

# A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE USE OF DEIXIS IN POLITICAL DISCOURSE

Nur Azizah Sabilla Rusydi; Agus Wijayanto

Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan,  
Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta

## Abstrak

Deiksis, khususnya deiksis temporal dan spasial, umum ditemukan dalam berbagai bentuk media, termasuk surat kabar. Fenomena ini mencerminkan bagaimana jurnalis secara strategis menggunakan bahasa untuk merujuk waktu dan tempat tertentu dalam menyampaikan informasi politik. Penelitian ini berfokus pada penggunaan deiksis waktu dan tempat dalam wacana politik yang dimuat di kolom politik surat kabar *The Jakarta Post* di Indonesia. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah: (1) untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis deiksis temporal dan spasial yang ditemukan dalam artikel berita politik, dan (2) untuk menganalisis makna kontekstual dari ekspresi deiksis tersebut berdasarkan perspektif pragmatik. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode analisis isi sebagai teknik pengumpulan data. Data diperoleh dari lima artikel politik terpilih yang diterbitkan pada tahun 2024, yang disajikan dalam bentuk kutipan yang mengandung deiksis temporal dan spasial. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan dua jenis utama deiksis: deiksis temporal (60%) dan deiksis spasial (40%). Deiksis temporal paling banyak digunakan untuk merujuk pada peristiwa politik yang telah terjadi dan agenda yang akan datang, sedangkan deiksis spasial merujuk pada lokasi-lokasi penting yang relevan dengan konteks politik. Hasil ini menunjukkan bahwa deiksis memiliki peran penting dalam membangun makna kontekstual dan meningkatkan kejelasan informasi politik dalam wacana media.

**Kata Kunci:** pragmatik, deiksis temporal, deiksis spasial, surat kabar, wacana politik.

## Abstract

Deixis, particularly temporal and spatial deixis, is commonly found across various forms of media, including newspapers. This phenomenon reflects how journalists strategically use language to refer to specific times and places in delivering political information. This study focuses on the use of time and spatial deixis in political discourse published in Indonesia's political column of *The Jakarta Post* newspaper. The objectives of this research are: (1) to identify the types of temporal and spatial deixis found in political news articles, and (2) to analyze the contextual meanings of those deixis expressions from a pragmatic perspective. This research adopts a qualitative approach with content analysis as the method of data collection. The data were derived from five selected political articles published in 2024, presented in the form of excerpts containing temporal and spatial deixis. The findings reveal two main types of deixis: temporal deixis (60%) and spatial deixis (40%). Temporal deixis is mostly used to refer to past political events and upcoming agendas, while spatial deixis refers to key locations relevant to the political context. These results show that deixis plays a crucial role in constructing contextual meaning and enhancing the clarity of political information in media discourse.

**Keywords:** pragmatics, temporal deixis, spatial deixis, newspaper, political discourse.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a multifaceted tool humans utilize for communication, serving as a bridge for sharing ideas and thoughts in diverse spheres of existence. According to Sapir (1912) language is intended to reflect the variety of interests that are suggested by its lexicon, and it goes without saying that language complexity and culture are always correlated (p. 233). It is through language that individuals express themselves, whether in everyday conversations, professional settings, or creative endeavors. The significance of language transcends mere words; it encompasses nuances of expression and interpretation deeply rooted in context. When people articulate their thoughts, the meaning conveyed is intricately tied to the specific circumstances and intended message of the interaction. Thus, language facilitates communication and relies heavily on the context and intended meaning to convey ideas and thoughts from one person to another effectively. A subfield of linguistics called pragmatics is a branch of linguistic research that examines the use of language in communicative contexts. Its primary focus is on how the meaning of an utterance is influenced by the social, situational, and cultural contexts in which the language is used. According to Levinson (1983) along with semantics, pragmatics studies the relationship between a semiotic system's structure (language, for example) and how it is used in context. Together, these two disciplines make up the general theory of meaning (p. 1). Pragmatics considers factors such as communication goals, shared knowledge between speakers and listeners, and non-verbal elements like intonation and facial expressions in understanding the meaning of an utterance. Additionally, pragmatics also studies other aspects of verbal interaction, including implicature, cooperative principles, and communication strategies used in various communicative situations.

