



ANALYSIS OF GRICE'S VIOLATION MAXIM IN MARK TWAIN'S NOVEL *THE ADVENTURE OF TOM SAWYER* (1993)

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Abstract

This research examines the maxims that the protagonist of the novel *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (1993) violated. A famous novel by famous American writer Mark Twain which tells about Tom Sawyer's misbehavior and his escapade. Random data sampling is used to collect the data from the source of data to determine the association between one maxim violation and another. The data was collected from statements made by Thomas Sawyer, the book's main character, and various supporting characters in 9 of the novel's 35 chapters. To examine the data from the novel *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*, Grice's cooperative principle theory from 1975 is employed, as well as Tupan and Natalia's maxim violation indicator (2008). This analysis found that out of 360 total utterances in 9 chapters, there are only three maxim violations in *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*: the violation of quality maxim, relation maxim, and number maxim. 14 infractions of 18 utterances, driven by two indicators, represent 66 percent of the quality maxim violation (lies and denies something). The quantity maxim shows 10% occurrence (2 violations out of 18 utterances dominated by two indicators). In comparison, the relation maxim shows 24 percent occurrence (5 violations out of 18 utterances with each utterance dominating all of the indicators (unmatched topic, avoid something, hides a fact, and the wrong causality)) (uninformative, and talk too much). As a result, *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer* contains claims that mostly violate the quality and relational maxims.

Key words: Maxim violation, Novel, *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*

A. INTRODUCTION

People must communicate to build connections, exchange knowledge, and share beliefs. It is an essential life skill. The process of exchanging information, ideas, and thoughts with other people or interlocutors, and also building relationships with them is known as communication. When communicating,

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meaning is important to make the communication process useful. However, meaning encompasses more than just the words that were said and what the listener heard. According to Borjesson.K (2017:100), meaning is divided into two levels: what is said and what is meant. What is said deals with the meaning of the utterance's surface meaning or what the speaker said, which is the meaning he sends via his utterance; this phenomenon is known as semantics. However, what is meant refers to the other meaning of the utterance, the speaker's concealed meaning, or their purpose. This phenomenon is referred to as implicature and is a problem in pragmatics studies.

Implicature, according to Thomas.J (2013:56), is when speakers are able to convey far more information than their words indicate or something wholly distinct from the meanings of their words. For example.

Context: a guy who gets drunk, passes through the speaker and vomits all over the speaker who helps him.

The speaker: Great, that's really great. You made my Christmas!

Thomas.J (2013:56)

In the context of semantics, the speaker feels happy because that guy vomits in front of him. He made his Christmas day even better. However, from the pragmatics point of view, rather than happy, the speaker is more furious with the guy that vomits on him.

In his book *Logic and Conversation*, British philosopher Paul Grice develops a theory of the cooperation principle to help us understand implicature to build a sense of awareness. This theory serves as a general framework for discourse, particularly for being cooperative, to pursue logic through exchanges of ideas. According to Grice.P, Cooperative principle is when a communication member contributes to a dialogue as needed with a sensible and suitable purpose (1975:45). Quality, quantity, relation, and manner are the four categories of maxims principle made by Grice.P which used to categorize the cooperative principle.

According to Birner (2013:42), the four maxims are used as communication guidelines. The maxim of quality stresses that you should only speak about things you have a solid reason to believe are valid. Do not say more than necessary, maxim of quantity accentuates. Maxim of manner stresses communicating in a clear, concise, and unambiguous way. The last one, which highlights maxim of relation, says little farther than is essential.

Although these maxims are all addressed, some speakers choose to ignore or disregard them. According to Thomas.J (2013:64), there are five different sorts of non-observance of maxim, including flouting maxim, violating maxim, infringing maxim, opting out of maxim, and suspending maxim. This study aims to identify maxim violations in the book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. To violate a maxim is to fail to adhere to it, which suggests that the speaker

intentionally makes incorrect statements or speeches with the expectation that the audience won't catch on. When a speaker wants to deceive the listener, they violate the maxim (Birner, 2013:43).

A theory to be used in studying conversation is the cooperation principle theory. However, the dialogue takes place in literary works like novels and other works and in real-life situations. According to Szczepanski.P (2014:1), speech is what gives fictional characters life; what they say and how they react to one another provide these characters with life. This particular tale was picked since most of the novel's dialogue depicts Tom, the main character, misbehaving against his aunt, friends, and others. The narrative describes how he tricks his buddy into working for him while waiting for them to accomplish the task or how he evades his aunt's reprimand. Tom often breaks the quality maxim throughout this procedure, but he also sometimes does so while changing the subject to escape anything.

