

Research article

Sign Found in Movie the Hitman's Bodyguard

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Abstract.

This research tried to analyze and discuss about kinds and functions of sign found in movie "The Hitman's Bodyguard". This research used some theories to support the research, the theories were taken from the books entitled "Semiotic For Beginners" written by Daniel Chandler and Introducing English Semantic by Charles W. Kreidler (1998). The data were taken from American movie entitled "The Hitman's Bodyguard". The data were collected by observation method. Signs can also be found in the movie and they appear in various kinds with different meanings. Based on the result of the analysis, in the movie "The Hitman's Bodyguard, there were some signs found, and they can be classified into three: Icon, Index, and Symbol. Icon is the likeness of a sign and its signified. The index is a sign that is closely associated with the signified, while the symbol is the only traditional link between the sign and its signified. Ideational meta function, interpersonal meta function, and textual meta function were also three essential meta-functions. The Ideational Meta function is to represent an aspect of the experiential world outside of its system of signs in a referential or pseudo-referential sense. The Interpersonal Meta function is used to project the relationships between a sign's producer and receiver or reproducer. The Textual Meta function is to create texts, which are sign complexes that are coherent both internally and within the context in which they were created.

Keywords: semiotics, sign, movie the Hitman's Bodyguard

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is the means of human communication, either spoken or written, it consists of word in a structure and conventional way. It cannot be separated from human life because language is required for communication in all activities, such as in education, cultural, business, religious, economic, and others (<https://medium.com/@llanirfreelance/charles-sanders-peirce-symbolic-iconicand-indexical-signs-29e0e40bef1d>, n.d.). Language important because language has a role to transfer our desires, thoughts, ideas, etc. A language is a complex system of symbols, or signs, that are shared by members of community (Kreidler, 1998). Language is used to get a certain kind meaning in communication. Language which has meaning is used to form communication (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semiotics>, n.d.). The meaning of language is very important because it can be distinguished from the meaning of each

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statement in communication which is obtained from someone. The study of meaning is semantics (Saeed et al., 1997). There are many things which we can be learn through semantics, and one of them is semiotics.

Semiotics is not confused the shortest definition is that it is the study of signs. One of the broadest definitions is that of Umberto Eco, who states that 'semiotic is concerned with everything that can be taken as a sign' (Eco, 1976). The study of sign process which is any form of activity, conduct, or any process that involves sign, including the production of meaning. A sign use to communicates a meaning, that is not the sign itself, to the interpreter of the sign (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semiotics>, n.d.). Signs can be communicated through any of the senses, visual, auditory, tactile, olfactory, or taste. The semiotic tradition explores the study of signs and symbols as a significant part of communications. Semiotics include the study of signs and sign processes, indication, designation, likeness, analogy, allegory, metonymy, metaphor, symbolism, signification, and communication.

Signs take the form of words, images, sounds, odors, flavors, acts, or object, but such things have no intrinsic meaning. 'Nothing is a sign unless it is interpreted as a sign' (Peirce, 1931). Sign is one form of communication to deliver a meaning other than language, the different is language done directly by two people or more, while the sign including non-verbal communication because it does not directly involve people in its implementation. In case, it is applicable to everything which has meaning within language. Saussure (1983) stated that sign be able to divide into three modes; they are icon, index, and symbol. Icon is similarity between sign and its signified. Index is sign, which is closely associated with signified and symbol is only conventional link between sign and its signified.

Therefore, movie is one media for communication, movie includes many kinds of sign in order to make messages simple and attractive to see. By analyzing signs that were found in the movie or other media, it can be influenced the way every people to think. In a movie many forms of signs such as the use of words (conversation between the characters), sounds (soundtrack music of the movie), and images (the motion picture of movie) are works together, it is related among one to the other in order to produce a good movie and get deep impression to the viewers. In the movie some characters often have similarity to the real life. It makes people get easier to understand meaning in movie. A lot of kinds of signs in movie, such as icon, index, symbol etc. Every scene in the movie there are a lot of signs and meaning to deliver the message. It is not all people understand the meaning and function of sign in the movie easier. It is why movie has been chosen as data source for this research because this movie attractive

to be analysis the meaning and function of sign in order easier to understand by the people. American movie entitled “The Hitman’s Bodyguard” has been choose because this movie is an applicable one which can be used as the data source and it contains some of sign to support the research. This movie is one of good movie, and this movie has a good plot. Every scene in this movie has particular meaning or message and this movie also there are a lot of signs that make people wonder the meaning of signs. By seeing the background above and based on the theory of semiotics. That is why the movie has been chosen for this research.

Related to the background, there are several previous studies are used as references in this study. Hawan (2018) conducted a study entitled “*An Analysis of Semiotic Signs Found in Movie Poster of Pirates of the Caribbean*” showing that after researcher analyzing the semiotic signs in the movie poster of Pirates of the Caribbean by using Peirce’s Triadic Semiosis, researcher found that the poster told the information of the movie they watch which related to the date, location, genre of the movie. Based on the analysis of semiotic signs using Peirce’s triadic semiosis, there are verbal and visual can be interpreted by the customer such as the titles, characters, colors, and piece of events in the poster. On the other hand Darliati and Mahmud (2020) also conducted a study which entitle “*An Analysis of Semiotic Signs in Romance Movie Posters*” which found that most of the aspects of visual grammar were realized in the selected Indonesian romance movie posters. For the representational meaning of the posters, it was dominantly depicted through the narrative process which include in it the action process, reactional process, speech and mental process and circumstances. It is because the sub aspects of representational meaning can be easily noticed as it is the main aspects of each movie poster. In addition, Tirana D.C (2011) also doing similar study entitled “*A Semiotic Analysis on Signs Used on Five Indonesian Movie Posters*”. In her research, she found that those movie posters bring numerous signs. The signs include symbolic, iconic, and indexical signs (signifier and signified). Those signs are represented by its visual expressions (image, written expression, color, tag line and punctuation). Additionally, denotative and connotative meaning derived from its signs then they are used to reveal myth (second order of signification). Based on previous study above, this research different from those previous study that has been discuss before. This research aims to analyzing kinds and functions of sign found in movie “The Hitman’s Bodyguard”. Therefore, this research finds out (1) what kinds of the sign are found in the movie “The Hitman’s Bodyguard”? then (2) what are the functions of the sign found in the movie “The Hitman’s Bodyguard”?

