CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1. 1.   Background of Study

The Split Movie, directed by M. Night Shyamalan, delves into the complex psychological landscape of its main character, Kevin Wendell Crumb, who suffers from Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID). Kevin's mind hosts 23 different personalities, with the 24th entity, known as "The Beast", emerging as the most formidable. The Split movie presents various issues surrounding Kevin Wendell Crumb's mental health struggles. The movie depicts his battle with Dissociative Identity Disorder, where each identity competes for control, reflecting different aspects of his psyche. The emergence of "The Beast" represents a survival mechanism born of severe childhood abuse. This psychological thriller raises questions about the nature of identity, the impact of trauma, and the limits of human endurance. Understanding linguistic subtleties, such as presuppositions in dialogue, provides deeper insight into the minds of characters and the film's underlying themes. The movie explores themes of trauma, identity, and survival, providing a rich narrative ripe for linguistic analysis. One important aspect of this movie's dialogue is the use of implicit assumptions or what are called presuppositions that are taken for granted in communication.

Presuppositions are a linguistic phenomenon that extends beyond spoken language and has emerged as a challenging field of research in linguistics. This idea relates to presumptions that are subtly present in a statement or query and

that, to be properly understood, need for shared knowledge or a specific context. Understanding presuppositions helps us to see that language carries a wealth of hidden meanings that add depth and color to communication in addition to conveying plain facts. Consider the simple sentence, "I forgot to get my book." This sentence gives the impression that the speaker already knows or believes that they should receive the book. Based on the context or shared knowledge of the speaker, we as listeners construct this understanding. Through the presentation and analysis of examples like this, we can explore the complexity of the presupposition phenomenon and explore its practical consequences in everyday communication.

Presupposition by definition is things that the speaker assumes before saying (Yule, 1996). This is often a basis or rationale that is assumed to be known or accepted by the audience or reader before any other information or argument is provided. This is to say that presupposition is the foundation element of what people want to say that is also assumed by the reader or the listener (Perl, 2020). Therefore, the writer means that presupposition is an assumption or view that is considered correct or has been previously accepted by the speaker or writer, without providing further explanation. Presupposition, as a linguistic phenomenon, has been widely studied in various forms of discourse, including movies. Asmawanti (2019) stated, "Pragmatics is the study of the use of language in context, and presupposition is an important phenomenon in pragmatic linguistics". This is also explained by Chaniago (2022) that pragmatics studies how to understand a conversation based on its context.

This phenomenon is also explored by other students in different contexts, such as in movies like The Fault in Our Stars (Luciyana, 2020) and Crazy Rich Asians (Asmawanti, 2019), advertisements (Hikmah, 2017; Tang, 2019), and news discourse (Siahaan & Mubarak, 2020; Manu, 2020). In the Split movie, the presupposition is seen through the assumption that Kevin has 23 different personalities. Since the start of the movie, the writer has accepted this supposition; therefore more explanation is not necessary. However, this hinders the lack of clarity for the writer to fully engage with character development and plot development. The presupposition is also seen through the assumption that the different personalities in Kevin's personality have unique abilities and characteristics.

In this movie, presuppositions are used not only to advance the plot but also to deepen our understanding of the characters, particularly Kevin and his successors. These linguistic features subtly influence the way information is presented and perceived, giving rise to audience assumptions and expectations. This research aims to analyze the types of presuppositions used by the main character and his alters, examining how these presuppositions contribute to the narrative and characterization. Understanding presuppositions helps writers explore the psychological layers of characters, creating a deeper experience. Through presupposition analysis, we can better understand the complexity of mental states and their influence on film narratives. By understanding the underlying presuppositions of the main characters in "Split," we can explore the deeper emotional and psychological layers in the movie, providing a richer understanding of the challenges faced by the main characters.

The writer intends to describe the various presuppositions contained in this movie, so the author believes that this film can contribute to the conversation about mental health in addition to analyzing the language used by the Kevin character through pragmatics studies. The presupposition that exists in the Kevin character in the split movie will be demonstrated in this study. The representation theory and the presupposition will be used in tandem to assist the writer in identifying the presupposition in the film.

1. 2. Research Question

People can have several ways of expressing what they mean by using approximations. By the background of the study, the research questions as follows:

What are the types of presuppositions applied to the main characters in Split movie?

1. 3. Research Objective

Based on the research questions above, the writers propose the following research objectives:

To identify the types of presuppositions applied in the movie.

1. 4. Uses of Study

This study is important for two reasons each of which is expected to contribute to theoretical and practical use.

1. 4. 1. Theoretical Uses

The theoretical use of analyzing presupposition in the Split movie involves examining the linguistic and philosophical theories behind presupposition. This

type of analysis focuses on understanding the nature of presupposition, how it functions in communication, and how it influences meaning. It aims to identify the presuppositions in the movie and to determine how they affect the audience's interpretation of the story. The theoretical use of analyzing presupposition in the Split movie can be useful for students and linguists who are interested in the study of presupposition and its role in communication.

1. 4. 1. Practical Uses

The practical use of analyzing presupposition in The Split movie involves examining how presupposition is used in the movie to create meaning and impact. This type of analysis focuses on identifying the presuppositions in the movie and how they affect the audience's understanding and emotional response to the story. It aims to determine how the director and screenwriters used presupposition to achieve their intended effects, such as building suspense or manipulating the audience's perception of the characters. The practical use of analyzing presupposition in The Split movie can be useful for filmmakers and writers who are interested in learning how to use presupposition effectively in their work.

1. 5.   Scope of Study

In the movie *Split* (2016), the writer noticed that many aspects can be analyzed and discussed. However, in this research, the writer focuses onidentifying the types of presuppositions applied in the movie and finding out the possible meaning of presupposition utterance selected in the movie as seen in the movie through the character of Kevin to identify the type of presuppositions and applies George Yule's (1996) theory.