

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Humans are social beings and they socialize with other people starting from a small range, like in a family until a larger community like a society. Through communication, people can have an effective interaction to make friends and also express what they wish. Moreover, communication is an important way for people to express what they want to say and how they are able to socialize with other people. However, making a good communication is not always easy because sometimes people refuse to cooperate because of some reasons.

Deciding not to be cooperative, people who are involved in a conversation may cause a conflict with their listener. A conflict can happen between people in some different situations due to some particular reasons.

Generally, we often find a lot of different situations where people involved in a society have conflicts. Sometimes, a conflict may be difficult to resolve because a speaker who is involved in the conversation does not want to cooperate their listener. Yet, if people are cooperative in speaking, the conflict can be

avoided.

I choose this topic because in our daily conversation people actually have to understand a message which is delivered by a speaker to a listener. Besides, I want to analyze the kind of non-observance of the Gricean maxim that tends to end with a quarrel between a speaker and a listener in different situations.

In fact, I want to analyze the implicature or the implied meaning of a speaker's utterance in some utterances which tend to flout the Gricean maxim. Hence, when the listener does not get the meaning of the speaker's utterance, misinterpretation will occur and the conversation may end with a conflict between them.

The topic of my thesis is *The Occurrence of Conflicts due to the Non-observance of the Gricean Maxims in Parenthood TV Series, Seasons 2-4*. This film is about four Braverman families. They are Adam, the oldest; Sarah, the second; Julia, the third; and Crosby, the youngest. All of them have to face different problems in different situations.

In the TV series, sometimes I find some dialogues among the characters and their own family which tend to cause quarrels because of the non-cooperativeness of a maxim. Through the characters' utterances, I also find implicatures which are not stated directly by the speakers.

The topic of my thesis belongs to pragmatics, which is:

the study of meaning addressed from a speaker (or a writer) and interpreted by a hearer (or a reader). Or else, the study of language from the point of view of the users – especially of the choices they make, the constraints they encounter in using language in social interaction, and the

effects their use of language in social interaction, and the effects their use of language has on the other participants in an act of communication.”

(Crystal 310).

To analyze the conflicts due to the non-observance of the Gricean maxims, I choose some theories from a philosopher, H.P. Grice. According to him, there are many kinds of the non-observance of maxims. Furthermore, we can also know how a conversation does not run well because a speaker fails to be cooperative.

The significance of the study is to make people aware that a speaker sometimes does not say what they mean to a listener directly. Therefore, the viewers must be aware that they have to get the intended meaning through a speaker’s utterance. This study can help them to understand the situation, in which a speaker sometimes tries to mislead them on purpose.

The source of data consists of three seasons of Parenthood TV series. Season two consists of twenty-two episodes, season three eighteen episodes, and season four fifteen episodes. The non-observance of the maxims do not always occur in every episode but I find them only in some episodes. Yet, at least two until three samples of data can be found from each episode where the non-observance of maxims occur.

I choose this particular source because I think the conflict occurs when the characters have their own difficulty to perform their duty. For example, when parents want to solve a problem in their family, sometimes they have different opinions from their children.

(708 words)

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In my thesis, there are two problems to be analyzed:

1. Which Gricean maxims does the speaker fail to observe?
2. How does the conflict appear due to the non-observance of the Gricean maxims?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

According to the statement of the problem, the purposes of this study are:

1. To classify which maxims are flouted by a speaker.
2. To understand how a conflict appears due to the non-observance of maxims.

1.4 Methods of Research

The method of data collection follows this procedure: first, I searched in the Internet to find a film which was appropriate to discuss. Second, I decided to buy the film to know whether it contained the data which were needed to analyze. Third, I watched it and tried to find which dialogue tended to cause a conflict. While watching the film, I classified which dialogue tended to end with a conflict. Fourth, after collecting the data, I started analyzing the types of the non-observance of maxim and what was the implicature within a speaker's utterance. Furthermore, I read some theories from textbooks and added some references from other books. Finally, I used some references from the Internet to analyze the data.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

The thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter One consists of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research, and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two is the Theoretical Framework. In Chapter Three, the data analysis is presented. The last chapter, Chapter Four, is the Conclusion of my thesis. The Bibliography and the Appendix can be found at the end of the thesis.