

THE NON-OBSERVANCE OF MAXIMS IN DIALOGUES OF *HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD* BOOK

KETIDAKTAATAN TERHADAP MAKSIM PADA DIALOG DI DALAM BUKU *HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD*

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Abstract

This research focuses on the non-observance of Grice's maxims which is identified by the characters' dialogues. The well-known Harry Potter series book is chosen as the source of the data for researcher to find the pragmatic aspect, which is not usually clearly shown. The research aims to find the non-observance of maxims and find the most frequent non-observance of maxims that the characters perform by using descriptive qualitative method. The result of the data analysis were 20 data of flouting maxim of quantity, 4 data of flouting maxim of quality, 28 data of flouting maxim relation, 12 data of flouting maxim manner, 5 data of violating maxim of quantity, 10 data of violating maxim of quality, 44 data of violating maxim of relation, 27 data of violating maxim of manner, 2 data of infringing of maxims, 1 data for Opting-out of maxims and 0 data of Suspending of maxims. Based on the number of data found, the most frequent non-observance performed was violating maxim of relation.

Keywords: *flouting of maxims, the non-observance of maxims, violating of maxims*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini berfokus pada ketidaktaatan terhadap maksim milik Grice yang diidentifikasi melalui dialog para karakter. Seri buku Harry Potter yang terkenal ini dipilih sebagai sumber data bagi peneliti untuk menemukan aspek pragmatik yang biasanya tidak ditampilkan secara terang-terangan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menemukan ketidaktaatan terhadap maksim dan menemukan tipe yang paling sering dilakukan oleh para karakter dengan menggunakan metode penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil dari analisis data menyatakan ada 20 data untuk flouting maxim of quantity, 4 data untuk flouting maxim of quality, 28 data untuk flouting maxim of relation, 12 data untuk flouting maxim of manner, 5 data untuk violating maxim of quantity, 10 data untuk violating maxim of quality, 44 data untuk violating maxim of relation, 27 data untuk violating maxim of manner, 2 data untuk infringing of maxims, 1 data untuk Opting-out of maxims, dan 0 data untuk suspending of maxims. Berdasarkan jumlah data yang ditemukan, ketidaktaatan yang paling sering dilakukan adalah violating maxim of relation.

Kata kunci: *flouting of maxims, ketidaktaatan terhadap maksim, violating of maxims*

Introduction

Dialogue is a verbal exchange between two or more people. Dialogue also refers to a conversation reported in drama or narrative.

Dialogue is a conversation between two or

more persons, a written composition in which two or more character are represented as conversing, and the conversational element of literary dramatic composition (Merriam-Webster's collegiate dictionary, 1999). Dialogue is a conversation

in a book, play, movie, or in language teaching materials (Hornby, 2015). Considering all this, Dialogue is conversation between two or more people or character which include in literary dramatic composition.

Drama considered as a form of literature. In literature, a drama also can be called as plays is the portrayal of fictional or non-fictional events which is performed through performance of written dialogue (Hornby, 2015). This form of literature can be seen on stage, movie, or radio (Longley, 2019). So, drama is a part of literature based on fictional or on-fictional event which is performed on stage, movie, or radio.

In a literature works like drama, there is some aspects that is not clearly implied, such as Pragmatic aspect. Pragmatics is a study of language about user's point of view, user's choice, obstacles that user is faced in using language in social communication and the effect by their use of language on the other participants in communication activity (Crystal, 1997). This branch of study concerned what speakers implies and listeners infers based on factors such as situational context, the individuals' mental states, the preceding dialogue, and other elements. It focuses on conversational implicatures (MasterClass, 2021). In conclusion from all the expert's statement

above is that pragmatics is exist to people get an in-depth knowledge about context in communication as well as user's point of view in using language for communication to get better understanding of communication.

One of pragmatic aspect that could contained from a drama is non-observance of Grice's maxims. Non-observance is when people might fail to observe Grice's maxims because some of reasons such as, unable to speak clearly or they consciously choose to not tell the truth (Thomas, 1995). The non-observance of maxims divided into 5 types, namely: flouting, violating, infringing, opting out, and suspending.

Grice in (Thomas, 1995) defines flouting maxims as a situation when speaker blatantly fails to observe maxim without any intention of deceiving or misleading, but the speaker wishes to prompt the hearer to look for a meaning which is different from, or in addition to the expressed meaning. Flouting maxim of quantity occurs when the speaker blatantly gives more or less information that the situation requires (Thomas, 1995). Flouting maxim of quality occurs when the speaker misrepresents his information in order to make the hearer understand the intended meaning of an utterance (Levinson, 1983). There are few strategies when flouting maxim of quality occurs, namely: hyperbole, metaphor, irony, banter, and sarcasm

(Cutting, 2008). Flouting maxim of relation occurs when the speaker makes the conversation unmatched because the topic is spoken in different ways and will change the topic with the irrelevance topic (Levinson, 1983). Flouting maxim of manner can be occurred when the speaker something ambiguous or uses another language which makes the utterance incomprehensible by addressee. This flout can be occurred as well if the speaker uses slangs or their sound is inaudible (Levinson, 1983).