This research analyzes one of the pragmatics branches named deixis, especially temporal and spatial deixis. According to Levinson (1983) deixis is “the phenomenon whereby some linguistic expressions are systematically dependent on the context for their interpretation (p.2). The first parameter is temporal.” Levinson (1983) stated that temporal deixis is “directly manifested in English in words like now, and, as mentioned in tense. True tenses locate time relative to the moment of speaking, so that past tense is used for events (or situations) preceding it, present for events including it, and future for events succeeding it” (p.4). Then spatial deixis, “reflected in demonstratives like this and that, or adverbs like here and there, where spatial locations are indicated by reference to the place of speaking” (p.4). From this understanding, deixis plays an important role in the interaction between speaker and listener. Contextual information must be understood clearly so that misinterpretation does not occur which can lead

to misunderstanding of the information. One of the existences of deixis can be found in mass media such as radio, television, and newspapers. From this language media, people can get the latest information. Inseparable from the increasingly advanced technology, mass media is now increasingly practical and we can access it easily anywhere and anytime, one of which is newspapers in online form. The various types of online newspapers that we can find in Indonesia are no less updated. As is available now, *The Jakarta Post* newspaper facilitates its readers online. At the beginning of 2024, newspapers report a lot about politics, especially the general elections taking place in Indonesia. Importantly, *The Jakarta Post* will be the focus of the researcher's analysis of the existence of temporal and spatial deixis. Here, the researcher is curious about the application of temporal and spatial deixis in a number of articles from *The Jakarta Post*, one of the country's most well-known English-language newspapers, which caters to readers who are educated foreigners as well as businesspeople in Indonesia.

Based on the research mentioned above, numerous studies on deixis have been conducted by previous researchers. However, studies specifically addressing spatial and temporal deixis remain relatively limited, even though many previous researchers have explored them have examined deixis across diverse contexts and forms of communication, showcasing its versatility as a linguistic phenomenon. Studies have highlighted its role in religious sermons, creative works, political discourse, educational materials, and media interactions. For instance, Al-Hamzi (2023) and Alkhawaldeh (2022) investigated deixis in Yemeni-Arab and English Islamic Friday sermons, revealing that personal deixis predominates and depends heavily on the contextual dynamics of the sermons. Similarly, Arwemi (2022) studied the use of deixis by women in trade interactions at traditional markets in West Sumatra, while Tagliamonte & Jankowski (2020) analyzed how the adverbs "there" and "here" are used in four small municipalities in Northern Ontario. In political discourse, deixis has been explored for its rhetorical effects and its role in shaping communication. Milostivaya (2021) analyzed the structural-semantic and communicative-pragmatic aspects of evidentiality, focusing on how deixis influences the credibility and perception of political messaging. Complementing this, Pribadi & Hasyim (2017) and Hidayah (2024) examined deixis in Donald Trump's speeches, revealing its significance in framing politeness and contextual meaning. Extending this analysis, Bunyarang (2022) explored deixis in the speeches of prominent American figures like Barack Obama and Steve Jobs, illustrating how their use of deixis enhances the contextual relevance of their messages.

In educational settings, deixis has proven valuable in facilitating comprehension and engagement. Studies by Arrachim (2021), Purba (2024), and Triyanti (2022) focused on deixis

in textbooks and student writing, emphasizing its utility in creating more interactive and accessible learning materials. The exploration of deixis further extends to media and online learning environments. For example, Syafryadin (2021) analyzed deixis in *The Jakarta Post*, highlighting its role in news discourse, while Fatimah (2023) examined deixis in children's fairy tales published in *Kompas*, emphasizing its importance in cultural storytelling. Sugianto (2022) investigated its application in online learning interactions via WhatsApp, and Çokal (2019) explored deixis and anaphora in L2 writing, demonstrating its adaptability in various contexts. Deixis also plays a pivotal role in visual and literary narratives. Sartika (2022) analyzed its use in Dhar Mann's short film *Chef Kicks Out Homeless Customer*, and Anandra (2022) examined its function in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. Similarly, Irmanistanti (2024) focused on deixis in the movie script of *The Last Letter From Your Lover* (2021), while Upadani (2024) studied its application in *We Can Be Heroes* by Robert Rodriguez. In creative works, researchers like Widayanti (2019) analyzed deixis in Lucille Fletcher's play *Apologies, Wrong Number*, and Febrianti (2017) explored its use in the comic *Hana Yori Dango*. Additionally, Anggara (2016) examined deixis in Waldjinah's keroncong songs, and Inayah (2023) studied its role in Ervan Ceh Kul's song lyrics, further demonstrating how deixis enhances narrative coherence and audience engagement.

