



Analyzing Personal Pronouns in *The Sea Beast* Movie and Its Application in Teaching Grammar

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Article History Received: 2025-04-15 Revised: 2025-05-21 Published: 2025-06-03 Keywords: <i>Personal Pronouns;</i> <i>Movie Analysis;</i> <i>The Sea Beast;</i> <i>Grammar Teaching.</i>	<p>The aim of this study is to analyze personal pronouns in <i>The Sea Beast</i> movie and its application in teaching grammar. Personal pronouns, which play a crucial role in sentence construction and clarity, are often misunderstood by students. Using Frank's (1972) theory, the research categorized personal pronouns into five types: subject pronouns, object pronouns, possessive adjectives, possessive pronouns, and reflexive pronouns. Data were collected from the dialogues in <i>The Sea Beast</i>, and a descriptive qualitative method was employed to analyze and categorize the types of personal pronouns. The results show that subject pronouns were the most frequently used, appeared 378 times, followed by object pronouns 135 times, possessive adjectives 66 times, possessive pronouns 1 time, and reflexive pronouns 2 times. Additionally, the study highlights how these findings can be applied in teaching grammar, particularly in helping students understand the practical use of personal pronouns in context. The movie's dialogues serve as a rich resource for teaching grammar by providing real-life examples of how pronouns function in conversation. This study demonstrates the value of using movie dialogues in the classroom to enhance students' understanding of pronouns in grammar context.</p>
Artikel Info	Abstrak
Sejarah Artikel Diterima: 2025-04-15 Direvisi: 2025-05-21 Dipublikasi: 2025-06-03 Kata kunci: <i>Kata Ganti Orang;</i> <i>Analisis Film;</i> <i>The Sea Beast;</i> <i>Pengajaran Tata Bahasa.</i>	<p>Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis kata ganti orang dalam film <i>The Sea Beast</i> dan penerapannya dalam pengajaran tata bahasa. Kata ganti orang, yang memainkan peran penting dalam konstruksi dan kejelasan kalimat, sering kali disalahpahami oleh siswa. Dengan menggunakan teori Frank (1972), penelitian ini mengkategorikan kata ganti orang ke dalam lima jenis: kata ganti orang, kata ganti orang, kata sifat, kata ganti orang, dan kata ganti refleksif. Data dikumpulkan dari dialog dalam film <i>The Sea Beast</i>, dan metode kualitatif deskriptif digunakan untuk menganalisis dan mengkategorikan jenis kata ganti orang. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kata ganti subjek adalah yang paling sering digunakan, muncul sebanyak 378 kali, diikuti oleh kata ganti objek sebanyak 135 kali, kata sifat posesif sebanyak 66 kali, kata ganti kepemilikan sebanyak 1 kali, dan kata ganti refleksif sebanyak 2 kali. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga menyoroti bagaimana temuan-temuan ini dapat diterapkan dalam pengajaran tata bahasa, terutama dalam membantu siswa memahami penggunaan praktis kata ganti orang dalam konteks. Dialog film ini berfungsi sebagai sumber yang kaya untuk mengajarkan tata bahasa dengan memberikan contoh nyata tentang bagaimana kata ganti berfungsi dalam percakapan. Penelitian ini menunjukkan nilai dari penggunaan dialog film di dalam kelas untuk meningkatkan pemahaman siswa tentang kata ganti dalam konteks tata bahasa.</p>

I. INTRODUCTION

English has developed into an International language that is beneficial to learn. Considering the current curriculum, English is taught in Indonesia at all educational levels. Through developing English language learning in the Kurikulum Merdeka, students are expected to acquire several abilities related to student proficiency while studying English (Muslim & Sumarni, 2023). Students can master four fundamental English skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Those language skills

cannot be separated from grammar comprehension (R.P.Handayani, 2023).

English grammar plays a fundamental role in achieving success in learning the English language. Grammar is the study of the grammatical relationships between the components of a construction and language's structural or organizing principles (Mirdad et al., 2022). It implies that grammar is the understanding of the rules that guide the construction of sentences in a language. One way to begin the study of basic sentence structure in English grammar is to explore the traditional

parts of speech, also known as word classes, one of which is pronouns (Suhrob & Vasila, 2022).

A pronoun, as defined in linguistics and grammar, is a word or set of words that may substitute for the place of a noun or noun phrase (Betti, 2022). The function of pronouns is to avoid repetition of nouns in the sentence and make the sentence more effective. The common use pronoun in written and spoken context is personal pronouns (Osafo-Adjei et al., 2022).

