

The Presupposition Usage in Disney Zombies 2: Pragmatic Study

Samuel¹, Ervina CM Simatupang²

^{1,2}English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Widyatama University, Indonesia
Samuel@widyatama.ac.id, ervina.simatupang@widyatama.ac.id

Abstract

This research aims to find the presupposition types and analyze the purpose of speaker's utterances found in Disney Zombies 2. Presupposition is something assumed or presupposed to be true in a sentence or utterance which asserts other information. Based on Yule (1996: 28) presupposition is classified by six types, namely existential, factive, lexical, structural, non-factive, and counterfactual. Qualitative method was used by the writer in analyzing the data. Then, the data were taken from every character's utterance which contains presupposition in Disney Zombie 2. From the results of the analysis, it was discovered all types of presupposition and the most dominant presupposition type is used by the characters was existential presupposition includes 4 utterances of existential (33%), 2 utterances of factive (17%), 1 utterance of lexical (8%), 2 utterances of structural (17%), 1 utterance of non-factive (8%), and 2 utterances of counterfactual presupposition (17%). Then, the speaker purposed that he/she wants to tell the listener the information which becomes exist and to be true (Existential), to show the listener the information which is conveyed is a fact (Factive), to convey the unstated meaning to the listener (Lexical), to know the truth of the missing information (Structural), to show the falsity condition of a case (Non-Factive), to show the opposite from the actual condition (counterfactual).

Keywords

pragmatics;
presupposition;
utterances



I. Introduction

Communication is a dynamic process which takes place around us all the time. Louis A. Allen (1958: 144) mentioned communication is the sum of all the things what someone does when he wants to create understanding in the mind of another. It is including a systematic and continuous process of telling, listening and understanding. (Nistiti, 2021) communication is a fundamental human interaction which plays an important role. This fact is the truth which cannot be separated from the use of language as the medium of communication, whether written, spoken, gesture, and sign. From daily human activities, they can communicate to the others consciously and unconsciously wherever, whenever, or in any kind of situations. By communicating, humans can fulfill their needs and achieve their life goals, because communicating is a very fundamental human need. Therefore, as social beings, humans want to communicate relate to other people. It is because they want to know surrounding their environment. In this case, it will appear some curiosities which forces humans to communicate.

Ramadhan (2008: 15) said in the communication process, a speaker always conveys his speech to communicate something to the listener. Simatupang (2020) stated a good communication can be defined when the speaker' and listener' messages are achieved and able to be understood by each other. The speaker hopes the listener can understand the meaning of the speech what the speaker said. For this reason, speakers always try to make

their speech always relevant to the context, clear, easy to understand, concise and always on point, so it will not waste the speaker's time. Every listener must be able to understand the intent and meaning of the speech which be spoken by the speaker. In this case, it is not only how to understand about what has been said by the speaker, but also every listener must understand what is the context and background of speech. Communication is the process of delivering messages by someone to other people to tell, change attitudes, opinions or behavior either directly orally or indirectly through the media. In this communication requires a reciprocal relationship between the delivery of messages and recipients namely communicators and communicants. (Hasbullah, et al. 2018)

Pragmatics is one of the linguistics field which appropriates to this research. According to Yule (1996: 3), the Pragmatics focused on study of meaning as communicated by a speaker or writer and interpreted by a listener or reader. Hence, it means that can be said pragmatics focus on meaning as an aspect in analyzing both speaker and listener conversation. In addition, pragmatics obviously needs to explain more aspect of meaning which cannot be found in the sense of the words. Paradieta (2014) stated in a conversation, there are certain times when the speakers propose their linguistics message based on thier assumptions of what they have already known. The utterance what the speaker tries to say contains implicit meaning which is aimed to be delivered to the hearer. When people gain understanding in their conversation, they will feel easier to adapt the intended meaning, and assumption of the topic. In pragmatic, presupposition is one of elements which used in order to create the proper assumption in communication (Zakrimal, 2020). When people gain understanding in their conversation, they will feel easier to adapt the intended meaning, and assumption of the topic.

