

## Analysing Deixis Used in the Short Story “Love” by Jesse Stuart

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### Abstract

Deixis is a feature of all languages. Every language includes deictic expressions: words or phrases that change what they refer to every time they are spoken. The meanings of these words or phrases depend crucially on the participants, when and where they speak. The aim of this research is to analyze the categories of deixis in the short story “Love” by Jesse Stuart. The deictic expressions used in the story were identified; and then these words and expressions were classified and analyzed in terms of five categories of deixis: person, time, place, discourse and social according to Levinson (1983) and the most and the least frequent use of deixis in the story and their effects were examined. According to the results, it was found that among five types of deixis, the deixis the author most frequently used is person deixis and discourse deixis is used the least. In the selected story, person deixis is used 172 times, place deixis 10 times, time deixis 12 times, discourse deixis 9 times and social deixis 16 times respectively. Hopefully, analyzing the categories of deixis in the short story “Love” is of some help to the learners of English language.

**Keywords:** deixis, deictic expressions, discourse

### INTRODUCTION

Language is an essential means for communicating among people. To make our communication successful, the role of context is also crucial. Only when we understand the context, communication breakdown will not occur. To analyze the context, deixis plays an important role because it explores the meaning that depends on context. It shows the relationship between language and context. The origin of the term ‘deixis’ is Ancient Greek. According to the source from Wikipedia, it means ‘display, demonstration, or reference’. It is the use of general words and phrases to refer to a specific time, place, or person in context, e.g. the words “tomorrow”, “there”, and “they”. These general words or phrases are deictic expressions. Yule (1996) said that deixis is a technical term for one of the most basic things we do with utterances. It means ‘pointing’ via language.

According to Levinson (1983), deixis concerns the ways in which languages encode or grammaticalize features of the context of utterance or speech event, and thus also concerns ways in which the interpretation of utterances depends on the analysis of that context of utterance. In English, deixis is expressed through personal pronouns, demonstratives, adverbs and tenses. The use of deixis can be found in many literary texts such as plays, poems, short stories, novels and so on. This research focuses on the types of deixis found in the short story ‘Love’ written by Jesse Stuart.

#### **Aim and Objectives of the Study**

The present paper aims to analyze the categories of deixis used in the short story “Love” written by Jesse Stuart. The objectives of this paper are as follows:

1. to find out deictic expressions that are used in the short story “Love”
2. to classify these words and expressions in terms of five categories of deixis: person, time, place, discourse and social
3. to examine the most and the least frequent type of deixis used in the story and
4. to express the effectiveness of using deixis in the story.

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## Research Questions

This study investigates the following research questions:

1. What categories of deixis are used in the short story “Love” by Jesse Stuart?
2. Which types of deixis are used more often and which are not used frequently?
3. How is the use of deixis helpful to understand the context of the story?

## Literature Review

This section consists of theoretical background of the research, previous researches to the present research, biography of the writer, Jesse Stuart, and synopsis of the short story “Love”.

### Theoretical background

Different researchers classified deixis into different types, however, traditionally, there are three similar categories: person, place, and time. Yule (1996) said that deixis means ‘pointing’ via language. Any linguistic form used to accomplish this ‘pointing’ is called a deictic expression. Deictic expressions are sometimes called indexicals. They can be used to indicate people via person deixis (‘me’, ‘you’), or location via spatial deixis (‘here’, ‘there’), or time via temporal deixis (‘now’, ‘then’). Levinson (1983) mentioned five types of deixis: person, place, time, discourse and social. According to Levinson (1983), the term ‘deixis’ is borrowed from the Greek word for pointing or indicating and it directly concerns the relationship between the structure of languages and the contexts in which they are used. Thus, there are five major categories of deixis: person deixis, place deixis, time deixis, discourse deixis and social deixis.

#### (1) Person deixis

Levinson (1983) said that person deixis concerns the encoding of the role of participants in the speech event in which the utterance in question is delivered: the category first person is the grammaticalization of the speaker’s reference to himself, second person the encoding of the speaker’s reference to one or more addressees, and third person the encoding of reference to persons and entities which are neither speakers nor addressees of the utterance in question. In short, the basic grammatical distinctions in person deixis are the categories of first, second and third persons. In English, these distinctions are generally indicated by pronouns such as “I”, “me”, “you”, “they”, “he”, “him” and “her”.

#### (2) Place deixis

Place deixis is also known as spatial deixis. According to Levinson (1983), it concerns the encoding of spatial locations relative to the location of the participants in the speech event. Probably most languages grammaticalize at least a distinction between proximal (or close to speaker) and distal (or non-proximal, sometimes close to addressee). Such distinctions are commonly encoded in demonstratives (as in English *this* vs. *that*) and in deictic adverbs of place (like English *here* vs. *there*).

The reason why there are distinctions is that the locations may be either those of the speaker and addressee or those of persons or objects being referred to. Some examples of place deixis are the adverbs such as “*here*” and “*there*” and the demonstratives such as “*this*”, “*these*”, “*that*”, and “*those*”. The following sentences with deictic expressions of place are given as examples. The expressions are shown in italics.

- (1) I like to wear *this* blouse.
- (2) *Here* are the messages you sent me.