While many studies have analyzed deixis comprehensively, some have adopted narrower, more specialized approaches. For instance, Gobel (2022) focused exclusively on personal deixis in Malcolm X's speech *The Ballot or The Bullet*, using Yule (1996) framework to analyze personal pronouns in rhetorical discourse. This specialized focus contrasts with broader deixis analyses and highlights the importance of in-depth studies. However, studies concentrating specifically on spatial and temporal deixis remain relatively scarce, as most research examines deixis in general. These gaps underscore the need for further exploration of temporal and spatial deixis, which this research seeks to address in its analysis of *The Jakarta Post*.

## **2. METHOD**

This research was qualitative descriptive research. Deictic expression served as the research object for this research. The data from this research were words containing spatial and temporal deixis that were found in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper. The source of data in this research was five political articles chosen and published from February until March 2024 in order to be used as the data in this research. The steps of the analysis are reading the articles, collecting the data by marking the utterances, copying and coding the data, and analyze the contextual meaning.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1. Result

The result of this research reveal the presence of deictic expressions in the form of temporal and spatial deixis in selected online articles from *The Jakarta Post*. The data show a total of 50 utterances, with 43 instances of temporal deixis and 7 instances of spatial deixis. These results indicate that temporal deixis is more frequently used in the articles analyzed.

##### 3.1.1. Deictic expression

##### 3.1.1.1 Temporal deixis

Based on five political articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper, the researcher found 43 data in the form of words and phrases that show temporal deixis in articles selected in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper. The first article entitled **Jokowi signals cabinet reshuffle could take place on Wednesday morning** is most often found with a total of 15 utterances because it is formed when the utterance is made in the form of written text such as "tomorrow, Tuesday, etc." Meanwhile, the word that appears most often in all articles is "Wednesday" with a total of 10 utterances, followed by the use of the word "Last minute" with 3 utterances in total, and continued with other words such as "Thursday, last month, etc." The words "Thursday, October, etc." in calendar deixis refer to something that will come or have passed depending on the specific time of delivery of the written statement in the newspaper article. Likewise, with absolute temporal deixis, the phrases contained there refer to a certain time that is relevant in the context of the sentence by the news writer. The following are the use of temporal deixis found by the researcher in an article from *The Jakarta Post*:

*Table 1 Temporal Deixis*

| No. | Article                                                                | Time Deictic Words                                 | Frequency of Types |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.  | Jokowi signals cabinet reshuffle could take place on Wednesday morning | Wednesday morning                                  | 2                  |
|     |                                                                        | tomorrow                                           | 2                  |
|     |                                                                        | Tuesday                                            | 2                  |
|     |                                                                        | last year                                          | 1                  |
|     |                                                                        | earlier that day                                   | 1                  |
|     |                                                                        | last week's election                               | 1                  |
|     |                                                                        | Barely a week after the 2024 presidential election | 1                  |
|     |                                                                        | on the weekend                                     | 1                  |

|    |                                                              |                                    |   |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
|    |                                                              | around the time                    | 1 |
|    |                                                              | final year                         | 1 |
|    |                                                              | recently                           | 1 |
|    |                                                              | next month                         | 1 |
| 2. | Breaking: KPU confirms Prabowo's landslide win               | Wednesday                          | 1 |
| 3. | Anies files court challenge to election result               | Wednesday                          | 3 |
|    |                                                              | Thursday                           | 1 |
|    |                                                              | last minute                        | 1 |
|    |                                                              | last year                          | 1 |
|    |                                                              | at the time                        | 1 |
| 4. | President-elect Prabowo urges unity after resounding victory | last month's presidential election | 1 |
|    |                                                              | Wednesday                          | 5 |
|    |                                                              | last month election                | 1 |
|    |                                                              | last month                         | 1 |
|    |                                                              | recently                           | 1 |
|    |                                                              | his time                           | 1 |
|    |                                                              | in October                         | 1 |
|    |                                                              | 25 years ago                       | 1 |
|    |                                                              | Last minute                        | 1 |
| 5. | Losing presidential candidate Ganjar calls for new election  | Thursday                           | 2 |
|    |                                                              | last minute                        | 1 |
|    |                                                              | Saturday                           | 1 |
|    |                                                              | this October                       | 1 |
|    |                                                              | last year                          | 1 |
|    |                                                              | at the time                        | 1 |

