



Understanding Demonstrative Reference in Children's Story: A Translation Perspective

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Abstract

The use of demonstrative references in children's stories has been a topic of interest in the field of literature. In this research, researchers will analyze demonstrative reference in children story from Storyweaver employing the theoretical framework proposed by Sumarlam (2019). These techniques are used to analyze and categorize how translation equivalence works, affecting translation results, micro-units of text, and being discursive, contextual, and functional. The research highlights the structured nature of demonstration choices across participants and the role of semantic dimensions in these choices. The study reveals a deliberate and effective use of demonstration references, with a majority focused on indicating place (58.3%) and time (41.7%). Overall, the meticulous use of demonstrator references and translation techniques underscores the significance of linguistic and narrative elements in crafting compelling and culturally relevant child's literature. Using demonstrator references can also serve an educational purpose, helping children learn about deictic references and improving their language and cognitive development.

Keywords: *Demonstrative Reference; Translation; Children's Stories; Storyweaver*

Introduction

References are important discourse markers that direct information flow, shape meaning, and help communicate in a variety of circumstances. Within the field of discourse analysis, reference analysis provides deep insights into how language users create and analyze texts, reach consensus, and manage social interactions. Pronouns, demonstratives, lexical items, and citations are only a few examples of the wide range of linguistic components that make up references. Each one has a certain pragmatic and semantic purpose. The examination of references in discourse analysis is a complex process that incorporates a range of theoretical frameworks, methodological techniques, and disciplinary viewpoints. The rich tapestry of study analyzing references in spoken and written language has been enhanced by the contributions of academics from linguistics, communication studies, psychology, sociology, and other fields.

Scholars utilize a diverse range of instruments and approaches, such as systemic functional linguistics, conversation analysis, corpus-based studies, and genre analysis, to elucidate the complex dynamics of reference usage in various genres, registers, and social settings. By creating connections between ideas and organizing the information flow, references are essential to the organization, cohesion, and coherence of texts. They also play a crucial role in the coherence of discourse. They function as identifiers of information state, subject continuity, and interpersonal relationships in addition to being language techniques for referring to objects and occurrences. Furthermore, references are a part of larger sociocultural practices; they mirror the customs, values, and beliefs that influence how people communicate and produce texts. References play a crucial role in discourse analysis, providing the necessary evidence and support for arguments made within a text (Adjei, 2015).

In this study, researchers will analyze references sourced from children story from storyweaver employing the theoretical framework proposed by Sumarlam (2019). Sumarlam (2019) categorizes references into three types: persona references, demonstrative references, and comparative references. However, in this research, the researchers aim to analyze demonstrative references. The reason is, in rhetorical and persuasive discourse, demonstratives are frequently used to sway the attitudes and perceptions of the audience. Understanding demonstrative reference analysis offers insights into the ways in which language is employed to influence, mold, or persuade beliefs.

Translation, as a complex process involving the transfer of meaning from one language to another, brings a new perspective to the study of linguistic expression. The use of translation techniques is critical in understanding how linguistic features identified by Baker (1992) as universals of translation manifest in the translated context. These techniques are used to analyze and categorize how translation equivalence works, affecting translation results, micro-units of text, and being discursive, contextual, and functional. Molina and Albir (2002) identified eighteen translation techniques, including adaptation, amplification, borrowing, calque, compensation, descriptive, discursive creation, established equivalent, generalization, linguistic amplification, linguistic compression, literal translation, modulation, particularization, reduction, substitution, transposition, and variation.

Translation quality refers to how accurately and effectively a translated text conveys the source text's meaning, style, and cultural nuances. Assessing translation quality is critical because it ensures accurate and culturally sensitive renditions, preserves intended meaning, and allows for effective communication across linguistic boundaries. According to Nababan (2012), translation quality assessment is based on three key factors: accuracy, acceptability, and readability. Accuracy refers to the equivalence of the source and target languages, whereas acceptability refers to the extent to which the translation is acceptable to the intended audience. Readability is the ease with which the target audience can read and comprehend the translation.

