

TYPES OF DEIXIS USED IN THE DOUM-TREE OF WAD HAMID: A CORPUS-BASED STUDY

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Abstract

In linguistics, the term deixis is used to describe the use of general words and phrases by speakers to point to persons, objects, specific place and time from their physical or psychological positions while communicating their messages. Such words and phrases are considered deictic when their denoted meaning becomes context-dependent. The present study used AntConc v.3.5.9 corpus analysis toolkit to find out the frequent occurrence of the types of deixis used in the English translation of the short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid*, and then utilized the useful information obtained along with examples manually derived from the story to discuss the extent to which this use of deixis reflects the author's style and the story's point of view. The results indicated that the common five types of deixis were used in the short story with a different degree of frequency and usage, but personal deixis was the most dominant with 653 examples represented 54.10% out of the total of 1207 deictic instances found in the corpus. Social deixis ranks second with 242 examples represented 20.05%. The study deduced that the dominant use of person pronouns as personal deixis or relational social deictic words reflects the author's style and point of view in the narration line via which the narrator recounts the events from his own perspective.

Keywords: deixis, corpus linguistics, stylistics, style, personal deixis, spatial deixis, social deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis.

1. Introduction

It is well-known that the basic concept of corpus linguistics is the *corpus* which is defined as a collection of authentic texts, written or spoken that represents a variety of examples of language use. In Merriam-Webster Dictionary (online), the word *corpus* (plural is corpora) refers to "a collection or body of knowledge or evidence, especially a collection of recorded utterances used as a basis for the descriptive analysis of a language".

In lexicography, a corpus is anybody of texts collected with the aim of analyzing its features, (Landau, 2001: 273). But unlike the content of dictionaries or glossaries where words are enlisted, a corpus is a guided and principled collection of texts of particular language that is usually collected and used for quantitative and qualitative analyses in order

to provide researchers with useful information about language use mainly at lexical level, (McEnery & Wilson, 2001).

There are no well-defined rules that determine the corpus size, but a distinction is usually made between general corpora and specialized corpora. A *general corpus* is necessarily large as possible and be enlarged continuously and is not about specific genre of texts. In this sense, two corpora are considered general and large, namely the one-billion-word corpus of contemporary American English (COCA) because of its wide coverage and its relation to other corpora of English, and the British National Corpus (BNC) which is almost 100-million-word text samples of both written and spoken texts represented a wide range of sources.

In contrast, *specialized corpora* tend to be smaller since they are representative of specific field or genre of language use or of specific period of time in which language use was distinct. The texts of specialized corpus can be a whole book, a novel, short story, a news article, a chapter or a selection of extracts of different length.

Another concept in corpus linguistics is *corpus studies* which can be carried out by adopting one of two approaches: *corpus-based* approach and *corpus-driven* approach. When adopting the first approach, a corpus itself is used as an investigation data with the aim of exploring a theory or hypothesis that can validate it, refute it or refine it. In this approach, which is deductive, the linguistic forms and structures that are already defined and described by the formal linguistics theory or by any specific model of linguistics constitute the reference frame of the corpus analysis. The second approach is *corpus-driven* which is inductive since it rejects the claim that characterizes corpus linguistics as a method and claims that the corpus itself should be the sole source of theoretical hypotheses about language. Thus, it assumes that the corpus itself embodies a theory of language" (Tognini-Bonelli, 2001).

Over the last years, the use of corpus analysis tools in different areas of language studies has become a tradition and covered a wide spectrum of topics because there is a belief among researchers that such corpus analysis tools are capable to provide accurate linguistic data about language forms and patterns in a quantitative form the matter that was difficult to manually obtain in the same speed and accuracy required when employing these tools. Thus, areas such as stylistics in which qualitative approach has been adopted for years before the integration of computer technology in language studies has become able to adopt additional quantitative procedures to its qualitatively-based analysis.

In the present time, various corpus analysis tools are available whether freely to download from internet websites or commercially to buy. Such tools are fundamentally developed to handle different types of corpora. Among the currently available corpus analysis tools is AntConc corpus analysis toolkit which is recommended by most researchers and users for its usability and the information it provides. AntConc v.3.5.9 (windows) 2020 is the latest version which hosts seven tools for corpus analysis, namely concordance, concordance plot, file view, clusters/n-grams, collocates, wordlist and keyword list.

2. Literature Review

2.1 The Definition of Deixis

Etymologically the word deixis [deiksis] is derived from the Greek word [n. deiktikos] which means reference or the word [v. deiknunai] which means to point or 'to indicate'. In linguistics, deixis or deictic expressions refer to the words and phrases that are used to point to time, place, person or things in the context of a communicative event. Lyons (1977:637) stated that "by deixis is meant the location and identification of persons, objects, events, processes and activities being talked about or referred to in relation to the space and time of a context created by the act of utterance and the participation in it, typically of a

single speaker and at least one addressee". Renkema et al (2004) states that deixis refers to "language forms whose interpretation depends not only on the semantic value but also on the speech context of situation". The word 'deixis' has also been used to referred to as "those features of language which refer to the personal, temporal or locational characteristics of a situation within which an utterance takes place", (Crystal,2003). Although the notion of deixis has been a subject of research in different areas of language study such as discourse analysis, literary criticism, stylistics as well as other disciplines such as cognitive psychology and philosophy, it has been noticed at least in the literature consulted by the present study that there is an agreement about its definition and types.

