CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Communication is one of the important things in our life. As it is a process that allows people to exchange information by several methods, in this case language. Communication by two or more people is called conversation. (http://www.encarta.msn.com/encyclopedia.html).

Communication is the process sending a message. "Communication is the production and exchange of information and meaning by use of signs and symbols" (http://www.highbeam.com). "It involves encoding and sending messages, receiving and decoding them, and synthesizing information and meaning" (http://www.highbeam.com). "Communication also refers to the transmission of information (a message) between a source and a receiver, using a signalling system" (McArthut, 238). "In linguistic studies, the system involved is a language and the idea of response to feedback, a message holds a central place" (McArthur, 238). Communication is said to have taken place if the information received is the same as that sent" (McArthur, 238).

Our communication in our utterance sometimes may indicate a meaning different from the meaning we want to deliver. Thus, our utterance may lead to the occurence of misunderstanding. Usually, the situation, mood and context of the conversation make us produce an utterance that contains more or less information or does not straight to the point, is irrelevant, ambiguous and sometimes has an obscure expression.

In our conversation, sometimes the utterance that we produce has different or additional meanings. Thus, we have to have more awareness of interpreting people's intention within their utterances. This failure to observe a maxim is the topic that I would like to discuss for my thesis. I hope to be able to understand other people's intention in their utterances. If we do not understand one's utterances properly, we may miss getting what the speaker actually wants to say.

In this thesis, I would like to observe the utterances of the characters in a TV series. There are different genres of TV series, such as mystery, comedy, action and romance. For my thesis, I am going to use a situational comedy series as my data source. The reason why I use a film entitled Everybody Loves Raymond as my data source is because the characters in the film often fail to observe a maxim that creates funny atmosphere around them. Each characters in this film has a unique personality, one of them whom very humorous person and who is fond of making jokes from every condition that he has. The other character likes replacing some words to become more polite but funny at the same time. Also, there is a character who is a little bit slow in thinking; because of those reasons, the film becomes so funny, and thus the particular film is appropiate to be

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analyzed. Besides that, I choose Everybody Loves Raymond TV series because it is one of the comedy series that is quite popular and funny. Besides, this film is quite representative and appropriate for my source of data because the characters in this film often fail to use maxim several times, which ends up in humours. I choose to watch TV series to make my research become easier to be conducted as it consists of serial series. Thus, the significance of my study is to analyse that the non-observance of Gricean maxims may result in humours, the proof of which is seen in Everybody Loves Raymond as one of the examples in our daily lifes. In our daily life we often find that we do not observe maxim, as a result of which humors occurs

Since the topic of my thesis is *The Occurrence of Humours due to the Non-Observance of the Gricean maxims in* Everybody Loves Raymond *TV series*, I will limit my research and analysis only about the non-observance of the Gricean maxim, although Everybody Loves Raymond is analysable through other Pragmatic linguistic fields, such as speech acts and politeness strategies.

My topic falls under the study of Pragmatics. "Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader)" (Yule 3). Specifically, I would like to focus on Gricean maxims as one of the subfields of pragmatics. According to H.P. Grice there are five categories of non-observance of the conversational maxim which people usually fail to observe. They are flouting a maxim, violating a maxim, opting out of a maxim, suspending a maxim and infringing a maxim (Thomas, Jenny 64).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In this thesis I would like to discuss the following problems:

1. What types of non-observance Gricean maxim found in <u>Everybody Loves Raymond?.</u>

2. How does non-observance of the Gricean maxim result in humour?.

1.3 Purpose of the Study:

1. To know what types of non-observance Gricean maxim found in <u>Everybody Loves Raymond.</u>

2. To know how non-observance of the Gricean maxim results.

1.4 Methods of Research

In analyzing my topic, I watch <u>Everybody Loves Raymond</u> TV series and then I select the data, in which non-observance of the Gricean maxim fail to observe. Afterwards, I search for the theory from the Internet and read some books concerned with flouting of the maxim. I also read some references related to my topic. Finally, I analyze the flouting of the maxim in <u>*Everybody Loves Raymond*</u> TV series.

1.5 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of four chapters. The first chapter is the Introduction, which consists of the Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter two contains the Theoretical Framework as a basis used to analyze the data. The discussion of Non Gricean of maxims in *Everybody Loves Raymond* TV series is presented in chapter three. Subsequently, it is followed by chapter four which is the Conclusion. Eventually, the thesis ends with the Bibliography and the Appendix.