

# A STUDY OF COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES IN CONVERSATION OF TENANTS AT KAMPOENG INGGRIS PARE, KEDIRI

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This research describes the study of Grice cooperative principles in conversations of tenants at Kampoeng Inggris Pare, Kediri. This study aims at finding out if the conversations of the tenants meet Grice's four maxims. From the analysis, it can be concluded that every conversation of tenants at Kampoeng English Pare Kediri meets Grice cooperative principles. The results of this study also show that the conversations in Kampoeng Inggris Pare, Kediri adhere to the maxim of relevance. The speech act shows the attempt to contribute relevant information. In the conversation, the tenants also have to speak their mind to use a clear and coherent narrative. The speech acts of tenants indicate that the implementation of the principle of cooperation adheres to the maxim of manner.

Kata Kunci: *cooperative principles, tenant, Kampoeng Inggris Pare*

## INTRODUCTION

Human beings are social beings since he/she cannot live alone and needs the existence of other persons to get aids. Because of this characteristic, humans need a means, which is called language to perform an interaction between them. Language is highly needed since with language people can pass or convey their feeling, idea and thought to other. That is why people all around the world communicate to each other, using language. Brown and Yule (1983:1-3) say that a language has two functions: those are transactional and interactional.

Studies on language use that consider situation are part of interests in pragmatics. According to Renkema (1993:21), pragmatics is a branch of the study of the use of conversation that is produced and interpreted in a specific situation. It means that this study is dealing with what the listeners intend to respond and the intended messages that are conveyed by the speaker.

According to Brown and Yule (1983:26), pragmatics is part of linguistics that deals with language in use. Moreover, they add, it involves the knowledge, which enables people to produce and understand utterances with specific communication context. Levinson (1983:6) says that pragmatics is the study of those principles that will account for why certain set of sentences are anomalous, or not possible utterance. It is literally the study of act, and is derived from a philosophical approach to the phenomenon of sign, specifically the question of how signs, and therefore also linguistic signs, function.

In fact, in using language some people may say something but they utter it by using other words to convey the message. Further, people normally try to understand and comprehend not only what the words mean literally, but also what the speaker of those words intends to mean. Grice (quoted in Levinson, 1983:101) develops the concept of implicature that is essentially a theory about how the people

use language. Grice has formulated a principle of conversation, which is together with four maxims that we expect to be obeyed. So, the conversation goes without any misinterpretation. Grice lists four maxims that follow from the cooperative principle.

Based on this assumption, the writers observe that in daily conversation held by the tenants of boarding house at Kampoeng English Pare, there are many uses of cooperative principles found in the conversation.

This situation interests the writers to conduct a research on cooperative principle. They choose the conversations in the dormitory as the data source because in this place they could find many daily conversations which indicate the use of implicature. The research uses the Grice's theory of maxims, that is part of discourse studies, to recognize the linguistic forms and functions, and also to understand the messages. The writers have to interpret sentences or utterances as accurate as possible to get the meaning and to describe which utterances in the conversations which obey the maxims.

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

### Pragmatics

Some linguists define pragmatics as follows. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics science which studies about the relationship between sign and the people who use them (Morris, 1960). Moreover, Yule (1984:97) states, when we read or hear pieces of language, we normally try to understand not only what the words mean, but what the writer or speaker of the words intends to convey. The study of the intended is called as pragmatics. □

Finch states "Pragmatists focus on what is not *explicitly* stated and on how we interpret utterances in situational contexts. They are concerned not so much with the sense of what is said as with its *force*, that is,

with what is communicated by the manner and style of an utterance."

Levinson (1983:5) states pragmatics is the study of language use. He also provides another definition on pragmatics as a study of the relation between language and context that basic to an account of language understanding. "Language understanding" here is used to show the fact that understanding an utterance involves a great deal more than knowing the meaning of the word utterance but also involves the making of inferences that will connect what is said to what is mutually assumed or what has been said before.

