



AN ANALYSIS OF FLOUTING MAXIMS IN CONVERSATION SPEAKING OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE MOVIE OF HOME ALONE 2 “LOST IN NEW YORK” BY JOHN HUGHES

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ABSTRACT

Communication is a human activity everyday, people always communicate each other. Sometime people do not realize what they are talking about. To make a good communication, human must follow cooperative principles. That is why Grice offers to use theory of cooperative principle to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation between the speaker and the listener. However, some people do not fulfill those maxims to be used in the conversation for certain reasons, and when they violate the maxims it is called flouting maxims. A descriptive qualitative approach is used for this study because the data are in the form of words rather than of numbers and statistics. This study reveals that based on theory of Grice's Cooperative, there are four maxims which are flouted by the main characters of “Home Alone Part 2 ‘Lost in New York’” movie this movie since 1992 directed and written by John Hughes. The result shows that there are four Maxims Flouted by the main characters there are flouting maxim of quality, flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of relevance, and flouting maxim of manner. And there are several reasons of flouting those maxims are data finding also revealed that the communication could still even though the main characters flouting the maxims. Four reasons by the main characters to flout the maxims are competitive, collaborative, convivial, and conflictive reason. In terms of types, quantity maxim flouting is in the highest rank and relevance maxim flouting is in the lowest rank. In terms of strategies, overstatement is the most frequently used and metaphor is the most rarely used. Finally, dealing with reasons for maxim flouting, conflictive reason has the highest rank in its occurrence.

Keywords: *conversational, maxim, flouting, main characters, implicature and cooperative principle*

INTRODUCTION

Communication is a human activity everyday, people are always communicating with anyone. Communicating their people without realizing what they are talking about. so also in the science of language in existing cooperative principles of Grice's theory, namely the application of the maxim in conversation Grice's theory this maxim tells about



the flouting of maxims that there are limitations in the conversation. Sometimes people deliberately violate the maxim flouting. the author will seek conversation, through the comedy film genre is "Home Alone 2 'Lost In New York City' "by John Hughes. However, this paper focuses on flouting of a maxim only, because the writer wants to know and understand about the reason why people flout the maxims. Therefore, this aspect will be elaborated in the movie "Home Alone Part 2" since 1992 make movie as directed and written by John Hughes, because this movie relates to the topic that will be analyzed. This movie genre comedy and it has unique conversations and is very interesting to understand the meanings of the conversations that flouting maxims.

Horn (2007:3) describes that the implicature is composed of speaker's meaning that constitutes an aspect of what is meant by the speaker's utterance without being part of what is said. It can be inferred that language user can make conversation with implicit meaning that make the hearer must consider the intended meaning of the speaker.

In this case, the writer wants to use Home Alone Part 2 by John Hughes 1992. He is writer, and producer who directed almost of comedy film, in the last of 1992 he producer Home Alone Part 2, which has genre comedy. In this movie, the writer finds some flouting maxim. However, it contains the meaning beyond the real words that uttered. In this case, Home Alone Part 2 movie contains many maxim flouting because of the hidden meaning which is made by the speaker to hearer. Based on the conclusion above, the writer wants to analyze this movie with flouting maxims theory and the writer encouraged entitling the research as follows maxim flouting in Home Alone 2 "lost in New York".

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS

This study covers about kinds of flouting maxims and how the flouting maxims can help the reader in understanding the conversational in "Home Alone 2" movie. Here, to get and provide the originality of the writer, the writer wants to present the previous research that deals especially with flouting maxims.

The first, previous research is done by Fatmawati (2014) in "A Pragmatic Analysis of Maxim Flouting Performed by Solomon Northup in 12 Years Slave Movie" from English Language and Literature Study Program English Department Faculty Language and Arts in Yogyakarta State University, Semarang. In her study, to get and analyze the



data about flouting maxims, the researcher use Grice's theory, there are the theoretical review: The Nation of Pragmatics, Cooperative Principle, and Maxims Flouting. Another second previous study is from "Analysis of The Flouting Maxim in The Movie "The Art Getting By" The researcher use Flouting Maxim theory from Kinasih from Bina Nusantara University the kinds of flouting maxim can be divided into four maxims there are: Flouting Maxim Quality, Maxim, Flouting Quantity, Maxim Flouting Relation, and Maxim Flouting Manner. And the third previous study from "The Flouting Conversational Maxim in Captain Philips Movie" from Ginarsih from English Education (TBI) Faculty of Islamic Education Teacher Training State Islamic Institute (IAIN) Tulungagung. This paper the kinds of theory conversational maxims, implicature, maxim flout, and movie.