The above expressions are generally understood to be relative to the location of the speaker.

Sometimes, “here” and “there” are often used to refer to locations near to and far from the speaker as in:

(3) It is quite hot *here*, I think. It is sort of shady over *there*.

Again, “there” can also refer to the location of the addressee, if they are not in the same location as the speaker, as in:

(4) How is everything *there*?

### (3) Time deixis

Time deixis concerns the encoding of temporal points and spans relative to the time at which an utterance was spoken (or a written message inscribed). Thus, time deixis encodes times on co-ordinates anchored to the time of utterance. Time deixis is commonly grammaticalized in deictic adverbs of time (like English now and then, yesterday and this year), but above all in tense (Levinson, 1983). This includes time adverbs like “now”, “then”, “soon”, “recently” and “tomorrow”.

### (4) Discourse deixis

According to Levinson (1983), discourse deixis concerns the use of expressions within some utterance to refer to some portion of the discourse that contains that utterance. The use of demonstratives such as “this” and “that” is obvious in this type of deixis. “This” can be used to refer to a forthcoming portion of the discourse, as in example (1), and “that” to a preceding portion, as in example (2):

(1) I bet you haven’t heard *this* story

(2) *That* was the funniest story I’ve ever heard.

### (5) Social deixis

Finally, social deixis concerns the encoding of social distinctions that are relative to participant-roles, particularly aspects of the social relationship holding between speaker and addressee(s) or speaker and some referent. There are two basic kinds of socially deictic information that seem to be encoded in languages around the world: relational and absolute. Obvious examples of social deixis are ‘polite’ pronouns and titles of address such as “My President” and “Your Majesty”.

(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deixis>)

### Previous researches on deixis

There are many previous researches on the use of deixis. Pangaribuan, Manik and Pasaribu (2015) carried out a research on “Deixis Used on Business Brochures Text: A Pragmatics Study” by using the brochures taken randomly from launching products, in March 2014. There are 32 brochures that were analyzed. The result of the analysis of the research is that there are 5 types of deixis used in business brochures text; Person Deixis 16.33%, Location/Spatial Deixis 5.71%, Temporal Deixis 5.31%, Discourse Deixis 63.27%, and Social Deixis 9.39%. Discourse Deixis is the most dominantly used in business brochures text. The model they used to finish their research was proposed by Cruse (2000) which includes five main types of deixis, namely 1) person deixis, 2) spatial deixis, 3) temporal deixis, 4) discourse deixis, and 5) social deixis.

Rahayu and Kurniawan (2018) carried out a research on “Deixis Investigation of Motivational Speech in Jack Ma’s ‘Empowering Young African Entrepreneur in Nairobi’ Speech”. This study aims to investigate the types of deictic expressions used by Jack Ma in one of his speeches in Nairobi and how these deictic expressions helped him in motivating his audience. Drawing on Fillmore’s (1997) category of deixis, this qualitative study found that

three types of deixis were present in Jack Ma's speech with the person deixis as the most frequently used type.

The last example of previous research on deixis is "Stylistic Analysis of Deictic Expressions Used on EFL Written Essay Grade III at English Department at FKIP UHN Pematangsiantar" by Hutauruk (2018). The researcher used some theories related with deixis such as Yule (1995), Levinson (1983), Lyon (1983), and James (1983). This research is conducted using a descriptive qualitative research. The researcher asked 70 students to perform and tell their expectations after being an English teacher in the future. After doing the analysis from the whole data of the research, the writer found the research findings: there are some types of deixis in the students' writing. Person deixis is used in the students' writing because the writer shows their thinking and their understanding. Among three types of person deixis used in the text, first person deixis is the most dominant because the writers tell their willingness to be teachers in the future.

### **Biography of the writer**

Jesse Hilton Stuart was born on August 8, 1906. Being an American writer, school teacher, and school administrator, he is known for his short stories, poetry, and novels as well as non-fiction autobiographical works set in central Appalachia. Born and raised in Greenup County, Kentucky, Stuart relied heavily on the rural locale of northeastern Kentucky for his writings.

One day while plowing in the field, Stuart stopped and wrote the first line of a sonnet: "I am a farmer singing at the plow". He was named poet laureate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky in 1954, and in 1961 he received the annual award from the American Academy of Poets. Stuart's first novel was *Trees of Heaven* (1940). Set in rural Kentucky, the novel tells the story of Anse Bushman, who loves working the land and wants more land. Stuart's style is simple and sparse. "Taps for Private Tussie" (1943) is perhaps his most popular novel, selling more than a million copies in only two years. The novel also received critical praise and won the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Award for the best Southern book of the year. Stuart published about 460 short stories. He wrote his first short story "Nest Egg" when he was a sophomore in high school in 1923. He died on February 17, 1984. Jesse Hilton Stuart was one of the more remarkable and original writers in American literature.