2.2 The Types of Deixis

In linguistics, the term deixis is used to describe the use of general words and phrases by speakers to point to persons, objects, specific place and time from their physical or psychological positions while communicating their messages. Such words and phrases are considered deictic when their denoted meaning becomes context-dependent.

The deixis' center or the 'deictic center' as the (I, here, and now) refer to the speaker's first-person pronoun, the near 'proximal' place, and the present 'proximal' time of communication, and are divided into four categories; demonstratives, personal pronoun, place and time. Yule (2010) differentiates between deixis that indicate the 'nearness' to the speaker as 'proximal deixis', and those which indicate a 'far distance' from the speaker as 'distal deixis'. Anyhow, Levinson (1983) classifies deixis into five types: personal, spatial and temporal, social and discourse. Based on such classification, these five types of deixis will be presented along with examples derived from the short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid* in the following section.

Personal deixis includes person pronouns which have three groups. They are shown in the chart below:

First-person pronouns		Second-person pronouns		Third-person pronouns	
<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
I, Me, My, Mine, Myself	We, Us, Our, Ours, Ourselves	You, Your, Yours, Yourself.	You, Your, Yours, Yourselves.	He, She, It, His, Her, Him, Hers, Himself, Herself, Itself	They, Their, Thiers, Themselves

Spatial deixis includes words and phrases that are used to point to a location in the context of a sentence or an utterance. Spatial deixis has three groups: adverbs of place, demonstratives and motion verbs.

Adverb of place: [here, there, near that, next to] and prepositions that point out a space related to the participants' location in the speech event [down, up, back, front, out, above].

a) "*Here* it is -the doum-tree"

b) " They carried us off in a great procession, *back* to *our* own folk".

c) " *under* the doum-tree "

Demonstratives: [this, that) and (here, there].

a) " *Here* it is -the doum-tree "

b) "*You* remember *that* some years ago".

c) " *They* said *that* the best place for setting up the pump was where the *Doum-tree* stood."

Motion verbs:

The verbs [come and go] can be deictic when used to indicate movement towards or away from the speaker.

Temporal deixis includes words that indicate or point to time in the context of an utterance or sentence. Temporal deixis can be divided into the following;

Adverb of time:

This type of deixis can be single word such as [yesterday, then, now], or phrasal adverbials that consist of a deictic modifier and non-deictic measure word as [next month, last year, this morning] as in the examples below.

a) "To-morrow you will depart from *our* village, of this *I* am sure, and *you will be* right to do so."

b) " I have told you *this night* ".

Verb tense:

One type of temporal deixis is expressed by the verb *tense* which includes the present tense with proximal form [He *is* here *now*], and the past tense with distal form [He *was* there *then*]. Also, future simple can be used to indicate the near or distal time from the time of speaking. The following examples are derived from the short story.

a) " You *were* to come to us in summer "

b) " To-morrow you *will depart* from our village".

c) " *Will* they set up the water-pump?"

d) "Were you come in a time which was neither summer nor winter you would find nothing at all".

The word 'time' can be used as deictic form when a pre-modifier is added to it: summer time, winter time, or a demonstrative such as *this time*, *that time* as in the example below.

e) " *This* is no time for talking in the open".

Social deixis has two categories:

Relational social deixis includes words such as [Sir, My Grandfather, My Son, Our Nieghbour] and kinship terms [Father, Mother, Grandfather, Cousin, Aunt, Son], reflect the social position of the addressee in the politeness line of the speaker.

Absolute social deixis includes words that point to people's titles [Sir, Mr., Miss, Ms.]. And a person's first name [Hassan], a combination of two names [John Smith], titles that are gained from names of jobs and professions such as [Coach, Doctor, Nurse, Instructor, Professor, Captain, General] or by combination of profession titles and a person's name [Professor Hassan, Captain John] or absolute status such as 'Mr. President'.

Discourse deixis includes *simple conjunctions* [and, but, therefore], *proximal demonstratives and adverbs* [this, these, here], and *distal demonstratives and adverbs* [that, those, there]. Such type of deixis is often used to indicate contextual information related to locations, time, referencing as linked to certain referents inside a text. However, in text analysis, the concept of anaphora which can also be used to denote a referent, may overlap with this type of deixis but the difference between discourse deixis and anaphora is that anaphoric words and phrases are used to refer to the same referent whereas discourse deixis can be used to introduce the same different or new referent.

2.3 Previous Studies

Over the last decades, there has been extensive research conducted on the subject of deixis. Most of such research tended to identify the types of deixis and count their frequencies in certain types of texts such as literature works. But there are also studies that have investigated the use of deixis in other genres such as political speech, news texts and translated texts of different types and discourses.

