CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language plays an important role in the daily life of human being. People use language to communicate among each other. Language is essential to every aspect in our everyday life. We use language to inform the people around us about what we feel, what we desire, or understand the world around us. The importance of communication can often be overlooked.

Language can be divided into two kinds; there are written and spoken languages. Written language refers to language which is written down, and the spoken language usually refers to language which is said aloudly. Actually, spoken language is typically more dependent than written language on the context. Spoken language tends to be complex grammatically but written language tends to be complex lexically. Spoken language tends to be grammatically intricate whereas written language tends to be lexically dense.

As a subfield of linguistics, pragmatics has been developed since 1970’s. It studies how people understand and produce a communicative act in a real situation of the conversation. Pragmatics is the study of meaning related to the context. Context is a subpart of the universe of discourse shared by the speaker and listener and includes a fact about the topic of the conversation. Yule (1995: 3) states that pragmatics is the study of the speaker’s meaning which relates to the utterances situation. In the pragmatics, deixis is one part that is studied. The phenomenon of deixis raises a number of puzzles about the proper way to think about the relationship between semantics and pragmatics.
Deixis abounds in language use and marks one of the boundaries of semantics and pragmatics. In pragmatics, deixis describes words or expressions the references of which rely absolutely on the concept. Deixis is a technical term for one of the most basic things we do with utterance.

Deictic expressions have their most basic uses in face to face spoken interactions where utterances are easily understood by the people present, but they may need a translation for someone who is not right there. Their interpretation depends on the context, the speaker, and the hearer.

The basic distinction presented so far for person, spatial and temporal deixis can be seen at work in one of the common structural distinction made in English grammar between direct and indirect speech. This is regular difference between the near speaker of the direct speech and the distant speaker of the indirect speech in English.

The writer found many readers who are confused in understanding the utterances in the text and using the alteration of participant. For example, “I” become “you” in the conversation, because they do not know about theory and kinds of deixis. In this study, the writer intends to analyze about spoken text from scene one up to scene three which is realized in written text of the clauses of the utterances in the American play “A Street Car Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams. For instance the alteration of participant, there is the utterance “Well, now you talk. Open your pretty mouth and talk while I look around for some liquor”. The context of this utterance is Blanche said to Stella about her expectation. As readers have new text, they need to get information about who are the speaker and the hearer, where, and when the events take place. The information can be gotten by understanding of the written text.
The play covers some conversations comprising of utterances called direct speech. Most of direct speech in this play contains deictic expression. Thus, this topic will be a fresh research. That is why the writer uses the American play “A Street Car Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams as data. The research is entitled THE ANALYSIS OF DEIXIS IN THE AMERICAN PLAY A STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE.

1.2 Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the problems in this study are as the following:

1) Which types of deixis is the most dominant in the American Play “A Street Car Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams.

2) How deixis is used in the American Play “A Street Car Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To find out which types of deixis is the most dominant in the American Play “A Street Car Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams.

2. To describe the use of deixis in the American Play “A Street Car Named Desire” by Tennessee Williams.
1.4 The Scope of the Study

This research, “The Analysis of Deixis in the American Play A Street Car Named Desire” is a part of pragmatic, so the writer must limit the area of research, there are:

1. The analysis focusing on five kinds of deixis; they are person deixis, spatial deixis, temporal deixis, social and demonstrative articles (discourse deixis).
2. Because the time is very limited, the writer will analyze deictic expressions from scene I up to scene III because these scenes are where the conflict of the story begin.
3. The use of deixis in the play is only analyzed in the form of utterances.

1.5 Significance of the Study

There are two essential significances of the study:

1. A contribution to the field of linguistics especially in pragmatics. The result of this study is hoped to increase the discussion of deixis in pragmatics.
2. A contribution to the students in English Department and anyone who reads this research. The result of the study is expected to be valuable to the students who are interested in learning English especially about pragmatics. By learning what is found in this study, they will be able to use logical way of thinking to interpret the meaning of utterances.