyrics. These findings suggest that the song *It's You* places greater emphasis on personal and emotional interaction than on references to time, place, or other entities.

Therefore, personal deixis plays a vital role in constructing narrative depth and emotional resonance in the song. This reinforces the connection between the narrator and the listener, demonstrating that deixis serves not only as a linguistic marker but also as a medium for creating a profound emotional experience. The following section presents a detailed analysis of the four main categories of deixis identified in the lyrics of *It's You* by (Sezairi, 2025).

### Personal Deixis

Personal deixis is prominently utilized throughout the song through the frequent use of the pronouns *you* and *I*, which foster a strong interpersonal bond between the singer and the listener. The repeated use of *you*, as observed in the lyric "You, you're my love, my life, my beginning," reflects the singer's subjective perspective and emotional stance toward the beloved. This repetition serves to reinforce the song's intimate and emotionally charged

tone, thereby enabling the audience to feel directly addressed and personally engaged. Furthermore, the use of the pronoun *I*, as in the lyric "*I promise I'll treasure you, girl*," articulates a profound sense of commitment and affection. This utterance not only conveys sentiments of love but also underscores the emotional proximity between the narrator and the addressee. Both forms of personal deixis are central in shaping the song's personal narrative. Through the deliberate selection of pronouns, the singer effectively communicates intense emotional expression, facilitating a deep emotional resonance between the song and its listeners.

The use of personal deixis in these lyrics demonstrates that Sezairi's *It's You* emphasizes a powerful and emotionally evocative relationship between the narrator and the listener. The dominant use of personal pronouns such as *I* and *you* reflects the narrator's intent to engage the listener on an emotional level and to guide them through his personal emotional journey. This illustrates how deixis operates not merely as a linguistic device but as a compelling mechanism for conveying love, emotional intimacy, and vulnerability.

### **Temporal Deixis**

In the song *It's You*, temporal deixis is employed to indicate specific moments in time that carry significant emotional resonance within the narrative. Several forms of temporal deixis are clearly evident in the lyrics, including *before*, *today*, *every night*, *just*, and *now*. These temporal expressions not only function as markers of time but also serve to enhance the emotional message and romantic storyline conveyed by the singer. For instance, the use of *today* in the lyric "*Before today you knew you felt lost*" illustrates a transition from a past marked by confusion to a present moment characterized by love and hope. The word *today* signifies a turning point; the present day emerges as the beginning of emotional clarity and romantic connection, where the narrator seeks to center his attention on the immediate present with the person he loves. Within the context of the song, *before* signifies a period when the narrator had not yet been united with the one he longs for. *Now*, the singer chooses to concentrate solely on the present, which is portrayed as filled with joy, and he expresses a desire to remain perpetually with the individual who now completes his life.

The phrases *every night*, as in "*Treat you right every night*", and *now*, as in "*But now you're my lady*", underscore the consistency and enduring nature of the narrator's affection. These expressions present his feelings as continuous and unwavering, rather than fleeting. Meanwhile, the term *just*, as seen in the lyric "*Made my move, just for you*," conveys a sense of recentness, emphasizing emotionally significant actions that occurred not long ago but remain deeply meaningful. Overall, the use of temporal deixis in this song contributes to the construction of a powerful emotional atmosphere and facilitates a more personal and evocative listening experience for the audience. These expressions not only deepen the emotional content but also organize the sequence of narrative events, allowing the audience to trace the narrator's emotional progression through time and immerse themselves in his present emotional state. In this manner, temporal deixis functions as a central device that structures the song's narrative while reinforcing its emotional core.