### 3.1.1.2. Spatial deixis

Based on five political articles in *The Jakarta Post* newspaper, it can be concluded that there were 7 utterances in the form of spatial deixis found by researchers. **Proximal** and **Distal** are two divisions of spatial deixis in explaining this data. *Proximal* and *distal deixis* refer to how the relative distance of a speaker or writer is indicated through certain words or expressions. *Proximal-place deixis* indicates closeness to the speaker or writer, however, according to research results found in *The Jakarta Post* articles, there is no proximal-place deixis. Meanwhile, *Distal-place deixis* indicates a distance to the speaker or writer, this is shown in the data "at the constitutional court, on the bench, etc." with a total of 8 expressions. From the total data, the most often deictic expression found in the article entitled “**Anies files court challenge to**

**election result.”** The word most used in the form of spatial deixis is “at the country's constitutional court” because this article was published in the field of state politics. The data displayed is a deictic expression because the place marked by the newspaper writer is far away from the subject mentioned. The following are the use of spatial deixis found by researcher in an article from *The Jakarta Post*:

*Table 4. 2 Spatial Deixis*

| No. | Article                                                      | Time Deictic Words                     | Frequency of Types |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.  | Anies files court challenge to election result               | at the constitutional court            | 1                  |
|     |                                                              | in key electoral areas                 | 1                  |
|     |                                                              | on the bench                           | 1                  |
| 2.  | President-elect Prabowo urges unity after resounding victory | at his South Jakarta residence         | 1                  |
|     |                                                              | in the world's third-largest democracy | 1                  |
| 3.  | Losing presidential candidate Ganjar calls for new election  | at the country's constitutional court  | 1                  |
|     |                                                              | at the constitutional court            | 1                  |

### 3.1.2. Contextual meaning

#### 3.1.2.1. Temporal deixis

**AR1= Jokowi signals cabinet reshuffle could take place on Wednesday morning**

*Jokowi signals cabinet reshuffle could take place on Wednesday morning (TD/AR1/no 1)*

The word “Wednesday morning” explains the day after the news was posted on Tuesday, February 20, 2024. It means Wednesday February 21, 2024 at 10 a.m.

*“Wait and see tomorrow (TD/AR1/no 2) at 10 a.m.,” the President told journalists on Tuesday (TD/AR1/no 3), without elaborating and while skirting questions about who would get replaced in the cabinet shake-up.*

The word “tomorrow” explains the time of the upcoming event, after reading the next sentence, tomorrow means Wednesday February 21, 2024.

Then the word “Tuesday” explains the deixis of time used in direct

sentences expressed. The phrase on Tuesday means a day when journalists interacted with President Jokowi, that is Tuesday February 20, 2024.

*President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo has hinted that a cabinet reshuffle may happen as soon as Wednesday morning (TD/AR1/no 4), in line with a previous plan from late last year (TD/AR1/no 5).*

The word “Wednesday morning” explains the time of the cabinet reshuffle that will take place in the future, it means Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 10 a.m. exactly one day after the sentence is uttered.

Then, based on the statements made, “last year” means 2023.

*The outgoing president fell short of confirming reports of a potential cabinet shake-up when confronted in Ancol, North Jakarta on Tuesday afternoon (TD/AR1/no 6). “Wait and see tomorrow (TD/AR1/no 7) at 10 a.m.,” he told journalists, without elaborating. He also skirted questions like who in the cabinet would get replaced or whether he would meet with more political party leaders.*

The word “Tuesday afternoon” explains the deixis of time used in direct sentences expressed. The phrase on Tuesday means a day when journalists interacted with President Jokowi on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

Then, the word “tomorrow” explains the time of the upcoming event, after reading the next sentence, tomorrow means Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

*Earlier that day (TD/AR1/no 8), local media quoted politicians speaking about an impending reshuffle, in which Agrarian and Spatial Planning Minister Hadi Tjahjanto would become the new coordinating legal, political, and security affairs minister, replacing Mahfud MD who resigned to run as a vice presidential candidate in last week’s election (TD/AR1/no 9).*

The phrase “Earlier that day” refers to the time before President Jokowi interacted with journalists. The phrase “earlier that day” means Tuesday, February 20, 2024 morning or afternoon.

Then the phrase “last week's election” explains a week before the sentence uttered by the journalist. It means February 14, 2024.

*The confirmation comes barely a week after the 2024 presidential election (TD/AR1/no 10), ahead of which Jokowi had faced accusations of mobilizing state resources in support of presumptive winner Prabowo Subianto.*

The phrase “a week after the 2024 presidential election” means February 20, 2024.

*It also comes after Prabowo visited Agus’ father, former president Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, in Pacitan, East Java, as well as Jokowi’s meeting with NasDem Party chairman Surya Paloh in Jakarta, both on the weekend (TD/AR1/no 11).*

The phrase “on the weekend” means February 17 or 18, 2024.