The present study reviews a few related studies that were previously conducted around the world with particular consideration to three aspects: text type (genre), methodology followed and the results/findings obtained.

In her study, Jaafar (2017) analysed Thomas Harris's novel *The Silence of the Lambs*. She used two analysis tools namely, Wmatrix3 corpus analysis tools to examine keywords and key semantic domains, and AntConc corpus analysis toolkit to investigate the use of lexical phrases in the selected novel and to point out their significance to its interpretation.

This study emphasized the fact that semantic domains analysis tools help to put words in groups and label them to the suitable semantic domains. It also affirmed that the analysis of words groups such as N-Grams can assist stylisticians and provide them with useful information about lexical bundles.

Much research that has been conducted on the topic of deixis is related to the realm of pragmatics, but there is a number of studies investigated the use of deixis in literary works (poems, plays, novels and short stories) which aimed to finding out the dominant types of deixis and their impact on the stylistic characteristics of a literary work.

In their study, Sembiring et al (2020) used a matrix table to count the two categories of social deixis: relational and absolute in 'Madness of King George' movie. The result indicated that relational social deixis was more dominant than absolute deixis, except the absolute deixis 'Sir', and all other types of both absolute or relational referred to male characters rather than female ones.

Deixis has also been a topic of research in comparative literature and translation, so many studies conducted on translated texts of different subjects from different languages such as French, Spanish and Arabic into English. For example, Mbahawa et al (2019) examined the use of deixis in the English translation of a political speech delivered by the president of the republic of Cameroon to the youth of his country on the commemoration of the country's National Youth Day. This study employed Halliday's theory of functional systematic grammar to identify the types of deixis and their frequencies of usage in the speaker's speech. The study's findings show that the speaker used the five types of deixis with different frequencies. But personal deixis was the most frequently used category which reflects the speaker's power and dominance over his audience, and his involvement of them in his decisions.

A similar study was conducted on political discourse by Al-Khalidy (2019) in which he investigated the use of the three forms of spatial deixis namely proximal, medial and distal, in the speeches delivered by the Jordanian parliament members as they discuss the fanatical budget of the year 2017. The study found out that proximal terms are the most frequently used by MPs followed by distal terms whereas medial terms were the least occurred ones.

It can be said that the study of deixis is not only the interest of linguistics but it is also the concern of other interdisciplinary disciplines that are involved in language since language is a universal human phenomenon. Such areas include philosophy and psychology, so there are other studies conducted on the topic of deixis under such areas. Also, the above reviewed studies show that deixis there has been a variety of research approaches used including corpus analysis tools are adopted to investigate deixis.

The present study is a contribution to the literature since it attempted to study the use of deixis in the English translation of *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid* by Al-Tayeb Salih and translated to English by Denys Johnson-Davis in 1969. So, the following two questions were raised to frame the study's method and discussion.

- 1- What types of deixis are most frequently used in the English translation of the short story 'The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid'?
- 2- To what extent does the use of deixis in the English translation of the short story 'The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid' reflects the author's style and point of view?

3. Research Method

The present study adopted AntConc v.3.5.9 corpus analysis toolkit to analyze the types of deixis that are most frequently used in the translation of the short story 'The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid' written by Al-Tayeb Salih and translated to English by Denys Johnson-Davis in 1969. And then based on the theory of stylistics view about deixis, the study used the useful data obtained by the AntConc analysis and some examples directly quoted from the translated text to discuss the extent to which the use of deixis reflects the author's style and point of view.

3.1 Data Analysis

First of all, the translated text of the short story was uploaded in a pdf form and converted into .txt. format by a free online converter, and the resultant text was manually edited and saved as a corpus in the same plain text format. After that the AntConc v.3.5.9 (2020) corpus analysis toolkits was downloaded and set up to the researcher's lap top. The first procedure was importing the corpus file to the AntConc software for analysis. This analysis used three tools of the AntConc tools, namely concordance tool, wordlist tool, key word tool.

Figure 1 displays the search result obtained generated by Wordlist tool in three columns [Rank-Freq.-Word] which read as the words' ranks on the left column, the frequencies of all words in the given corpus starting from rank 1 of the most frequent item and goes on in a descending order until the last rank and the least frequent word, the middle column shows the frequencies and on the right column appears the individual words of the corpus. Such result provides significant lexical information about the types of deixis occurred in the translation of the short story 'The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid'. for example, function words such as articles, prepositions, and conjunctions [the -and-of-to-a] are the most frequent in the corpus which is normal.