Personal pronouns are words that replace nouns. According to Finegan (Finegan, 2014) cited in (Veto Mortini et al., 2023), the most familiar pronouns are personal pronouns such as *I, you, we, they, he, she, and it*. Other forms like *me, them, us, him, and her* are also classified as personal pronouns. Furthermore, personal pronouns can refer not only to people, but also to animals and objects. According to (Frank, 1972) cited by (Fajri N. & Indriani, 2021), there are five types of personal pronouns including subject pronoun (*I, you, he, she, it, we, they*), object pronoun (*me, you, him, her, it, us, them*), possessive adjective (*my, your, his, her, its, our, them*), possessive pronoun (*mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs*), and reflexive pronoun (*myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, themselves*). These categories help describe how pronouns function in grammar.

Although pronouns seem simple, the correct use of pronouns is still challenging for many students. The fact is that the proper use of pronouns can still be confusing for some students, especially when they need to choose pronouns that fit the context of the sentence (Li & Akram, 2024). (Li & Akram, 2024) in the study found that personal pronoun errors were the most prevalent, accounting for 35% of all mistakes. This issue is also evident in the classroom setting. Based on the researcher's observation experience of pronouns learning in class VII-D Muhammadiyah JHS Purworejo, many students are considered to have a low ability to understand pronouns in English grammar. Students find it difficult to determine the appropriate referring pronouns in spoken and written texts, especially when using personal pronouns. Students have difficulty when asked to change subject pronouns into object pronouns or the opposite. The students may experience such problems due to the lack of contextual examples illustrating the proper use of pronouns.

One way to provide richer examples of pronoun usage is through movies. (Gajdoš & Korpaš, 2019) highlight that movies provide contextual examples of grammar usage, helping

students understand the practical application of pronouns and other grammatical elements. Using movies to teach pronouns helps students understand how each type of pronoun is used in everyday situations. Movies show natural conversations so students can see how pronouns like *he, she, and it* works in different contexts.

Several previous studies are related to this research. (Binti Qani'ah & Santy Firdatul Islamiyah, 2021), in the study entitled "*Analyzing Personal Deixis Used by the Main Character in the La La Land Movie*," found that first-person deixis was dominant. Although this study focused on deixis, it is closely related to personal pronouns because both involve reference to participants in communication. Another relevant study is by Akhmadnur Azim (2016), entitled "*An Analysis of Deixis Found in the Captions of the National Geographic Instagram Account and its Application in Teaching Grammar at the Tenth Grade Students of Senior High School*." Unlike the current study, Azim's research analyzed deixis in written media (Instagram captions), whereas this study focuses on spoken personal pronouns found in a movie.

Based on the explanations above, the researcher aims to analyze the personal pronouns present by the character in *The Sea Beast* movie. This movie is a family animated movie that was released on June 15, 2022 and was directed by Chris Williams. *The Sea Beast* movie presents several personal pronouns that will be categorized according to each type. Furthermore, the researcher will analyze the types of personal pronouns and the application of personal pronouns found in *The Sea Beast* movie in English Language Teaching (ELT), especially in teaching grammar.

II. METHOD

In this research, the writer used a descriptive qualitative method. Qualitative research focuses on describing and interpreting phenomena through non-numerical data (Candra S. et al., 2024). The writer applies this method since the data analyzed consists of words, phrases, and utterances instead of statistical data. This study focuses on analyzing personal pronouns found in *The Sea Beast* movie and its application in teaching grammar. In this study, the writer used Frank (1972) to identify the personal pronouns in *The Sea Beast* movie. According to Frank (1972), cited by Fajri N. & Indriani (2021), personal pronouns are divided into five types: subject pronoun, object pronoun, possessive adjective, possessive pronoun, and reflexive pronoun.

The source of the data is *The Sea Beast* movie directed by Chris Williams, which has a runtime of 119 minutes. The data for this research includes all utterances spoken by the characters in the movie. The researcher gathered the data by watching movies several times and identifying the utterances that contain personal pronouns. The official movie subtitle was also used to support the data collection and guarantee the accuracy of the transcription. After identifying the relevant dialogues, the writer transcribed all utterances containing personal pronouns word for word, meaning the utterances were written exactly as spoken in the movie. Each transcription was checked for accuracy by cross-referencing with the subtitle and audio from the film, ensuring that the data used for analysis was valid and reliable.

After the data related to personal pronouns were collected and validated, the writer conducted the data analysis through several steps: (1) identifying and categorizing the personal pronouns based on Frank's classification; (2) calculating the frequency of each type of personal pronoun found in *The Sea Beast* movie; (3) interpreting the results by explaining how the personal pronouns are used in the context of the characters' utterances; (4) discussing the application of these findings in English grammar teaching, particularly in classroom learning; and (5) drawing conclusions from the overall analysis.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

A. Result

The researcher's study of the personal pronouns in *The Sea Beast* movie is seen in this section. The table below shows the personal pronouns in the movie *The Sea Beast*.