*Jokowi has voiced his intention to reshuffle his cabinet since October 2023, around the time (TD/AR1/no 12) that NasDem politician Syahrul Yasin Limpo resigned from his post as agriculture minister over a graft investigation at the ministry.*

The phrase “around the time” means before and after October 2023.

*Analysts have deemed Jokowi’s plans for a reshuffle as an opportunity for him to consolidate power in his final year (TD/AR1/no 13) before stepping down, but he has refrained from pulling the trigger since the campaign season started.*

The phrase “final year” as an adverb of time means 2024 as the year of the election and the presidential transition of Jokowi too.

*More recently (TD/AR1/no 14), critics have shunned the President’s political maneuvers right after survey agencies confirmed Prabowo’s election win in several quick counts. Official election returns are not due until next month (TD/AR1/no 15).*

The phrase “more recently” as an adverb of time means the period between 15-19 February 2024.

Then, the phrase “next month” refers to March 2024, the month after the news was published on February 2024.

**AR2= Breaking: KPU confirms Prabowo’s landslide win**

*The General Elections Commission (KPU) has officially declared Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto the winner of the 2024 presidential election after completing the national vote tabulation on Wednesday (TD/AR2/no 1).*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when Defense Minister Prabowo was declared as a winner in the presidential election. The reference means Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the same time when the news was uploaded.

### **AR3= Anies files court challenge to election result**

*Presidential candidate Anies Baswedan declined to concede after the results were released on Wednesday (TD/AR3/no 1) and his team has alleged the current administration had unfairly sought to influence the contest, which authorities have rejected.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when the result of presidential election was declared. it means Wednesday March 20, 2024 a day after the news was uploaded.

*Losing presidential candidate Anies Baswedan filed a legal case at the constitutional court on Thursday (TD/AR3/no 2) to challenge the outcome of an election won overwhelmingly by Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto.*

The word “Thursday” as an adverb of time refer to a day after the presidential election result declared. It means Thursday March 21, 2024 is the day when Anies Baswedan filed a legal case at the constitutional court.

*Anies declined to concede after the results were released on Wednesday (TD/AR3/no 3) and his team has alleged the current administration had unfairly sought to influence the contest, which authorities have rejected.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when the result of the presidential election was declared. The reference means Wednesday March 20, 2024.

*They have also criticized the Constitutional Court's last-minute (TD/AR1/no 4) decision last year (TD/AR3/no 5) to change election rules, which allowed the president's son to become Prabowo's running*

*mate.*

The phrase “last-minute” means the last moments when the constitutional court decided to change election rules last year.

Then, the phrase “last year” as an adverb of time means 2023, a year before the news was published.

*The court's chief justice at the time (TD/AR3/no 6) was Jokowi's brother-in-law.*

The phrase “at the time” means 2023, when the constitutional court had Jokowi’s brother-in-law as the court’s chief justice and then decided to change election rules.

*Responding the results on Wednesday (TD/AR3/no 7), Prabowo thanked his supporters, including Jokowi, and pledged to be a leader for all Indonesians.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when the result of the presidential election was declared. The reference means Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

#### **AR4= President-elect Prabowo urges unity after resounding victory**

*President-elect and Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto gestures as he delivers his speech after the country's election commission announced last month's presidential election (TD/AR4/no 1) result, in Jakarta, March 20, 2024. (Reuters/Willy Kurniawan)*

The phrase “last month's presidential election” as an adverb of time of the announcement made by the country's election commission whose mean February 2024. Prabowo delivers his speech on March, a month after February.

*Prabowo Subianto pledged on Wednesday (TD/AR4/no 2) to be a president for all Indonesians after official results showed him sweeping last month's election (TD/AR4/no 3), even as rivals said they would mount legal challenges over the electoral process.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when Prabowo pledged to be president for all Indonesians after the result of presidential election was declared. It means Wednesday March 20, 2024

a day before the news was uploaded.

Then the phrase “last month's election” means February 2024, a month before the news uploaded.

*It largely confirmed unofficial results released by independent pollsters last month (TD/AR4/no 4).*

The phrase “last month” means February 2024, a month before the news was uploaded.

