

## A PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF ANAPHORIC EXPRESSIONS IN TENET MOVIE

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### ABSTRACT

The goal of this research is to investigate the anaphoric references in a movie entitled Tenet. The researchers adapted the theory of anaphoric reference by Mitkov to find the types of anaphoric reference in the utterances of the movie. This research applied descriptive qualitative research. The researcher used the observational method to collect data, the pragmatic identity method to analyze the data, and the descriptive narrative method to present the research result. The researchers revealed the twenty data experienced anaphoric reference; three zero anaphoric expressions, nine pronominal anaphoric expressions, three verb anaphoric expressions, one lexical noun phrase anaphoric expression, three adverb anaphoric expressions, and one noun anaphoric expression. pronominal anaphoric expression is the mostly frequent use in the Tenet movie.

**Keywords:** Anaphora, Movie, Pragmatics, Reference

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Anaphoric reference refers to a connection between pointing word and the word it refers. According to Martin (1992), anaphoric reference is an attribution of the participant with reference to the language in the utterance. It happens when the writer refers towards something mentioned in the text either after or before. In addition, Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) argued that anaphoric reference is pointing backwards' to the escalating text's heritage, that is, to a

receiver that has been introduced and is thus previous of the text's simple structure. In anaphoric reference, antecedent become the important item to form a sentence. Antecedent is a word which replaced by other word in a sentence, most of antecedent is replaced by pronouns. Therefore, to avoid repetition during conversation, the speaker uses anaphoric reference to refer the antecedent in the utterances for making the simple utterance.

The researchers found anaphoric reference in a video on channel "The Late Late Show".

James: "Thank you so much for helping me to get **the work**, I really appreciate **it**".

Nicky: "My pleasure"

In the video, the speaker said "Thank you so much for helping me to get the work, I really appreciate it". This utterance considered as an anaphoric reference. According to Eggins (2004), anaphoric reference is a reference for something that mentioned in the text. "**The work**" acts as an antecedent, while the word "**it**" acts as the pronoun that refers to the antecedent. The relation between the antecedent and the pronoun is called anaphoric reference. So the speaker mentioned that he is being thankful to the hearer for giving him a work by saying I really appreciate **it**.

Anaphoric reference can be found in every media included movie. The researchers found the anaphoric reference in Tenet movie that released on 2020.

Protagonist: "Why does it feel so strange?"

Laura: "You're not shooting **the bullet**, you're catching **it**"

The conversation above is considered as an anaphoric reference. The anaphoric reference is a reference often include assuming information from the previous or following text. It means that anaphora is the key of reference item by looking at the past through a paragraph or text (Putz, 2002). "**The bullet**" in the conversation acts as an antecedent and the word "**it**" acts as the pronoun referring the antecedent. The connection between the pronoun and the antecedent is called the anaphoric reference. So, the speaker

simplifies the utterance by saying **it** for replace word "**the bullet**"

The research about anaphoric reference have done by many researchers. One of them was studied by Khalifah (2019). This research focused on finding out the anaphoric references in Mark Zuckerberg biography. This research used Halliday and Hassan's theory of reference cohesion of the cohesive devices. Therefore, the result of this research was 11 data of endophoric category. 5 data of anaphoric reference and 6 data of cataphoric reference.

Andriani & Supartini (2020) purposed to find out the endophoric reference in Oprah's speech. This research used the theory of McCarthy about language relation and their context and Bloor and Bloor about the types of endophoric reference. The result of this research was 7 data of endophoric reference found out in which 6 data of anaphoric reference and 1 data of cataphoric reference.

The researchers are interested in conducting the research about anaphoric reference theorized by Mitkov (2002). The similarity of this research with the previous research is about the topic that is anaphoric reference, and the difference between this research and the previous research is on the data source. The researchers used a movie as the data source for this research for finding out the type of anaphoric reference in the Tenet movie.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 2.1 Types Of Anaphoric Reference

According to Mitkov (2002), anaphoric reference is divided into six different types; pronominal anaphoric reference, lexical noun phrase anaphoric reference, noun anaphoric reference, verb anaphoric reference, adverb anaphoric reference, and zero anaphoric reference.

**a. Pronominal Anaphoric Reference**

Pronominal anaphoric reference is the rifest anaphoric reference type. The subject pronouns he, she, it, and they are considered as pronominal, also with the possessive, reflexive and the pronoun form of the subject (Mitkov, 2002). In addition, demonstrative and relative form such as this and that are also included too.

Example:

**James**, don't cross-examine me. **You** sound like a prosecuting counsel (Mitkov, 2002).

**b. Lexical Noun Phrase Anaphoric Reference**

Almost the same with pronominal anaphoric. But, the addition of the definite description and the proper name is the differentiator between this two types (Mitkov, 2002).