Presuppositions can be found when we are watching a drama, series or film. The audience must have an assumption about a speech spoken by the actor in the film. These assumptions will sometimes be more helpful for the audience to interpret a film, because not all the meanings contained in a film will be stated clearly through the dialogues of the actor. For that reason, the writer aim to discuss the presupposition used in Disney Zombies 2.

II. Review of Literature

2.1 Pragmatics

Pragmatics is the linguistic study of contextual meaning (Thoyyibah, 2017). It analyzes the meaning of language based on the context in the process of communication. Leech (1983: 6) stated pragmatics is study of meaning in relation to speech situation. Meanwhile, it involves interpreting of people thought in a particular context. In this case, a consideration is needed about how speakers organize what they want to convey accordance with who they are talking to, where, when, and under what circumstances. By comprehending the pragmatic rules it is hoped that speakers can use the language in communication properly and the utterances or sentences that are produced can be functioned effectively. In the other hand, it is also hoped the listener can give response or feedback for the messages that are sent by speaker.

2.2 Presupposition

Presupposition is part of pragmatics that links two propositions, for their meaning can be understood. According to Hudson (2000: 321) a presupposition is something assumed or presupposed to be true in a sentence or utterance which asserts other information. Presuppositions are obtained from an utterance according to the context and

background underlying the utterance itself without determining whether the presupposition is true or false. Levinson (1993: 179) defines that presupposition is something that is believed to be the background, related to the speech owned by the speaker and the listener as speech that is appropriate to the context. From the statement, it means there is an implicit meaning from an utterance that we can assume. Yule (1996: 28) classified six types of presupposition: 1) Existential Presupposition 2) Factive Presupposition 3) Lexical Presupposition 4) Structural Presupposition 5) Non-Factive Presupposition 6) Counterfactual Presupposition

2.3 Types of Presupposition

a. Existential Presupposition

Existential presupposition is assumed to be the existence of the entities names by the speaker in constructional possessive.

For example:

Bella's doll is cute.

The presuppositions in the utterance state the existence, namely:

- Bella exists.
- Bella has a doll.

b. Factive Presupposition

Factive presupposition is the assumption which is true and can be identified by some verbs such as 'realize', 'regret', 'know', 'aware', 'odd', and 'glad'.

For example:

Brian realized that he did not make his homework and he got the punishment from his teacher.

In the sentence above the presuppositions are:

- Brian did not make his homework.
- Brian got the punishment.

c. Lexical Presupposition

Lexical Presupposition is a presupposition obtained from speech interpreted through asserted in speech. It is interpreted by the presupposition or another meaning which can be understood by the listener. It usually uses the lexical items such as 'stop', 'start', and 'again'.

For example:

Andy wins the cooking tournament again.

In the sentence above the presuppositions is:

- He was a champion before.

d. Structural Presupposition

Structural presupposition is the assumption associated with the use of certain structures through speech whose structure is clear and easy to understand. What questions are asked, who, where, why and how to show the presuppositions that arise from the speech.

For example:

When did she travel to Paris?

The sentence above shows presuppositions:

- She travelled to Paris.

e. Non-Factive Presupposition

Non-factive presupposition is assumed not to be real or an assumption referred to something that is not true. The verbs such as 'dream', 'imagine', and 'pretend' are used to describe something that is not true and cannot give the real description of utterance.

For example:

He pretends to be a pianist.

The sentence above shows presuppositions:

- He is not a pianist.

f. Counterfactual Presupposition

Counterfactual presupposition produces an understanding that is fact contrary. Conditions that produce presuppositions such as these usually contain "if-clause".

For example:

If I had visited the party last night, I would have met my friends.

The sentence above shows presuppositions:

- I did not visit the party.
- I did not meet my friends.