Definition of Discourse Analysis

According to different patterns that people's utterances follow when they take part in different domains of social life, familiar examples being Flouting Maxim and Violating Maxim. Discourse analysis is the analysis of these patterns. But this common sense definition is not of much help in clarifying what discourses are, how they function, or how to analyze them. Here, more developed theories and methods of discourse analysis have to be sought out. And, in the search, one quickly finds out that discourse analysis is not just one approach, but a series of interdisciplinary approaches that can be used to explore many different social domains in many different types of studies. And there is no clear consensus as to what discourses are or how to analyse them. Different perspectives offer their own suggestions and, to some extent, compete to appropriate the terms discourse and discourse analysis for their own definitions. Let us begin, however, by proposing the preliminary definition of a discourse as a particular way of talking about and understanding the world or an aspect of the world.

Pragmatics

According to, Yule (1996) pragmatics is the study of the relationships between linguistic forms and the users of those forms. In this three-part distinction, only pragmatics allows humans into the analysis. The advantage of studying language via pragmatics is that one can talk about people's intended meanings, their assumptions, their purposes or goals, and the kind of actions for example, request that they are performing when they



speak. The big disadvantage is that all these very human concepts way. In the case Thus, pragmatics is appealing because it's about how people make sense of each other linguistically, but it can be a frustrating area of study because it requires us to make sense of people and they have in mind.

Implicature

Knowledge of common forms of implicature is acquired along with one's native language at an early age. Conversational implicatures have become one of the principal subjects of pragmatics. An important conceptual and methodological issue in semantics is how to distinguish senses and entailments from conventional conversational implicatures. A related issue is the degree to which sentence meaning determines what is said. Implicature has been invoked for a variety of purposes, from defending controversial semantic claims in philosophy to explaining lexical gaps in linguistics. Grice, who coined the term implicature, and classified the phenomenon, developed an influential theory to explain and predict conversational implicatures, and describe how they arise and are understood.

The Cooperative Principle

Cooperative Principle is one of the significant theories in Pragmatics. Grice (1975: 45) explains that Cooperative Principle leads the participants to make a contribution as is required in a conversation. The aim and the direction of talk exchange determine the requirement. Grice (in Wardaugh, 2006: 293) also states that conversation is a cooperative activity. That is when speakers and listeners can understand each other in a conversation. They can share what they intend to share smoothly. They can accept each other's meaning despite the status, whether they are close friends, parents, teachers, sellers and buyers, and others. The speakers behave in a particular way to lead the listeners to understand the speakers' utterances so the listeners are able to give appropriate responses to the speakers' utterances.

Maxim Flouting

Maxim flouting is intentionally breaking the maxims in order to convey hidden meanings and lead the listener to find out the implied meaning from the maxim flouting.



This form of non-observance of maxims is explained further in the next review. Maxim flouting belongs to the forms of non-observed Cooperative Principle (Grice, 1975: 49). According to Thomas (1995: 65) in his definition explains that maxim flouting means intentionally failing to follow the maxims of Cooperative Principle without any intention to deceive or make a misunderstanding. The only reason is that the speaker wishes the listener to understand the meaning of the speaker, either the literal expressed meaning or the hidden meaning.

METHOD

This analysis was done by the writer by referring to both the subtitle and the film so as to see the nonverbal clues for the occurrence of misunderstanding. This procedure, checking the script and watching subtitle from the film, was done for several time in order to provide accurate analyses by matching the type of flouting maxims, the reasons of flouting the maxims and the consequences from the flouted maxims.

Data analysis is the most complex work in a study, indeed in qualitative research. In the data analysis, content analysis was applied to find out the maxim flouting by Home Alone Part 2 “Lost In New York” in the movie. This technique of analyzed the object of the study through the theories of maxim flouting.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this data discussion the writer taken from conversation in main characters of this movie. The writer will give data of flouting maxim, setting, and situation in this discussion.