*On Wednesday (TD/AR4/no 5) he repeated a pledge to use as a guide Jokowi's economic policies, which have modernized infrastructure, cut red tape, and delivered growth and prosperity in the trillion-dollar, G20 economy.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when Defense Minister Prabowo was appointed. It means Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

*The recently (TD/AR4/no 6) decorated honorary four-star general rose to the top job in the world's third-largest democracy despite past allegations of human rights abuses during his time (TD/AR4/no 7) in the military, which he has denied.*

The word “recently” means February 28, 2024. During the 2024 presidential election, Prabowo, who is running as a presidential candidate, was awarded the honorary rank of General in the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) by President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) in a ceremony held at the TNI Headquarters in Cilangkap, East Jakarta, on February 28, 2024.

Then, the utterance “his time” means tenure and refers to a specific period in the past during Prabowo’s military career.

*Prabowo is expected to take over from Jokowi in October (TD/AR4/no 8).*

The phrase “in October” in the reference text means October, 2024. Prabowo will take over from Jokowi to be the next president of Indonesia.

*Prabowo's alliance with Jokowi, to whom he lost in 2014 and 2019, prompted fears of a resurgence of patronage politics in a country that just 25 years ago (TD/AR4/no 9) transitioned from authoritarian rule to*

*democracy.*

The phrase “25 years ago” in this text means 1999 counted down from 2024.

*Jokowi's 36-year-old son and Prabowo's running mate, Gibran Rakabuming Raka is set to become the country's youngest ever vice president, owing to a last-minute (TD/AR4/no 10) change of eligibility rules by a court headed by the president's brother-in-law.*

The phrase “last-minute” means the last moments when the constitutional court made a decision to change election rules last year about minimum age for vice presidential candidacy in 2024.

*Ganjar's running mate Mahfud MD also said on Wednesday (TD/AR4/no 11) his camp was ready to go to court over the alleged irregularities.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when Defense Minister Prabowo was appointed. The reference means Wednesday March 20, 2024 when the result of presidential election was announced.

*Prabowo's campaign team said on Wednesday (TD/AR4/no 12) it was preparing evidence and rebuttals for the legal challenges.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when Defense Minister Prabowo was appointed. The reference means Wednesday March 20, 2024 when the result of presidential election was announced.

*The election commission also announced on Wednesday (TD/AR4/no 13) that Indonesia's biggest party PDI-P received the most votes in the legislative elections, which were held on the same day, followed by the Golkar Party and Prabowo's Gerindra Party.*

The word “Wednesday” as an adverb of time explains the day when Defense Minister Prabowo was appointed. The reference means Wednesday March 20, 2024 when the result of presidential election was announced.

#### **AR5= Losing presidential candidate Ganjar calls for new election**

*The legal team of the other losing candidate, Anies Baswedan, also filed*

*a case, calling on Thursday (TD/AR5/no 1) for the court to order an election re-run that excludes Gibran, alleging his last-minute (TD/AR5/no 2) inclusion unfairly swayed the vote.*

The word “Thursday” as an adverb of time refer to a day after the presidential election result declared. The reference means Thursday March 21, 2024 is the day when Anies Baswedan filed a legal case at the constitutional court.

The phrase “last-minute” means the last moments when the constitutional court decided to change election rules last year about minimum age for vice presidential candidacy in 2024.

*The legal team of losing Indonesia presidential candidate Ganjar Pranowo filed a complaint at the country's constitutional court on Saturday (TD/AR5/no 3), calling for a fresh election and disqualification of the winning team of defense minister Prabowo Subianto.*

The phrase “on Saturday” as an adverb of time means Saturday March 23, 2024, a day after the news was posted. On that day, three days after the presidential result was announced, Ganjar make a complaint at country’s constitutional court.

*Prabowo is slated to be inaugurated this October (TD/AR5/no 4).*

The phrase “this October” means October, 2024.

*A decision last year (TD/AR5/no 5) by the constitutional court to change eligibility rules allowed Gibran Rakabuming Raka, son of outgoing president Joko Widodo (known locally as Jokowi), to become Prabowo's running-mate.*

The phrase “last year” means 2023.

*Jokowi's brother-in-law was chief justice at the time (TD/AR5/no 6) of the ruling.*

The phrase “at the time” means the year of 2023.

*The legal team of the other losing candidate, Anies Baswedan, also filed a case, calling on Thursday (TD/AR5/no 7) for the court to order an election re-run that excludes Gibran, alleging his last-minute inclusion*

*unfairly swayed the vote.*

The word “Thursday” as an adverb of time refer to a day after the presidential election result declared. The reference means Thursday March 21, 2024 is the day when Anies Baswedan filed a legal case at the constitutional court.