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesse\\_Stuart](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesse_Stuart))

### **Synopsis of the short story "Love"**

There are two main characters in the story: the father and the son. The story expresses the conflict between them through their differing perspectives on the world. There are three animal characters. They are the dog named "Bob", the female snake, and the bull snake. When father and son went to the cornfields to plan a fence one day, their dog, Bob, saw a big blacksnake. The father asked his dog to kill the blacksnake because he felt that snakes were his enemies. The boy begged his father not to kill the snake as it was a harmless one and it killed poisonous snakes. Indeed, the snake was going toward a heap of black loamy earth to lay her eggs. But the dog viciously killed the snake. With the eggs in his hand, the boy thought about life and human nature – the stronger devour the weaker.

The next morning, father and son saw a bull blacksnake lying beside his dead mate. It did not fight them as it was in great distress. It changed the man's attitude towards animals. The theme of the story "Love" is that love can change the attitude of a person. By the end of the story, father appears to have learned something about love and about making unreasoning judgments. In fact, the behaviour of the bull snake made him change his mind. The story highlights "love" among animals.

(<http://skymagazine.blogfa.com/post/17>)



Sent. no.	Sentence	D <sub>1</sub>			D <sub>2</sub>		D <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>5</sub>	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	pro	dis			rel	abs
	(6)									
7.	"Whoop, take <b>him</b> , Bob," said <b>my father</b> . (7)			1					1	
8.	<b>He</b> lifted up a young stalk of corn, with wilted dried roots, where the ground squirrel had dug <b>it</b> up for the sweet grain of corn left on <b>its</b> tender roots. (8)			3						
9.	<b>This</b> has been a dry spring and the corn has kept well in the earth where the grain has sprouted. (9)						1			
10.	The ground squirrels love <b>this</b> corn. (10)				1					
11.	<b>They</b> dig up rows of <b>it</b> and eat the sweet grains. (11)			2						
12.	The young corn stalks are killed and <b>we</b> have to replant the corn. (12)	1								
13.	<b>I</b> can see <b>my father</b> keep sicking Bob after the ground squirrel. (13)	1							1	
14.	<b>He</b> jumped over the corn rows.(14)			1						
15.	<b>He</b> started to run toward the ground squirrel. (15)			1						
16.	<b>I</b> , too, started running toward the clearing's edge where Bob was jumping and barking. (16)	1								
17.	The dust flew in tiny swirls behind <b>our</b> feet. (17)	1								
18.	There was a cloud of dust behind <b>us</b> . (18)	1								
19.	" <b>It's</b> a big bull blacksnake," said <b>my father</b> . (19)			1					1	
20.	"Kill <b>him</b> , Bob! (20)			1						
21.	Kill <b>him</b> , Bob!" (21)			1						
22.	Bob was jumping and snapping at the snake so as to make <b>it</b> strike and throw <b>itself</b> off guard. (22)			2						
23.	Bob had killed twenty-eight copperheads <b>this</b> spring. (23)						1			
24.	<b>He</b> knows how to kill a snake. (24)			1						
25.	<b>He</b> doesn't rush to do <b>it</b> . (25)			2						
26.	<b>He</b> takes <b>his</b> time and does the job well. (26)			2						
27.	"Let's don't kill the snake," <b>I</b> said. (27)	1								
28.	"A blacksnake is a harmless snake. (28)									
29.	<b>It</b> kills poison snakes. (29)			1						
30.	<b>It</b> kills the copperhead. (30)			1						
31.	<b>It</b> catches more mice from the fields than a cat." (31)			1						
32.	<b>I</b> could see the snake didn't want to fight the dog. (32)	1								
33.	The snake wanted to get away. (33)									
34.	Bob wouldn't let <b>it</b> . (34)			1						
35.	<b>I</b> wondered why <b>it</b> was crawling toward a heap of black loamy earth at the bench of the hill. (35)	1		1						
36.	<b>I</b> wondered why <b>it</b> had <b>come</b> from the chestnut oak sprouts and the matted greenbriars on the cliff. (36)	1		1	1					
37.	<b>I</b> looked as the snake lifted <b>its</b> pretty head in response to one of Bob's jumps. (37)	1		1						
38.	" <b>It's</b> not a bull blacksnake," <b>I</b> said. (38)	1		1						

