CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As social beings, we need to interact with others. One of the many kinds of interaction is through communicaton. Communication is the act of giving information from one person to another through verbal and non-verbal messages.

There are two types of verbal messages: oral (face-to-face, telephone, radio, television, and other media) and written (letters, e-mails, books, magazines, newspapers, etc.). In non-verbal messages, there are body language, gestures, facial expression, etc.

With communication, we use language to deliver the message or make a conversation and it is one of the important things that humans do to get information. Yet, sometimes the utterance we use to deliver the message may have a hidden or implied meaning. We sometimes do not say what we want to say or we often say less or more than what we need to say to others.

The hidden or implied meaning that is contained in the utterance can create a misunderstanding. When people try to produce one sentence, it can mean

differently to others because there is something behind it. From that, we have to try to guess what the speaker is actually saying. For example:

A : How are we getting there?

B : Well, we're getting there in Dave's car.

(Thomas 69)

From the conversation, we can see there might be an additional or implied meaning which is known as an implicature. The word *we* in B's utterance does not include A. The answer has an implied meaning. The implicature from this utterance is B does not want A to come together with him or her.

The topic of implicature belongs to Pragmatics. Pragmatics is the study of speaker meaning (Thomas 1). Hence, through Pragmatics, people can learn to know the meaning of others' utterances.

The reason why I choose Pragmatics is because I am interested in learning more about how communication runs in a conversation, which, of course, depends on context and it is important to understand the rules of communication.

I choose the non-observance of the Gricean maxims because from H. P. Grice's theory, which is written in Jenny Thomas' book, I finally understand there are implied meanings contained in utterances. Therefore, by using his theory, I hope I will understand the implicature used in utterances or conversations.

I also choose to analyze the non-observance of the Gricean maxims leading to conflict because I want to know how communication can make people have conflict with others. Besides, I realize nowadays people often fail to say what they want to say. They know that they have to say something straight to the

point but they choose not to. Therefore, they fail to observe the maxims. Sometimes, failing to observe the maxims leads to conflict.

The data is taken from *House* series Seasons 1 and 2. I choose to take the data from a television series because I like watching movies and analyzing their conversations. I choose this series because in this series there are many conflicts that take place not only because of people's attitudes but also their utterances. Their attitudes lead them to a conflict and through their utterances they may end up with a worse conflict.

In *House* series, the main character, Dr. Gregory House, is a critical, stubborn, risk-tasking and antisocial man. Yet, he is a smart doctor who leads a team of diagnostics at the Princeton-Plainsboro Teaching Hospital (PPTH) consisting of Dr. Allison Cameron, Dr. Robert Chase, and Dr. Eric Foreman.

He also good at making diagnoses and loves the challenges of his patients' medical problems he must solve in order to save lives. His behavior shows he is an antisocial. He also has an unconventional thinking and flawless instincts which make other people respect him. He often diagnoses his patients' illnesses based on his controversial thought which sometimes do not make sense. He also breaks many hospital rules and frequently leads him into conflicts with his boss, Dr. Lisa Cuddy, other doctors, and some patients. Because of that, in this movie, Dr. House is involved in many conflicts. Still, he has a very good friend, Dr. James Wilson, who will help him solve his problems. (House TV Show)

By reading this thesis, people will learn about how to choose critically the right word or utterance when talking to others. They will also know that conflict is

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not just caused by physical action but also verbal action. Therefore, I believe this thesis is significant.

Words : 734 words

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In my thesis, I would like to answer the following questions:

1. Which utterance in the movie does not observe the Gricean maxim?

2. What kind of non-observance of the maxim is it?

3. What is the implicature?

4. How does the non-observance of Gricean maxim help build the conflict?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purposes of the study are:

1. To find out the utterance that does not observe the Gricean maxim.

2. To classify the type of non-observance of the maxim.

3. To find out the implicature of the utterance.

4. To show how the non-observance of the Gricean maxim helps build the conflict.

1.4 Method of Research

The first step to get the data is finding the movie I would like to analyze. After that I started to watch it and collected the data. I analyzed the data by classifying the types of non-observance of the maxims used in the conversation. Then I related it to the emergence of conflicts. Finally, I wrote the research report.

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1.5 Organization of the Thesis

The thesis consists of four chapters. Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research, and Organization of the Thesis are presented in Chapter One, which is Introduction. Theoretical Framework is presented in Chapter Two. The analysis of the data is in Chapter Three. Chapter Four states the conclusion. Bibliography and Appendix are presented at the end of this thesis.