### Grice Cooperative Principle

The cooperative principle can be divided into four maxims, called the Gricean Maxims, describing specific rational principles observed by people who obey the cooperative principle; these principles enable effective communication. Grice proposed four conversational maxims that arise from the pragmatics of natural language. The Gricean Maxims are a way to explain the link between utterances and what is understood from them.

He categorizes four kinds of maxims, those are: the maxim of quality, the maxim of quantity, the maxim of relevance, the maxim of manner.

## RESEARCH METHOD

In this study, the writers use a descriptive qualitative research since the data are obtained from the utterances in daily conversation. The writers take the data from a direct observation toward the utterance produced in the conversations. The conversations are held in the boarding house at Kampoeng English Pare with the consideration that it will be easier for her to record the data.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The following analysis and the presentation of the data are taken from a direct observation toward the utterances produced in the conversations held in the boarding house at Kampoeng English Pare. The following 10 data are analyzed to find whether they meet the cooperative principle.

### 1. Data 1

Boy: Excuse me, where is the office of Global E?

Nadia: **There, in front of the black car.**

Boy: Thank you Miss

Nadia: Welcome.

#### Context of Situation:

This conversation is between a boy and Nadia in 10.12.2013 at 07.00 am. In the morning, Nadia is preparing to attend the writing class across the Boarding House. Suddenly, a boy comes and asks her where the office of Global E is. □Nadia's response, "there, in front of the black car!" is intended □to give information on the location of the Global E offices. She does not mention the exact address of Global E offices. She only says about its location in front of the black car. In other words, the Global E office is in front of the black car itself and in fact that the boy understands Nadia's utterances.

This conversation intends to respond to the boy's question but she does not utter something that should be the answer. Moreover, this conversation is also relevant to the subject of the conversation, which is the direct connection between the boy who asks about the place and Nadia who answers using the preposition phrase. It means, this conversation follows the maxim of relevance. The last, this conversation also follows the maxim of quality by saying something they believe is true that the boy will understand and go to the Office Global E.

### 2. Data 2

Rika: Hey. Where do you go ?

Riska: **I want give some food to my worm.**

Rika: Where?

Riska: **I don't know, maybe in Soto Lamongan, join?**

Rika: No, I'm full.

#### Context of Situation:

This data is a conversation between Rika and Riska in 10.12.2013 at 07.00 am. Based on the conversation above, Rika wants to know where Riska goes to and when Rika says "where do you go?" and Riska answers "I want give some food to my worm." It does not mean that Riska will feed her worm which is in her stomach, but the sentence of "worm inside stomach" is uses when people get hungry. Moreover, this sentence may indicate that there is something that lives inside the human stomach. In other words this sentence explains that Riska wants to buy some food.

It means that the conversation follows the maxim of quality and maxim of relevance, because Riska says something true and has good evidence about herself. The conversation also follows the maxim of relevance because Riska uses the relevant answer with the Rika's question. Moreover, the second conversation follows the maxim of quality and relevance because when Rika ask where Rika buys lunch, Riska answers in Soto Lamongan. This answer does not give more information as it is required.

### 3. Data 3

Vika: Whose inside?

Rina: **Yes Rina inside**

Vika: Don't take to long plliess.. I have class now.

Rina: **Just clean my face**

Vika: Hurry up..

Context of situation :

This data is conversation between Rina and Vika in 11.12.2013 at 10.00 am. In the morning, Vika is preparing to attend the reading class, and she's going to the bathroom. When Vika knocks at the door, it is close, and Rina is on in the bathroom. Vika tells Rina to immediately get out, and Rina replied "just clean my face", which means that Rina won't be long in the bathroom because she is only washing her face.