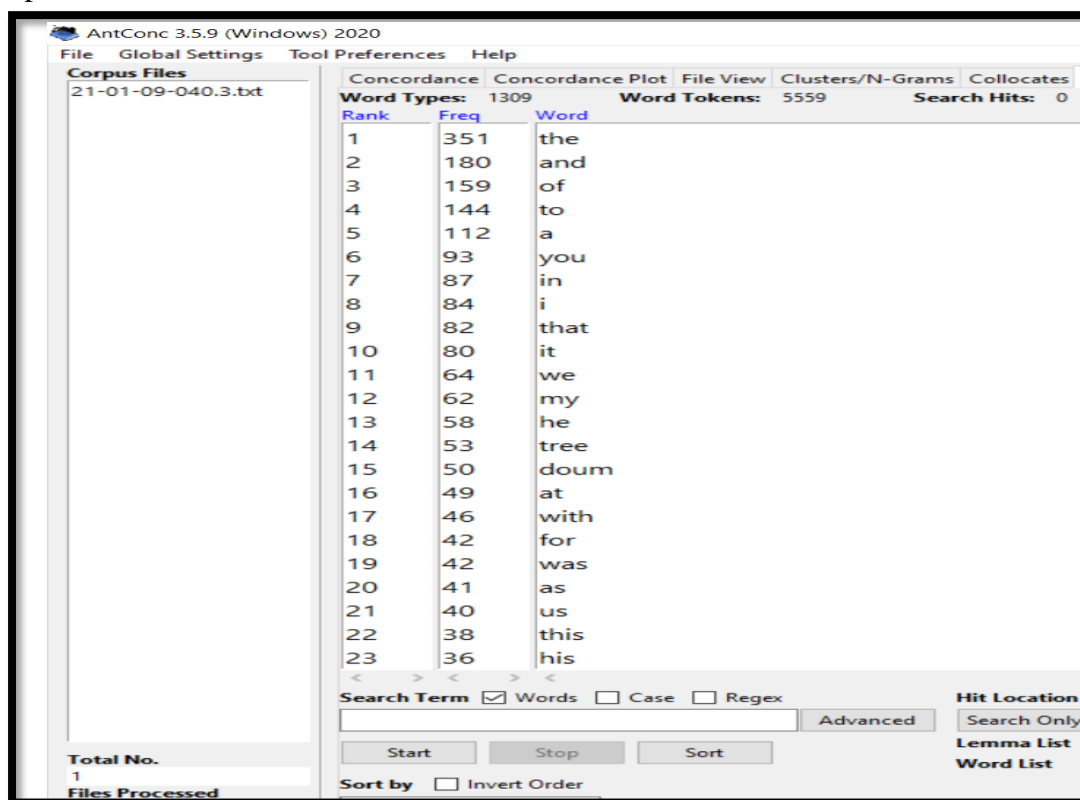


Figure 1: Search Result generated by Wordlist Tool

In the whole, it is said that one way of investigating the lexical variation and/or complexity of a text is to firstly figure out the type-to-token ratio (TTR) which is calculated by dividing the total of types of different words occurred in the corpus by the total number of its tokens [1309/5559 * 100 = 23.55%]. Figure 1 also shows the number of corpus lexicon in terms of word types [1309] and word tokens [5559].

Types of Deixis Used

Personal Deixis

The first search result generated by the Wordlist tool shows that the second-person pronoun 'you' ranks sixth-see figure 1. It appeared immediately after the functional words such as articles, simple conjunctions and prepositions. The second search results were obtained by the concordance too in order to find out more lexical information about the pronoun 'you' as deictic word. Figure 2 shows that this person pronoun, which is an example of person deixis has 93 concordance hits. It also provides lexical information of 'you' as a KWIC since it displays the word in context with other words and lexical items that collocate or colligate with it. For example, the conditional word 'if' has occurred many times with 'you' in the interrogative repeated phrase "if you were to come to us". And sometimes this 'if' is embedded in the conditional interrogatives uttered by the narrator addressing his visitor as "were you to come to our village".

