



Persona Deixis In The Novel 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] By Mo Bao Fei Bao

墨宝非宝的小说《很想很想你》中的人称指示语

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Abstract:

This study aims to describe the use of persona deixis in a Chinese novel entitled 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao. By using qualitative method and literature review approach, this research aims to describe the form of persona deixis and to describe its use in the context of the novel narration. The analysis shows that there are 4,504 uses of persona deixis in the novel. The results describe the dominance of third person deixis, especially for the character 她[tā] 'she is a girl', as well as the significant use of first and second person deixis. The analysis illustrates that the variation in the use of persona deixis reflects the social dynamics, culture, and relationships between characters in the novel. This study presents an in-depth description of the role of persona deixis in narrative construction and character development in Chinese literary works. The findings provide a detailed picture of the use of persona deixis in the context of literary works and can help Chinese learners understand the concept of persona deixis more comprehensively, as well as contribute to the study of pragmatic linguistics.

Keywords: persona deixis; Chinese novel; pragmatics

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摘要: 本研究描述汉语小说《很想很想你》中人称指示语的使用情况。该小说由墨宝非宝创作的。本研究采用定性方法和文献研究方法，目的是描述人称指示语的形式及其在小说叙事中的使用情况。分析结果显示，小说中共有 4,504 个人称指示语的使用实例。研究结果描述了第三人称指示语的主导地位，特别是对于“她”这个人物，以及第一人称和第二人称指示语的显著使用。分析表明，人称指示语使用的变化反映了小说中的社会文化动态以及人物之间的关系。本研究深入描述了人称指示语在汉语文学作品中的叙事构建和人物发展中的作用。这些发现为文学作品中人称指示语的使用提供了详细的图景，可以帮助汉语学习者更全面地理解人称指示语的概念，同时也为语用学研究做出了贡献。

关键词: 人称指示语，汉语小说，语用学



1. INTRODUCTION

Language is an intermediary to communicate between fellow humans both orally and in writing. Humans need a learning process to increase knowledge in order to communicate well. With language, humans can easily convey their thoughts, feelings, and desires to fellow humans. Language itself can develop and even change from time to time (Unsiyah & Yuliati, 2018). The speech acts spoken by a person should be well organized and easy so that the interlocutor can understand.

The science that studies it all is linguistics, especially in the study of pragmatics. Linguistics is a science of language that has several branches, including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and others. Pragmatics is one of the sciences that studies a meaning both verbally and non-verbally. Pragmatics itself examines aspects related to the context of speech and analyzes how the meaning of the speech can be conveyed properly to speech partners in accordance with the context behind the speech (Putradi & Supriyana, 2024). Pragmatics itself has a function to study an utterance that contains different meanings based on the situation.

In language, there is one important aspect in the study of pragmatics, namely deixis. Deixis is an expression that refers to the context of speech, such as pronouns of person, place, and time. There are five types of deixis including persona deixis, time deixis, place deixis, social deixis, and discourse deixis (Nasarudin, 2023). From this description of deixis, deixis is often found in interactions with each other, and can also be easily found in the form of literary works, especially persona deixis. Persona deixis is a term found in linguistics that refers to the use of pronouns, replacing nouns and referring to a person's role or position in a conversational situation.

The use of persona deixis can move depending on who the speaker is in communication or conversation (Subagyo, 2022). There are three forms of persona deixis, namely first person deixis, second person deixis, and third person deixis. First person deixis is a pronoun that replaces the speaker's self to himself or a group involving himself, for example 我 [wǒ], 我们 [wǒmen], and 咱们 [zánmen]. Second person deixis is a pronoun that refers to an interlocutor who appears with the first person, for example 你 [nǐ], 你们 [nǐmen], 您 [nín]. Third person deixis is a pronoun that is not addressed to the person or persona present, for example 他 [tā], 他们 [tāmen], 她们 [tāmen], 它 [tā], and 它们 [tāmen]. In a novel, there are many dialogs and changes in the events told in it. Each sentence, conversation and event has a different context so that the deixis will experience a shift in referent.

However, many language learners, especially Chinese, do not know what deixis itself is, including persona deixis. In fact, understanding deixis, especially persona deixis, is very important in learning Chinese. Inappropriate use of persona deixis can cause misunderstanding in communication. In addition, persona deixis has differences between Chinese and other languages, so Chinese learners need to understand the concept of persona deixis well. Therefore, analyzing the use of persona deixis in Chinese literary works, such as the novel 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You', can help Chinese learners understand the concept of persona deixis more deeply.