It means that this conversation follows the maxim of quality, because Rina and Vika say something true. Vika is telling the truth if she has a class now, and Rina also tells the truth if she will not be long in the bathroom, because Rina just cleans her face. This conversation also follows the maxim of quantity by saying something, which is informative as is required. Moreover, this conversation also obeys the maxim of relevance where this conversation is relevant to each other's responses.

#### 4. Data 4

Brina : Where are you going ?

Tika : **I wanna going to Indomaret.**

Brina : I think My soap and perfume has run out, may i entrusted ?

Tika : **Where is your money ?**

Brina : Wait a minute!

Context of Situation :

This data is conversation between Brina and Tika in 11.12.2013 at 16.00 pm. In the evening, Brina was sitting in the front yard, and she sees Tika out of her room. Brina asks □where she is going, and Tika replies if she wants to go to Indomaret and Brina says □that her soap and perfume has run out, and if she can ask her for a favor. It means Brina wants to ask for help to Tika to buy a soap and a perfume. Tika's response "where is your money?" is interpreted as Tika being ready to help

Bella. Bella's response is to go into her rome to take the money.

In this case Brina tells the truth that her soap and her perfume has run out, and she wants to ask for help to Tika to buy a soap and a perfume. Bella gives information less than is required that it succesfully follows the maxim of quality. Further, this conversation is still on the context and brief, which makes this conversation successfully, fulfills the maxim of relevance.

#### 5. Data 5

Ika: **What do you thing about speaking?**

Nita: **Yeah just be crazy.**

Ika: Greats.

Context of Situation :

This data is conversation between Ika and Nita in 12.12.2013 at 12.00 am. Based on the conversation above, Ika wants to know about speaking. Further, Nita says "just be crazy" which means if students want to know about speaking, they can be like crazy people. When they speak about anything in English, it can upgrade our skills in speaking. Moreover, they should not be shy and worried since they just need to speak more and more in order to improve themselves in an English conversation.

Based on Nita's utterance, the conversation included to the maxim of quality, because Nita says something true that if they want to know about how to speak, they should be like a crazy people, but it is not the context of actual meaning of crazy. The conversation also included to the maxim of relevance because it still was in the context of speaking and not talking in other topic. Ika understood about Nita's question.

#### 6. Data 6

Miss Rindu: What time is it?

Tenant: **It's time to change.**

Miss rindu: **Better English better future.**

Tenant: **Yes we can**

Context of Study :

This data is conversation between Tenants and Miss Rindu in 13.12.2013 at 05.45 am. At the end of the class, the teacher always gives a slogan to encourage learners to learn English more. From the conversation above, Miss Rindu's first utterance is asking about time. She says "what time is it?," besides she speaks clearly. Nevertheless, the tenants respond to Miss Rindu by saying it is time to change. By uttering it, this slogan means inviting us to never put off to change. Change our passion in learning English and to change our being lazy and timid into a better passion to learn English. Further, the next slogan when Miss Rindu says "better English better future," and the tenant's answer "yes we can." It means if they have more knowledge about English, certainly they will have a better future and we must believe that we can do it.

This conversation obeys the maxim of quality because the main point of this conversation is a matter dealing with the truth. It instructs the conversation to say what is true. In terms that they believe what they say is true. This conversation also follows the maxim of quality by giving information as required. The question is answered directly in a clear and straightforward manner. Further, this conversation fulfills the maxim of relevance by keeping the talk on the subject of the conversation.

7. Data 7

Bella: Can I borrow a broom?  
Diana: **The broom in Rudy's room.**  
Bella: Okey thanks  
Diana: Yeahh

Context of Study:

This data is conversation between Bella and Diana in 14.12.2013 at 13.39 am. From the dialogue above, Bella wants to

borrow the broom from Diana, because today Bella has a chance to clean her bedroom. Diana is her neighbor in the boarding house, then when Bella asks to borrow the broom, Diana answers "the broom in Rudy's room". That statement explains that there is no broom inside Diana's room and the broom is in Rudy's room.