The study by Khayrullo Sultonov discusses the importance of cataphoric references in discourse and compares reference types in Uzbek and English languages and aims to raise learners' awareness of the use of cataphoric references and explores similarities and differences in reference usage between Uzbek and English (Sultonov & Numonova, 2021). Additionally demonstrative reference is a common means of cohesion in discourse. Based on Cohesion Theory by Halliday and Hasan, the paper is aimed at exploring the use of this and that as a means of deixis and reference in college English speeches from the perspective of discourse cohesion to achieve more effective analysis and appreciation of English speeches. The usage of "this" and "that" as pronouns and determiners in speeches is examined using both qualitative and quantitative analytic techniques (Zhao, 2021).

In this research the researcher introduces a new taxonomy of endophoric demonstratives based on a large-scale corpus of written genres, aiming to unify and compare results from different studies. It distinguishes two main classes of endophoric demonstratives: text-based and situation-based, with examples provided for each class. The taxonomy includes discussion on first mention demonstratives, such as restrictive "thatthose" cases, which are semantically related to quantificational demonstratives (Maes et al., 2022). The article introduces a new conceptual framework of demonstrative reference based

on a review of recent experimental work. It proposes that physical, psychological, and referent-intrinsic factors interact to influence a speaker's choice of demonstrative form. The traditional view on demonstratives in exophoric use is challenged, suggesting that at least three types of factors influence a speaker's choice for a specific demonstrative form (Maes et al., 2022).

The Demonstrative Choice Task (DCT) study by Wallentin and Rocca explores how spatial demonstratives are used based on semantic features. The study shows that demonstrative choice is influenced by object manipulability and other semantic factors like valence, arousal, and motion. The DCT method is reliable for understanding the relationship between demonstrative use and word meaning, with reproducible results. The research highlights the structured nature of demonstrative choices across participants and the role of semantic dimensions in these choices. Ethical approval was obtained for studies involving human participants, ensuring informed consent was provided (Rocca & Wallentin, 2020).

In this research, the researchers analyze demonstrative references in children story which are taken from Storyweaver platform. The researchers choose it since it is a popular website, especially for those interested in children's books and educational materials. StoryWeaver, an open-source digital platform that houses an extensive library of bilingual children's stories. Through the provision of a platform where writers, illustrators, translators, and educators can work together to create and translate stories in multiple languages, it seeks to address the dearth of diverse and accessible reading materials for children.

StoryWeaver is an invaluable resource for educators, parents, and kids worldwide because it provides a vast selection of stories spanning multiple genres, themes, and age groups. By enabling users to read, download, translate, and even write their own stories, the platform supports literacy and multilingualism while also cultivating a global community of storytellers. Around the world, educators, librarians, publishers, and organizations that support literacy and education have come to recognize and appreciate StoryWeaver for its vast collection of stories and commitment to promoting literacy and access to high-quality children's literature.

In addition analyzing the translation of demonstrative references in children's stories is critical for a variety of reasons. At first, because children's stories are frequently their first exposure to written language, studying how these linguistic elements are translated can provide insights into language acquisition and interpretation for young readers. Second, understanding the impact of translation on comprehension is critical, because children rely heavily on contextual cues to understand narratives. Third, translating children's stories requires cultural sensitivity, which ensures that cultural nuances are preserved or appropriately adapted. Furthermore, it illuminates the literary quality of translations, ensuring that the original text's charm and rhythm are preserved while catering to young readers. Finally, given the audience's vulnerability, ethical considerations like accuracy, appropriateness, and inclusivity in translation are critical. To summarize, research into the translation of personal and demonstrative references in children's stories sheds light on language acquisition, comprehension, cultural sensitivity, educational value, literary quality, and ethical considerations in children's literature.

Methods

Research methodology encompasses the foundational framework utilized to determine the research site, data origins, data gathering, sampling, data accuracy, analysis, and related aspects. Hence, research methodology can be understood as a procedural concept, detailing the actions researchers undertake throughout the research (Santosa, 2021).

To sum up, research methodology entails a comprehensive array of procedures and methodologies guiding researchers in conducting systematic investigations. It encompasses both the practical methods utilized in data collection and analysis and the theoretical underpinnings shaping the

research design. A robust methodology is essential for generating dependable and valid research findings, making significant contributions to knowledge advancement within a specific field of study.

