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# Features of Deictic Processing Adverbs Now, Then, Here, There

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## Abstract

This article examines the main mechanism of development of the deictic features of English adverbs now, then, here, there, their purposeful research, and also reveals and diversifies the diversity of their development points on the basis of specific linguistic material. The study of the deictic properties of the adverbs Now, then, here, there in English is of deep interest. In a discursive situation, the deictic essence of the adverbs now, then, here, there is revealed first of all. Before exploring the deictic functions of these adverbs, the views of various linguists on the deixis category and deictic expressions are noteworthy.

**Keywords:** Deixis, Adverb, Adverbial Determinants, Physical Context, Discursive Situation

## 1. Introduction

In linguistics, the concept of deixis is often referred to when considering grammatical categories. Although it is not correct to attribute sentence-related grammatical categories to functional linguistics as a whole, it is justified to make some analogies. One of them is the category of deixis.

As known, language has an objective-subjective nature, that is, on the one hand, language acts as a means of communication of specific language speakers as a product of an objective, social and specific language environment. On the other hand, human language is subjective, because it functions in a real way only with the help of individuals and satisfies the social and personal needs of that individual.

Deixis refers to a class of linguistic units that are used to refer to elements of a situation or context. These include both conversational participants and the location and time of the current conversational event. Deixis belongs to the most important categories of language communication. The universality of deixis is measured by the fact that the conversational process cannot be imagined without deictic units: speech cannot be realized without reference to space and time. When referring to time and space, the use of time and space adverbs, especially now, then, here, there, as a deictic element attracts attention. The anthropocentric paradigm of modern linguistics allows us to consider that deixis is a unique natural occurrence of language egocentrism, so that the creation of any utterance or speech by the speaker is a product of his communicative-cognitive experience.

## 2. Objective of the study

The purpose of the article is to study the features of the deictic processing adverbs here, there, now, then in modern English, their means of expression, the analysis of these deictic adverbs being a set of premises about readers and stories that grew out of research on the function of deixis in fictional narratives.

## 3. Methodology

Research methods include direct contextual analysis, cognitive-linguistic, or linguistic description. With the help of these methods, the onomasiological typology of deixis (whether it is universal or special) is clarified. It is noteworthy to mention the fact that in the investigation of the problem may be considered completely for it is not possible to cover all the study by using one method. That is why the study of these concepts is needed to investigate deeply.

The following has been chosen during the investigation:

1. The method of tenacity within the pragmatic model:
2. To follow the systematization of the theory and practice the method of deduction is used as well
3. A qualitative analysis of the most frequently used deixis in English

## 4. Presentation and discussion

Deictic adverbs are very interesting parts of speech in any language. They do not have their own specific content, they do not give specific space or time signs for events or actions, they only show them in relation to the subject of the act of speech, the speaker. They are called "linguistic individuals" because in each new act of speech they always refer to the individual purpose of a place or time, depending on a particular speech situation. According to Bondarko, such words create a kind of backstage that the event is played against, involved in the actualization of the sentence, its relation to the real situation [Bondarko,]. These adverbs, which are called determinants in a sentence, act as a case outside the predicative group, they do not belong to the subordinate group or the predicate group, but act as a spreader of the sentence as a whole.

Among the determinants, the researchers identified two groups: adverbial and object-subject determinants. Conditional determinants are sometimes called situations that differ from object-subject determinants, which are more in line with the semantic properties of the named elements. In addition to the words of the category of person deixis, words that serve as a sign of space and time also occupy an important place in the deictic system of modern English and are characterized by both the diversity of semantic content and the degree of deicticity. In this sense, the adverbs of space *here and there and now and then* are of particular interest. Some linguists suggest expanding the system of concepts to describe the deixis of space and time, and bring the speaker's concept of time to the fore. Thus, the speaker selects and identifies grammatical devices depending on the perception of the time of the event.

In our research, we examined the deictic properties of the adverbs *now, then, and here, there*, which indicate the time of the action and the location of the action. Today, the most important point in the study of the classes of adverbs is the reference to spatial adverbs. If we compare the parameters of space and time, we find that deixis is first of all spatial and then temporal. In the temporal parameter, deixis is processed in a similar way to the spatial parameter, since time is a more abstract concept than space. The concept of space covers the existence, space, appearance, internal structure of objects, the order of their placement in relation to each other, size, distance between them and other aspects. Sometimes these *here, there, now, then* adverbs confuse reference with deixis when processing. However, there are some differences between them. Deixis refers to the physical context, while reference refers to the linguistic context. Although both indicate direction, one seems to place and the other connects. This can be seen from the following examples:

- 1) *I've got a man in England who buys me clothes. He sends over a selection of each season, spring and fall.*
- 2) *What are you going to do now?*
- 3) *Here is she at last!*