The speaker can be considered violates a maxim when the speaker will be liable to mislead the hearer (Grice P. , 1975). speaker who violates the maxim by lying, misleading, or deceiving do not want the hearer realize it (Politzer-Ahles, 2022). Violating the maxim is divided into 4, namely: violating maxim of quantity, violating maxim of quality, violating maxim of relation and violating maxim of manner. Cutting (2002) explained all the types of violating maxims. Violating maxim of quantity is when the speaker is giving less information and makes the hearer question what is going on in the conversation. Violating maxim of quality happens when the speaker is not giving the right information. The speaker does this intentionally because the speaker not want the hearer to get the right information. Violating maxim of relation occurs when the speaker who intentionally

changes the subject of the conversation so the hearer would be distracted. This action can because the speaker is uncomfortable being involve to the conversation and do not want continue their involvement. Violating maxim of manner occurs when speaker gives obscure reference and vague reference to avoid a brief and orderly answer in a conversation.

Infringing the maxim can be performed by a speaker who have lack on a language such as a kid or a learner of foreign language who are not fluent. This also can be occurred when the speaker experience nervousness, darkness, or excitement that could make weakening in speaker's performance (Thomas, 1995). There is a difference between violating the maxim and infringing the maxim. Violating occurs when the speaker intentionally misleads the hearer, while infringement occurs when the speaker fails to observe the maxim because the speaker lack in language knowledge nor communication knowledge (UKEssays, 2018).

A speaker can perform opting-out of the maxim when the speaker cannot respond the way the partner normally expected due some reasons, such as legal or ethical reason. The speaker's desire to not hurt or put a third party in danger if they willing to speak as it is. Meanwhile, Suspending the maxim can be happened if there is no expectation that the

maxims will be fulfilled. The speakers do not observe the maxims because culturally-specific to a particular event (Thomas, 1995).

Method

The descriptive qualitative method is described as *a method of research that is focused on understanding a phenomenon by examining its characteristics and qualities. We use this type of research when we want to explore a topic that has not been studied in-depth before, or when we want to gain a better understanding of a previously studied topic but using a different perspective* (Regoniel, 2023). In conclusion, this research uses the descriptive qualitative method to get an understanding of circumstances that exist in the data found in this research. Another reason that this method has been chosen is that the researcher will examine the qualities of the data, which means this method is suitable to this research. The result of the research would be explanation of the data found with no number such as statistics.

Data collection procedure of this research includes Reading Harry Potter and The Cursed Child book, finding dialogue related to non-observances to maxims, remarking and identifying the dialogue that related, calculating the amount of related

data. Data that have been collected will be analysed by categorizing the related dialogues, analysing the found data based on non-observance of maxims explanation, determining the most dominant type, and writing a conclusion based on the analysed data.

Result and Discussion

The researcher found 144 dialogues related with 9 dialogues can be classified into two of five types non-observance of the maxims. In brief, 153 data are considered to the five types of non-observance of maxims. The most frequent non-observance that appears is violating maxim of manner with 44 total data. There are 20 data of flouting maxim of quantity, 4 data of flouting maxim of quality, 28 data of flouting maxim of relation, 12 data of flouting maxim of manner, 5 data of violating maxim of quantity, 10 data of violating maxim of quality, 44 data of violating maxim of relation, 27 data of violating maxim of manner, 2 data of infringing of maxims, 1 data for Opting-out of maxims and 0 data of Suspending of maxims.

Flouting Maxim of Quantity

Albus : Concentrate on what?

Rose : On who we choose to be

friends with. My mum and dad met your dad on their first Hogwarts Express you know...

This conversation happened when Albus and Rose went to Hogwarts for the first time by Hogwarts Express. Since it was the first time they went to Hogwarts, Rose thought it was important to make friends, so she told Albus to concentrate on who they would be friends with. In this dialogue, Rose is flouting maxim of quantity because she adds more information about their parents, who met each other on their first trip to Hogwarts, which is unnecessary to say. After all, Albus only asked, *Concentrate on what?*. However, Rose's additional information is not misleading and she answered Albus' question.

Flouting Maxim of Quality

Albus : Who are you? Because this is sort of my house and...