III. Research Method

This research uses the qualitative method which collects the primarily data by using interpretive analysis (Croker, 2009: 5). As stated by Moleong (2007: 157), a qualitative research method is a research procedure which produces descriptive data in the form of words written or spoken of the person. Hence, the writer took the data from the character's utterances (dialogue) in the Disney Zombies 2 movie which was released in 2020. The writer focused on the character's utterances and selected them while watching the movie using note taking technique. The data was collected by watching the movie, observing, and identifying every utterance which contains presupposition. The writer also downloaded the script from YIFY website to know the detail time of the utterances. In addition, the writer was also classifying the utterances into presupposition and categorizing them based on the types of presupposition.

IV. Results and Discussion

DATA 1

Addison: "That's cheer captain **Bucky, my cousin.**"

Presupposition:

- Bucky exists.
- Bucky is Addison's cousin.

In data 1, the situation occurred when cheer camp was begun. When Bucky was showing up himself by flipping to the stage, Addison introduced her cousin to audiences that he is a cheer captain.

Addison's utterance belongs to existential presupposition, because it can be presupposed that there is someone named Bucky who is a cheer captain. He is not only the cheer captain, but also Addison's cousin.

DATA 2

Addison: "**Cheer Camp's over** and we are finally headed home."

00:11:27,425 --> 00:11:30,205

Presupposition:

- Cheer Camp used to be over.

In data 2, the situation occurred when the Cheer Camp participants have already finished the competition. As the result, Addison's team won the Cheer Camp and brought the trophy. Finally, they headed home with by bus.

The sentence above can be said to be included in the lexical presupposition with the word "over". The context is when the Addison gave a narration to the audience. It is marked of appearance of deep lexical presupposition the sentence is the word "over" which is presume something already happened.

DATA 3

Lacey: "I really **hope** my allergies don't act up."

00:15:29,363 --> 00:15:31,893

Presupposition:

- Her allergies act up.

In data 3, the situation occurred when the Seabrook citizen gathered in the city hall and Cheer Camp participants announced the existence of werewolves to them. Most of them were afraid after hearing the bad news. In the midst among Lacey, Bucky, Kevin, and Stacey's conversation, Lacey showed her fright and hoped her allergies don't act up.

In sentence above shows non-factive presupposition which is marked by the word "hope". It has opposite meaning so, it can be presupposed that Lacey's allergies acts up.

DATA 4

Addison: "**Why** are you smiling?"

Zed: "Because when you said no, I thought you didn't like me anymore."

00:17:13,554 --> 00:17:17,906

Presupposition:

- There is something on Zed's smile.

In data 4, the situation occurred when Zed proposed Addison to be his couple in the Prawn. As the result, she refused Zed's propose, because everyone was freaking out about werewolves which made the anti-monster laws were in affect again, which means Zombies cannot go to Prawn. In that conversation, Zed smiled to Addison and made her a little bit confuse. Apparently, there was a misunderstanding that Zed thought she didn't like him anymore and that's why Zed smiled to Addison.

This sentence above contains a structural presupposition, because it is marked by the question word "why". This question word is used to find out information about a reason. The word question "why" presupposes that Addison wanted to know about Zed's reason, when he was smiling to Addison.

DATA 5

Willa: "**What** did you find out?"

Wyatt: "They saw you howling, Willa."

Willa: "So?"

Wyatt: "We're exposed."

00:19:46,489 --> 00:19:51,928

Presupposition:

- Wyatt found something.

In data 5, the situation occurred when Wyatt a member of werewolves disguised to be a public worker in Seabrook to get information about Great Alpha who can lead the

werewolves to the moonstone. Suddenly, he heard the announcement about the existence of werewolves. He came back to the forbidden forest to tell the bad news what he got to the others that they are exposed.

This sentence above contains a structural presupposition, because it is marked by the question word "what". This question word is used to find out the information. The word question "what" presupposes that Willa wanted to know about information what Wyatt has found.

DATA 6

Wyatt: "...And you **know** we don't have much time. More and more of our pack are getting sick. Our necklaces are almost out of power."

00:20:20,088 --> 00:20:26,702

Presupposition:

- They don't have much time.

In data 6, the situation occurred when Wyatt argued of his idea about finding a Great Alpha to Willa, but Willa wasn't care about his argument. Wyatt tried to make sure to find a Great Alpha immediately, because if was not, their necklaces were almost out of power.

