

AN ANALYSIS OF THE VIOLATION OF GRICE MAXIMS

AS SEEN IN DIALOGUE AMERICA SITCOM “ROB”

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Abstract

This study aims to describe cooperative principle based on conceptual theory proposed by Grice's (1975). He describe communication as adhering to what he calls the Cooperative Principle (CP) and argues that a basic underlying assumption we make when we speak to one another is that we are trying to cooperate to construct meaningful conversation(1975). And this paper the writer focused analyses violation maxims. The source of the data is America Sitcom “Rob”, and taken from internet you tube. The writer will discuss what violated maxim and what are the context influences of the violation maxims. The writer collects the data by watching and reading script the sitcom. Then the writer represents the data analysis in informal way. In this research, the writer use pragmatics theories in linguistic field. The result of the research, the writer found some violation of maxim, there are maxim of quantity, quality, relevant and manner in the sitcom.

Keywords: *Cooperative principle, Grice's Maxim, Violation of maxim, Pragmatics, Context.*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Conversation is a form of communication which is done by two or more people to convey the ideas, opinions, comments, or feelings. In making and maintaining relationship with other, people use language for do a conversation. In conversation it takes at least two people inside, one as speaker and the other as a listener or interlocutor who each try for understanding of what is being discussed. People involved in the conversation has its role, such as the role of a speaker that is trying to provide information that is in his mind and what he was saying, while the role of a listener that is trying to interpret what the meaning contained in the speech which was said by a speaker to the listener. When the conversation occurred, the speaker and the interlocutor will try to give information to each other with the purpose of what they are trying to convey can be understood and well received.

In the pragmatic approach, there are some principles in the conversation. Those principles are politeness principle and cooperative principle. The writer chooses to discuss the cooperative principle. The cooperative principle is used to smooth the communication between each other, for that the speaker always tried to let his talk are always relevant to the context, easy to understand, concise, straight forward so do not spend interlocutor.

Cooperative Principle is a theory proposed by Grice, P. (1975); He assumes that in order to have successful conversation, we have to give proper contribution at the stage at which it occurs and by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk in which we are engaged. To implement cooperative principle, the speakers must obey to the maxim conversation. Maxim

is rule in conversation that must be do it in interact with other. Cooperative principle can be divided into four conversational maxims (Grice, 1975). The first maxims of cooperative principle is maxim of quantity, which say that speakers should be as informative as is required, that they should give neither too little information nor too much. The second maxim is that of quality, which says that speakers are expected to be sincere, to be saying something that they believe corresponds to reality. The third is maxim of relation the speakers are assumed to be saying something that is relevant to what has been said before. The last is the maxim of manner, which says that we should be brief and orderly and avoid obscurity and ambiguity.

Sometimes the speaker and the listener do a mistake in communication that where a conversation could not delivered properly and can be said to violation. Violation in conversation it is not only found in daily life, but violation in conversation also found in some media, such us movie, talk show, and sitcom.

Violation maxim happens when the speakers know that the hearers will not know the truth and will only understand the surface meaning of the words. The speaker deliberately supplies insufficient information, says something that is insincere, irrelevant or ambiguous, and the hearer wrongly assumes that they are cooperating. Violation maxims have four types; there are violation maxim of quantity, violation maxim of quality, violation maxim of relation, and violation maxim of manner. To support the explanation, look at following the example:

- (1) Husband: How much did that new dress cost, darling?
Wife : Less than the last one.

(Cutting, 2002)

From the example (1), wife has violated maxim of quality because she has said something which she believe to be false. She was covering up the price of the dress by saying to her husband that the new was less cost than the old one. The wife is lying to her husband. She may not want her husband know how much the new one cost.

Based on the description above, the writer attempts to analyze violation maxims in cooperative principle conversation. So, in this research the writer interest to analyze violation conversation maxims in “sitcom ROB”, because this is a famous America sitcom that contains conversational jokes among the characters and also the story of the sitcom is simple and easier to analysis. The sitcom tells about a former lifelong bachelor and landscape architect with obsessive compulsive disorder, who marries into a tight-knit Mexican American family and attempts to be closer to them, often ending in disastrous results despite his good intentions.

Talking the sitcom “Rob” the sitcom is one of TV program which show genre comedy that features characters sharing the same common environment, such as a home or workplace, with often humorous dialogue. Rob is an American Comedy television series that premiered on CBC on January 12, 2012 and ended on March 1, 2012.

In this research, the writer chooses to analyze violation maxim in conversation sitcom ROB. From the sitcom ROB, the writer found some violation maxim which uttered by the characters. This is why the writer chooses to analyze the violation maxim based on characters utterances. When people do not understand how to communicate with other without do the violation, people can use Grice’s maxim theory to make a good conversation.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

There are some media that used to analyze in a violation maxims in dialogue, such as movie, talk show, and sitcom. But in this research the writer choose to analyze the sitcom. Based on the problem above, the problem that identify in American Sitcom Rob. First, how Grice's maxims are violated in conversation in sitcom. Secondly, why the violation of Grice's maxims is happen in conversation in sitcom. Grice's maxim is maxims of quantity, maxims of quality, maxim of relevance, and maxims of manner.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

The writer focuses the study only on violation of maxim as seen America Sitcom "Rob". The violations of maxim consist of four kinds in this research according to Grice (1975). There are, violation maxim of quantity, violation maxim of quality, violation maxim of relevant and violation of manner. Data of this research are utterances that contains of humor, indicated with how the listener laughter after watching the sitcom Rob. In this analysis other that people can understand what a mistake that contains in conversation of sitcom Rob.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

In this research the writer formulates the problem of the research as follows:

1. What are violated maxims by actors in the American Sitcom Rob?
2. What are the contexts influenced the violation of the maxims?

1.5 The purpose of the research

Based on the problems above, the purpose of the research are:

1. To describe the maxims that is violated by the actors in the sitcom.
2. To explain the contexts which influence the violation of maxims used in the American sitcom Rob.

1.6 Significance of the Research

Based on the purpose of the study, the writer is interested to know about violation maxims by Grice theory in conversation. A study on violation maxim is very interesting and challenging because it is one of the aspects of the language.

The writer hopes, this study helps the readers understand about Grice's maxim. They learn about violation of maxims through this study, and the consequences that may exist. Besides, readers know the probable why the maxims are violated. The writer wants this research give contribution to linguistic field for the next who want to analyze about Grice's maxim in conversation.