According to the aforementioned description, this study focuses on the maxim violation. What is the link between the breach of the maxims of quality and relation, and quantity in certain utterances, why do the characters violate the maxim, and how they do the violation of the maxim. Additionally, there are 21 studies related to the analysis of violation maxim inside of real-life and novel. The researchers who conducted the research in this field are Qassemi, (2018), Asif, (2019), Usman (2021), Raharja (2019), (2016), Basya (2017), Ayasreh, (2019), Marsila, (2020), Ayasreh, (2018), Al-Qaderi, (2019), and Al-Zubeiry. (2020). Moreover, the researchers focus on novel as the main data are Zaenudin (2016), Fitri (2016), Mukaromah (2017), Noertjahjo (2017), Afifah (2018), Labobar (2018), Romanna (2021), Winarta (2022), Cahyati (2022).

B. RESEARCH METHOD

1. Violation of Maxim Quantity

- a. Circumlocution or not to the point
- b. Uninformative
- c. Talks too short
- d. Talks too much
- e. Repeats certain words.

2. Violation of Maxim Quality

- a. Lies or says something that is believed to be false
- b. Uses irony or makes an ironic and sarcastic statement
- c. Denies something
- d. Distorts information

3. Violation of Maxim Manner

- a. Uses ambiguous language

- b. Exaggerates things
- c. Uses slang to someone who does not understand
- d. Voice is not loud enough

4. Violation of Maxim Relation

- a. Say something unmatched with the topic
- b. Changes the conversation topic abruptly
- c. Avoids talking about something
- d. Hides something or hides a fact
- e. Make wrong causality

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Data Description

The cooperative principle encourages reasonableness and cooperation between the speaker and the hearer. The maxim of quantity, quality, relation, and method are the four tenets of Paul Grice's credo for cooperative communication. The idea is broken when the speaker refuses to cooperate and tries to deceive the audience. Quantity, quality, relation, and manner are the four ways maxims might be violated.

Therefore, this study aims to identify maxim violations in the statements made by the character in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, as well as to determine how often and in what context maxim violations affect both quality and connection to quality.

As mentioned in the previous chapter, the research uses random sampling to collect the data from the novel and found that there are 19 utterances containing violations of the maxim. The following table shows what type of maxim violations occur in the novel and which maxim is the most dominant one:

No	Violation of maxim	Datum	Freq
1	Quantity	10, 13	2
2	Quality	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14	13
3	Relation	15, 16, 17, 18, 19	5
4	Manner	-	-

2. Finding

In *The Adventure of Tom Sawyer*, nine chapters lawfully made available on Gutenberg.org are the data utilized in this researcher's discovery of the infraction. The researcher discovered nineteen statements to violate the maxim. the violation with the indication made by Tupen and Natalia is shown in the table below (2008):

No	Violation maxim	Indicator violation maxim	Datum	Freq	Total	Total in %
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1	Quantity	Not to the point	-	0	2	10%
		Uninformative	13	1		
		Talk too short	-	0		
		Talk too much	10	1		
		Repeat certain words	-	0		
2	Quality	Lies	3, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 18	8	14	66%
		Ironic/sarcastic statemen	12	1		
		Denies something	1, 2, 15	3		
		Distort information	5, 7	2		
3	Relation	Unmatched topic	10	1	5	24%
		Change topic	16	1		
		Avoid something	9	1		
		Hide fact	13	1		
		Wrong causality	17	1		
4	Manner	Ambiguous	-	0	0	0
		Exaggerating	-	0		
		Uses slang in front of people who do not understand	-	0		
		Not loud enough voice	-	0		
Total					21	100%

Based on the nine chapters of the book, 19 utterances contain violations of maxims; the highest violation is in a short animation, which has 14 utterances; the other violations are of maxim relation, which has five utterances, and one of maxim quantity, which is connected to the violation of maxim relation. The facts, however, do not show the manner maxim.

3. Data Analysis

The conversation below provides an examination of the information gleaned from the characters' statements in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* as well as the background for the infraction.

a. Violation of Quantity Maxim

Datum 10

Doc Robinson 'Look here, what does this mean?' said the doctor. 'You required your pay in advance, and I've paid you.'