Sent. no.	Sentence	D <sub>1</sub>			D <sub>2</sub>		D <sub>3</sub>	D <sub>4</sub>	D <sub>5</sub>	
		1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	pro	dis			rel	abs
39.	"It's a <b>she</b> -snake. (39)			2						
40.	Look at the white on <b>her</b> throat." (40)			1						
41.	"A snake is an enemy to <b>me</b> ," <b>my father</b> snapped. (41)	1							1	
42.	" <b>I</b> hate a snake. (42)	1								
43.	Kill <b>it</b> , Bob. (43)			1						
44.	<b>Go</b> in there and get <b>that</b> snake and quit playing with <b>it</b> !" (44)			1	1		1			
45.	Bob obeyed <b>my father</b> . (45)								1	
46.	<b>I</b> hated to see <b>him</b> take <b>this</b> snake by the throat. (46)	1		1			1			
47.	<b>She</b> was so beautifully poised in the sunlight. (47)			1						
48.	Bob grabbed the white patch on <b>her</b> throat. (48)			1						
49.	<b>He</b> cracked <b>her</b> long body like an ox whip in the wind. (49)			2						
50.	<b>He</b> cracked <b>it</b> against the wind only. (50)			2						
51.	The blood spurted from <b>her</b> fine-curved throat. (51)			1						
52.	Something hit against my legs like pellets. (52)	1								
53.	Bob threw the snake down. (53)									
54.	<b>I</b> looked to see what had struck <b>my</b> legs. (54)	2								
55.	<b>It</b> was snake eggs. (55)			1						
56.	Bob had slung <b>them</b> from <b>her</b> body. (56)			2						
57.	<b>She</b> was <b>going</b> to the sand heap to lay <b>her</b> eggs, where the sun is the setting-hen that warms <b>them</b> and hatches <b>them</b> . (57)			4	1					
58.	Bob grabbed <b>her</b> body <b>there</b> on the earth where the red blood was running down on the gray-piled loam. (58)			1	1					
59.	<b>Her</b> body was still writhing in pain. (59)			1						
60.	<b>She</b> acted like a greenweed held over a new-ground fire. (60)			1						
61.	Bob slung <b>her</b> viciously many times. (61)			1						
62.	<b>He</b> cracked <b>her</b> limp body against the wind. (62)			2						
63.	<b>She</b> was <b>now</b> limber as a shoestring in the wind. (63)			1			1			
64.	Bob threw <b>her</b> riddled body back on the sand. (64)			1						
65.	<b>She</b> quivered like a leaf in the lazy wind, and then <b>her</b> riddled body lay perfectly still. (65)			2			1			

### Data Interpretation

There are 141 sentences in the shorty story "Love" by Jesse Stuart. Each sentence in the short story is analyzed in terms of five types of deixis: person, place, time, discourse and social deixis in this research. It is found that all types of deixis are used in this story. Person deixis is mostly used and discourse deixis is used the least. Other types of deixis such as place deixis, time deixis and social deixis are also used to help the readers understand the context of the

story more. In this section, some sample sentences containing deictic expressions are taken from the story and interpreted in detail.

1. **Yesterday** when the bright sun blazed down on the wilted corn **my father** and **I** walked around the edge of the new ground to plan a fence. **(sent. 1)**  
 In this sentence, time deixis ‘Yesterday’ is used to show the past time. Relational social deixis ‘my father’ is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father. First person deixis ‘I’ is used to refer to the narrator, the boy.
2. Bob, **our** Collie, walked in front of **my father**. **(sent. 5)**  
 In this sentence, first person deixis ‘our’ is used to refer to the narrator and his father. Relational social deixis ‘my father’ is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father.
3. “Whoop, take **him**, Bob,” said **my father**. **(sent. 7)**  
 In sentence (7), third person deixis ‘him’ is used to refer to the ground squirrel and relational social deixis ‘my father’ is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father.
4. **I** can see **my father** keep sicking Bob after the ground squirrel. **(sent.13)**  
 In this sentence, first person deixis ‘I’ is used to refer to the narrator, the boy and relational social deixis ‘my father’ is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father.
5. “**It**’s a big bull blacksnake,” said **my father**. **(sent.19)**  
 In sentence (19), third person deixis ‘It’ is used to refer to a big bull blacksnake. Relational social deixis ‘my father’ is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father.
6. **I** wondered why **it** had **come** from the chestnut oak sprouts and the matted greenbriars on the cliff. **(sent. 36)**  
 In this sentence, first person deixis ‘I’ is used to refer to the narrator and third person deixis ‘it’ is used to refer to the snake. Spatial proximal deixis ‘come’ is used to show the snake’s movement toward the narrator.
7. **I** looked as the snake lifted **its** pretty head in response to one of Bob’s jumps. **(sent. 37)**  
 In this sentence, first person deixis ‘I’ is used to refer to the narrator and third person deixis ‘its’ is used to refer to the snake.
8. “**It**’s not a bull blacksnake,” **I** said. **(sent. 38)**  
 In this sentence, third person deixis ‘It’ is used to refer to the snake. First person deixis ‘I’ is used to refer to the narrator, the boy.
9. “A snake is an enemy to **me**,” **my father** snapped. **(sent. 41)**  
 In this sentence, first person deixis ‘me’ is used to refer to the narrator’s father. Relational social deixis ‘my father’ is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father.
10. “Go in **there** and get **that** snake and quit playing with **it**!” **(sent. 44)**  
 In sentence (44), spatial distal deixis ‘there’ is used to show the location away from the narrator. Discourse deixis ‘that’ is used to refer to the snake that the narrator’s father made Bob kill and the third person deixis ‘it’ is used to refer to the snake.
11. **I** hated to see **him** take **this** snake by the throat. **(sent. 46)**  
 In this sentence, first person deixis ‘I’ is used to refer to the narrator. Third person deixis ‘him’ is used to refer to Bob, the dog. Discourse deixis ‘this’ is used to refer to the snake Bob is killing.
12. **He** cracked **her** long body like an ox whip in the wind. **(sent. 49)**  
 In this sentence, third person deixis ‘He’ and ‘her’ are used to refer to Bob, the dog and the snake.
13. **He** cracked **it** against the wind only. **(sent. 50)**



In this sentence, third person deixes 'He' and 'it' are used to refer to Bob, the dog and the snake.