Data of Flouting Maxim Quantity

Data 1

mother: last time we time to tried to take a trip will had a problem just like this.

Kevin: I don't care for your choice of words that's not what happened buzz apologize to you.

Minutes: 08:43 – 08:49



Setting: at the night Kevin and Mother was conversation

Situation: In this conversation Kevin mother's sure waiting for Kevin apologize to buzz but Kevin not want to apologize to buzz because he is innocent. Kevin in this conversation does not mean it what him choice. In the conversation above, it can be seen that Kevin has flouted the maxim of quantity. He gives too much information by answering the question with a long response. Answering the question, Kevin just needs to mention the problem like this in this years ago, Kate no repeated this moment. However, in the exchange above, he is more informative than that is required. He completes his answer by mentioning that Kevin not realize Kevin guilty actually the patroller does not need to know this. The first sentence is Kate to go christmas she does not want to repeat last year's problem occurred. On the other hand, the second sentence is not the required information. He does a quantity maxim flouting by he choice of quantity maxim to make a contribution as informative as is required for the purpose of the exchange.

Data of Flouting Maxim Quantity

Data 2

<p><i>Buzz : Ladies and gentlemen of the jury.. I'd like to apologize for what ever displeasure.. I might have caused of you</i></p> <p><i>Kevin : What ?</i></p>

Minutes: 07:06

Setting : in the night in living room McCallister buzz sit in the chair and talk apologize in the front McCallliester family

Situation : Back at home, Buzz apologizes to the family for his actions, but whispers an aside to Kevin that he just said that to force Kevin to apologize. Kevin vocally chastises everyone for taking Buzz's side, and is sent to the attic. Kevin's mother Kate comes to speak with him afterwards, wanting him to apologize, but Kevin refuses, claiming that if he had his own money, he'd take his own vacation away from his family.

The utterance conversation contains the flouting maxim of quality. In this case conversation Kevin and Buzz talking about last night's events were conducted by the buzz.



whereas at the time of the incident had embarrassed Kevin Buzz in public, but at the time apologized to Kevin, buzz seemed to innocence to Kevin so Kevin guilty.

Data of Flouting Maxim Relevance

Data 3

Kevin: I'm not apologize to buzz I's rather kiss a toilet seat!
Mother: yeah get your wish last years may be you with this year.
Kevin: I hope so!

Minutes: 09:07

Setting: Kevin speak to mother about the incident in staging overnight

Situation: in this conversation situation that Kevin does not want to apologize because kevin innocent. in this conversation included flouting maxim of relevance for kevin feel guilty.

Data of Flouting Maxim Manner

Data 4

Harry: here we are Marv. New York City the land of opportunity. Smell that?
Marv: yeah..
Harry: know what that is ?
Marv: yeah it is fish !
Harry: No, it's freedom.
Marvy: No it's fish
Harry: it's freedom and it's money
Marvy: ok ok... it's freedom and it's fish.

Minutes: 24:18

Setting : Harry and Marv at the car fish. Harry talk to Marv



Situation : in this situation Marv and Harry arrive at the fish market, they went to get into the truck so they could get to New York and they are will take action bandits. after they arrived at the fish market Marry said that around him smell freedom means she is free from jail and will take action wickedness.

In this part, Harry has flouted the maxim of manner. He made an ambiguous statement. It means that he did not give clear statement. In this case, it, here, did not have any clear reference. To follow the maxim, it should have been ambiguous.

Reason Competitive of Flouting Maxims

The first example is taken from the conversation between Bird Lady and Kevin. Kevin gets conversation with Bird Lady ignorance from others. She is like ignorance by her family. When Kevin tries to calm her down, Kevin tells that possessed the same feeling as Bird Lady.

Bird lady: I'm like the birds I care for. People pass me in the street. They see me but they try to ignore me. They prefer I wasn't in their city.

*Kevin: Yeah. It's like that with my family. I'm like the pigeon of the hous...**just because I'm the youngest.***

In this exchange, Kevin flouts maxim of quantity since he does not give the required information by Kevin answering. Bird Lady question, Kevin just responds to it shortly. He gives too little information for the purpose of the exchange. He tries to keep feeling for her from blaming him as he believes that his opinion is not wrong.

