CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, I will conclude my findings based on the analysis of all the data that I have written in Chapter Three. Basically, Grice states that people must obey the Gricean maxims to make a conversation go well (Thomas 62). Nevertheless, Grice realizes that in reality people do not always obey the maxims. The important thing is the speaker and the addressee can catch the real intention and the sense of the conversation. However, in my thesis, I analyze the speakers and the addressees who fail to observe the maxim rules in their conversation.

I have obtained some findings after searching for and analyzing the conversations which fail to observe the Gricean maxims in *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*. The findings contain the type of the non-observance of the Gricean maxims that the speakers do, the reasons why the speakers fail to observe the Gricean maxims, and also the implied meanings of the speaker's utterances.

In total, I analyze eleven data, which come from ten scenes. There are ten data which belong to flouting the maxim, two data which belong to violating the maxim, two data which belong to opting out of the maxim, and one datum which belongs to infringing the maxim. However, I cannot find any data that shows suspending the maxim.

Many characters in the film do not observe the maxims. First, I find flouting the maxim is the type of non-observance which the characters commit the most in *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*. Flouting the maxim can be found in data 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11.

There are six data that contain flouting the maxim of Manner by answering someone's question irrelevantly in data 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9. There are also five data that show flouting the maxim of Quality, namely, data 1, 2, 7, 8, and 11. Some characters in the film lie because they have hidden intentions in their conversation.

Moreover, I find two data that contain flouting the maxim of Quantity, namely data 7 and 9. In other words, some of the characters in this film give more or less information than is needed in their conversation. In addition, flouting the maxim of Relation can be found in four data: data 3, 5, 6, and 7. An addressee gives an unclear answer which is irrelevant. People in this film usually do this flouting because they want to divert someone's attention or to cover some mistakes that they have done.

Second, I find that violating a maxim is the type of non-observance of the maxims which the characters do in data 1 and 2. When people violate the maxim,

they have an intention to mislead or to trick someone. This is found in data 1, when Ventura violates a maxim by bending down and talking to the dog, which makes the big guy think he is friendly. In fact, Ventura does so to take the dog and change it with a stuffed dog that looks similar to the real dog. Afterward, he keeps the dog inside his uniform and goes quickly away from the big guy's apartment. In my opinion, Ventura's violating a maxim in this scene creates humor because he does so to trick that big guy and save the dog by pretending as an HDS man. In reality, however, to make a good conversation, people should avoid misleading the other participant(s).

Third, I find two data that show opting out of a maxim, which the characters do in data 7 and 10. When the characters opt out of a maxim, it is because the speaker has a strong reason for not giving information or answering the question. This behavior is not desired by the hearer, who wants to get feedback from the speaker.

Fourth, I find one datum that contains infringing a maxim, which is data 1. The speaker may infringe a maxim when they are nervous, drunk, or excited. In data 1, Ventura infringes a maxim by speaking in a hurry because he is nervous and afraid that the big guy will know that he has already exchanged the dog.

In the data of my thesis, I cannot find any data that shows suspending a maxim. I think it is due to the source of the data. *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective* is an American comedy genre film about a pet detective named Ace Ventura, who is an outspoken man. He is hired to find a dolphin called Snowflake. I cannot find any

circumstances, events, or cultural reasons for the characters to suspend the maxims.

From some of the data that I have analyzed in my thesis, many non-observances of the maxims happen when many people fail to obey the Gricean maxims. In order to avoid non-observance of maxims in conversations, people should speak as informatively as is required, honestly, and straight to the point.

In addition, Gricean maxims help people understand the real meaning behind the speakers' utterance. In my study I found a strong point that flouting a maxim really makes *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective* become a successful comedy film. In my opinion, a film can be successful if the audience can understand what the story is about through the acts and the words which are uttered. Most of the conversations which contain non-observance maxims make this film more interesting, because they make the audience realize the implied meanings behind the characters' utterances. The script writers of this film, Tom Shadyac and Jim Carey, deserve praise for the success of this film because these two writers have written a great script by applying non-observance of maxims through conversations. Thus, I conclude that by being aware of the non-observance of the Gricean maxims in the conversations, people can understand and enjoy this film more.

Finally, for the readers of this thesis, I hope this thesis can help them to understand more about the theory of Gricean maxims that are reflected through the analysis of the dialogues in this film. For further research, I suggest that the

researcher should use the data (containing non-observance of maxims) that belong to different types of genre, such as drama, thriller, or children's films.

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