2. METHOD

The data in this research are taken from a movie *“The Hitman’s Bodyguard”*. The data were collected by using observation method. The researcher watched the movie for several times, noted and then researcher classified based on their kinds of signs. The data were collected by watching the movie, capturing the sign found in it and classifying the signs according to formulation of problem. In addition, the data analysis was qualitative research which means the data was analyzed descriptively. The analysis discovers and describe the kinds of sign and their functions. Therefore, this research presented the result of analysis; they are the formal method and informal method. The formal method was using symbols to illustrate the phenomena found in the data and it was analyzed with picture of the data in the movie *“The Hitman’s Bodyguard”*. The informal method was applied by using some sentences to express the problem that was discussed in this research.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In analyzing the data which taken by watching a movie *“The Hitman’s Bodyguard”*, the researcher finds that there are some signs found, and they can be classified into Icon, Index, and Symbol. There are also three essential meta-function, they are ideational meta function, interpersonal meta function, and textual meta function. Icon and its function and in icon or iconic are a mode in which the signifier is perceived as resembling or imitating the signified (recognizably looking, sounding, feeling, tasting, or smelling like it) – being similar in possessing some of its qualities. For example, a portrait, a cartoon, a scale-model, onomatopoeia, metaphors, ‘realistic’ sound in ‘programmed music’, sound effects in radio drama, a dubbed film soundtrack, imitative gestures. In addition, researcher found three pictures related to the icon, they are Michael Bryce’s picture which function as ideational meta function, because the picture represents the object. Then, researcher found pictures which taken from a movie *“The Hitman’s Bodyguard”* that shows Photo which function of the icon is interpersonal meta function, because the picture of Michael Bryce photos indicate that Michael Bryce loves the girl so much. While in picture of Vladislav Dukhovich, show the function of the icon is ideational meta function, because the picture represents the object. In this case the picture represents face of Vladislav Dukhovich that well-known as a president of Belarusia.

Therefore, index and its function. Index or indexical discuss that it is a mode in which the signifier is not arbitrary but is directly connected in some way (physically or casually) to the signified – this link can be observed or inferred. For example: ‘natural sign’ (footprints, smoke, thunder, echoes, non-synthetic odors, flavors), medical symptoms (a rash, pain, and pulse), measuring instruments (weathercock, thermometer, clock, spirit level, ‘signal’ (a knock on a door, a phone ringing, thumbs up), ‘pointers’ (a pointing ‘index’ finger, a directional signpost), recording (a photograph, a film, a video, or television shoot, an audio-recorded voice), personal ‘trademarks’ (handwriting, catchphrase) and indexical words (‘that’, ‘this’, ‘there’, ‘here’). Researcher found five pictures referring to the index, they are broken window which function of index is interpersonal Meta function, because the picture of Michael Bryce looks like confused after seeing the window had broken indicates that Michael Bryce knows who had broken the window. The second one is clock which function of index is ideational meta function. Ideational meta function means that the sign represents in a referential sense or it represent the world outside of the immediate sign system (each sign system is a microcosmic picture of the world outside). The third one is picture of blood which function of index is interpersonal Meta function, because the picture of the blood indicates that Michael Bryce know who had the blood after meet Amelia Roussel, because in that house there were only three of them there were no one besides them. The fourth one is phone ringing which function of index is interpersonal meta function, because the picture of Sonia answering the phone call indicates that Sonia knows who was calling her. The last one is hand writing which function of index textual meta function, because it means the sign form texts, complexes of sign which cohere both internally and within the context in and for which they were produced.

Symbol/symbolic. In symbol and its function, researcher found four symbol which related to the study, they are 1) GIPN logo which function of the symbol can be categorized as an Ideational Meta function. GIPN symbol means shows the identity of French police, because meaning of GIPN in French: (Groups d’ Intervention de la Police National). 2) Mercedes logo which function of the symbol is interpersonal meta function means that the sign or symbol projects the relation between the producer of a sign and the receiver. 3) National flag which function of the symbol can be categorized as an Ideational Meta function. Ideational meta function means that the sign or symbol represents the world outside of the immediate sign system (each sign system is microcosmic picture of the world outside). It can be said that the a flag represents a state. The last is 4) Emergency of Medical logo which function of the symbol categorized as an Ideational Meta function. Ideational Meta function means that

the sign or symbol represents the world outside of the immediate sign system (each sign system is microcosmic picture of the world outside) “Snake” bite could be considered a medical emergency. Therefore, snake as a symbol of the world of medicine.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the result of the analysis and discussion above, it can be concluded that sign can be found in movies. As the data source, the movie entitled “The Hitman’s Bodyguard” shows that the used of signs is various. Many kinds of sign are used in this movie, such as icon, index, and symbol. The function of each signs are various as well. Parts of the function of sign are Ideational Meta-function, Interpersonal Meta function, and Textual Function. The majority function of the sign found in the movie “The Hitman’s Bodyguard” is Ideational Meta Function, it is shown mostly by the sign called symbol. Ideational Meta Function can be found in Icon, Index, Symbol, Interpersonal Meta-function can be found in Icon, Index, Symbol, and Textual Meta Function can be found in Index.

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