### 3.1.2.2. Spatial Deixis

#### **AR3= Anies files court challenge to election result**

*Losing presidential candidate Anies Baswedan filed a legal case at the constitutional court (SD/AR3/no 1) on Thursday to challenge the outcome of an election won overwhelmingly by Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto.*

The phrase "at the constitutional court" is as an adverbial phrase of place. "At the constitutional court" means at the constitutional court building in Jakarta. It refers to the specific location where Anies Baswedan filed his legal case. The phrase indicates a distal location, not directly connected to the speaker or audience's immediate surroundings. The reporter uses "at the constitutional court" to inform readers about the precise venue where the legal case was submitted.

*The Anies team has complained about the widespread allocation of social assistance, such as rice, fertilizer and cash handouts, in key electoral areas (SD/AR3/no 2), which they said influenced the vote.*

The phrase “in key electoral areas” is as an adverbial phrase of place. “In key electoral areas” means provinces or regencies with the largest number of voters. It refers to the specific location of social assistance that was complained by the Anies team. The phrase indicates a distal location, not directly connected to the speaker or audience's immediate surroundings. The reporter uses "in key electoral areas" to inform readers about the precise venue where social assistance allocated.

*The judge was reprimanded by an ethics panel for intentionally allowing "intervention from an external party", which it did not name, but he was allowed to keep his seat on the bench (SD/AR3/no 3).*

The phrase “on the bench” is as an adverbial phrase of place. “On the bench” means the position currently held by a court judge.

#### **AR4= President-elect Prabowo urges unity after resounding victory**

*Prabowo, 72, thanked voters and volunteers gathered at his south Jakarta residence (SD/AR4/no 1), saying the election went smoothly.*

The phrase “at his south Jakarta residence” is as an adverbial phrase of place. “his south Jakarta residence” means Prabowo’s house. It referred to the specific location where Prabowo was speaking. The phrase indicates a distal location, not directly connected to the speaker or audience's immediate surroundings. By including this spatial reference, the sentence indicates the context of where Prabowo addressed his audience, helping listeners or readers visualize the scene.

*The recently decorated honorary four-star general rose to the top job in the world's third-largest democracy (SD/AR4/no 2) despite past allegations of human rights abuses during his time in the military, which he has denied.*

The phrase “in the world's third-largest democracy” is as an adverbial phrase of place. This phrase means Indonesia as a large democratic nation. The phrase indicates a distal location, not directly connected to the speaker or audience's immediate surroundings. It helps the reader contextualize the significance of the event by situating it within a global framework, emphasizing Indonesia's status as a large democratic nation.

#### **AR5= Losing presidential candidate Ganjar calls for new election**

*The legal team of losing Indonesia presidential candidate Ganjar Pranowo filed a complaint at the country's constitutional court (SD/AR5/no 1) on Saturday, calling for a fresh election and disqualification of the winning team of defense minister Prabowo Subianto.*

The phrase “at the country’s constitutional court” is as an adverbial phrase of place. This phrase means constitutional court building in Jakarta. It refers to the specific location where Ganjar Pranowo filed a complaint.

The phrase indicates a distal location, not directly connected to the speaker or audience's immediate surroundings. The reporter uses "at the country's constitutional court" to inform readers about the precise venue where the complaint was submitted.

*Todung said the election was tainted with nepotism that resulted in "a coordinated abuse of power", he told reporters after filing the case at the constitutional court (SD/AR5/no 2).*

The phrase "at the constitutional court" is as an adverbial phrase of place. This phrase means constitutional court building in Jakarta. It refers to the location where Todung filed the case and spoke to reporters. The phrase indicates a distal location, not directly connected to the speaker or audience's immediate surroundings. Todung used the phrase to inform the listeners about the formal setting of his action, emphasizing the legality and seriousness of his claim.

### **3.2 Discussion**

The primary objective of this research is to identify temporal and spatial deixis in The Jakarta Post newspaper and analyze their contextual meanings. Levinson (1983) defines deixis as the linguistic encoding of elements related to the speech event or context. Yule (1996) classifies deixis into three categories: temporal (time), spatial (place), and person deixis. Meanwhile, Levinson (1983) extends this categorization into five types: place, time, discourse, social, and person deixis. In this study, spatial deixis refers to how locations are linguistically encoded in relation to the speaker and listener during communication (Levinson, 1983, p. 62). In contrast, temporal deixis pertains to linguistic expressions that situate an utterance within a specific time frame (Levinson, 1983). Through deixis, language becomes closely linked to its context, allowing readers to interpret meanings based on situational references (Levinson, 1983).