14. **She** was **going** to the sand heap to lay **her** eggs, where the sun is the setting-hen that warms **them** and hatches **them**. (sent. 57)

In sentence (57), third person deixes 'she' and 'her' are used to refer to the snake and spatial distal deixis 'going' is used to show the place where she had to lay her eggs. Third person deixes 'them' and 'them' are used to refer to the snake eggs.

15. Bob grabbed **her** body **there** on the earth where the red blood was running down on the gray-piled loam. (sent. 58)

In this sentence, third person deixis 'her' is used to refer to the snake. Spatial distal 'there' is used to show the place the dog dragged the female snake.

16. **He** cracked **her** limp body against the wind. (sent. 62)

In this sentence, third person deixes 'He' and 'her' are used to refer to Bob, the dog and the snake.

17. **She** was **now** limber as a shoestring in the wind. (sent. 63)

In this sentence, third person deixis 'She' is used to refer to the female snake. Time deixis 'now' is used to indicate the present time.

18. **She** quivered like a leaf in the lazy wind, and then **her** riddled body lay perfectly still. (sent. 65)

In this sentence, third person deixes 'She' and 'her' are used to refer the female snake.

19. "Look at the eggs, won't **you**?" said **my father**. (sent. 67)

In this sentence, second person deixis 'you' is used to refer to the narrator, the boy. Relational social deixis 'my father' is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father.

20. **I** picked an egg up and held **it** in **my** hand. (sent. 69)

In sentence (69), first person deixes 'I' and 'my' are used to refer to the narrator, the boy. Third person deixis 'it' is used to refer to the egg.

21. Only a minute **ago** there was life in **it**. (sent. 70)

In this sentence, time deixis 'ago' is used to show the past time before the female snake died. Third person deixis 'it' is used to refer to the egg that the boy picked up.

22. The egg **I** held in **my** hand was almost the size of a quail's egg. (sent. 74)

In this sentence, first person deixis "I" and "my" are used to refer to the narrator, the boy.

23. "Well, Bob, **I** guess **you** see **now** why **this** snake couldn't fight," **I** said, "**It** is life." (sent. 76)

In this sentence, first person deixis 'I' is used to the narrator, the boy. Second person deixis 'you' is used to refer to Bob. Third person deixis 'it' is used to refer to the egg. Time deixis 'now' is used to show the present time and discourse deixis 'this' is used to refer to the snake that Bob killed (the dead snake).

24. **He** walked ahead of **us** back to the house. (sent. 84)

In this sentence, third person deixis 'He' is used to refer to Bob. First person deixis 'us' is used to refer to the narrator and his father.

25. **His** tongue nearly touched the dry dirt and white flecks of foam dripped from **it**. (sent. 88)

In this sentence, third person deixes 'His' and 'it' are used to refer to Bob which is the dog and his tongue.

26. Neither **my father** nor **I** spoke. (sent. 90)

In sentence (88), relational social deixis 'my father' is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father. First person deixis 'I' is used to refer to the narrator, the boy.

27. **I** thought about how **they** will fight to save **their** children. (sent. 102)

In this sentence, first person deixis 'I' is used to refer to the narrator, the boy. Third person deixes 'they' and 'their' are used to refer to the women who are giving birth children.

28. **Then, I** thought of the snake. (sent. 103)

In this sentence, first person deixis 'I' is used to refer to the narrator, the boy. Time deixis 'Then' is used to show the time after the boy had thought about the agony women know of giving birth.

29. **I** thought it was silly for **me** to think such thoughts. (sent. 104)

In this sentence, first person deixes 'I' and 'me' are used to refer to the narrator, the boy.

30. **My father** walked behind with the posthole digger across **his** shoulder. (sent. 111)

In sentence (111), relational social deixis 'My father' is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father. Third person deixis 'his' is used to refer to the narrator's father.

31. **I** walked out the corn row where **we** had come **yesterday** afternoon. (sent. 115)

In this sentence, first person deixes 'I' and 'we' are used to refer to 'the narrator' and 'the narrator and his father'. Temporal deixis 'yesterday' is used to indicate the previous day.

32. **I** saw **it** move. (sent. 118)

In this sentence, first person deixis 'I' is used to refer to the narrator. Third person deixis 'it' is used to refer to something. Spatial proximal deixis 'move' is used to show the movement of something.

33. **It** was **moving** like a huge black rope winds around a windlass. (sent. 119)

In this sentence, third person deixis 'It' is used to refer to something. Spatial proximal deixis 'moving' is used to show the movement of something.

34. "What do **you** know about **this**," **he** said. (sent. 124)

In sentence (124), second person deixis 'you' is used to refer to the narrator. Discourse deixis 'this' is used to refer to the bull blacksnake. Third person deixis 'he' is used to refer to the narrator's father.

35. "**You** have seen the bull blacksnake **now**," **I** said. (sent. 125)

In this sentence, second person deixis 'You' is used to refer to the narrator's father. First person deixis 'I' is used to refer to the narrator. Time deixis 'now' is used to show the present time.