### **Spatial Deixis**

Spatial deixis appears in several expressions within the lyrics that describe specific physical locations or positions. Examples of spatial deixis in this song can be found in the lyrics "*Here we are under the moonlight*," "*Right through that door straight to you*," and "*Standing here by me*." These expressions indicate the physical presence and positioning of the narrator and the person they love, creating a sense of spatial approach. The use of the word

here in these lines strengthens the image of being physically together in an intimate and meaningful setting, such as under the moonlight. The line "*Right through that door straight to you*" depicts movement toward the beloved, suggesting the narrator's desire to be close, both physically and emotionally. Similarly, the phrase "*standing here by me*" reflects the narrator's hope that their loved one will always remain close by their side. These spatial references not only function as indicators of place but also serve to deepen the emotional connection within the song. By situating the object of love in a space that feels near and tangible, the singer emphasizes a longing for presence that is warm and personal. Through these spatial expressions, the song constructs a clear sense of physical closeness that mirrors the emotional intimacy being conveyed. In doing so, spatial deixis plays a vital role in shaping the narrative structure guiding the listener through moments of connection and proximity that reflect the emotional progression of the relationship. Spatial deixis in this context significantly contributes to the romantic atmosphere of the song and reinforces the narrative of love, intimacy, and closeness between the narrator and the one they deeply love.

### ***Demonstrative Deixis***

In the song *It's You*, demonstrative deixis is used subtly yet carries strong emotional meaning. One example can be found in the lyric *You're all that I've needed*. In this line, the word *that* functions as a demonstrative that refers to the person the narrator loves. This deixis draws the listener's attention to the significance of this individual's presence in the narrator's life. As a result, the lyric emphasizes the exclusivity of love and the central role that the beloved plays in the emotional world of the singer. Another example of demonstrative deixis appears in the lyric *Cause you've made me into this man*. The word *this* here refers to the new identity or state of being that the narrator has achieved because of love. This expression deepens the emotional tone of the song by showing that the affection given by the beloved has transformed the narrator into a better person. It illustrates how love can act as a powerful and transformative force.

The use of deixis throughout *It's You* works harmoniously to build emotional depth and create a personal connection between the narrator and the listener. Personal deixis plays a vital role in establishing intimacy through the use of pronouns like *I* and *you*, highlighting the close emotional bond and anchoring the narrative in a deeply personal perspective. Temporal deixis emphasizes the present experience of love and marks the progression of emotional moments, shaping the narrative flow by moving from past uncertainty to present fulfillment. Spatial deixis conveys the narrator's desire for physical closeness with the one they love, grounding the emotional connection in a tangible, shared space and guiding the listener through scenes of intimacy and togetherness. Lastly, demonstrative deixis underscores the exclusivity of the narrator's affection, showing that this love is directed to someone specific and irreplaceable. Together, these forms of deixis not only express emotion but also function as structural tools that organize the emotional journey of the narrator moving through time, space, and personal perspective to create a cohesive and emotionally resonant narrative framework. Overall, the use of deixis in *It's You* strengthens the emotional depth and highlights the narrator's deep desire to stay close to their beloved.

### **Discussion**

This study contributes to filling a gap in scholarly research, as studies on the role of deixis in song lyrics remain relatively limited. Indeed, deixis plays a crucial role in constructing the narrative structure and conveying meaning within a song. This research is designed to identify the various types of deixis found in the song *It's You* and to evaluate

and understand their roles in constructing the narrative framework and expressive power of the lyrics. Moreover, this study seeks to compare the use of deixis in *It's You* with its utilization in other pop and ballad songs to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the role of deixis within popular music genres.

The prevalent use of personal deixis in the lyrics of *It's You* demonstrates how personal pronouns are utilized to establish a sense of intimacy between the singer and the listener. The use of pronouns such as *I*, *you*, *we*, *me*, *my*, and *our* reinforces the singer's position as the central figure in the narrative while also highlighting the interpersonal connection established within the lyrics. This phenomenon aligns with (Language, 2025) view that the principal function of personal deixis is to signify the roles of the participants involved in the communication. In this context, the singer serves as the narrator who directly conveys their thoughts or experiences to the audience. Furthermore, (Language, 2025) explains that personal deixis includes the speaker (first person), the addressee (second person), and other relevant participants involved in the interaction. In *It's You*, the presence of such pronouns further emphasizes the personal engagement of the singer with the lyrical content. Music as a medium also enhances the function of deixis by adding depth and nuance to the conveyed message.