In the first sentence, the article of uncertainty and the person pronoun has a coordinating function. However, in other examples, the adverbs *now* and *then* are found to depend on the general discursive situation. Therefore, space and time adverbs are sometimes called pseudo-deixers. This explains why pairs that exclude each other, such as person pronouns, sign pronouns, and finally adverbs *now*, *then*, *here*, *there*, act as deixis and pseudo-deixis. Burlakova argues that in both English and Russian, spatial adverbs, in order to realize the meaning of location, usually appear together with the verbs that have this place in their semantic structure [Burlakova,1985]. The main form of expression of the localizer in the language is a prefix noun denoting a specific local attitude. It is the name that is the main and independent, initial form of expression for the localizer. The place adverb always acts as a secondary means of defining space in the context of deixis. Deictic adverbs are the most common here. Absolute orientation, i.e the non-deictic understanding of the situation, is expressed here by the near / far adverb, which refers to the place conditions. The non-deictic strategy of understanding is explained here by the fact that the use of this adverb is directed to a certain fixed center, regardless of the speaker / observer, and that center is the capital. The reference area of the adverb will not change here, as the spatial position of the subject changes. For example:

*I found him here. He was waiting for us.*

*He said that they were waiting for us there.*

*Everybody was there with the paper in their hands.*

So, deictic expressions are not pure indicators. They combine two functions - sign and sign character. Although their meaning is assessed in context, it has an additional meaning that is not considered evaluated in context. Personal pronouns not only define the attitude to participation in the act of conversation, but also indicate the category and vitality of the person; *here / there* and *this / that* are indicators of proximity and distance. In general, deictic units, such as / I-I /, always tell the speaker that he or she has lost his or her property at the end of the conversation. In this case, the speaker is the point of account in the deictic field or in the deictic context, as is customary in the present tense. Both space and time are evaluated from the speaker's point of view. Everything that is close to the speaker is evaluated by the adverb / *Here* / -, and everything that is far from the speaker is evaluated by the adverb / *there* /. The time that is the same as the act of negotiation is denoted by the adverb / *now* /, but the time before the act of negotiation is denoted by the adverb / *then*/. Therefore, the place deixis is determined by the place of the speaker at the moment of speech, and the time deixis is determined by the moment of the moment of speech. The 3rd person pronoun is radically different from the 1st and 2nd person pronouns. Thus, 1st and 2nd person pronouns play an active role in conversation, 3rd person pronouns play a passive role and do not participate in the act of speaking, *this / that* pronouns are not always deictic, so they do not always indicate proximity / distance to the speaker. Their function in speech is significantly more difficult, which leads to controversy among linguists. C. Lyons believes that the pronoun / *this* / is close to the adverb / *here* / and the pronoun / *that* / is close to the adverb / *there* / [Lyons,1977]. According to several other authors, the position of the addressee is not very clear in connection with the development of the adverb / *here* /: sometimes the addressee can enter this space, and sometimes removed from it. This also applies to sign pronouns. The boundary between the adverbs *here / there* and *this / that* is very vague, but also unclear. It turned out that the adverb / *here* / can represent the space in the immediate vicinity of the speaker. The development of *this / that* pronouns depend largely on whether the author of the speech act refers to his own particular words or to the words of the speaker who spoke earlier. If the speaker refers to his own word, both / *this* / and / *that* - / can be used equally, but if the reference refers to words that have just been uttered by someone other than the author of the speech, then only / *that* / is used.

For example: / *He will help us here: I know it exactly* /.

In this case, the difference in the functionality of the / *this / that* / sign pronouns is, as some authors believe, not only in proximity / distance, but also in more complex linguistic regularities in relation to the author of the speech, which is more complex than the author of the speech is. Like the center of deictic space, the deictic center of time varies according to the conceptualization of the speech situation: Now- it can be related to the moment of the speech event, but also to the larger incoming time period, the time of the current speech event (e.g. *Pete is now thirty years old* ). The deictic center differs from the conceptualized tense as past and future, for which there are different deictic expressions in English: Then both past and future tenses can be used, but the other time is deictic, expressions like *soon* and *before* refer to only one direction along the timeline is; that is, they are used only with reference to the past or the future. *Then I was at school. Then I was still at school. [past] b. Then I will be ready.*

[future] c. *I will be there soon.* [future] d. *Ten years ago I was a waiter [past].* The time deixis is often correlated with measurements for time periods such as day, week, month, or year [Levinson,2004]. Now in the semantics of the adverb of time there is a coincidence with the moment of speech, and as a result, the word plays the role of a means of expression of the present tense. For example:

*/We have to do all our work and now we are preparing everything for it/.*

The categorical meaning of the adverb now in the context with the appropriate time form of the verb is more clearly manifested by creating a colorful time relationship in the scope of processing. In the semantics of the adverb then, there is a departure from the actual moment of speech creation, which determines that the word functions in two directions: past and future. They refer to earlier and later time microfields in the temporal plane, respectively. In a number of examples, the joint use of space and time deixis is also observed. For example:

*/Now see here, Jane - said her mother. If you are going to make personal remarks, I won't stay here a minute.//*

In English, two concepts, namely deixis and time measurement, are co-expressed in compound NPs consisting of a demonstrative (or serial adjective) and a noun (eg, this week; next week); however, the combination of time deixis and time measurement can be lexicalized as in the time adverbs today, yesterday, and tomorrow, which denote both a point of time and a unit of time, i.e., a day, relative to the deictic center. English has a variety of true time deictic expressions, but time deictic can also be expressed by demonstratives imported into the temporal domain. There are some examples from several languages where deictic expressions such as now-then-now and then are demonstratives, as in the examples of German (Indo-European) and Urubu-Kaapor (Urubu-Kaapor). is carried out by Moreover, temporal deixis are often derived diachronically from demonstratives, e.g., after English, which evolved from a spatially meaningful deictic root. Similar developments have been found in many other languages of the world. In general, since time is usually conceptualized as being in motion, space, spatial deixis can function to "locate" the event in time on the timeline relative to the moment of the speech event, i.e., the deictic center. It explains that time deixis is often realized in terms of space, especially with demonstratives that can historically be transformed into time deictics. However, while temporal deixis is generally conceptualized in terms of space, it remains an abstract concept, and this is reflected in the fact that performers typically lose some of their deictic power when they enter the temporal domain. Like temporal deixis, discourse deixis is based on the metaphorical structure of time as space. Discourse consists of words and phrases used in sequence, that is, with one element. The sequential arrangement of discourse elements is usually conceptualized as a series of linguistic entities to which speakers may refer in the same way that they refer to temporal entities in a timeline. Both temporal deixis and discourse deixis involve a group of sequential elements divided into separate domains by a deictic center. However, deixis is defined as the deictic central moment of time. Thus, the semantics of pronominal adverbs of time is speaker-oriented. These adverbs constitute a special class of deixis, so deixis is defined as the indicator of the speaker (the natural center of the speech situation) in a narrow sense [Bondarko, 1971].

As we mentioned above, the most common examples in English include */here and there//* adverbs, which play a major role in the creation of spatial deixis. For example:

1. */I enjoy living in this country//. [ Cook, 1956]*

2. */Here is where we are planning to play our wedding party//[Cook, 1956]*

3. */She was sitting over there//[Cook. 1956]*

4. */Just you turn up there in the fall and it will be all right. Just try and turn up there.//[Cook, 1956]*

5. */Thank you for keeping your word to stay as my guests. It's not bad here, really//[Cook, 1956].*

*/Here, there// and this/ that/* express distance from the speaker:

Physical distance and proximity

Mental and psychological distance and closeness.

For example:

*/I am not here now//.*

*/"I see nothing here" he said. "It is really very simple"//.*

The first sentence is semantically illogical, but pragmatically true, because it is a statement on an answering machine phone. The word */Now/* refers to that moment, regardless of when the callers call the person saying this

sentence, and not the moment when the person saying it is actually typing these words into the phone. In the second sentence, the mental distance between the speaker and the interlocutor is assumed, that is, the speaker emphasizes to his interlocutor that the problem he intends is not difficult at all, and the adverb here is a sign of this problem. Now let's pay attention to the discursive essence of the locative adverbs here and there. Burlakova.B.B(1985) conducted research on the discursive nature of the adverbs here and there and studied these adverbs in comparison with the corresponding adverbs in the Russian language ( тут, там ). She notes that the adverbs here and there have place, time and discursive properties in Russian, and the adverb here has place, sign and discursive properties in English. In addition to these features, the adverb there also has an expletive meaning [Burlakova, 1985]. From the following examples, it is clear that the adverbs here and there perform a deictic function in accordance with the current situation: */I am glad to see so many of you guys here tonight when you could be at home watching the new Britney Spears series on television, he draws/. And : "/That huge place there? She cried pointing/ "/Do you like it?" /*[Cook, 1956] Parallelism is observed in the constructions where the adverbs here and there are used. Both of them have the function of pointing to an object, a person or an event. The difference is that the adverb */here/* is an indicator of close deixis, and the adverb */there/* is an indicator of far deixis. The joint processing of deictic elements */Here and there/* strengthens the semantic opposition between them: */Dressed up white flannels I went over to his lawn a little while after seven and wandered around rather ill at ease among swirls and eddies of people I don't know – although here and there was a face I had noticed on the commuting train /* [ Cook,1956 ]. Spatial deictic words, which characterize the location or direction of movement of this or that object of reality in relation to the subject of the information sender, are manifested in two microsystems.