Delphi : I'm a thief of course. I'm about to steal everything you own. Give me your gold, your wand and your chocolate frogs! Either that or I'm Delphini Diggory. Delphi. I look after him – Amos – well, I try. And you are?

In this scene, Albus who sat on the stairs of his house, heard his father talking with an old man in a wheelchair. He eavesdropped on their conversation, which talked about how the old man, Amos Diggory, begged Harry to help him get his son back. Suddenly, a woman revealed, looking through the stairs at him, making Albus surprised and jumping.

Albus who did not know who the woman was, asked her, *Who are you? Because this is sort of my house and....* Delphi responded with an exaggerated answer, like she wanted to steal something from Albus' house while in fact, she was Delphini Diggory who looked after Amos. Delphi's dialogue shows that she performed flouting maxim of Quality because she uses hyperbole and figurative language. Cutting (2002) stated that a few strategies can make the speaker flout maxim of Quality, such as using hyperbole and figurative language.

Flouting Maxim of Relation

Albus : I have an Aunt Padma?

Ron : My wife, Padma. You remember. Talks slightly too close to your face, smells a bit minty. Padma, mother of Panju!

Albus asked his uncle, Ron *I have an Aunt Padma?* after Ron mention Padma for

few times because He did not remember that he had Aunt Padma, the only aunt that he knew he had is Aunt Hermione. Ron answered it by gave the description of Aunt Padma.

Ron's dialogue can be considered as flouting maxim of relation because he gave Albus the unrelated information based on Albus' question. However, the description of Aunt Padma answers Albus question because it means that his uncle. Aunt is the wife of someone's uncle (Hornby, 2015) so, Ron is confirmed that Albus has an aunt named Padma by saying *My wife, Padma*.

Flouting Maxim of Manner

- Scorpius : Albus. The Trolley Witch
- Albus : You want a snack for the journey?
- Scorpius : No. Albus. The Trolley Witch is coming toward us.

This conversation happened on the top of the train as Albus and Scorpius planned to escape the Hogwarts Express and attempt to steal the Time-Turner in the Ministry of Magic without everyone knowing. Then Scorpius who realized the Trolley Witch was with them on the top of the train, said, *Albus. The Trolley Witch*. Albus, who did not realize that there was the Trolley Witch, thought that Scorpius wanted to buy some sweets from

the Trolley Witch as a snack.

The misunderstanding happened to Albus because Scorpius said it ambiguously without any further context. Since the Trolley Witch sold sweets, Albus thought Scorpius wanted a snack. However, Scorpius did that unintentionally because Scorpius then gave Albus the further context and the reason Scorpius said it ambiguously was because he was surprised by the appearance of the Trolley Witch on the top of the train.

Violating Maxim of Quantity

- Young Harry : Aunt Petunia. What time is it?
- Aunt Petunia : Time enough. You know, when we agreed to take you in. We hoped we could improve you – build you – make you a decent human being. So, I suppose it's only ourselves we've got to blame that you've turned out – such a limp disappointment.

This scene is a flashback where young Harry Potter lived with his aunt in Privet Drive. Aunt Petunia woke Harry up and told Harry to clean the pots. When Harry has already woken up, Harry asked Aunt Petunia

the time, but Aunt Petunia answered Harry's question by say *Time Enough*. Aunt Petunia did not give enough information. In this dialogue, Aunt Petunia violates maxim of quantity by giving Harry less information of the time intentionally.

Violating Maxim of Quality

Ginny : Harry. What's wrong?

Harry : Fine. I'm fine. I hear you. I'll try to be –

In this scene, Harry who was sleeping, woke up suddenly because he experienced a nightmare, so Ginny tried to talk to him because Harry did not seem fine. But, in the middle of the conversation, Harry gasped and touched his forehead because he felt hurt. Ginny then asked him, *Harry. What's wrong?* but Harry said he was fine, while in fact, he was not. The scar on his forehead started to hurt. Harry is violating maxim of quantity because he was lying to Ginny. Politzer-Ahles (2022) stated, that speaker who violates the maxims by lying, do not want the hearer to realize it.

Violating Maxim of Relation

Scorpius : She didn't kiss me
– did you notice?
Are you okay,
Albus? You look a little pale.
And red. Pale and red at the

same time.

Albus : Let's do this.

In this scene, Scorpius and Albus planned to go back to the past in order to stop Cedric's death and bring him back to life with the help of the Time-Turner. Before they do the mission, Delphi who did not join them kissed Albus on the cheeks as a good luck kiss. Then, Scorpius asked Albus if he was okay, because Scorpius realized that Albus looked pale and red at the same time after he got a kiss.