The combination of personal deixis and narrative perspective contributes to making the song feel more expressive and meaningful. These findings are in line with previous studies by (Herman & Pardede, 2020), which emphasize the significant role of personal deixis in building a connection between the writer or speaker and the audience. Through the use of personal pronouns, communication becomes more direct, intimate, and easier for the listener to understand. This interpretation is further supported by the previous findings of (Sari & El Fauziah, 2023) in their study analyzing personal and spatial deixis in Adele's song lyrics, they found that deixis serves a fundamental role by representing relational identities, such as an individual being positioned in relation to another and conveying a sense of belonging to the addressee. These findings affirm the centrality of personal deixis in constructing emotional resonance and interpersonal meaning within lyrical narratives.

Temporal deixis is marked by words such as *before*, *today*, *every night*, *just*, and *now*, which express the song's message from a time-related perspective. This relates to the overall meaning of the song, in which the narrator expresses a desire to continue living life together with their beloved. The frequent use of temporal deixis, especially *just* and *now*, reflects an emphasis on fully experiencing the present moment. These expressions indicate how the narrator's emotions and experiences are framed in specific points or spans of time (Silitonga et al., 2024). The dominance of *just* and *now* highlights the focus on the present, as the narrator wishes to cherish each moment with their partner. Additionally, expressions like *every night* and *today* convey a sense of consistency and sincerity in the narrator's feelings. Through this temporal deixis, the song emphasizes the importance of living in the moment and appreciating ongoing togetherness.

The presence of spatial deixis in the song lyrics adds a unique layer in emphasizing both physical and emotional closeness that the singer seeks to convey to the listener. Expressions such as *under*, *here*, and *right through* serve as examples of spatial deixis that clarify position or location within the relationship between the figures in the song. This is supported by (Saerudin, 2024), who defines spatial deixis as linguistic elements that denote the spatial relationship between the speaker and the listener, often termed place deixis or locative expressions. One notable example is the lyric "*Standing here by me*," which reflects the narrator's desire to always be by the side of their loved one. This expression not only implies physical presence but also signifies a longing for continued emotional closeness.

Through spatial deixis, the lyrics present a depiction of space that invites listeners to imagine real-life scenarios that are relatable to their own experiences. This allows the message of the song to be more easily understood and personally felt. In this context, spatial deixis functions as a bridge between the song's lyrics and the listener's lived reality, fostering a deeper and more meaningful connection.

Demonstrative deixis complements the use of other types of deixis in the song *It's You*. One example can be found in the lyric "*You're all that I've needed*," where the word refers to a person of significant importance to the narrator. This word not only serves a referential function but also emphasizes the narrator's commitment and depth of feeling toward the person he loves. The use of demonstrative deixis here signals the narrator's intention to highlight the importance of the beloved's presence as the one and only person he needs. In the context of a song centered on the theme of love, such deixis strengthens the emotional message being conveyed. By emphasizing the difficulties of love and the importance of a partner's presence, the song conveys a profound sense of meaning and commitment, thus cultivating a feeling of intimacy between the narrator and the listener.

### ***The Role of Deixis in Conveying Emotion in It's You***

The researchers' findings on the use of deixis in the song *It's You* indicates that these linguistic elements significantly enhance the emotional resonance and help shape the song's narrative structure. The dominant use of personal pronouns such as *I* and *you* reflects the narrator's intention to engage the listener emotionally and guide them through the narrator's personal emotional journey. This direct address creates a sense of intimacy, making the song feel universal and personally relatable to a broad audience. This study aligns with previous research, particularly that focusing on the dominance of personal deixis in various forms of communication. (Indriani & Widianingsih, 2023) supports this by asserting that personal deixis reflects the narrator's desire to emotionally involve the audience and serves as a medium for expressing feelings through song. Similarly, (Raihan et al., 2025) emphasizes that personal deixis is a crucial element in analyzing translation strategies and linguistic expression. Therefore, personal deixis can be seen as a key component in conveying meaning and emotion from the narrator to the listener.

Temporal deixis, such as *today*, *just*, and *now*, further intensifies the emotional weight of the song by emphasizing the present moment, without reference to the past. These time markers create a sense of immediacy and emotional proximity, allowing the narrator to construct an intense and relevant emotional atmosphere. This reinforces the listener's personal connection to the song. In the view of (Nuraini et al., 2024) highlight that temporal deixis strengthens subjectively delivered messages rooted in the close relationship between the speaker and the addressee. In this way, temporal deixis serves not only as a time indicator but also as an emotional bridge between the narrator and the audience.