Reason Convivial of Flouting Maxims

Conversation here this hotel receptionist was asked where Kevin this morning whether the fine turns Kevin directly answer questions from the receptionist to the destination with the "fine" by Kevin convivial receive inquiries from receptionist.

Receptionist 2: and how are this morning?

*Kevin: **fine!** Is my transportation here?*

Receptionist: out in the front, Sir.

In this conversation, Kevin answered with a maxim of quality. His statement is sufficient evidence. Related to the mood of the liver Kevin or not, Kevin was not sure about it. What caused him to do things that flout the maxim is that he tried to calm the question of the reception and the receptionist came up to Kevin to apologize about



regarding last night's events that has humiliated Kevin, Kevin avoid for not a lot to answer and he immediately went to the car that has been prepared by the hotel.

Reason Collaborative of Flouting Maxims

Collaborative reason is the reason in which this goal is Kevin Offer money to Cedric, but Cedric has rejected directly to Kevin example under the effect of this excuse to flout the maxims of the cooperative principle. As a first example, a conversation between Kevin and Cedric are provided. This situation Kevin offered money to workers against Cedric but Cedric refuses direct that the tip of yesterday are still available.

Kevin: I'm sorry, you wanted a tip.

Cedric: That won't be necessary Sir. I still some the leftover.

In this case Kevin showing money to Cedric has delivered drawer's Kevin. In this conversation Cedric rejected money from Kevin, but in this case Cedric include Flouting Maxim of Quantity. Cedric say, that "still have some the leftover" in this case Cedric lie to Kevin that Cedric have bubble gum more from Kevin. But, in there Kevin showing money and Cedric not know that Cedric will be give money as a tip.

Reason Conflictive of Flouting Maxims

This conversation between the Buzz, Kevin and uncle frank. in this conversation there is a conflict between Buzz with Kevin. Buzz apologize to Kevin just to want attention from McCallister family. but the most dominant reason for Kevin in flouting maxim is conflict reasons. This is the reason that this conflict aims because they had made a mistake Kevin With regard to the fact that Kevin did not do, of course there are many circumstances where a conflict of interest with the private social purposes Rejection leads this reason the incident originated. Finally, he defended himself for not to be blamed by the buzz. For The first maxim ridiculed because of conflict is in the conversation between Buzz with Kevin.

Buzz McCallister: I'd like to apologize to my family for whatever displeasure I may have caused you...

Kevin McCallister: What?



Buzz McCallister: My prank was immature and ill-timed.

Uncle Frank McCallister: Immature or not, it was pretty gol-darn hilarious.

Here, the adage flout happened that Kevin was not wrong. Conflicts of interest make Kevin flout the maxim of quantity. To stop the Buzz but shows the conviction to blame Kevin so Kevin require apologizing to Buzz, but Kevin did not apologize to Buzz, Kevin reveals the kind of expression very convincingly that he is innocent he did proverbial hoot like above. Then, the maxim flout makes Buzz feel favorable to this conflict.

Conclusion and Suggestion

According to the findings and discussion in the previous chapter, some conclusions related to the maxim flouting uttered by Home Alone Part 2 movie can be analyze the data spoken has done. With regard to the data analysis dealing with the types of maxim flouting by main characters in the Home Alone Part 2 movie four types of maxim flouting such as quantity, quality, relevance, and manner maxim flouting. Of the four maxim flouting, the most dominant maxim flouting uttered by main character is quality maxim flouting. Being forced to be main character, there are some times when he gives too much information to reveal his true identity and too little information to act his role as the main character. In general, quality maxim flouting is frequently used to convince another spoken data of the conversation. The reason of flouting maxims there are four such as the reason competitive of flouting maxims, reason collaborative of flouting maxims, reason convivial of flouting maxims, and reason conflictive of flouting maxims.

In the End the fact is that Grice believes that a communication can be a failure when maxims are flouted. However, result of this study prove that it is never a guarantee that when a maxim is flouted, the communication will breakdown. To conclude, with regard to the fact that a conversation will not always breakdown even though maxims are flouted, it should then lead to better understanding when an application of cooperative principle is the concern. Further research can also be done in this field in order to generalize these findings.



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