From the description of persona deixis, persona deixis is often found in interactions with each other, and can also be found in the form of literary works. The material of persona deixis is taught to Chinese Language Education Study Program students in the Introduction to General



Linguistics course. The storyline in the novel is a process of creating conflict in the characters made by the author and in it also contains deixis (Rini, S.Pd, 2021). Novels are in great demand by many people, because the storyline is interesting and has many genres. A novel is a literary work of fictional prose or produced from the process of imagination (Hidayat, 2021). A novel is a literary work in the form of long prose and contains several series of a story of a person's life with the people around him.

A novel usually has several social, cultural, educational, moral, and other values. The story conflicts created by the author mostly arouse the feelings of the reader, the aim is to make the reader get involved in the atmosphere of the story (Sofiatin, S.Sos, 2023). This makes the author so interested in conducting his research focus on persona deixis in the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You'. The reason for choosing this novel is that because it is a romance genre, it has its own unique style but does not detract from the actual genre. The novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' is a novel by Mo Bao Fei Bao.

The novel tells the story of a college student named Gu Sheng. She has an assumed identity as Sheng Sheng Man. Gu Sheng uses this pseudonym as his identity online. Gu Sheng secretly makes music for historical dramas. He idolizes Mo Qingcheng, a famous voice actor. He is also known as Qiang Qing Ci. This made Gu Sheng dream of collaborating with his favorite voice actor. Driven by her strong interest, Gu Sheng, who was in high school, became more and more diligent in creating music. One day, he met Mo Qingcheng because he recognized her voice. They had the opportunity to work together. Slowly, their relationship turns into more than just coworkers.

This study aims to describe the use of persona deixis in Mandarin in the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You'. The problems of this study are: (1) What are the forms of persona deixis in the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao? (2) How is the use of persona deixis in the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao? The objectives of the problem formulation above are (1) to describe the form of persona deixis contained in the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao. (2) To describe the use of persona deixis in the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao.

Before conducting this research, the researcher first reviewed previous research in order to get references for the research to be carried out and the difference between this research and similar research sources is that the data source used is the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao. Similar research was conducted by (Arsef, 2021) a student of Andalas University majoring in Japanese Literature with a thesis entitled "Analisis Deiksis Sosial Anime One Piece: 魚人島 (Pulau Manusia Ikan)". Another research was researched by (Nuryani, 2021) a student of UIN Syarif Hidayatullah majoring in Indonesian Language and Literature Education with her thesis entitled "Penggunaan Deiksis dalam Proses Belajar Mengajar Bahasa Indonesia di Sekolah SMAN 7 Tangerang Selatan Kelas X Tahun Ajaran 2019/2020". From the two previous studies, there are differences with this research, namely the types of deixis studied and also the research subjects, this study explains in more detail the use of persona deixis which is not explained by previous researchers. The results of this study are expected to be useful



and contribute to Chinese linguistics in the study of pragmatics, especially related to deixis and its relationship with the socio-cultural context of Chinese speakers.

2. METHOD

This research is a qualitative study using the library research method. Literature review is an activity to explore, scrutinize, examine, and identify knowledge (Luthfiah, 2018). Literature review in this research is conducted by analyzing the text of the novel in depth to identify and examine the use of deixis in the novel. The subject of this study is the novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao. The researcher acts as the main instrument in implementing, collecting data, analyzing, interpreting data, and reporting the results of the study.

The main data source in this study is the 263-page novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao. This novel was chosen because of the richness of the use of persona deixis which can provide deep insight into the narrative structure and characterization in Chinese literary works. The research data is in the form of words, phrases, and or sentences that contain persona deixis in the novel, including first persona deixis, second persona deixis, and third persona deixis.

The main instrument in this research is the researcher himself, who has the role as executor, data collector, analyzer, data interpreter, and reporter of research results. To support the process of data collection and analysis, a specially designed instrument is used to classify and calculate the frequency of use of various forms of persona deixis. In addition, other supporting instruments are needed such as data tables. This table allows the researcher to organize the data systematically and facilitate qualitative analysis of the pattern of use of persona deixis in the novel.