Regarding spatial deixis, the findings expand on (Kóczy & Zajdó, 2023), which suggests that spatial deixis expresses relationships based on physical space perception. Phrases like "*standing here by me*" demonstrate how spatial deixis is used metaphorically to express emotional closeness rather than just physical location. This metaphorical use deepens the emotional tone of the song by conveying a sense of intimacy and emotional connection through spatial references.

Demonstrative deixis also plays a significant role in enriching the emotional content of *It's You*, especially in lyrics such as "*You're all that I've needed*" and "*Cause you've made me into this man*." These expressions clearly center the narrative on the loved one, with the demonstrative term *this* emphasizing the depth of affection and appreciation. This

use not only underscores the theme of love but also enhances the song's emotional impact. These findings align with (Rohaili & Syaputri, 2024), who argues that demonstrative deixis, as part of linguistic strategies, enables speakers to refer to themselves, the addressee, or others in discourse, effectively portraying the narrator's roles, interpersonal relationships, and social identity.

### ***The Role of Deixis in Shaping Narrative Structure***

Deixis serves as a fundamental linguistic feature in narrative structure, providing referential anchors that allow the audience to comprehend the identities of participants, the spatial orientation, and the temporal progression of events. It functions not only as a grammatical tool but also as a narrative device to enhance emotional resonance and contextual clarity. Spatial deixis, exemplified in song lyrics such as "*Here we are under the moonlight*" and "*Right through that door straight to you,*" are employed to construct a sense of physical and emotional proximity. These expressions help position the listener within the narrator's emotional space, strengthening the immersive quality of the narrative.

Temporal deixis, including markers like "*today*," "*now*," and "*just*," establishes temporal immediacy and emotional urgency. These expressions organize the sequence of narrative events and invite the audience into the present emotional state of the narrator. (Muthmainah & Chandra, 2021) support this in their study on temporal deixis in short stories, noting its role in clarifying temporal shifts and enhancing narrative coherence. In summary, deixis, both spatial and temporal, plays a critical role in shaping narrative structures by situating the audience within the emotional and contextual landscape of the text.

## **CONCLUSION**

This study underscores the crucial role of deixis in influencing the emotional tone and narrative framework of the song *It's You*. The analysis reveals that personal deixis is the most dominant, accounting for 77.27%, reflecting the narrator's effort to establish emotional closeness and a personal connection with the listener. Temporal deixis, at 12.12%, enhances the emotional urgency within the lyrics, while demonstrative deixis (6.06%) draws attention to specific individuals or objects that serve as emotional focal points. Spatial deixis, though the least frequent (4.55%), still contributes by creating a sense of physical and emotional proximity between narrator and subject.

These findings reinforce the understanding that deictic expressions are central to creating emotionally resonant narratives. Personal deixis in particular builds a direct communicative bridge between the singer and the audience. Temporal and spatial deixis deepen the emotional atmosphere, while demonstrative deixis helps emphasize key emotional elements. Beyond identifying deixis, this study provides insights into how deixis functions as a narrative and emotional strategy in songwriting. It shows that lyrics are not merely aesthetic elements but also linguistic tools that connect individual experience with universal emotion. Through deixis, music becomes a powerful medium of communication between songwriter and listener.

Nevertheless, this study is limited by its focus on a single song and genre. It also does not explore how deixis might be interpreted differently across cultures. Addressing these limitations presents opportunities for further research. Future studies could broaden the scope by examining deixis across multiple genres and cultural contexts to gain a more comprehensive understanding. Additionally, further research could explore the interaction between deixis and other linguistic features, such as figurative language and imagery, to better understand how emotional depth and narrative structure are constructed in song lyrics. By examining *It's You*, this study emphasizes the importance of deictic expression

in evoking listener emotion and building narrative cohesion. The findings affirm deixis as a crucial linguistic and narrative device that positions personal experiences within universal themes of love and connection. Despite its limited scope, this study makes a valuable contribution to the field of pragmatics in music and provides practical insights for songwriting and lyrical interpretation

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