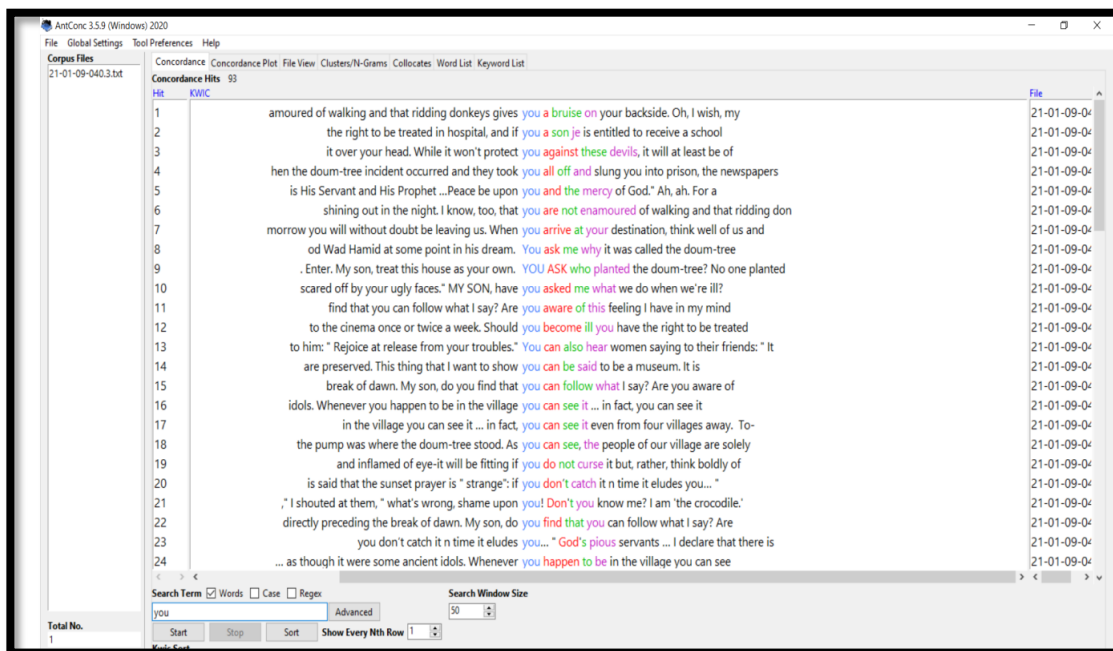


Figure 2: The Concordance Hits of Second-person Pronoun 'You'

As the person pronouns are observed as the most frequent in the corpus of the study the matter that supports the study's major claim, all person pronouns were manually derived from the short story and sorted and tabulated in order to calculate their ranks and frequencies. Therefore, table1 shows the frequent instances of all person pronouns identified in the study's corpus with their ranks. It indicates that the second-pronoun 'You' ranks first among all personal deixis with 93 examples represented one-sixth of the total examples of personal deixis found in the corpus. Other person pronouns appeared in the search results include *I*, *It*, *my*, and *we*, which occurred with different degrees of frequencies and usage. It also shows that the first -person pronoun 'I' ranks second immediately after 'You' with almost one-sixth out of the total number of person pronouns that used in the short story.

Pronouns	Ranks	Freq.	% Out of the Total of Personal Deixis	% Out of the Total of Deixis
You	1	93	14.24	7.70
I	2	84	12.86	6.96
It	2	80	12.25	6.62
We	3	64	9.80	5.30
my	4	62	9.49	5.14
He	5	58	8.88	4.81
Us	6	40	6.13	3.31
His	7	36	5.51	2.98
Our	8	34	5.20	2.87
They	9	31	4.74	2.57
Him	10	29	4.44	2.40
Me	11	29	4.44	2.40
Their	12	24	3.67	1.98
Them	13	23	3.5	1.91
Its	14	18	2.76	1.49
Your	15	14	2.14	1.16
She	16	6	0.92	0.49
Himself	17	4	0.16	0.33
Itself	18	3	0.46	0.25
Mine	19	3	0.46	0.25
Themselves	20	3	0.46	0.25
Myself	21	2	0.30	0.16
Herself	22	1	0.15	0.08
Total		653		

Table 1: *Personal Pronouns Used*

Spatiotemporal Deixis

There are many words and phrases used to point to the *spaciotemporal* context of the short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamdi*. And to introduce the story's major conflict between [old] rooted traditions and [new] modern changes as the narrator relates all the incidents and people to such specific spaces in the village of Wad Hamid and far urban centers such as Khartoum and tries to make a comparison between the two spaces.

In the whole, table 3 shows that spatial deixis and temporal deixis occurred for 147 and 74 times respectively. There are also words and phrases used in the short story deictics which point to specific place or time related to the specific incidents. For example, the search result on AntConc v3.5.9 indicates that the '*doum-tree*' which occurred 48 times in the corpus was used to indicate specific location near the river Nile where the *tomb* of Wad Hamid is built. Moreover, there examples contain deictic words since they refer to time spans and places which all related to crucial elements of the major context of the short story.

a) " Were you come to *our village*"- the *village* of Wad Hamid

b) "If you were to come to us as a tourist, it is likely, my son, that you would *not stay long*".

c) "Every new generation finds the '*Doum-tree*' as though *it* had been born *at the time* of their *birth* and would *grow up* with them".

In (c) above, which is full of deictic expressions through which the narrator wanted to show their visitor the position of the *doum-tree* in the people's minds and hearts, the author displays one of the story's struggles: the struggle between [old and original] traditions and [new and modern] changes. The example also indicates the degree to which the doum-tree is very special to everyone in the village even the new generations.

There are other words such as '*time*' that can be used as temporal deixis indicating specific time when a pre-modifier such as noun is added [a noun +time] or [a demonstrative + time] as in the examples:

d) " I have told you *this night*"

e) "If it were in *winter time*"

f) " if you were come to us in *summer time* ".

Temporal dixies can also be identified by tracing the type(s) of tenses. The short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid* was told in past tense including future-in-past as a part of the narrator's conditional interrogatives: " if you were to come to us in summer " and also to provide the would-be answers " you would find horse-flies-", or in future simple " To-morrow you will depart".