Tabel 1. Personal Pronouns Frequently in *The Sea Beast* movie

No	Types	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Subject Pronoun	378	64,95%
2.	Objet Pronoun	135	23,20%
3.	Possessive Adjective	66	11,34%
4.	Possessive Pronoun	1	0,17%
5.	Reflexive Pronoun	2	0,34%
	Total	582	100%

B. Discussion

Based on table 1 shown in the result section, all types of personal pronouns are found in *The Sea Beast* movie. However, for

reflexive pronoun, only 1 was found in the conversation between characters in *The Sea Beast* movie. This shows that the characters in the movie rarely referred back to themselves for emphasis or action done to themselves, compared to other pronoun types like subject or object pronouns.

This discussion analyzes the different types of personal pronouns used in *The Sea Beast*, highlighting their grammatical functions in context. Examples from character utterances are presented and interpreted, along with insights on how the use of these pronouns can be applied in grammar teaching. The following sections provide an in-depth analysis of each personal pronoun type identified in the movie.

1. Types of Personal Pronouns Found in *The Sea Beast* Movie

The first type of personal pronouns discussed in this section is subject pronoun. Subject pronouns are used to indicate a subject or be the subject of a verb. Subject pronouns are used to show who is doing the action in a sentence. In the table 1 above, showed that there are 378 subject pronouns, it was presented by the word *I, you, they, we, he, she, and it*. The researcher found several utterances that can be categorized as the subject pronoun. The first utterance delivers by Maisie in the minute 00:22:42:

"And **you** are Jacob Holland, who once defeated four of those beasts in a span of two days." The pronoun "you" in the sentence functions as the subject of the sentence and refers to the person being talked to, Jacob Holland. It shows that the pronoun "you" can be categorized as a personal pronoun in the form of a subject pronoun, representing second-person singular pronoun. In another example, Jacob in the minute 00:05:13 says:

"**We** have to help him," the word "we" is a subject pronoun. In this case, "we" refers to the group of people (The Inevitable sailors) who are going to help. It shows that the pronoun "we" can be categorized as a personal pronoun in the form of a subject pronoun, representing first-person plural pronoun.

The second type of personal pronouns discussed in this section is object pronoun. Object pronouns are employed as either the objects of prepositions or the objects of verbs. Pronouns him, her, it, us, them, you, and me contribute to this object. Object

pronouns include direct object, indirect object, and object of preposition. There are several utterances in *The Sea Beast* movie that contain object pronoun. The first utterance delivers by Captain Crow in minute 00:17:23:

"You wanted to see **me**, Captain?." The word "me" is the direct object of the verb "see" because it receives the action directly (the one being seen). The next utterance delivers by Captain Crow while talks to Jacob about The Inevitable Captains. The utterance occurs in minute 00:18:58, "My father before **me**, and his father before **him**." In this utterance, both "me" and "him" are categorized as the object pronoun. They are the objects of the preposition "before," referring to the people who come after their fathers in a generational sequence.

The third type of personal pronouns discussed in this section is possessive adjective. Possessive adjectives do not stand alone; they are always followed by a noun. One of the example of the possessive adjective found in *The Sea Beast* movie is on the utterance delivers by Maisie in minute 00:23:56:

"Cause I'm joining **your** crew." In the utterance "Cause I'm joining your crew," the word "your" functions as a possessive adjective. It modifies the noun "crew" by showing ownership, indicating that the crew belongs to the person being spoken to (one of the hunters of The Inevitable ship, Jacob Holland).

The fourth type of personal pronouns discussed in this section is possessive pronoun. Possessive pronouns stand alone and are not immediately followed by a noun. In *The Sea Beast* movie, possessive pronouns is found to be the least frequent type of personal pronoun, appearing only once. This low frequency suggests that characters in the film rarely needed to show ownership without directly mentioning the noun being owned. One of the example of possessive pronouns is the utterance delivers by Old Nick in minute 00:15:37:

"But if he can't have the Bluster's hide, he'll have **ours**, to be sure," the word "ours" functions as a possessive pronoun. It replaces a previously mentioned noun (most likely "hide") and shows that the object belongs to the speaker and their

group (Old Nick and The Inevitable's sailors). This indicates that if the character cannot get the Bluster's hide, he will take what belongs to them instead.