Data were collected through the documentation study method and analyzed using the Miles and Huberman theoretical approach. The documentation method is information derived from crucial records originating from institutions or organizations or individuals (Setiawan, 2018). The researcher carefully and repeatedly read the text of Mo Bao Fei Bao's novel *很想很想你* [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You', identified each use of persona deixis, and recorded it in the analysis table. Every sentence or utterance containing persona deixis is recorded to ensure accurate interpretation. This process is done thoroughly to the entire content of the novel to obtain comprehensive and representative data.

Miles and Huberman's (in Wijaya, 2018) qualitative data analysis process consists of three main stages: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing or verification. The reduction stage involves the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, and transforming the raw data obtained during data collection. Relevant data is then organized and displayed in a more structured form, such as tables, at the data presentation stage. The last stage, conclusion drawing or verification, draws conclusions from the data findings and verifies the data through data validity techniques using expert triangulators. By using this theory, this research can identify and understand the pattern of the use of persona deixis in the novel, making an important contribution to the understanding of linguistics in literary works.



To ensure the validity of the data, the researcher triangulated the data findings. Triangulation is a combination of various methodologies in the study of the same phenomenon (Denzin, 2017). Triangulation of data findings was carried out by comparing data obtained from the novel with relevant data sources, such as Chinese dictionaries and linguistic literature on persona deixis. In addition, researchers also conducted discussions with Chinese language experts, namely Mrs. Karina Fefi Laksana Sakti, S.Pd., MTC SOL. to verify the accuracy of the interpretation of persona deixis in the context of Chinese culture and language. This process helps to increase the credibility and validity of the research findings.

The collected deixis data are classified based on their types such as first person deixis, second person deixis, and third person deixis. Each deixis data is analyzed by identifying the reference, classifying the type, interpreting the meaning, and examining the usage in the context of the speech/sentences in the novel. The results of the analysis are presented in the form of descriptions and explanations accompanied by data quotations from the novel as evidence of the use of deixis. The findings are presented systematically based on the types of deixis found.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Analysis of the novel 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao work as a whole, there are 4.504 persona deixis that can be found in this study. It is classified into three main categories, namely first, second, and third person deixis. At the time of researching, the researcher referred to the book 'Pragmatics' chapter 6. In the novel, the results of the analysis of the use of persona deixis in the novel 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao can be presented in the form of the following table.

Tabel 1. Deiksis Persona

Deixis Category	Types	Total Data
First person deixis	我	866
	我们	131
	咱们	3
Second Person deixis	你	709
	你们	51
	您	13
Third person deixis	他	1.041
	他们	64
	她	1.620
	她们	4
	它	1
	它们	2
Total		4.504

Looking at the results of the deixis data above, it can be concluded that the form of persona deixis that is most often used or widely used in the novel 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao is third person deixis or third person pronouns. The



following will be presented the results of the analysis of deixis from this research that has been done.

3.1. First Person Deixis

The first person deixis, represented by the word 我 [wǒ] 'I', demonstrates the strong focus on individual expression in modern texts. The use of 我 [wǒ] 'I' in the novel reflects a change in social and cultural dynamics, where individual identity is increasingly taking center stage. The dominance of 我 [wǒ] 'I' in modern texts signifies a shift from the more limited use of first person deictics in the past, towards a stronger and more direct expression of personal perspective (Zhonghua, 2015). This suggests that the characters in the novel often speak and think from their own point of view, emphasizing the importance of the individual's role in the narrative. The use of 我 [wǒ] 'I' in various dialogue contexts exposes how the characters articulate their identities and feelings, which in turn strengthens the reader's emotional engagement with the story.

3.1.1. The speech form of using 我 [wǒ]:

In the sentence below, the conversation took place when Gu Sheng's fans shouted at the mc who was talking about Gu Sheng quietly.

“我什么都没听见……”

[Wǒ shénme dōu méi tīngjiàn.....]

‘I didn’t hear anything……’

In the data above, the word 我 [wǒ] means 'me' in the speech. The word 我 [wǒ] 'me' is used by himself as the speaker. In the novel's speech, it does not always refer to the main character in the novel, Gu Sheng, but it can also refer to other people such as his fans. This shows the flexibility and complexity of the use of persona deixis in this novel. The speech word 我 [wǒ] 'me' is included in the first person singular pronoun.