36. **He**, perhaps, was on **her** trail **yesterday**. (sent. 129)

In this sentence, third person deixes 'He' and 'her' are used to refer to the bull blacksnake and his dead mate. Time deixis 'yesterday' is used to indicate the previous day (the day his mate was dead).

37. **He** had **come** in the **night**, under the roof of stars, as the moon shed rays of light on the quivering clouds of green. (sent. 131)

In this sentence, first person deixis 'He' is used to refer to the bull blacksnake. Proximal deixis of place 'come' is used to show the snake's movement when the surrounding is dark at night. Time deixis 'night' is used to show the time the bull blacksnake searched for his mate.

38. "Take a stick," said **my father**, "and throw **him** over the hill so Bob won't find **him**". (sent. 137)

In this sentence, relational social deixis "my father" is used to refer to the relationship between the narrator and his father. Third person deixis "him" is used to refer to the bull blacksnake.

39. Did **you** ever see anything to beat **that**? (sent. 138)

In this sentence, second person deixis “you” is used to refer to the narrator. Discourse deixis “that” is used to refer to the bull blacksnake.

40. I took a stick and threw **him** over the bank into the dewy sprouts on the cliff. (sent. 141)

In sentence (141), first person deixis “I” is used to refer to the narrator, the boy. Third person deixis “him” is used to refer to the bull blacksnake.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this research, each sentence in the story is analyzed. The data are collected from the short story “Love” by Jesse Stuart and they are analyzed in terms of five types of deixis proposed by Levinson (1983). There are 141 sentences in the story “Love” by Jesse Stuart. The total number of deixes found in the story is 219. Person deixis is used 172 times, place deixis is used 10 times, time deixis is used 12 times, discourse deixis is used 9 times and social deixis is used 16 times. All types of deixis are found in this research. The frequency and percentage of five types of deixis found in the short story “Love” are shown in the table. Table (2) shows the total frequency and percentage of five types of deixis found in the short story.

**Table (2) Total Frequency and Percentage of Five Types of Deixis Found in the Short Story “Love” by Jesse Stuart**

Types of Deixis		Frequency	Total	Percentage
Person Deixis	1 <sup>st</sup> person	57	172	78.57%
	2 <sup>nd</sup> person	5		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> person	110		
Place Deixis	Proximal	6	10	4.55%
	Distal	4		
Time Deixis		12	12	5.47%
Discourse Deixis		9	9	4.11%
Social Deixis	Relational	16	16	7.3%
	Absolute	-		
<b>Total</b>			<b>219</b>	<b>100%</b>

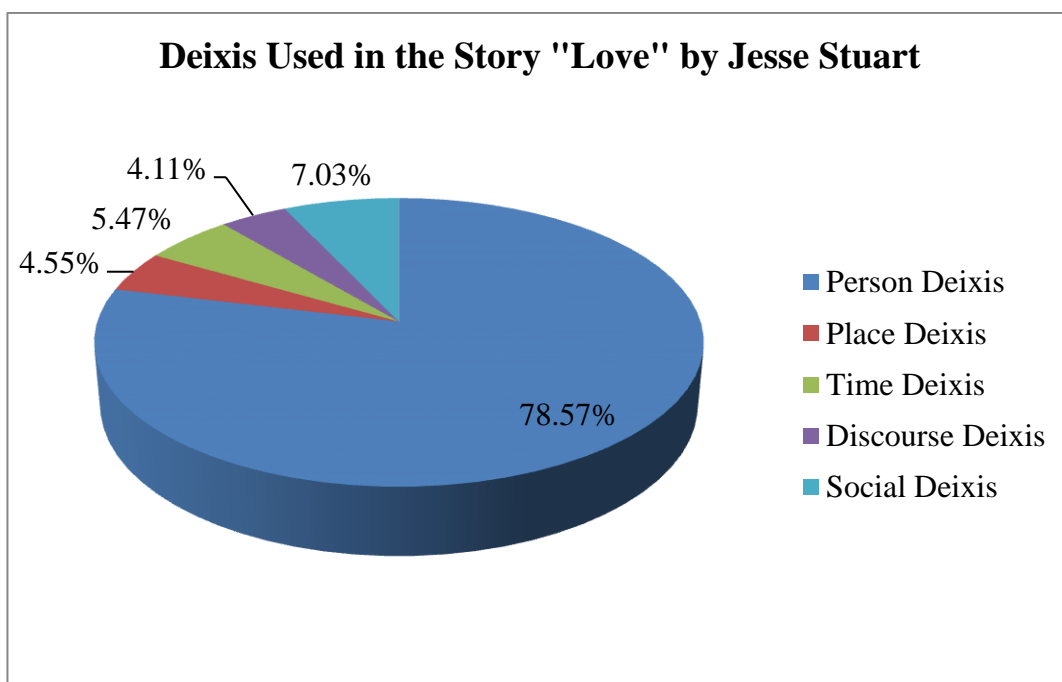
According to Table (2), the total number of deixis used in the story is 219. It was found that the narrator, Jesse Stuart, composed the story with the frequency of 172 times (78.57%) using person deixis, 10 times (4.55%) using place deixis, 12 times (5.47%) for time deixis, 9 times (4.11%) using discourse deixis and 16 times (7.3%) using social deixis. Among five types of deixis, the deixis the author most frequently used is person deixis and the least used one is discourse deixis. Moreover, place, time and social deixes are used properly.