The focus of this research is on demonstrative reference in a children's story titled "Our Beautiful Worlds." This story was published in 2021 on StoryWeaver and consists of 26 pages. It is authored by Bibek Bhattacharya (<https://storyweaver.org.in/en/lists/303601-topik-aw>). The data to be analyzed comprises speech containing demonstrative reference, where each data point includes both the object referred to and its contextual information. Data collection will be conducted through observation using a note-taking technique. The validity of the collected data will be evaluated by raters.

Results and Discussions

1. Demonstrative Reference

Table 1
The demonstrative reference found in the story

Demonstrative Reference		
Types	Total	Percentage
Place	21	58.3%
Time	15	41.7%

There are 36 data of demonstrative reference that are found in the children story entitled "In other words." In addition, there are 21 data which are showed place and 15 data which are showed times. Demonstrative references that indicate place, such as 'here', 'there', 'this', and 'that', are frequently used in children's stories for a variety of reasons:

1. **Simplicity and Clarity:** Demonstrative references are simple and clear, making them easy for children to understand. They directly point to a specific object or place, reducing ambiguity.
2. **Engagement:** They can make the story more engaging by creating a sense of place and helping children visualize the story's setting.
3. **Cohesion:** Demonstrative references contribute to the cohesion of a story¹. They help connect different parts of the story and maintain continuity, which is crucial in narrative texts.
4. **Referential Communication:** Demonstratives are part of a larger set of referential expressions that speakers or writers may use to activate or reactivate a discourse referent in the mind of one's addressee². This is especially important in children's stories, where maintaining the child's attention and understanding is key.
5. **Learning Purpose:** Using demonstrative references in children's stories can also serve an educational purpose, helping children learn about deictic references and improving their language and cognitive development.
6. **Interactive Element:** Demonstrative references often work in tandem with illustrations in children's books. They can refer to elements in the pictures, making the story more interactive and engaging for young readers.
7. **Narrative Structure:** Demonstrative references can help establish the narrative structure of a story. They can indicate shifts in time or place, introduce new characters or objects, or signal the climax or resolution of the story.
8. **Cultural and Contextual Clarification:** In stories that introduce children to different cultures or historical periods, demonstrative references can provide necessary context and explain cultural references that may not be immediately apparent to the child.

9. **Emotional Connection:** By providing more details about the characters' feelings, thoughts, and experiences, demonstrative references can help children connect emotionally with the story, making it more relatable and enjoyable.

In conclusion, the use of demonstrative references in children's stories serves multiple purposes, from enhancing understanding and engagement to aiding language development and cultural appreciation. However, like any literary technique, its effectiveness depends on its appropriate and skillful use.

Here are the more detailed review about the demonstrative reference:

A. Place

a. We live in a beautiful world

- **Identification and Description:** The phrase "a beautiful world" serves as a descriptor for the world in which we live. It identifies the world as possessing the quality of beauty. By using the demonstrative reference "a," it suggests that there are multiple worlds, but the one being referred to is distinguished by its beauty.
- **Narrative and Discourse:** Demonstrative references contribute to the narrative and discourse by establishing continuity and coherence within a text. In this phrase, "a beautiful world" sets the tone for the subsequent discussion, framing the discourse around themes of beauty, appreciation for the environment, and human interaction with the world. It serves as a focal point that guides the direction of the conversation.

b. The Earth is very old.

- **Defining the Referent:** "The Earth" serves as a specific reference to our planet within the solar system. It distinguishes Earth from other celestial bodies, such as Mars or Venus. By using the definite article "the," it indicates that the speaker and listener share a common understanding of which planet is being referred to, emphasizing its uniqueness and importance in the context of the discussion.
- **Narrative and Discourse:** Demonstrative references contribute to narrative coherence and discourse cohesion by anchoring discussions in specific referents and themes. In this context, "the Earth" serves as a focal point for exploring topics related to planetary science, environmental history, human civilization, and existential questions about the origins and fate of life on our planet. It shapes the narrative trajectory and invites engagement with complex issues through a shared understanding of Earth's significance in our lives and collective consciousness.

c. The Arctic Circle and Greenland will lose all their ice.