3.1.2. The speech form of using 我们 [wǒmen]:

In the sentence below, the conversation takes place when Qingcheng is talking to Gu Sheng.

“……我们才见过几次……”

[..... wǒmen cái jiànguò jǐ cì.....]

‘..... we’ve just met a few times.....’

In this speech, the word 我们 [wǒmen] has the meaning of 'we' in the speech. It refers to Qingcheng and Gu Sheng and indicates that the two characters are talking about their experiences together. The speech word 我们 [wǒmen] 'we' is an inclusive first person plural pronoun that includes both the speaker and the person being spoken to. This flexibility in word usage shows how relationships between characters are formed through the choice of pronouns, which in this context, indicates a sense of togetherness and recognition of the experiences shared by the two characters.

3.1.3. The speech form of using 咱们 [zánmen]:

The following sentence is spoken by one of the characters talking about their school.

“咱们学校都被扒出来……”

[Zánmen xuéxiào dōu bèi bā chūlái.....]

‘Everything about our school has been exposed.....’

In this speech, the word 咱们 [zánmen] has the meaning of 'we' in the speech. The word includes the speaker and others who are considered part of the same group, in this case referring to Gu Sheng's schoolmates. The speech word 咱们 [zánmen] 'we' is an exclusive first person plural



pronoun. Traditionally, 'we' is used as an inclusive form that includes both the speaker and the interlocutor, while 'us' is used as an exclusive form that only includes the speaker and his/her group, excluding the interlocutor (Tadjudin, 2024). The use of this word shows a sense of community and attachment between the character using this word and the group they are talking about.

3.2. Second Person Deixis

Second person deixis, represented by the word 你 [nǐ] 'you', plays a crucial role in the interaction between the characters in the novel and also in establishing a more personalized relationship between the author and the reader. The use of 你 [nǐ] 'you' not only serves to refer directly to the listener or reader, but also creates a deeper sense of closeness with the generation. Chinese second-person pronouns, especially 你 [nǐ] 'you', play an important role in establishing the relationship between the writer and the reader (Hongmei, 2015). In this novel, 你 [nǐ] 'you' is frequently used in the dialog to direct the attention directly on the reader or listener, making them feel as if they are directly involved in the conversation or situation. This usage not only reinforces the interactive dynamic in reading, where the reader becomes part of the storyline.

3.2.1. The speech form of using 你 [nǐ]:

In the sentence below, the conversation takes place when Qiang Qingci is speaking to Gu Sheng.

靖青磁: “现在? 你稍等”

[Qīāng qīngcí: “Xiànzài? Nǐ shāo děng.]

‘Qiang Qingci: “Now? You wait a moment.’

The word 你 [nǐ] means 'you' in the speech. The word 你 [nǐ] 'you' is a second-person singular pronoun, which directly refers to the person being spoken to. The utterance refers to Gu Sheng. The use of 你 [nǐ] 'you' shows a direct relationship between the speaker and the listener, reflecting the closeness or familiarity in their communication. In this context, 你 [nǐ] 'you' can also indicate informality or personal closeness between the two characters.

3.2.2. The speech form of using 你们 [nǐmen]:

The following sentence appears in the context where Qingcheng is talking to her two friends.

“两位.....需要我帮你们关门吗?”

[Liǎng wèi... ..xūyào wǒ bāng nǐmen guānmén ma?]

‘You two... .. do you need me to help you close the door?’

In this utterance, the word 你们 [nǐmen] means 'you' in the utterance. This word refers to more than one person, namely to Qingcheng's two friends, who are the listeners in the conversation. 你们 [nǐmen] belongs to the second person plural pronoun type, which is used to address a group of people directly. The use of this word is important to show that the speaker is directing his attention to more than one person, and reflects the dynamic social interaction in the novel.

3.2.3. The speech form of using 您 [nín]:

In the sentence below, Gu Sheng speaks to an elder with respect.

“您老人家别猜了”

[Nín lǎorénjiā bié cāi le]

‘You shouldn’t guess anymore’



In this speech, the word 您 [nín] means 'you' with a respectful tone in the speech. The word 您 [nín] 'you' is a type of second person singular pronoun used in Mandarin to show respect, especially when speaking to someone who is older or of higher social status. The use of 您 [nín] 'you' in this context reflects a culture of high politeness, where hierarchical relationships and age are important factors in pronoun choice. The use of this word emphasizes the respect that the speaker has for the person being spoken to, which in this case is an Old Man.

