CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter, based on all my data and analysis, I would like to draw the conclusion. In the beginning, I collect all jokes and focus on occupational jokes that I take from Cool n’ Smart magazine. In C ’nS magazine, I analyze eleven data for my thesis. I find various types of non-observance of the Gricean maxims.

Besides the Gricean maxim theory, the other theory that I use to analyze the data is the theory of humor using script incongruity by Raskin. It is an additional theory to strengthen my analysis. The Gricean theory helps me identify the non-observance of the maxims. I identify the scripts in each data using Raskin’s theory of Incongruity. By using those theories, the jokes are proven to be funny.

There are eleven data I use for my analysis. Seven of them concern flouting the maxims and five of them involve violating the maxim. Only in data 1, I can see that flouting a maxim of manner occurs at the same time with violating a maxim. From the eleven data, I find eighteen utterances. Seven out of the eighteen utterances show flouting maxim of manner, which is the most common type of flouting found in the data. The same number goes with violates a maxim, which
flouting found in the data. The same number of occurrences goes with violates a maxim; seven utterances show violating the maxim. As for flouting the maxim of quality and quantity, I find two utterances which show flouting the two maxims.

In occupational area, conversations between colleagues does not always go smoothly according to the cooperative principle based on the Gricean maxim theory. People do not always say what they want, they feel or they think explicitly. Commonly, people do this because they are too shy to say them or because they do not want to offend the other participant of the conversation. Thus, sometimes the speaker says something in an indirect way because he or she wants the hearer to interpret the meaning within the utterance by himself.

As stated before, flouting the maxim of manner is the type of flouting with the most number of case. It happens when the speaker makes a long winded respond or an unclear statement. The speaker does that because he or she wants to make other people think what the speaker actually wants to say by themselves. In my data, it usually occurs when the speaker does not say something clearly such as making a long winded response or not being straight forward. Therefore, it makes the joke funny.

Violating a maxim is present in data 1, 2, 8, 10, 11. It happens when the speaker tries to mislead the hearer. It usually happens when the speaker do not give complete information or try to hide something from the hearer because he or she does not want the hearer to know about his or her real intention. This is clearly observed in data eleven, which is a story about a clever farmer. The farmer misleads the sheriff and deputies into thinking that there are guns buried in his field. In the end, his real intention is revealed, which is tricking the sheriff and
deputies to dig the field and make it nicely plowed for the farmer’s wife to plant some potatoes.

Flouting the maxim of quantity happens when the speaker gives more or less information than he or she is supposed to. If someone gives more information, the speaker’s first utterance is actually enough, but then he or she adds more information, which is not really necessary in the situation. However, the speaker wants the hearer to interpret the speaker’s utterance by themselves.

Flouting the maxim of quality also happens in some jokes I have analyzed. It is when the speaker says something wrong or lacking in evidences. An example is in data three, when the guide says “Yes I am” which is obviously wrong that he is the best guide in US and also his utterance “but I think we may have wandered into Canada.” the guide is not actually sure whether they are really in Canada. The word “may” shows the speaker has no of evidence.

There are some types of non-observance of the Gricean maxims that are not found in my thesis. They are flouting the maxim of relation, infringing a maxim, opting out of a maxim, and suspending a maxim. The first one is flouting the maxim of relation. The reason why flouting the maxim of relation is not found is because all the speakers in my data give relevant utterances. The second one is infringing a maxim. It is not found because the speakers in my data are all native speakers and they do not show any symptoms of drunkenness, nervousness or excitement. The third one is opting out of a maxim. Based on my data, opting out of a maxim is also not found because the speaker and the hearer of the conversation in my data are well cooperative with each other. The last one is suspending a maxim. It is not found in my data because there is no case in which
the speaker uses any different name as a code in any event or culture. Based on those reasons, some types of non-observance are not present in my data.

Script incongruity happens when two different scripts are present in a text. There are some triggering words that can help us identify the scripts. The readers initially lead to one script, then suddenly the script changes to another script. This new script creates a surprise and the humor that make the readers laugh. It is how incongruous script occurs in a joke. It appears that all my data are analyzed using script incongruity by Raskin.

A few semesters ago, I took Metodologi Penelitian Linguistik subject as the basic of all my thesis writing. The difficulty was to find the thesis topic. In the beginning, I determined what kind of theory I master which I could use to analyze my data. And then I decided to choose non-observance of the maxim as my theory. I searched in many sources like magazines, websites, films, and many more. But in the end, I choose Cool n’ Smart Magazine as my data source. After gathering enough data, I started to analyze them using non-observance of maxims by Grice and analyzing the humor using script Incongruity.

For future researchers who are interested to take non-observance of the maxims theory in jokes, I suggest that at the very beginning, there should be more than one possible options of sources to make it easier to decide the thesis topic. For me, taking occupational topic will make my thesis different from others, because as people know, occupational category can be rather boring. However, since it is about jokes, I personally believe that it will make my thesis unique and interesting to read. As the writer of this thesis, I hope this thesis can help people to understand jokes more. 

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