When dealing with person deixis, there are three kinds: first, second and third person deixes. The total number of person deixis used in this story is 172. In the story the first person deixis is used 57 times, the second person deixis is found 5 times and the third person deixis 110 times. So the third person deixis is used most frequently in the story. In this story, the author used first person deixis “I, me, my, we, us, our” to describe the narrator, the boy and his father in the story, second person deixis “you, your” to describe the addressee, the father and his son, and third person deixis “he, him, his, she, her, it, its, itself, they, them” to refer to Bob, the female snake, the bull blacksnake, the snake’s eggs, the ground squirrel, Bob’s tongue, the corn and the women who were giving birth.

As already mentioned, place deixis has two forms: proximal and distal forms. The total number of the use of place deixis in this story is 10. In the story, the proximal form of place deixis is found 6 times. Moreover, the distal form of place deixis is used 4 times. The place deixes the author used in the story are “come, go, move, there and this”. The proximal form of space deixis shows the location close to the speaker and the distal form of place deixis refers to the location away from the speaker. The use of place deixis enables the reader to visualize the movements of the snakes and the corn in the field vividly.

It is found that the total number of the use of time deixis in this story is 12. Jesse Stuart employed time deixes “now, then, ago, night and yesterday” in this story. By the skillful use of time deixis, the author could make the story perfect. Again, the total frequency of discourse deixis used in this story is 9 times. Discourse deixes such as “this, that” are used in the story to refer to the snake Bob killed, the dead snake, the bull blacksnake and the season of the year.

Totally, social deixis is used 16 times in the story. The relational social deixis is used 16 times but absolute social deixis is not found. The relational deixis “my father” shows the relation between the father and the son, the narrator. It is hoped that the following pie chart will help the reader for better understanding of how deixis is used in the story.



According to the findings, it is found that the author effectively used deixis in the short story and the reader could grasp the information he wanted to convey: life, death and nature which are the themes of the story. Through the use of person deixis, the reader can realize the importance of the roles of major and minor characters in the story. The use of place and time deixes helps the reader visualize the setting in which the story was set. Again, the use of discourse deixis makes the events in the story interrelated with each other and helps the reader appreciate the themes of the story. Due to the use of social deixis, the reader is able to comprehend the social distinctions among the characters in the story. So, analyzing deixis is of great help for learners to understand the context of the story. It also helps the learners to comprehend the message of the text clearly and to develop their language and literary skills.

## CONCLUSION

In this research, the data were collected and analyzed according to the theory of Levinson (1983). The findings of the research show that person deixis is most frequently used, but discourse deixis is used least frequently. Moreover, the author used place, time and discourse deixes properly. The use of person deixis makes the reader comprehend the characteristics of the speaker, addressee and other participants in the story. Through the use of place and time deixes, the setting of the story can be seen vividly. The use of discourse deixis makes the events in the story coherent and helps the reader understand the message that the author wanted to convey. The reader is able to know the relationship between the characters and their social status by using social deixis. As the author, Jesse Stuart, uses deixis in this short story effectively, the reader can visualize how Bob killed the female snake viciously, and what he wanted to convey to the reader can be reached to the fullest extent. Through his skillful use of deixis, the reader comes to better realize the theme of the story – nature, life and death. Thus, if learners of English realize how deixes are properly used, they can better understand the text and appreciate the stories more.

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## Appendix

### "Love" by Jesse Stuart

Yesterday when the bright sun blazed down on the wilted corn my father and I walked around the edge of the new ground to plan a fence. (1) The cows kept coming through the chestnut oaks on the cliff and running over the young corn. (2) They bit off the tips of the corn and trampled down the stubble. (3)

My father walked in the corn balk. (4) Bob, our Collie, walked in front of my father. (5) We heard a ground squirrel whistle down over the bluff among the dead treetops at the clearing's edge. (6) "Whoop, take him, Bob," said my father. (7) He lifted up a young stalk of corn, with wilted dried roots, where the ground squirrel had dug it up for the sweet grain of corn left on its tender roots. (8) This has been a dry spring and the corn has kept well in the earth where the grain has sprouted. (9) The ground squirrels love this corn. (10) They dig up rows of it and eat the sweet grains. (11) The young corn stalks are killed and we have to replant the corn. (12)

I can see my father keep sicking Bob after the ground squirrel. (13) He jumped over the corn rows. (14) He started to run toward the ground squirrel. (15) I, too, started running toward the clearing's edge where Bob was jumping and barking. (16) The dust flew in tiny swirls behind our feet. (17) There was a cloud of dust behind us. (18)

"It's a big bull blacksnake," said my father. (19) "Kill him, Bob! (20) Kill him, Bob!" (21)

Bob was jumping and snapping at the snake so as to make it strike and throw itself off guard. (22) Bob had killed twenty-eight copperheads this spring. (23) He knows how to kill a snake. (24) He doesn't rush to do it. (25) He takes his time and does the job well. (26)

"Let's don't kill the snake," I said. (27) "A blacksnake is a harmless snake. (28) It kills poison snakes. (29) It kills the copperhead. (30) It catches more mice from the fields than a cat." (31)