From Wyatt's utterance, it contains factive presupposition which is marked by "know" verb. Wyatt assumed they don't have much time to find a Great Alpha or some consequences will be occurred to them.

DATA 7

Addison: "I **know** the alarm's going to go off, if you don't check out those books."

00:32:29,382 --> 00:32:32,081

Presupposition: The alarm's going to go off.

In data 7, the situation occurred when the werewolves came to the Seabrook's library to find the history books of werewolf. Willa (one of werewolves) found the books which claim werewolves attacked Seabrook settlers, but they struck first and stole their moonstone. So, she wanted to read those books furthermore and tried to steal them. In the other hand, Addison didn't know everything about werewolf's history, but she knew if someone didn't checkout the books, the alarm would go off.

From Addison's utterance, it contains factive presupposition which is marked by "know" verb. Addison assumed the alarm would go off, when Willa didn't check the books out.

DATA 8

Zed: "I'm **Zed**, zombie, football star, presidential hopeful."

00:32:55,408 --> 00:32:59,978

Presupposition:

- Zed exists.

In data 8, the situation occurred when Zed introduced himself to werewolves for giving him some votes in school presidential election.

Zed's utterance belongs to existential presupposition, because it can be presupposed that there is someone named Zed who is a zombie, a football player, and a president candidate.

DATA 9

Addison: "Sorry, but this **practice space** is for cheerleaders only."

00:37:15,363 --> 00:37:18,373

Presupposition:

- Practice space exists.
- Practice space is only for cheerleaders.

In data 9, the situation occurred when Addison wanted to do a cheer practice with the other members in practice space (gymnasium). However, the werewolves were there before Addison. So, she explained them about this place does not belong to public, but this place belongs to cheerleaders.

Addison's utterance contains existential presupposition, because it can be presupposed that there is a practice space which always be used for practicing cheer.

DATA 10

Announcer: "It's election-day, Seabrook! We have an assembly to hear from **our presidential candidates**, and it is going to be so good to see you all."

00:53:37,736 --> 00:53:46,269

Presupposition:

- President candidates exist.

In data 10, the situation occurred when the announcer was announcing the news of election-day has begun. Everyone was invited to attend to the event. There will be president candidates (Bucky and Zed) who will give their speech to audience.

The announcer's utterance belongs to existential presupposition, because it can be presupposed that there are president candidates who will give their speech in the event (election-day).

DATA 11

Willa: "**If** she was serious about being a wolf, **if** she was the Great Alpha, **she wouldn't** have been so careless."

00:56:15,807 --> 00:56:21,120

Presupposition:

- She was not serious about being a wolf.
- She was not the Great Alpha.
- She was so careless

In data 11, the situation occurred when Addison faced the werewolves and was ready to become the part of them by wearing the moonstone necklace. However, she lost it which made Willa angry. She has not trusted her anymore because of her carelessness.

The Willa's utterance above contains counterfactual presupposition which is indicated by if-clause. Willa assumed Addison is someone whom they looked for (The Great Alpha) by taking care the moonstone necklace. Apparently, her assumption is untrue, because Addison has made Willa disappointed by missing the moonstone necklace. The truth is Addison was not serious to become a wolf. To sum up, it can be presupposed something was untrue and contrary.

DATA 12

01:09:18,371 --> 01:09:20,551

Zed: "... **if** you turned into a wolf, **I'd lose** you."

Presupposition:

- She did not turn into a wolf.

- Zed would not lose Addison

In data 12, the situation occurred when Zed gave the missing moonstone to Addison. She thought that Zed found it which would make Addison turn into a wolf. However, he told Addison the truth that he stole her moonstone when they had stopped the demolition.

The Zed's utterance above contains counterfactual presupposition which is indicated by if-clause. Zed presupposed that Addison would turn into a wolf after wearing the moonstone necklace and left Zed forever.