In this case Diana tells the truth that the broom is in Rudy's room, and she gives information less than it is required that successfully follows the maxim of quality. Further, this conversation is still in context and brief, which makes this conversation successfully fulfills the maxim of relevance.

8. Data 8

Umi: Have you join holiday in Bali?  
Ria: I'm sorry, I must go home tomorrow.  
Umi: But we will go to Bali next week?  
Ria: **I don't know come back here or not. I'm sorry**

Context of Study :

This data is conversation between Umi and Ria in 15.12.2013 at 17.33 am. In the conversation above, Umi comes and says "have you join holiday in Bali?" The interlocutors wants some suggestion about what they might do together about the invitation. Ria replies her by giving a reason which makes Umi interprets as a refusal to Umi's invitation. It invites the listener to interpret that she has another plan for holiday, so she cannot accept Umi's invitation. But Umi still convinces Ria about holiday in Bali. She says that they will go to Bali next week and Ria gives the explanation she does not know if she comes back to Pare or not. Which another says, Ria still refuses Umi's invitation to go on holiday to Bali.

This conversation obeys maxim of quality by saying the true information that Ria must go home tomorrow and whether

she will come back to Pare or not. Also Umi says "Holiday in Bali next week." Further, they speak relevantly and honestly. The conversation does not talk about the other topic but about the invitation of holiday in Bali, which means that this conversation obeys the maxim of relevance.

#### 9. Data 9

Rio: My tire bicycle burst, I can't go speaking class.

Brina: **In front of Soto Lamongan there is a repair shop**

#### Context of Study :

This data is conversation between Rio and Brina in 16.12.2013/ 10.22 A.M. In From the conversation above, Rio tells Brina about his problem. Rio cannot go to the speaking class because he had a flat tyre. So, Brina gives by information to Rio where he could find help. Indirectly, Brina wants Rio to go to the speaking class.

This conversation follows the maxim of quality because Brina and Rio have the evidence that what they utter are true. Further, this conversation also follows the maxim of relevance by the reason that they say it relevantly on the topic of the conversation.

#### 10. Data 10

Rizal: Do you have progress about English here ?

Bella: **I don't know, but I think so far so good**

#### Context of Study :

This data is conversation between Rizal and Bella in 17.12.2013/ 07.55 A.M . This conversation above happens in the morning when Bella returns from the speaking class with Mr Umar. Rizal wants to know about Bella's progress during she learn in Kampoeng English Pare. Bella answers hesitantly but she believes that

someday she would be better, and she feels comfortable to learn in Kampoeng English Pare.

Moreover, this conversation fulfills the maxim of quality by telling the truth about what Bella feels during hwe study in Kampoeng English Pare. Further, this conversation obeys the maxim of relevance because this conversation is still in the same context.

## CONCLUSION

From the analysis, it can be concluded that every conversation of tenants at Kampoeng English Pare keKediri meets Grice's cooperative principles. The elements of the principle of cooperation in conversation are referred to as maxims. Maxim is guidance saying something. Grice divides the principle of cooperation in a conversation into four. The maxim are Maxim of Quality, Maxim of Quantity, Maxim of Relevance and Maxim of Manner.

Maxim of quantity shows the attempt to be informative. Therefore, the speech acts tend to demonstrate achievement of shared understanding in accordance with the objectives to be achieved in the conversation. Maxim of Quantity serves or is used to justify things that are spoken in accordance with the fact that being in the talking. The results of this study also showed that the conversations in English Kampoeng Pare, Kediri adhere to the maxim of relevance. The speech act shows the attempt to contribute relevant information. In a conversation in English Kampoeng Pare, Kediri the tenants also have to speak his mind to use a clear and coherent narrative. The tenants of the speech acts indicate that the implementation of the principle of cooperation adhere to the maxim of manner.

This tendency is quite understood and predictable because the participants are all second or foreign language learners who

may have less experience in communicating less directly as native speakers do.

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