As Cutting (2002) stated speaker who intentionally changes the subject of the conversation is violating maxim of the relation. In this datum, Albus is violating maxim of relation because he did not answer when Scorpius asked if he was okay and said, *Let's do this* as if he did not want to answer Scorpius' question and change the topic that is not related. Instead of telling the truth about his condition, Albus invites Scorpius to start their mission and leaves Scorpius' question unanswered.

Violating Maxim of Manner

Albus : At Harry Potter and his disappointing son.

Harry : What does that mean?

This conversation is taken place on King's Cross when Albus was about to start his second year at Hogwarts. People began to

give Albus and Harry attention. Albus who did not seem comfortable and said that people were looking at Harry Potter and his disappointing son. Here, Harry did not understand what Albus meant. Cutting (2002) stated that if the speaker gives obscure and vague references, the speaker can be considered as violating maxim of manner. In this conversation, Albus is violating maxim of manner because he said 'disappointing son' as an obscure reference. Even Harry did not understand who he was referring to and needed to ask Albus what he meant.

Infringing of Maxims

Station Master : Ye ken th' Auld
Reekie train is
running late, boys?
Scorpius : Sorry?

In this scene, Scorpius and Harry lost in Aviemore train station, Scotland, in 1981. They did not know what to do except to ask the station master about the train schedule that could take them back home without realizing that they went far into the past, where even Harry was still a baby. Before they asked the Station Master, the Station Master asked them first. But, in this scene, Scorpius cannot understand what Station Master said because of his lack of knowledge of Scots. So, in this dialogue, Scorpius is infringing the Maxims.

Opting-out the Maxims

Harry : You've seen him in the
stars?
Bane : I can't tell you
where he is. I can't
tell you how you'll
find him.

This conversation happened when Harry went to the forbidden forest to find his missing son, Albus. Harry went there because he was Albus in his dream with the Durmstrang robes. Harry, who looked for Albus in the middle of the forest, then met Bane, a centaur. Harry told Bane that is missing and needed help finding him.

Then, Bane told Harry that he saw Albus in the stars, which was the only thing Bane could tell Harry because if Bane told Harry more information, it could lead them into war and endanger many people. Thomas (1995) stated that the speaker is Opting-out the Maxims when they cannot respond normally in order to not put the third party in danger.

This research on Harry Potter and the Cursed Child book's dialogue focuses on the non-observance of Grice's maxims. This research has conducted to discover the pragmatic aspects of a fiction book that are not clearly seen. This research is conducted by identifying characters' errors in fulfilling cooperative principles. Meanwhile, the

previous research (Yulistya, 2021; Triyatun, 2013; Hanifah, 2013) was based on a podcast, *the death of salesman* drama script and Facebook conversation; this research is conducted based on a well-known fictional book.

The result of data analysis shows that 10 of 11 types of non-observance of the maxims were found, namely: flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of quality, flouting maxim of relation, flouting maxim of manner, violating maxim of quantity, violating maxim of quality, violating maxim of relation, violating maxim of manner, infringing of maxims and opting-out of maxims.

Compared to the three previous research found, the researcher has discovered something that is not found in Yulistya's research, which are Infringing of maxims and Opting-out of maxims. This discovery gives more understanding of the two types of the non-observance maxims that is not explained more in Yulistya's research, found a greater number of data related to the non-observance of maxims than Triyatun's research, which makes this research expose more about the pragmatic aspect in a drama script. This research also found that characters mostly performed violating of the maxims and explains further how the violation happened between characters, meanwhile Hanifah's research found that

both male and female users performed flouting of the maxims and were not found violating.

Conclusion

Researcher found 10 of 11 types of non-observance of maxims from all the dialogue on *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* book. There is flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of quality, flouting maxim of relation, flouting maxim of manner, violating maxim of quantity, violating maxim of quality, violating maxim of relation, violating maxim of manner, infringing of maxims, and opting-out of maxims. Researcher found 144 dialogues which show the non-observance of maxims has been occurred by the character. 9 of them contain two non-observance of maxims and that makes 153 total data. There are 20 data of flouting maxim of quantity, 4 data of flouting maxim of quality, 28 data of flouting maxim of relation, 12 data of flouting maxim of manner, 5 data of violating maxim of quantity, 10 data of violating maxim of quality, 44 data of violating maxim of relation, 27 data of violating maxim of manner, 2 data of infringing of maxim, 1 data for Opting-out of maxims and 0 data of Suspending of maxims.

Researcher found the most frequent performed to the least performed non-

observance of maxims based on the number of data that found. Violating maxim of relation is the most frequent performed and followed by flouting maxim of relation, violating maxim of manner, flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of manner, violating maxim of quality, violating maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of quality, infringing of maxims and opting-out of maxims.

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