Briefly, based on the analysis, it was found that there are six types of presupposition categories, namely existential, factive, lexical, structural, non-factive, counterfactual. The number of each type is presented by the table below:

Presupposition	Number	Percentage
Existential	4	33%
Factive	2	17%
Lexical	1	8%
Structural	2	17%
Non-factive	1	8%
Counterfactual	2	17%

V. Conclusion

Based on the findings and the discussion, the writer found twelve utterances were detected which contain of presupposition and the most dominant presupposition type is used by the characters was existential presupposition. In detail, there are 4 utterances of existential (33%), 2 utterances of factive (17%), 1 utterance of lexical (8%), 2 utterances of structural (17%), 1 utterance of non-factive (8%), and 2 utterances of counterfactual presupposition (17%). After analyzing the data, the writer discovers all types of presupposition which were used in *Zombies 2*.

Regarding the speaker's purpose using presupposition, the writer concludes every presupposition which used by the speaker has its own specific purpose and function in the conversation. First, the speaker wants to tell the listener the information which becomes exist and to be true (Existential). Second, the speaker wants to show the listener the information which is conveyed is a fact (Factive). Third, the speaker wants to convey the unstated meaning to the listener (Lexical). Fourth, the speaker wants to know the truth of the missing information from the listener that the speaker does not know (Structural). Fifth, the speaker wants to show the falsity condition of a case. The speaker purposes to deliver an opinion which is not only about an untrue case, but also to express a dream or hope which is never becoming real (Non-Factive). The last, the speaker wants to show the opposite from the actual condition (counterfactual).

References

- Crocker, R. A. (2009). *Qualitative Research in Applied Linguistics: A Practical Introduction*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Hasbullah, et al. (2018). Communication Pattern of Wilayatul Hisbah, Lhokseumawe City in Implementing Amar Makruf Nahi Mungkar. *Budapest International Research and Critics Institute-Journal (BIRCI-Journal)*.P. 194-205.

- Hudson, G. (2000). *Essential Introductory Linguistics*. Michigan: Blackwell Publishers Inc.
- Leech, Geoffrey. (1983). *The Principle of Pragmatics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Levinson, C. Stephen. (1993). *Pragmatics*. Great Britain: Cambridge University Press.
- Louis, A. (1958). *Management and Organization*. New York : McGraw-Hill Book Company.
- Moleong, L. J. (2007). *Metodologi penelitian kualitatif edisi revisi*. Bandung : Remaja Rosdakarya.
- Nistiti, N., U.(2021). *Philosophy of Language: Pragmatic Presupposition in Motivational Speech within Discourse and Its Relevance of Motivation in Teaching Learning Process to Reach Goals*. Prosodi. doi: <https://doi.org/10.21107/prosodi.v15i2.12185>
- Paradieta, A.M. (2014). *Presupposition in The Movie Pitch Perfect*. *Lexicon*,3(3), 113-124. doi : 10.22146/lexicon.v3i2.42109
- Ramadhan, A. (2008). *An Analysis of Students' Ability and Difficulties in Public Speaking at Muhammadiyah University of Makassar*. Retrieved from https://digilibadmin.unismuh.ac.id/upload/5870-Full_Text.pdf
- Simatupang, E. C., & Fathonah, P. N. (2020). *Pragmatic Analysis of Deixis in Joko Widodo's Inauguration Speech in 2019*. *English Journal Literacy Utama*, 3(2) 309-316. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33197/ej lutka.v5.iss1.2020.482>
- Thoyyibah, L. (2017). *Presupposition Triggers: A Comparative Analysis between Oral News and Written Online News Discourse*. *JALL: Journal of Applied Linguistics and Literacy*. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.25157/jall.v1i2.1733>
- Yule, G. (1996). *Pragmatics*. Oxford University Press.
- Zakrimal & A'la, S. D. (2020). *An Analysis of Presupposition in "Ouija": Origin of Evil Movie": Pragmatics Approach*. *Scientia Journal*, 2(2) Retrieved from https://ejournal.upbatam.ac.id/index.php/scientia_journal/issue/view/157