Example:

Both noses went down to **the footprints** in the snow. **These footprints** were very fresh (Mitkov, 2002)

**c. Noun Anaphoric Reference**

According to Mitkov (2002) noun anaphoric is related to non-lexical pointer and amount unit of noun phrase.

Example:

I don't think I'll have a sweet **pretzel**, just a plain **one** (Mitkov, 2002)

**d. Verb Anaphoric Reference**

The only one of the anaphoric types that has no similarity with other types. It focus on the verb phrase, not the pronoun (Mitkov, 2002).

Example:

Romeo Dallaire, the Canadian general in charge, **begged for reinforce- ments**; so **did** Boutros-Ghali (Mitkov, 2002)

**e. Adverb Anaphoric Reference**

Reference that focused on deictically not anaphorically (Mitkov, 2002).

Example:

Will you walk with me to **the garden**? I've got to go down **there** and Bugs has to go to the longhouse (Mitkov, 2002)

**f. Zero Anaphoric Reference**

The use of zero anaphoric reference is to establish reference creation and exchange of meaning an assumption that the hearer would be able to deduce who or what the speaker aims to recognize (Mitkov, 2002).

Example:

Slice the **beef**, put into the pan and fry for five minutes (Mitkov, 2002)

**2.2 Antecedent**

Antecedent is a word that interprets a second expression that have its own meaning. Antecedent identically in a form of noun phrase (Yule, 2006). To produce an agreement between the antecedent and the pronoun, there are some rules that have been fulfilled.

a. Singular antecedent must be replaced by singular pronoun.

Example: **President Jokowi** delivers **his** speech.

b. Plural antecedent must be replaced by plural pronoun.

Example: **Dewi and Devi** meet **their** old friend in the school

c. Antecedent in plural form which has singular meaning must be replaced by singular pronoun.

Example: The **news** lost **its** integrity in writing.

### 3. RESEARCH METHOD

This research is qualitative research. Qualitative research refers to research that produces descriptive data from people's own written or spoken words and observable behavior in the wider definition (Bogdan, 2016). Moreover, Miles & Huberman (2014) said that qualitative research is performed in a realistic context across intense or continued exposure with people involved to investigate the ordinary or extraordinary lives of people, communities, cultures, and institutions.

This research used observational method to collect the data introduced by (Sudaryanto, 2015). For getting the data, three steps of collecting the data will be applied. First, the researchers watched the data source. Second, the researchers scripted the utterances. The last is, connecting the utterances to Mitkov (2002)'s theory to get the phenomena.

The researchers analyzed the data after collecting the data. researchers used pragmatic identity in this study introduced by Sudaryanto (2015). In addition Sudaryanto (2015) put forward the technique in pragmatic called competence in equalizing. There are some steps to analyze the data. First, find out the context of the chosen utterances. Second, by using the theory of Mitkov (2002), the researchers captured the different kind of anaphoric reference.

### 4. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.1 Finding

There were 20 found for anaphoric references. The 20 data illustrated the 6 types of anaphoric reference. The detail findings are 3 data for zero anaphoric reference, 9 data for pronominal anaphoric reference, 9 data for pronominal anaphoric reference, 3 data for verb anaphoric reference, 1 data for

lexical noun phrase anaphoric reference, 3 data for adverb anaphoric reference, and 1 data for noun anaphoric reference.

#### 4.2 Discussion

In this section, the researchers would like to show the way to found out the types of anaphoric references by analyzing the utterances. The data have been categorized into each type.

##### a. Zero Anaphoric Reference

###### Data 1

Speaker 1: Wake up the **Americans**

Speaker 2: Hei (**01:49**)

From their conversation, it is seen that the word "**Americans**" refers to the man who is laying behind the speaker 1 and speaker 2 but the man did not join the conversation. Even though, the man who is laying out of the conversation but the aim of their conversation is the man. And the speaker understands by saying "Hei" to the man by calling "**Americans**".

###### Data 2

Speaker 1: Aim **it** and pull the trigger

Speaker 2: **It's** empty

Speaker 1: Aim **it** (**14:07**)

Zero anaphoric reference is formed in their conversation above. The pronoun "**it**" and refers to the gun that is not mentioned in their conversation. But both speakers understand what is their purpose in the conversation

###### Data 3

Speaker 1: Hmm. It's child's play, really.

Speaker 2: Child's play?

Speaker 1: **They're** inside airport security. **They** have to worry about climate

control, not armed raids.  
(37:00)

Zero anaphoric reference is formed in their conversation. The pronoun **"They"** refers to group of people that the speaker 1 and 2 are looking for, but is not mentioned in their conversation.

b. Pronominal Anaphoric Reference

**Data 1**

Speaker 1: I've never seen a **capsule** like this.