Time deixis is an expression in relation to a specific point in time when the speech is produced by the speaker. Usually, the reference point for a time expression is the moment of the expression, which is the encoding time. In written or recorded language use, there is a difference between encoding time and reception time [Lyons, 1977]. The encoding time is the speech time, and the reception time is the time for the information to be recovered by the listener. The deictic center or origo for the time deixis is the so-called "now," the meaning of "now" being the interval of time that includes the moment of utterance [Lyons, 1977]. Additionally, the coding in calendar units counts either backwards or forwards from the time. According to Levinson(2004) these expressions are, for example, "yesterday" or "a day before" if you count backwards, "tomorrow" or "next Thursday" if you count forward . Deixis is a form of reference that depends on the context of the speaker, the most basic difference between deictic expressions being "away from the speaker." In English, "near-speaking" or proximal terms, "this", "here-here", "now-now". “

Let us give some examples that clearly show the feature of the use of time deixis in English. First, the proximal form of */now/* can refer to the moment of the speaker's speech and the moment the listener receives the information. This is most clearly seen in the recording of the information into the recorder, and then playing it back.

The time adverb */now/* refers to the present time, and */then/* refers to the past and future. Compare: adverb in the sentence */Why didn't you go there then?/(Why didn't you go there then?) – /then/ past tense, /I'll be there tonight, so I'll see you then/ .(I will be there tonight, so I will see you then.)* indicates the future tense.

Thus, the time adverb */then/* indicates the speaker's relation to the present time, that is, its interpretation depends on the knowledge of the appropriate moment of the utterance. It also corresponds to the following deictic cases: */yesterday, tomorrow, today, tonight, next week/* and so on. The understanding of all expressions with the words given below depends on their interpretation, relying on appropriate pronunciation. For example, if a paper hangs on the door of the room - */back in an hour/*, then this information does not tell us anything about when the person we need will come, because it is not known when he left the office. Events in time can be viewed as objects coming towards us or leaving us. Thus, the psychological foundations of time deixis are comparable to those of space deixis. Time metaphors are used in English. So, events can be seen as coming from the future */the coming month, approaching Christmas/* and leading to the past. The present tense is proximal */I study here now/)(I study here now)* and the past tense */I studied there then/)(I studied there then)* is the distal form.

Far from the speaker" or distal terms are "that, there,"then. According to Kibrik A. E( 1987) proximal terms are usually interpreted in terms of the speaker's location or deictic center, so that now is generally understood to refer to some point or period of time in which the speaker's discourse is central. Distant terms can simply mean 'far from

the speaker,' but in some languages they can be used to distinguish between 'close addressees' and 'far from both the speaker and the addressee.' The context of the speech is of decisive importance in the interpretation of certain words and in the complete conveyance of the meaning. *Here and there, now and then, yesterday, today or tomorrow* can be ambiguous if we are not aware of the physical context. Some situations determine the meaning of some English sentences. To understand these sentences, we need to know who the speaker is, who he is talking to, about whom he is talking, where and when. This knowledge about context is defined as non-linguistic knowledge because knowledge about these cases does not belong to the framework of general knowledge about language. A tense deixis refers to all the tenses associated with it, and the utterance refers to it.

If the ideas about temporal words are somewhat clear, temporal adverbs should be approached in detail. Common English adverbs */now/ /then/ /soon/* indicate time in general and belong to time deixis. Compare:

*/Now/(proximity);*

*/Then/(distance) (both past and future);*

*(Events of Time Approaching Us—This Week;)*

*(Events of time moving away from us—out of sight).*

*Let's take a look at the examples:*

*/Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away//.*

*/Now it looks as though they are here to stay.//*

*/Oh, I believe in yesterday./*

*/Yesterday I was so tired, but now I am not//.*

*/Yesterday, she was so angry, but now she is calm//.*

*/Present (close form),*

*/Past/ (distant form, something that is not only in time, but also unattainable, impossible).*

*For example:*

*/If I had more money/.....*

*(If only I had more money)...*

Distant forms of tense deixis not only communicate from a distance of current time, but also communicate from a distance that expresses current reality and facts. Adverbs of time in English show themselves as numerous plastids of the lexicon. In this language system, */easy, difficult, compound/* and resulting adverbs can also be noted. Here the final adverbs have many parts. In English, tenses can be given in three ways. Primarily through signaling systems. Then there are lexical semantic units with sign specificity in their semantics. Time appropriateness in English can also be given by marking time separation in the verb category of time (Ehrich,1982). In this sense, timing can refer to being ahead and at the same time also following the exit point.

## 5. Conclusion

We can conclude that the category of deixis is one of the categories of pragmalinguistics. The connection of deixis with the context and state of speech suggests its relation to pragmatics. Deixis covers the components of a speech act, its participants, the subject matter about it, the temporal and spatial localization of the reported fact, as well as signs directly related to the speech act.

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