The analysis of The Jakarta Post newspaper articles revealed occurrences of both temporal and spatial deixis. Temporal deixis, which typically indicates the temporal relationship between the speaker and the event, in this context, reflects the connection between the news writer and the reader. The study found that temporal deixis in The Jakarta Post frequently appears in expressions such as "Wednesday,"

"tomorrow," and "25 years ago," which establish a clear temporal framework for the reported events. For instance, in the sentence Jokowi signals cabinet reshuffle could take place on Wednesday morning (TD/AR1/no.1), the phrase "Wednesday morning" specifies the day after the article was published, which was Tuesday, February 20, 2024. This means that the event is expected to occur on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at 10 a.m.

On the other hand, spatial deixis concerns the reference to locations relative to the moment of speaking or writing. The analysis identified various instances of spatial deixis in The Jakarta Post, including phrases such as "on the bench" and "at his South Jakarta residence," which help establish spatial relationships in news reports. For example, in the sentence Losing presidential candidate Anies Baswedan filed a legal case at the constitutional court (SD/AR3/no.1), the phrase "at the constitutional court" serves as an adverbial phrase of place. It specifically refers to the constitutional court building in Jakarta, marking a distal location that is not immediately connected to either the speaker or the audience. The phrase allows the reporter to specify the exact location where the legal case was filed, providing clarity to the readers.

The findings of this study align with prior research on deixis, particularly those conducted by Milostivaya (2021), Syafryadin (2021), and Fatimah (2023). A key similarity is the use of newspaper media as the research object, as all studies investigate deixis within journalistic discourse. However, this study differs in its focus on temporal and spatial deixis, whereas previous studies have examined other deixis types. Additionally, a notable distinction lies in the frequency distribution of deixis categories. The results of this study indicate that temporal deixis appears more frequently than spatial deixis, with 43 instances of temporal deixis compared to only 7 instances of spatial deixis. This suggests that The Jakarta Post places a greater emphasis on temporal references in news reporting. Moreover, two of the analyzed articles, "Jokowi signals cabinet reshuffle could take place on Wednesday morning" and "Breaking: KPU confirms Prabowo's landslide win", did not contain any spatial deixis. Milostivaya (2021) highlights that deictic markers in political narratives serve to create a deliberate distance between the narrator and the reported facts, allowing the writer to avoid subjective judgments that may be perceived as lacking credibility. Meanwhile, Syafryadin (2021) and Fatimah (2023) found that persona deixis was the most dominant category in their studies, reporting 300 and 12 instances,

respectively. These variations in deixis frequency and usage across studies underscore the importance of deixis in shaping narrative structures within news discourse.

One limitation of this study is its focus on a limited number of articles, which may not fully represent all deixis patterns in *The Jakarta Post*. Additionally, the study primarily analyzed written texts, meaning the results may differ in spoken discourse. Future research could expand this study by analyzing deixis across multiple news sources to compare linguistic patterns. Additionally, examining deixis in multimedia news formats, such as video reports, could provide further insights into deixis usage in different media. Overall, this study highlights the crucial role of temporal and spatial deixis in structuring news discourse in *The Jakarta Post*. The findings contribute to a better understanding of how deixis functions in written media and offer insights for future linguistic studies in journalism.

#### **4. CLOSING**

The data show a total of 50 utterances, with 43 instances of temporal deixis and 7 instances of spatial deixis. These results indicate that temporal deixis is more frequently used in the articles analyzed. Temporal and spatial deixis help readers align with the time and location of the events being reported, thereby enhancing the understanding of the news's relevance and timeliness. The context of reported events becomes clearer through the use of deixis, allowing for the delivery of concise yet comprehensive information. This also facilitates the shaping of reader perceptions based on the relevance of the provided information. Deictic expressions guide the narrative flow within the temporal and geographical dimensions of the news, and they help establish the point of view from which the story is told, whether from the perspective of the journalist, sources, or the general public. This can influence the tone and interpretation of the news. Overall, the strategic use of temporal and spatial deixis in *The Jakarta Post* online newspaper aims to make the news more accessible, engaging, and contextually relevant for its readers. Further research is required to analyze other types of texts to gain a deeper understanding of pragmatic deixis. In addition to textual analysis, it is also possible and beneficial to explore the use of deixis in other media and with different theoretical frameworks for further development. Moreover, the focus on types of deixis can be expanded or refined, whether it be temporal and spatial deixis as examined in this study or other forms of deixis. The researchers believe that studying deixis solely through articles is insufficient to fully meet the broader needs of understanding deixis in pragmatic studies.

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