Social Deixis

It has been stated that there is a close link between social deixis and person pronouns in the sense that the social roles of participants in communication besides "those aspects of the utterance which reflect or involve certain realities connected to the social situation in which the act of speech of communication occurs". The first-person plural pronoun 'we' which occurred 64 times refers to the people of the village of Wad Hamid as the narrator told the story to their visitor. Also, the pronoun 'us' which occurred 40 times refer to the same people except in one or two examples when the narrator refers to himself and their visitor in: " Let us go home my son".

Figure 2 shows the concordance search result for the lexical phrase '*my son*'. This reflects the social position of the addressee [their visitor] in the politeness line of the narrator. Figure 2 also shows that the *concordance* search result for this phrase [*my son*] which occurred 30 times as it comes as a KWIC reflects the social position of the addressee [their visitor] in the politeness line of the narrator.

The name of 'Wad Hamid' which is mentioned in the title of the story with the key word 'the doum-tree' refers to a local name of a person whose image is stuck to the minds of all villagers. He is entombed near the doum-tree. Throughout the history, the tree has become a life-giving force to the members of Wad Hamid village and it is present in their thoughts and dreams: "*We visit the tomb of Wad Hamid with our women and children and that we make offerings there every Wednesday as our fathers and fathers' fathers did before us*".

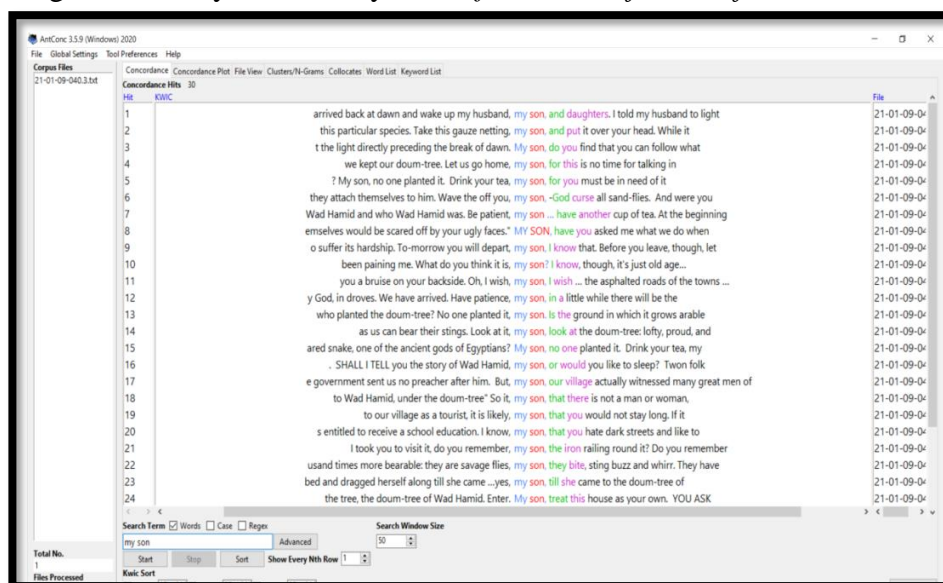


Figure 3: The Concordance Hits of the Phrase ' My son'.

Discourse deixis

As mentioned earlier in this study, discourse deixis may include conjunctions such as [and, but, therefore], proximal demonstratives and adverbs [this, these, here], distal demonstratives and adverbs [that, those, there]. Of course, story has examples of several conjunctions and adverbs but Figure3 shows that the demonstrative 'that' is the most frequent types of discoursal devices with 82 examples. In addition to the result obtained by AntConc tools, the following are some examples of discourse deixis manually derived from the short story.

- a) "And when will *that* be?" I said,
- b) "I mentioned to you *that* my son.", or to refer to something will be in the future:
- c) "And do you think, " I said to him," *that* the Doum-tree will one day be cut?".
- d) " I have told *you this* night, for *you* may well find *that your* visit to *us* was not wholly bad".
- e) " Let *us* go home, my son, for *this* is no time for talking in the open. *This* hour is just before sunset is a time when the army of sand-flies becomes particularly active prior to going to sleep".
- f) " *This* was in the time of foreign rule."
- g) " when *I* turned round, *he* was no longer *there*."
- h) "*Her* friend then says to *her*: " *that* was Wad Hamid".