Speaker 2: We don't know how old is **it**, but it's a real deal. (05:13)

Speaker 1 looks confused about the capsule, because he has never seen a capsule like that before. When the speaker 1 asked the speaker 2 about the capsule by saying "I've never seen a **capsule** like this" the speaker 2 answered by replacing the antecedent **"capsule"** with pronoun **it**. The speaker 2's utterance is considered as pronominal reference because there was a replacement of the antecedent **"capsule"** with its pronoun.

**Data 2**

Speaker 1: Did you have an out?

Speaker 2: Service tunnel to the sewer

Speaker 1: Take **this**. Take **him**. Take his exit. I don't trust ours anymore. (05:21)

Before getting the Ukrainian out from the building, protagonist asks his member to bring the capsule, and the Ukrainian joins with them. Pronominal anaphoric reference is formed in their conversation. The demonstrative **"this"** refers to the capsule which he is holding. And the pronoun **"him"** refers to the Ukrainian.

**Data 3**

Speaker 1: I need an assist in Mumbai. I need to get to Sanjay Singh

Speaker 2: **Singh? He** never leaves his house. (17:47)

Pronominal anaphoric reference is formed in their conversation. The antecedent **"Singh"** as a subject is referred by its pronoun **"he"** and the possessive pronoun **"his"** also refers the antecedent **"Singh"**.

c. Verb Anaphoric Reference

**Data 1**

Speaker 1: We all believe we'd run into the burning building.  
But until we feel that heat,  
we can never know. **You do**

Speaker 2: I resign. (09:45)

Verb anaphoric is formed in their conversation above. The anaphor **"do"** stands for the verb **"know"**. In this conversation, the speaker 1 tells that the speaker 2 has passed through many gloomier masses than the speaker 1.

**Data 2**

Speaker 1: It'll open the right doors, but some of the wrong ones, too.

Speaker 2: That's all they've told you?

Speaker 1: That test you passed? Not everybody **does**. (10:06)

Verb anaphoric is formed in their conversation above. The anaphor **"does"** appears for the verb **"passed"**. In this conversation, the speaker 1 claims that he passes the test that everybody is not possible to do.

**Data 3**

Speaker 1: He can **communicate** with the future

Speaker 2: We all **do**, don't we? Email, credit cards, texts. (23:07)

Verb anaphoric is formed in their conversation. The anaphor “do” replaces the verb “communicate” to make sure that all of ‘us’ can communicate with the future.

- d. Lexical Noun Phrase Anaphoric Reference

**Data 1**

Speaker 1: The dealer you’re looking for is **Andrei Sartor, the Russian oligarch**. He is very dangerous

Speaker 2: You know him

Speaker 1: Not personally (22:37)

Lexical noun phrase anaphoric is formed in their conversation. “**Andrei Sartor**” as the antecedent is referred by pronoun “**He**” and also by the proper name “**the Russian oligarch**”.

- e. Adverb Anaphoric Reference

**Data 1**

Speaker 1: Anna says we’re going to **Pompeii** and see lava.

Speaker 2: We will. We’ll go together. I’ll be **there** too. (33:39)

Adverb anaphoric is formed in their conversation. The anaphor “**there**” in the utterances of speaker 2 refers to antecedent “**Pompeii**”. It means that the speaker 2 will be in Pompeii too.

**Data 2**

Speaker 1: Rotas has assets in the Oslo Freeport. I’m guessing it’s **there**.

Speaker 2: Guessing? (34:58)

Adverb anaphoric is formed in their conversation. The anaphor “**there**” in the utterances of speaker 1 refers to antecedent “**Rotas**”. It means that the speaker 1 guess that “**Rotas**” has assets in Oslo Freeport.

**Data 3**

Speaker 1: The space in the center of the **pentagon** is too big.

Speaker 2: There’s something **there**. (38: 30)

Adverb anaphoric is formed in their conversation. The anaphor “**there**” in the utterances of speaker 2 refers to antecedent “**pentagon**”. It means that the speaker 2 sure that there is something in the pentagon.

- f. Noun Anaphoric Reference

**Data 1**

Speaker 1: Everyone assumes **terrorism**, but no **one’s** died. So swift the extradition then lost in the system

Speaker 2: It’ll barely make the news.

Speaker 3: Oh, depends on the size of your explosion. (38:09)

Noun anaphoric is formed in their conversation. The non-lexical proform “**one**” constitutes an example of a noun anaphor. Note that one points to the noun “**terrorism**” and not to the noun phrase assumes terrorism.

**5. CONCLUSION**

The anaphoric references in the movie entitled Tenet were investigated by using Mitkov (2002) theory. Six types of anaphoric reference were discovered. They were zero anaphoric reference, pronominal anaphoric reference, verb anaphoric reference, lexical noun phrase anaphoric reference, adverb anaphoric reference, and noun anaphoric reference.

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