I could see the snake didn't want to fight the dog. (32) The snake wanted to get away. (33) Bob wouldn't let it. (34) I wondered why it was crawling toward a heap of black loamy earth at the bench of the hill. (35) I wondered why it had come from the chestnut oak sprouts and the matted greenbriars on the cliff. (36) I looked as the snake lifted its pretty head in response to one of Bob's jumps. (37) "It's not a bull blacksnake," I said. (38) "It's a she-snake. (39) Look at the white on her throat." (40)

"A snake is an enemy to me," my father snapped. (41) "I hate a snake. (42) Kill it, Bob. (43) Go in there and get that snake and quit playing with it!" (44)

Bob obeyed my father. (45) I hated to see him take this snake by the throat. (46) She was so beautifully poised in the sunlight. (47) Bob grabbed the white patch on her throat. (48) He cracked her long body like an ox whip in the wind. (49) He cracked it against the wind only. (50) The blood spurted from her fine-curved throat. (51) Something hit against my legs like pellets. (52) Bob threw the snake down. (53) I looked to see what had struck my legs. (54) It was snake eggs. (55) Bob had slung them from her body. (56) She was going to the sand heap to lay her eggs, where the sun is the setting-hen that warms them and hatches them. (57)

Bob grabbed her body there on the earth where the red blood was running down on the gray-piled loam. (58) Her body was still writhing in pain. (59) She acted like a greenweed held over a new-ground fire. (60) Bob slung her viciously many times. (61) He cracked her limp body against the wind. (62) She was now limber as a shoestring in the wind. (63) Bob threw her riddled body back on the sand. (64) She quivered like a leaf in the lazy wind, and then her riddled body lay perfectly still. (65) The blood colored the loamy earth around the snake. (66)

"Look at the eggs, won't you?" said my father. (67) We counted thirty-seven eggs. (68) I picked an egg up and held it in my hand. (69) Only a minute ago there was life in it. (70) It was an immature seed. (71) It would not hatch. (72) Mother sun could not incubate it on the warm earth. (73) The egg I held in my hand was almost the size of a quail's egg. (74) The shell on it was thin and tough and the egg appeared under the surface to be a watery egg. (75)

"Well, Bob, I guess you see now why this snake couldn't fight," I said, "It is life. (76) Stronger devour the weaker even among human beings. (77) Dog kills snake. (78) Snake kills birds. (79) Birds kill the butterflies. (80) Man conquers all. (81) Man, too, kills for sport." (82) Bob was panting. (83) He walked ahead of us back to the house. (84) His tongue was out of his mouth. (85) He was tired. (86) He was hot under his shaggy coat of hair. (87) His tongue nearly touched the dry dirt and white flecks of foam dripped from it. (88) We walked toward the house. (89) Neither my father nor I spoke. (90) I still thought about the dead snake. (91) The sun was going down over the chestnut ridge. (92) A lark was singing. (93) It was late for a lark to sing. (94) The red evening clouds floated above the pine trees on our pasture hill. (95) My father stood beside the path. (96) His black hair was moved by the wind. (97) His face was red in the blue wind of day. (98) His eyes looked toward the sinking sun. (99)

"And my father hates a snake," I thought. (100) I thought about the agony women know of giving birth. (101) I thought about how they will fight to save their children. (102) Then, I thought of the snake. (103) I thought it was silly for me to think such thoughts. (104)

This morning my father and I got up with the chickens. (105) He says one has to get up with the chickens to do a day's work. (106) We got the posthole digger, ax, spud, measuring pole and the mattock. (107) We started for the clearing's edge. (108) Bob didn't go along. (109)

The dew was on the corn. (110) My father walked behind with the posthole digger across his shoulder. (111) I walked in front. (112) The wind was blowing. (113) It was a good morning wind to breathe and a wind that makes one feel like he can get under the edge of a hill and heave the whole hill upside down. (114)

I walked out the corn row where we had come yesterday afternoon. (115) I looked in front of me. (116) I saw something. (117) I saw it move. (118) It was moving like a huge black rope winds around a windlass. (119) "Steady," I said to my father. (120) "Here is the bull blacksnake." (121) He took one step up beside me and stood. (122) His eyes grew wide apart. (123)

"What do you know about this," he said. (124)

"You have seen the bull blacksnake now," I said. (125) "Take a good look at him! (126) He is lying beside his dead mate. (127) He has come to her. (128) He, perhaps, was on her trail yesterday." (129)

The male snake had trailed her to her doom. (130) He had come in the night, under the roof of stars, as the moon shed rays of light on the quivering clouds of green. (131) He had found his lover dead. (132) He was coiled beside her, and she was dead. (133)

The bull blacksnake lifted his head and followed us as we walked around the dead snake. (134) He would have fought us to his death. (135) He would have fought Bob to his death. (136) "Take a stick," said my father, "and throw him over the hill so Bob won't find him. (137) Did you ever see anything to beat that? (138) I've heard they'd do that. (139) But this is my first time to see it." (140) I took a stick and threw him over the bank into the dewy sprouts on the cliff. (141)