Injun Joe **Yes, and you done more than that,' said Injun Joe, approaching the doctor, who was now standing. 'Five years ago you drove me away from your father's kitchen one night, when I come to ask for something to eat, and you said I warn't there for any good; and when I swore I'd get even with you if it took a hundred years, your father had me jailed for a vagrant. Did you think I'd forget? The Injun blood ain't in me for nothing. And now I've GOT you, and you got to SETTLE, you know!**

Context: Doc Robinson, Muff Potter, and Injun Joe arrive around midnight. Doc Robinson wants Muff Potter and Injun Joe to bury him. Muff Potter demands additional salary, and Injun Joe agrees. Doc Robinson, who already pays them plenty, becomes irritated and refuses. With this comment, Injun Joe remembers what occurred with Doc Robinson's father, which makes him angry.

Analysis: Paul Grice's quantity maxim outlines how much information is in a conversation. This contradicts the quantity maxim, which has two sub-maxims (make the contribution as informative as is required and do not make the contribution more informative than it needs). This statement violates one of the sub-maxims: "Do not make the contribution more information than it required." He tells Robinson this so he'll feel sorry for what his father did to Injun Joe. An in-depth explanation, using Tupan and Natalia's (2008) indication, shows that this statement falls within the fourth indicator of the quantity maxim, "speak too much."

b. Violation Maxim Quality

Datum 5

Aunt Polly 'But you ain't too warm now, though.'

Tom **'Some of us pumped on our heads — mine's damp yet. See?'**

Context: In this scenario, he must go to school after escaping his aunt's punishment. Alternatively, he skipped school to go swimming with his friend. His aunt is questioning Tom in the dining room, seeking to catch him in a lie. She asks him several questions, and Tom's countenance changes as he speaks about the weather. Then Aunt Polly asks whether he wants to go swimming, and he can

offer a clear response. His aunt didn't believe him, so she urged him to check at his coat collar. Tom told her that others put water on their heads to be cool before she got irritated over the rain.

Analysis: This story shows how Tom deflects his aunt's anger by stating that he and a friend pumped water into their brains to remain cool during the heat, even if this claim is inaccurate or Tom is lying to his aunt. After swimming with a friend, he was drenched. Tom's second sub-maxim broke Grice's maxim principle. Based on the quality maxim, this remark contains the fourth indicator of information distortion, as Tom states he pumped water into his head while not swimming.

c. Violation Maxim Relation

Datum 9 chapter 4

Mr ‘Answer the gentleman,
Walter Thomas — don't be
 afraid.’

Narrator **Tom still hung fire.**

Context: After Tom shows off his tickets and wins the main prize, a Bible, he thinks he goes to his seat. However, the judge wanted to know about him and advised him that memorizing the Bible would change his life to be a better person. Furthermore, as proof of his hard work in memorizing the verses in the Bible, the judge asks a question to Tom about the first two disciples of Jesus.

Analysis: According to Grice.P (1975), the speaker's expertise should be relevant to the current subject in a dialogue. Tom's comment violates a maxim since he said "hanging fire," which means doing nothing. Tom remains mute rather than provide a dishonest answer to the judge's question. Even though the relation maxim's sub-maxim is "be relevant," this speech contradicts it since it satisfies Tupan and Natalia's (2008) third indication, "avoid anything." Tom remained mute to avoid the judge's queries and stay seated.

4. Discussion

As shown in the previous section, the most dominant occurrence of maxim violation is maxim quality, with a total of 14 out of 21 utterances. Cruse (2000:355) stated about maxim quality, "do not make an unsupported statement." It deals with the validity of the speaker's information to the hearer. The information should be based on fact and has evidence. However, suppose the speaker makes an utterance while fully aware that it is incorrect and expects the listener to be unable to tell the difference. In that case, the violation of maxim quality will occur (Birner, 2013:43). In the finding, based on the indicator of

violation maxim quality, lying is the highest with a total of 8 out of 14 utterances, the dishonesty occurs mainly in the utterance made by a character named Tom. It is because Tom does not want to get punishment from Aunt Polly. Moreover, lying is not only about avoiding punishment but also about fooling his friends and any adults.