The fifth type of personal pronouns discussed in this section is reflexive pronoun. Reflexive pronouns are pronouns that refer back to the sentence's or clause's subject. The subject and object are the same person; hence, a reflexive pronoun is used. Reflexive pronouns is found twice in *The Sea Beast* movie. This suggests that characters rarely referred back to themselves for emphasis or action done to themselves, compared to other pronoun types like subject or object pronouns. One of the example of reflexive pronoun found in *The Sea Beast* movie is an utterance delivers by Maisie in minute 00:23:14:

"I come from a long line of hunters **myself**." In the utterance "I come from a long line of hunters myself," the word "myself" is a reflexive pronoun. It emphasizes that the speaker is also part of the long line of hunters, reflecting back on the subject "I".

2. The Application of Personal Pronouns in *The Sea Beast* Movie in Teaching Grammar

Based on the analysis of each types of personal pronouns found in *The Sea Beast* movie above, the findings can be effectively applied in teaching grammar, especially in understanding personal pronouns in some contexts. The use of each type of personal pronoun in the movie offers several examples that can help students understand not only form but also function.

First, subject pronouns such as "you" and "we" used by characters like Maisie and Jacob can be used in a sentence transformation exercise. Students are given original lines from the movie containing subject pronouns and asked to rewrite each sentence by changing the subject pronoun while keeping the verb and object grammatically correct. For instance, the sentence "We have to help him" can be rewritten as "They have to help him" or "I have to help him." This task helps students understand how subject pronouns influence verb agreement and meaning in a sentence.

Second, object pronouns like "me" and "him", teachers can guide students to identify which part of the sentence receives

the action. After watching a scene, students can be asked to underline object pronouns and explain their function. For example: in the utterance says by Jacob in minute 00:17:23: "You wanted to see me, Captain?" can be made into a practice question: who is being seen?. A question like "Who is being seen?" can train students to think critically about sentence structure and recognize the function of object pronouns. By identifying the receiver of the action, students gain a clearer understanding of how object pronouns like "me" is used in context. This kind of activity strengthens students' grammar skills through practical analysis rather than memorization.

Third, in the case of possessive adjectives like "your", a simple activity is for students to fill in the blanks with the correct possessive adjective based on context, such as: "I'm joining ___ crew." Then, compare it with the original line from the movie and discuss why "your" is used instead of "his" or "their."

Fourth, the movie also provides examples of possessive pronouns. Teachers can contrast possessive adjectives and possessive pronouns using the movie's dialogue, and ask students to rewrite sentences using both, for example from "This is your sword" to "This sword is yours."

Fifth, for reflexive pronouns like "myself", teachers can highlight how this pronoun is used for emphasis or when the subject and object are the same. An activity could involve watching Maisie's scene and asking students to create their own sentences using reflexive pronouns to describe their own family background or abilities (e.g., "I fixed the machine **myself**.")

By integrating the types of personal pronouns in *The Sea Beast* movie into classroom activities, teachers can help students apply grammar concepts in realistic and meaningful ways. Using *The Sea Beast* as a teaching tool not only makes grammar instruction more engaging but also encourages students to interact with language as it is naturally spoken. This approach can enhance students' understanding of grammar in some contexts.

IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of *The Sea Beast* movie, it can be concluded that all five types of personal pronouns: subject pronouns, object pronouns, possessive adjectives, possessive pronouns, and reflexive pronouns are present in the dialogues between characters in *The Sea Beast* movie. The most frequently used type is subject pronouns, while possessive pronouns are the least used, with only one instance found in the entire movie. This confirms that subject and object pronouns are more dominant in everyday conversation, such as in movie dialogues, whereas possessive pronouns are used less frequently, as they indicate ownership without directly mentioning the noun being owned. The grammatical function of each pronoun type has been discussed through examples from the movie, which show how each pronoun functions in real communication. Furthermore, the study confirms that the identification and analysis of personal pronouns from *The Sea Beast* movie can serve as an effective medium for teaching grammar. Using materials like movie dialogues can help students understand personal pronouns not only in form but also in function.

B. Suggestion

This study offers several suggestions for students, educators, and future researchers. For students, taking advantage of contextual learning materials like movie dialogues is important to enhance their understanding of grammar, particularly personal pronouns. Students can improve both their grammatical knowledge and practical application in communication by identifying and analyzing pronoun usage in authentic contexts such as *The Sea Beast* movie. For educators, it is recommended to incorporate engaging media like movies into grammar lessons to create a more interactive and meaningful learning environment. Teachers can design activities that help students explore the function and form of personal pronouns in real-life usage, thus making grammar instruction less abstract. Lastly, for future researchers, further studies should be conducted on using various media types or different movie genres to teach other grammar components or explore how contextual grammar teaching benefits students.

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