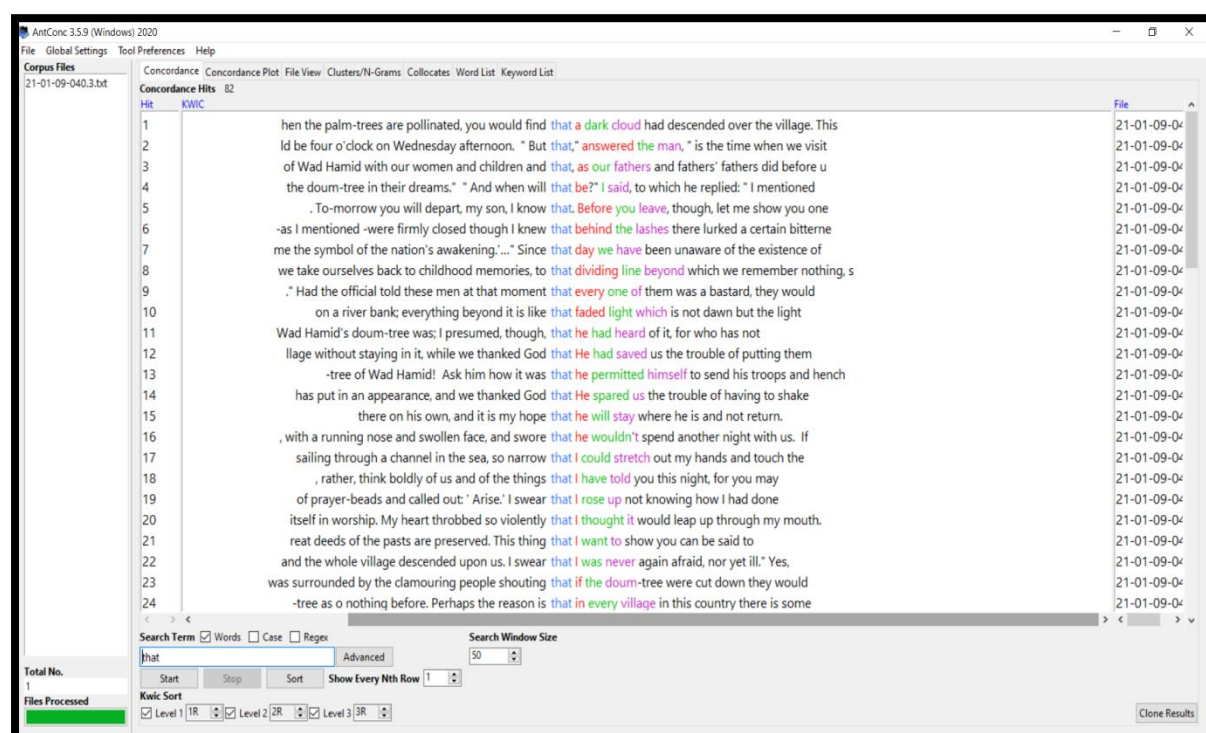


Figure 4: The Concordance Hits of the Demonstrative 'that'

In English grammar, it is known that the function of demonstrative pronouns [this, these, that, those] is to point to the position of persons and objects in relation to time and place. Thus, demonstrative pronouns play an important role as discourse deixis whether they are used for anaphoric, cataphoric or even rhetoric references, (Webber,1978). Therefore, the result of the use of 'that' generated by AntConc v.3.5.9 may include such examples of anaphoric 'that' which play an important role in maintaining the focus of the narrative discourse and binding together the cohesively the parts of the story. It is also worth to

mention that the use of demonstratives in the short story was significantly effective to maintain the entity of the discourse.

Table 2 displays a statistic summary of the four demonstratives [that, this, there, these] as used in the short story with their ranks, frequencies and percentages. It is apparent that the use of demonstratives constitutes a significant proportion out of the total number of the all hits of the five types of deixis found in the short story.

Demonstratives	Ranks	N	%	% Out of the Total of Deixis
That	1	82	55.40	6.79
This	2	38	25.67	3.15
There	3	19	12.84	1.57
These	4	9	6.08	0.74
Total		148		

Table 2: *Demonstratives Used*

3.2 Results

In general, the results generated by the tools of AntConc v.3.5.9 toolkit can be counted as primary evidences to support the major hypothesis underling the two questions raised earlier, and then some extract examples which are manually derived from the short story will also be of great support. Therefore, in this section (3.2) the study presents a summary of the five types of deixis as used in the short story.

The first search result generated by Wordlist tool shows that the corpus size consisting of 6868 [word tokens = 5559 and word types = 1309]. Such statistical information is significant because it can be used to calculate type-to-token (TTR) rate as $[1309/5559 * 100 = 23.55\%]$. This rate is indexical to identify some stylistic features such as style. Table 1 shows a summary of the five types of deixis used in corpus based on the short story along with their ranks and frequencies.

The total number of deixis found in the corpus is 1207 concordance hits which represented nearly one-fifth of the total lexicon of the whole story. And among such examples It is also found out that the occurrences of personal deixis rank first and represents more than half of the total number of the frequencies of the five types of deixis found in the corpus.

Types of Deixis	Ranks	Frequencies	% Out of the Total of Deixis
Personal Deixis	1	653	54.10%
Social Deixis	2	242	20.05%
Discourse Deixis	3	148	12.26%
Spatial Deixis	4	147	12.18%
Temporal Deixis	5	74	6.13%
Total		1207	

Table 3: *Summary of Deixis Used*

4. Discussion

It is often argued that deixis are the most significant linguistic elements by which speakers indicate their physical and psychological positions in relation to people, things, places and time that they are involved in any communicative event, (Levinson,1983; Renkema,2004; Huang,2007 & Yule,2010). Moreover, such linguistic forms are considered as crucial constituents for conveying ideational and emotional meanings for it is also known that speakers or writers usually initiate their message from a 'deictic center' that reflects where they stand and view events and incidents while communicating.

