AN ANALYSIS OF PRESUPPOSITIONS IN THE DRAMA *PYGMALION*

THESIS

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ORIGINALITY STATEMENT

"I hereby declare that this Thesis is my own work and to the best of my knowledge it contains no materials previously published or written by another person, or substantial propotions of material which have been accepted for the award of any other educational institution, except where due acknowledgement is made in the Thesis".

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Abstract

This research aims at identifying and classifying presuppositions as reflected in the drama *Pygmalion*, and portraying intention of each presupposition. Presupposition is a notion or assumption that speakers have in their utterances when they are speaking. In analyzing data of this study, the writer uses qualitative method. Some theories are employed to analyze the data, such as Yule (1996) and Cutting (2002). The results of the research show that six types of presupposition that are categorized by Yule the writer found: (1) existential presupposition, (2) factive presupposition, (3) lexical presupposition, (4) structural presupposition, (5) non-factive presupposition and (6) counterfactual presupposition, but counterfactual presupposition is more dominant in the data. Afterwards, existential presupposition and lexical presupposition dominate the data. Three kinds of context are also influential to analyze the data, they are; situational context, background knowledge context and co-textual context.

Keywords: presupposition, types of presupposition, intention, context

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background of the Problem

Human being as social being cannot live alone. Human being has to interact one another. The interaction can be done through conversation that consists of utterances from the speaker to the hearer. Unfortunately, not all of the speakers always convey their information or message clearly through the utterances. It causes assumption exists. The assumption is called as presupposition in Linguistics. According to Cummings (2005, p. 29):

> "One further significant category of pragmatic phenomena is presupposition. Presuppositions are variously defined but in general constitute assumptions or inferences that are implicit in particular linguistic expressions."

Moreover, Hudson (2000, p. 321) stated "a presupposition is something assumed (presupposed) to be true in a sentence which asserts other information". For example:

(1) "The child sneezed again."

From the example (1), it can be seen that the speaker and the hearer have already known the word 'again' means the child had sneezed before. The child also sneezed more than once.

In addition, Yule (1996, p. 25) said:

"A presupposition is something the speaker assumes to be the case prior to making an utterance. Speakers, not sentences, have presuppositions."

For example:

(2) "Mary's brother bought three horses."

From the example (2), it can be seen that the sentence has more than one presupposition. First presupposition is there is a person called Marry or Marry exists. Second presupposition is that she has a brother. Third presupposition is her brother is rich therefore he can buy three horses.

According to Mey (2001, p. 184), "semantic presuppositions deal with truth or falsity: they are defined as 'holding' (that is, being true), even if the sentence containing the presupposition is false". Meanwhile, a philosopher, Robert Stalnaker (1977 [1974]) glossed that pragmatic presupposition refers to "the fact that an utterance needs a context in order to be correctly interpreted, also with respect to its truth or falsity". (as cited in Mey, 2001)

From the linguistic perspective, there are two types of presupposition: semantic presupposition and pragmatic presupposition. Here, the writer only focuses on the second type of presupposition that is pragmatic presupposition.

Yule (1996) stated that there are six types of pragmatic presupposition: existential presupposition, factive presupposition, lexical presupposition, structural presupposition, non-factive presupposition and counterfactual presupposition. Existential presupposition is assumed to be present in possessive constructions and any definite noun phrase. Factive presupposition is presupposed information that is treated as a fact that arises after certain verbs. In lexical presupposition, the use of one form with its asserted meaning is conventionally interpreted with the presupposition that another (non-asserted) meaning is understood. Structural presuppositions are presuppositions which are associated with the use of certain words and phrases. A non-factive presupposition is one that is assumed not to be true and counterfactual presupposition means that what is presupposed is not only not true, but is the opposite of what is true.

Many researchers has also discussed presupposition in their papers, such as Yanti (2007), she found that cartoon can be employed by people to do something like giving an advice and criticizing a community through language or pragmatic presupposition in it. Then, Gusrayani (2008) concludes that presuppositions on speeches of country leaders can reflect ideology of the speakers that represent ideology of their countries.

Lafi (2008) talked about things that differentiate entailments, presuppositions and implicatures in Linguistics noticeably. He specified properties which lie in the terms. Xu (2009) disscused about differences between entailment and presupposition. She only focused on the distinction of the terms in semantic scope.

Ahmed (2011) also argued that presupposition is not merely an internally linguistic system, but an externally and culturally system whose main function is to illustrate and extend the process of discourse analysis. That is a new concept that can be infered of his analysis.

Those researches were considered by the writer as references to do a research on the same topic. The writer has analyzed presupposition in pragmatic side and used Yule's theory to analyze the data. The data are the script of a drama that certainly consists of dialogues between speaker and hearer. The writer chose a drama because the speakers do not always say their message obviously through their utterances in the dialogues or the speakers have presupposition. Every presupposition also has intention that is not said directly through the utterance, but is communicated in the utterance. It made the writer was interested in the drama.

A drama which the writer selected is entitled *Pygmalion* which was booked and published by Dover Publication, Inc. in 1994. *Pygmalion* is one of an Irish playwright's works, George Bernard Shaw, telling about a flower girl named Liza Doolittle who comes from lower class in England. One day, she came to visit a phonetic expert, Henry Higgins and asked him to change her way to talk and her manner in order to seem like a duchess.

1.2   Identification of the Problem

Drama *Pygmalion* does not only discuss about social life. There are also many things that can be studied. They are in literature side, such as main character, plot, scenery and in linguistic side, such as bound morpheme,

grammatical cohesion, deixis, speech act, presupposition. From the several things, the writer was interested in analyzing in linguistic side which is presupposition. The writer found some problems about presupposition, those are; definition of presupposition, function of presupposition, types of presupposition, kinds of presupposition trigger and intention of each presupposition that is found.

1.3   Limitation of the Problem

From some problems above that relate to the topic, the writer limited on the analysis of two problems, they are; types of presupposition and intention of each presupposition that is found in the drama *Pygmalion*. The approaches that the writer used to analyze them are Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis.

1.4   Formulation of the Problem

The problems need to be formulated in order to make them easier to be analyzed. The writer has formulated them into two questions:

1. What types of presupposition that can be seen in the drama *Pygmalion*?

2. What is intention of each presupposition that is found in the drama *Pygmalion*?

1.5   Purpose of the Research

The writer did this research about presupposition had purpose:

1. To find out types of presupposition that can be seen in the drama *Pygmalion*.

2. To figure out intention of each presupposition that is found in the drama *Pygmalion*.

1.6 Significance of the Research

The writer hopes this research can contribute comprehension in developing linguistic studies, especially Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis. The reader of this research is expected to be able to identify distinction of presupposition in pragmatic side and in semantic side. Moreover, the reader can understand different concept among presupposition and other pragmatic terms, and this research can be used by other linguistic researchers as a reference to get information about presupposition.