- **Geographical Identification:** "The Arctic Circle" and "Greenland" serve as specific geographical references within the discourse. "The Arctic Circle" denotes the imaginary line of latitude located at approximately 66.5 degrees north of the Equator, delineating the boundary of the Arctic region. "Greenland" refers to the world's largest island, situated between the Arctic and Atlantic Oceans, predominantly covered by ice sheets and glaciers. The use of the definite article "The" emphasizes the unique identity of these geographical entities within the broader context of Earth's geography.
- **Facilitating Dialogue and Discourse:** Demonstrative references serve as focal points for dialogue and discourse within the narrative, guiding characters' interactions and shaping their understanding of the events unfolding. Characters may discuss the implications of ice loss in "The Arctic Circle" and "Greenland," debate solutions to mitigate its effects, or confront ethical dilemmas related to environmental responsibility. These conversations deepen the narrative's complexity and encourage critical reflection on real-world issues.

B. Time

a. About 12,000 years ago, the Earth entered a new geological epoch called the Holocene.

- **Temporal Specification:** The phrase "About 12,000 years ago" serves as a demonstrative reference that specifies a particular moment in Earth's history. It denotes a specific timeframe in

the past, providing temporal context to the subsequent events described in the narrative. By referencing a specific numerical value, "12,000 years ago" offers precision in temporal communication, allowing listeners or readers to situate themselves within the broader timeline of Earth's geological and environmental evolution.

- **Narrative Continuity:** Within narratives and historical discourse, demonstrative references such as "12,000 years ago" contribute to narrative continuity and coherence by establishing temporal connections between past events and present circumstances. They provide a narrative anchor that links the past, present, and future, enabling storytellers to weave a cohesive narrative arc that spans millennia. This continuity fosters a deeper understanding of historical processes and their relevance to contemporary issues.
- b. Ever since then, for about 11,000 years, the Earth's climate has been stable and calm.**
- **Temporal Specification:** The phrase "for about 11,000 years" serves as a demonstrative reference that specifies a significant duration of time following a particular event or period. It denotes the timeframe during which Earth's climate has purportedly exhibited stability and calmness, providing temporal context to the subsequent assertion. By quantifying the duration with a specific numerical value, "about 11,000 years" offers precision in temporal communication, allowing readers or listeners to grasp the extent of the timeframe being referenced.
 - **Narrative Continuity:** Within narratives and scientific discourse, demonstrative references like "for about 11,000 years" contribute to narrative continuity by establishing temporal connections between past climatic events and present-day conditions. They provide a historical anchor that links the stability of Earth's climate during the Holocene epoch to contemporary discussions of climate change, variability, and resilience. This continuity fosters a deeper understanding of Earth's climatic history and its implications for current environmental challenges.
- c. It all happened very slowly, over thousands of years.**
- **Temporal Specification:** "Over thousands of years" serves as a demonstrative reference specifying the duration of a gradual process. It conveys a sense of extended time, emphasizing that the events being described occurred gradually and were not immediate. This temporal marker provides context for understanding the pacing and magnitude of the changes or developments being discussed.
 - **Narrative Continuity:** Within narratives and historical accounts, demonstrative references such as "over thousands of years" contribute to narrative continuity by providing temporal context and coherence. They establish connections between past events, present circumstances, and future trajectories, enabling storytellers to convey the gradual unfolding of complex processes and historical developments. This narrative continuity fosters a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness of events across different time scales.