Based on the above arguments, the present study sought to achieve a twofold aim. First, to find out the words and phrases that are used in the translation of the short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid* as deictic. The story was originally written in Arabic by the Sudanese novelist Al-Tayeb Salih and translated to English by Denys Johnson-Davis and published in 1969 in a collection entitled *The Wedding of Zien and Other Stories*. The 'Other Stories' are namely the *Doum-tree of the Wad Hamid* and *A Handful of Dates*. To achieve this, the study adopted AntConc corpus analysis toolkit v.3.5.9. Second, the study also attempted to examine the reflection of the use of deixis on the short story's point of view and the author's style as well. Thus, to do so, the study used the useful information obtained by the AntConc analysis toolkit results and examples quoted directly from the translated text of the short story to discuss this. Thus, the study raised two questions to frame its method and discussion which will be answered by referencing to the results in section 3.2 in one hand and the interpretations of such results on the other.

The summary of the results in table 3 of section 3.2 shows the frequencies, ranks and percentages of the five types of deixis found in the corpus of the study which represented in total almost one-fifth of the short story's lexicon [$1207/6868 \times 100 = 17.57$]. The results prove that the study's argument that the use of deictic words and phrases constitutes a considerable proportion of the lexicon of short story *The doum-tree of Wad Hamid*. And among this proportion the type of personal deixis is more than half of the total number of all deixis found in the corpus. So, this finding answers the first question of the study pertinent to the most frequently used type of deixis in the short story.

By the second question, the study intended to find out any relationship between the use of deixis by the author of the short story and his style in one side and the influence of use on the study's point of view. In stylistics, the term style can refer to two aspects of language as it is used in a literary work. First, the author's *choice of words* which covers the vocabulary and lexical units that constitute the work's lexicon. And the *rhetorical devices* including figures of speech and the lexical repetition by which the author can tell his story. So, the study of style is primarily based on the description of style as a choice of words, or as a deviation from the language norms and rules employing a verity of rhetorical devices to achieve creativity and innovation, (Sampson, 2014). Therefore, it can be said that the repetition of deictic words and expressions as shown in the rate of the type-to-token ratio (TTR) [23.55%] is one evidence of the stylistic features that are crucial to analyze the style of the author. This choice of such specific lexical units is often attributed to the fact that it is a narrative strategy which demanded the author to depend on deixis to show the interpersonal involvement as in the case of using personal deixis between the narrator and his listener in one hand and their involvements with what is said or referred to during the narration on the other.

It is also intended to find out the extent to which the use of deixis reflects the story's point of view. It known that there are three types of point of view in relation to the use of person pronouns: first-person pronoun point of view, second -person pronoun pint of view and third-person pronoun pint of view.

The results of the study revealed that the spatiotemporal [space-time] deixis in the short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid* are employed to point to roles of specific places [our village, the location of the doum-tree] in the narration of the incidents that constitute the major conflict of the work. Also, such use of deictic words and phrases directs the characters' thoughts and feelings to such specific places and times: "were you come to *our village* as a tourist, it is likely, *my son*, that you would not *stay long*.", and the narrator continued to relate his narrative to this context by referring to space and time saying: "If it were in *winter time*" and "if you were come to us in *summer*". By so doing, the narrator firstly tried to pinpoint the sufferings of Wad Hamid's people as he described their miserable life to his listener. But

later he stated how the same inhabitants are content of what is in their village by saying that people became able to manage and compromise since it is their fate "we are people who God sees fit to give us".

The results also shows that personal deixis has been used more than other types of deixis especially the second-person pronoun 'you' by the narrator as asking his listener and the first -person pronoun 'I' when referring to himself. This finding indicates that although the results generated by AntConc corpus analysis toolkit shows the actual occurrences of the pronoun 'you' but the first-person pronoun is already embedded in almost all integrative sentences asked by the narrator. So, it is easy to say that the short story *The Doum-tree of Wad Hamid* is told by an old villager who addressed a young man -a stranger.

5. Conclusion

Although the corpus of this study is very small if compared to specialized corpora available in the websites, it is found that it consists of considerable amount of deixis which represents nearly one-fifth of the whole lexicon of the short story. It also found that the dominance of personal deixis over the other types indicates a significant relationship between the use of such linguistic forms and the narrative style of the author and the point of view of the narration line via which the narrator recounts the events from his own perspective. This usage of deixis affords linguistic evidences to understand the stylistic features of a literary work such contextual aspects which help the present study to come to the conclusion that the story tended to convey certain social status, respect and power of old people in villages' communities such as in the Sudan. Finally, the researcher believes that this study may have some shortcomings which are due to many factors including the ample knowledge of the researcher himself and the methodology but such limitations can trigger and inspire researchers to do more further investigation in future about the use of deixis specifically in the literary works of Al-Tayeb Saleh (1969).

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