3.3. Third Person Deixis

Third person deixis represented by third person pronouns such as 他 [tā], 她 [tā], and 它 [tā] is an important element in Chinese that reflects the linguistic evolution of distance designation. This phenomenon shows that third-person pronouns originate from a broader concept of distance designation, where reference to the third person in communication reflects a more indirect relationship compared to first and second person deixis. The use of third-person pronouns in Chinese evolved from the word distant designator, indicating a shift from a more abstract and linguistic designator (Huayun, 2016). In this novel, the pronouns 他 [tā], 她 [tā], and 它 [tā] are widely used to refer to male, female, and object characters. This not only helps clarify the subject in the narrative, but reflects how the author positions the character or object in the context of the story, creating the desired emotional distance or closeness in the relationship between the character and the reader.

3.3.1. The speech form of using 他 [tā]:

In the sentence below, Gu Sheng notices someone leaving the room.

顾声看他离开了，也自觉地退出了房间。

[Gù Shēng kàn tā líkāi le, yě zìjué de tuìchū le fángjiān.]

'Gu Sheng saw him leave, also consciously walked out of the room.'

The word 他 [tā] means 'he is male or general' in the speech. It refers to Mo Qingcheng. The word 他 [tā] 'he' belongs to the third person singular pronoun type which refers to the male gender or can be used for general. In Mandarin, the use of third-person pronouns is unique which distinguishes it from Indonesian. There is a difference between male and female third-person pronouns, namely in the hanzi characters, both of which are pronounced the same, namely 'ta' (Arleen, 2016). The use of the word 他 [tā] 'he' shows how the characters in this novel and refer to others in the narrative, which helps to form relationships between characters and clarify their respective positions in the story.

3.3.2. The speech form of using 他们 [tāmen]:

The sentence bellow describes when Gu Sheng is Talking about his friends.

“因为他们已经知道，在今天我会送一份礼物给他们。”

[Yīnwèi tāmen yǐjīng zhīdào, zài jīntiān wǒ huì sòng yí fèn lǐwù gěi tāmen.]

'Since they already know, today I will give them a gift.'

The word 他们 [tāmen] means 'they' in the speech. The word 他们 [tāmen] 'they' is the plural form of the third person pronoun and is used to refer to a group of people consisting of men or a mixture of men and women. In this context, the word 他们 [tāmen] 'they' refers to the friends of the main character who is speaking, indicating that the group already knows the main character's plan. The use of 他们 [tāmen] 'they' shows the important role this group plays in the storyline and helps the reader understand the social dynamics that occur among the characters in the novel.

3.3.3. The speech form of using 她 [tā]:



The following sentence describes a female character in the novel who is preparing herself. “她站在录音室里，深吸一口气，准备开始她的第一次配音。”

[Tā zhàn zài lùyīnshì lǐ, shēn xī yī kǒu qì, zhǔnbèi kāishǐ tā de dì yī cì pèiyīn.]

‘She stood in the recording studio, taking a deep breath, preparing to start her first voice-over.’

The word 她 [tā] means 'she is a woman' in the speech. It refers to Gu Sheng. The word 她 [tā] 'she's a woman' belongs to the third person singular pronoun type which is specifically used to refer to women. In this speech, the word 她 [tā] 'she's a girl' describes a woman who is experiencing an important moment in her life, which is preparing to do her first voiceover. The use of this word indicates the gender identity of the character in question, and helps the reader understand who is being referred to in the narrative.

3.3.4. The speech form of using 她们 [tāmen]:

In the following sentence, a character talks about her group of female friends.

“虽然她们都被事先提醒没有穿裙子。”

[Suīrán tāmen dōu bèi shìxiān tíxǐng méiyǒu chuān qúnzi.]

‘Even though they were all warned beforehand not to wear skirts.’

The word 她们 [tāmen] means 'they' which is all women in the speech. 她们 [tāmen] 'they women' is the plural form of a third-person pronoun that specifically refers to a group of women. In this context, it is used to refer to a group of female friends who have been reminded of something. The use of 她们 [tāmen] 'they women' is important to indicate that all the members of the group are women, which may have relevance to the particular situation or cultural context in the story.

3.3.5. The speech form of using 它 [tā]:

The following sentence is a conversation that refers to an object.