A violation of maxim quantity is because the sentence by Injun Joe has multiple violation maxims or two or more than two violation maxims attached to one utterance. In this case, the utterance of Injun Joe violated not only the maxim quantity but also the maxim relation. Because Injun Joe changes the topic abruptly from payment to revenge, and also, he talks too much about what revenge he wants and brings something unnecessary, as on the sample he told Doc Robison about what his father did to him, to make Doc Robinson pity him, but it just makes Doc Robinson angry.

Moreover, a violation of the maxim also connects to the other maxim. It shows in datum ten which is the occurrence of multiple maxim violations. As datum ten shows, Injun Joe violates the relation maxim by stating an unmatched topic in a conversation about payment. In addition, Injun Joe also said what Robinson and his father have done to him. In this case, he violates the quantity maxim by talking too much, Injun Joe tells everything about five years ago to make Robinson feels guilty and pay for what Robinson and his father have done to Injun Joe.

Several researchers have already conducted research on violation of the maxim in the novel, and three types of research have similarities in the data analysis, such as the source and sample and the study's main focus. Another research that focuses on other factors is Szczepanski.P. (2015) entitled *Flouting the maxims in scripted speech: An analysis of flouting the maxims of conversation in the television series Firefly*. This study concentrates on the flouting of maxims from each character and what is the most prominent flouting that happens in the character that could have some relevance to the personalities of each character. There are nine characters with different that are being analyzed in this research. The researcher used three program episodes to gather data and concluded flouting occurs to make the audience laugh and that each character's personality affects the frequency of flouting. As the result shows in this research, one of the characters named Malcolm, a war veteran, often flouts the maxim quality by stating a sarcastic statement. It shows his personality as his squad leader and as a war veteran. The similarity happens in how the researcher connects personality and dominance of flouting. However, this research only connects one violation of one maxim with another.

In addition, the research conducted by Zaenudin (2016) also focuses on two violations of the maxim: quantity and quality. This thesis aims to find the maxim principle that has been violated. The researcher limits the research to two types of maxims: quantity and quality, to find the frequency of maxims occurring, how the characters violate them, and the dominance violation between these two

types. The researcher uses a qualitative approach and descriptive research method in conducting the research.

As a result, there are three main findings that the researcher found, which is quantity the most frequently occur maxim violation. The researcher also finds multiple maxims or maxim quantity and quality occur simultaneously. The rest shows how the maxim appears, such as less information and lying. The similarities occur in the main focus of the research, which is only focused on two types of maxim violation. However, research made by Zaenudin concentrates only on the way a violation of the maxim occurs and the reason and does not make a connection between them.

The last research that focuses on other aspect and their relation to violation of maxim or flouting is Mukaromah (2017) entitled Violation Maxim in Nathaniel Hawthorne's novel "The Scarlet Letter." Consequently, the researcher discovered 19 pieces of data that included violation maxims and found that the character violated each and every one of the maxims. The researcher also found another aspect of maxim violation: social factors such as friendship, divorce, revenge, and family. As the results show, Mukaromah's research connected the flouting of maxim with social factors occurring in the novel. However, this research only connected the occurrence of violation maxim relation and quality.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

1. Conclusion

Conversations in fiction and nonfiction may benefit from the cooperative principle, which serves as a framework for analyzing how well two people get along, for example, in conversation in novels or other literary works. As the previous sections show, the violation of the maxim occurs in a novel discussion.

As the result shows, maxim quality is the highest maxim violation, then maxim relation and last maxim quantity with one utterance attached to maxim relation. This research only focuses on two types of violation maxims, despite there being one maxim attached to another violation maxim. The researcher not only concentrates on finding how the maxim is violated, and the reason the character violated the maxim in conversation, additionally, but it also shows the connection of one violation to another violation maxim, which occurs in the relationship between maxim quantity and maxim relation occur in datum 10.

2. Suggestion

This study found that the cooperative principle, despite its antiquity, is still relevant in the analysis of communication. By linking one violation principle to another, the collaboration principle allows us to examine more than just how or why a maxim is violated. As shown in this research, the researcher can do more

like connect two maxims to one maxim or find a connection to all four types of maxim that occur on the data that the researcher will conduct.

The researchers not only can use one theory as the main theory to analyze the violation maxim. The researcher can also use other theories to support the cooperative principle theory as the main theory. For example, the use of the theory of politeness strategy, or speech act that still connect with cooperative principle or use theory of maxim politeness to analyse more about the utterance.

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