2. Technique of Translation

Table 2

Translation techniques that are used to translate demonstrative references

Technique	Percentage	
Amplification	18	50%
Literal Translation	12	33.3%
Adaptation	3	8.3%
Compensation	1	2.8%
Established Equivalent	1	2.8%
Generalization	1	2.8%
Total	36	100%

Amplification can be defined as a translation technique used to introduce additional details that are not explicitly formulated in the Source Text (ST). This technique is frequently used in children's stories for several reasons:

1. **Enhanced Understanding:** Children are still in the process of learning and understanding the world around them. Amplification helps in breaking down complex ideas into simpler, more understandable terms. By providing additional information or explaining concepts in a more detailed manner, children can grasp the narrative more effectively.
2. **Engagement and Visualization:** Amplification aids in painting a vivid picture of the story, making it more engaging for young readers. By elaborating on the setting, characters, or events, it helps children visualize the story, thereby increasing their interest and engagement.
3. **Language Development:** Children's stories often serve as a tool for language development. Amplification introduces children to new words, phrases, and ways of expressing ideas. This exposure can enhance their vocabulary and improve their language skills.
4. **Emotional Connection:** Amplification can help children connect emotionally with the story. By providing more details about the characters' feelings, thoughts, and experiences, it allows children to empathize with the characters, making the story more relatable and enjoyable.
5. **Cultural and Contextual Clarification:** Children's stories often introduce young readers to different cultures, traditions, and historical periods. Amplification can provide the necessary context and explain cultural references that may not be immediately apparent to the child, thereby enhancing their understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures.
6. **Educational Purpose:** Beyond entertainment, children's stories often have an educational purpose. Amplification can be used to explain scientific facts, historical events, moral lessons, and more. This makes the story a valuable learning resource.
7. **Translation Accuracy:** In translated children's books, amplification is often used to ensure that the target language text conveys the same amount of information as the source language text. This helps to maintain the integrity of the original story while making it accessible to readers in a different language.

In conclusion, the use of amplification in children's stories serves multiple purposes, from enhancing understanding and engagement to aiding language development and cultural appreciation. However, like any literary technique, its effectiveness depends on its appropriate and skillful use.

3. Quality of Translation

Table 3
The Score of Translation quality

Accuracy	Acceptability	Readability
2.83x3	2.89x2	2.78x1
8.49	5.78	2.78
Total		17.05
Average		2.84

The terms "Accuracy", "Acceptability", and "Readability" are often used in the context of evaluating translations or other types of text. Here's what they generally mean:

1. Accuracy (2.83): This refers to how closely the translation or text adheres to the source material. An accurate translation should convey the same meaning as the original text without adding, omitting, or distorting information. The number "2.83" could be a score out of a possible 3, indicating a high level of accuracy.

2. Acceptability (2.89): This measures how well the translation or text is received by its intended audience. An acceptable translation should sound natural in the target language and be free from errors or awkward phrasing. The number "2.89" could be a score out of a possible 3, indicating a very high level of acceptability.
3. Readability (2.78): This assesses how easy it is to read and understand the translation or text. Factors influencing readability may include sentence length, vocabulary level, and complexity of ideas. The number "2.78" could be a score out of a possible 3, indicating a very high level of readability.

In addition, in this context of translation quality assessment, "Average 2.84" likely refers to the mean score of a translation's quality across multiple dimensions or criteria. The score of 2.84 is the measure of different aspects of the translation, such as accuracy, acceptability, and readability, which mentioned earlier. This average score provides an overall measure of the translation's quality. A higher average score indicates a higher quality of translation. In this case, an average score of 2.84 suggests that the translation is of good quality, as the maximum possible score is 3. However, the exact interpretation might depend on the specific scoring system or evaluation framework being used.

Conclusion

The analysis of the children's story "In Other Words" reveals a deliberate and effective use of demonstrative references, with a majority focused on indicating place (58.3%) and time (41.7%). Demonstrative references such as "a beautiful world," "the Earth," "The Arctic Circle," and "Greenland" serve various narrative and communicative functions, including simplifying complex ideas, enhancing engagement, facilitating cohesion, and providing cultural context. These references contribute to the overall coherence and effectiveness of the story, making it accessible and engaging for young readers while also fostering their language and cognitive development. Furthermore, the translation techniques employed, particularly amplification, ensure accuracy, acceptability, and readability in conveying the story's message across linguistic and cultural boundaries. The average quality score of 2.84 reflects the overall effectiveness of the translation in maintaining fidelity to the source text while ensuring its suitability and accessibility to the target audience. Overall, the meticulous use of demonstrative references and translation techniques underscores the significance of linguistic and narrative elements in crafting compelling and culturally relevant children's literature.

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