“吃这个就是有一点比较麻烦，它真的是有酒精含量，吃了会被交警测出呼气的酒精含量。”

[Chī zhège jiùshì yǒu yìdiǎn bǐjiào máfan, tā zhēn de shì yǒu jiǔjīng hánliàng, chī le huì bèi jiāojǐng cè chū hūqì de jiǔjīng hánliàng.]

‘Eating this is a bit troublesome, it really contains alcohol, if eaten, the breath alcohol level will be detected by the traffic police.’

In this speech, the word 它 [tā] means 'it' which refers to an object in the speech. In this speech, it refers to a food. The utterance 它 [tā] 'it' belongs to the third person singular pronoun type used specifically for objects or animals. The use of this word in the context of the conversation shows that the conversation is focusing on the nature and effects of an object, namely food containing alcohol. This shows how persona deixis in Mandarin can be used flexibly to refer to various non-human entities in the narrative.

3.3.6. The speech form of using 它们 [tāmen]:

The sentence below refers to get a set of objects.

“……你有没有用针扎它们……”

[..... nǐ yǒu méiyǒu yòng zhēn zā tāmen.....]

‘..... did you pierce them with a needle.....’

The word 它们 [tāmen] means 'they' which is the object in the speech. It refers to all of Mo Qingcheng's bags. The word 它们 [tāmen] 'they' is a type of third person plural pronoun used to



refer to a group of objects or animals. The use of the word 它们 [tāmen] 'they' shows that in this story, there is a special attention to these objects, and that the action performed on them (i.e. piercing with a needle) is important in the context of the narrative. This highlights how objects can be an important subject in the storyline, and the use of this deixis helps the reader follow the development of the story in detail.

Further analysis shows that the use of persona deixis in this novel not only functions as a referential pointer, but also plays an important role in building character and relationship dynamics between characters. For example, a change in the use of 你 [nǐ] 'you' to 您 [nín] 'you' in dialog can indicate a change in the level of formality or respect in the relationship between characters. The vocabulary 你 [nǐ] 'you' is used generally without any respect for the interlocutor, while the vocabulary 您 [nín] 'you' is basically considered to have respect for the interlocutor (Saputra & Fanani, 2023).

An example of changing the usage of 你 [nǐ] to 您 [nín]:
“你怎么在这里? 哦, 对不起, 我是说, 您怎么在这里?”
[Nǐ zěnmē zài zhèlǐ? Ó, duìbuqǐ, wǒ shì shuō, nín zěnmē zài zhèlǐ?]
'How did you get here? Oh, sorry, I mean, how did you get here?'

This pattern of persona deixis usage provides deep insights into the narrative structure, character focus, and interaction dynamics in the novel. The dominance of third person deixis, especially for female characters, indicates that the novel adopts a third-person perspective with the main focus on female characters. Meanwhile, the significant use of first and second person deixis indicates the presence of intense dialogue and direct interaction between characters, which contributes to the development of the plot and dynamic characterization. This finding confirms the important role of persona deixis in narrative construction and character development in literary works, especially in the context of Chinese novels. This is in line with the research entitled “Analisis Deiksis Sosial Anime One Piece: 魚人島 (Pulau Manusia Ikan)” (Arsef, 2021). Further research can explore how this pattern of deixis use correlates with the author's theme, plot, and writing style.

4. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the results of this study, the researcher describes the use of persona deixis in the Chinese novel titled 很想很想你 [hěn xiǎng hěn xiǎng nǐ] 'Really Really Miss You' by Mo Bao Fei Bao. A total of 4,504 persona deixis were found, divided into three main categories: first, second, and third persona deixis, with third persona deixis being the most dominant, especially the pronoun for the character 她 [tā] 'she'. The use of first persona deixis shows a strong focus on individual expression and personal perspective of the characters, while second persona deixis plays an important role in establishing relationships between characters and creating closeness with the reader.

The varied use of persona deixis in this novel reflects the social, cultural and relationship dynamics between characters. This analysis provides deep insights into the narrative structure, character focus, and interaction dynamics in the novel, emphasizing the important role of persona deixis in narrative construction and character development in Chinese literary works. This research uses a qualitative method with a literature review approach and Miles and Huberman model data



analysis. The results of the study are expected to contribute to linguistic understanding in Chinese literary works and help Chinese language learners understand the concept of persona deixis more deeply.

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