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## ***A Linguistic Analysis of Grice Maxims***

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

"اقرأ باسم ربك الذي خلق • خلق الإنسان من علق • اقرأ"

وربك الأكرم • الذي علم بالقلم • علم الإنسان ما لم يعلم

صدق الله العلي العظيم

سورة العلق (١-٥)

## **Dedication**

***To ...***

Our guide and spark of hope and light in our life the prophet and messenger " peace and prayers of God be upon him"

***To ...***

The pearls of our life , our parents.

***To ...***

The sweetest figures , our brothers and sisters.

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## **Abstract**

As people we are social creatures and when we talk we for the most part converse with or to others (unless we complete a monolog). Paul Grice, an English dialect philosophe, contends that speakers plan to be helpful when they talk. For Grice, agreeable implies that the speaker realizes that every expression is a potential obstruction in the individual rights, self-governance and wishes ( a potential face-debilitating act) of the other. That is the reason we need to shape our articulations unquestionably. Grice detailed the rule of participation that underlies discussion, Grice's cooperative principle is a set of norms that are expected in conversations. It consists of four maxims, we have to follow in order to be cooperative and well- understood.

This paper consists of two sections , section one presents Grice's maxims , cooperative principle ; on the other hands , the second one tackles how these maxims flouted and how Grice theory has been criticised.

The conclusions sum up the findings of the present paper.

## **Section One**

### **"An Introduction to Grice maxims"**

#### **1.1. Introduction**

The main goal of communication in pragmatics is considered the alternate of information. People usually participate to carry their intent and the contents most important of their speech. So, every thing being equal conversation are cooperative tries to base on a trendy ground and follow up a shared aim. (Hadi, 2013:69)

Pragmatics evolves a result of the work of Grice on the cooperative principle CP hence-forth. Explanation of the CP is sometimes problematic result of technical Grice's "cooperation". It is often blending with the common meaning of the word cooperation. In his article, "logic and conversation" (1975) Grice shows the cooperative principle and explained conversational implicature. He also makes characterization between an utterance and meaning. (Ibid.)

Thomas (1995) clarifies that importance in semantics is the lexicon significance of words or expressions, while significance in pragmatics is the speaker's aim, in this way significance in the pragmatics is different from importance in semantics regarding a discourse circumstance. (Jafari, 2013:2151)

Aitchison (1995) confirmed that, in limited sense, pragmatics examines how audience members get the planned importance of the speakers, while in a more extensive sense it worries with certain guideline took after by conversationalists when speaking with each other. (Jafari. 2013:2151)

Yule(1996) trusts that individuals are individuals from different social gatherings and take after standerds or certain examples of conduct which are normal inside the gathering.(Jafari,2013:2151)

## **1.2.Cooperative principle**

Those who obey the cooperative principle in their language use will make sure that what they say in a conversation furthers the purpose of that conversation. The cooperative principle goes both ways: speakers observe the cooperative principle, and listeners assume that speakers are observing it. This allows for the possibility of **implicatures**, which are meanings that are not explicitly conveyed in what is said, but that can nonetheless be inferred

Grice proposed that conversation according to mutual principle of cooperation, as"make your conversational contribution what is required. At the stage at which it occurs. By the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchanges in which you are engaged"(Grice, 1975:43). In other words, the cooprative principle tries to work real principle significantly by Humans when they speak.

Also he offered a general rule that members in discussion ought to take after. In this way, he interoduced the term 'implicature'. Conversational implicature causes us with the goal that our conditons succeed more than if they were actually "told",because our verbal trades are, at any rate to some degree, a cooprative effort\_\_"each member in their perceiving of a typical reason, commonly got heading and so on. Thought maxims(and sub-adages),spoke to in the execution,add to comes about as to general helpful rule(klemencic and vogrincic, 2014:2).



### **1.3.Conversational Implicature**

The thought of conversational implicature is one of the absolute most imperative thoughts in pragmatics(a) remains as a paradigmatic case of the nature and energy of sober minded clarification of the etymological phenomena (offers some prominent practical clarification of phonetic realities), (b) gives some unequivocal record of how it is conceivable to mean more than what was really stated, (c) impacts significant simplification in both the structure and the substance of semantic portrayal (Levinson, 2007:97-98).

It is important to separate between unequivocal messages or explicatures(as in articulations really said) and implicatures(author's certain messages), "which are inferentially recreated from perusers, "that is in a roundabout way available over operational surmisings. Grice portrays the thought of explicatures in term of a speaker who "said that, ...,"and implicatures in term of a speaker who"offered me to know"(Justin, 2001,as cited in cepic and vogrincic, 2003:320).

The essential thought of Grice's conceptual "apparatus"in this way is implicature, which has one of two forms :conventional or conversational. Conventional implicatures , with basic inferential operations, are appended to the customary importance of words,and they depend on a huge number of guidelines and standerds(cooperative principle and maxims . Within the sight of single conversational implicature, the audience will react as to the accompanying data:conventional importance of the words utilized, helpful standard and its adages setting ( phonetic or something else, of the expression),foundation knowledge, and the way that the greater part of the significant thing under the past headings are accessible to the two members(Grice, 1989/1991).

## **1.4. Grice's Maxims**

Grice (1975) made certain progress to the expressions following what is called maxims they are; Quality, Quantity, Relation and manner. these maxim do not describe how to speak to persons, but give a description to the receivers supposition about the way they intended. (Hadi, 2013:69)

Bach (2005) cited in (Hadi, 2013:69) thought that Grice presented as directive for successful communication. He expected that they are best perceived as guess about speech, assumption that receivers prepare and speakers take.

Davies (2008) cited in (Hadi, 2013:70) tells that when the superficial meaning of a speech does not come with the Grice's maxim, but situation offer that the speaker be interrogated with the cooperative principle, we must go a way the superficial to discover implicit meaning of speaking. Few authors have hesitated to Grice's conversational maxims. like, Horn (1984) specified just three maxims, Sperber and Wilson (1986) neglected the texture of maxims and condense on the concept of relevance.

Maxims indicate what members need to do with a specific end goal to chat in a maximally effective, balanced, cooperative way. (Levinson, 1983/2007:103)

### **1.4.1 Maxim of quality**

It's one of the four conversational maxims of the cooperative principle.

Grice proposes this maxim as an explanation for a certain kind of regularity in conversational behavior with respect to the authenticity of information provided at each turn of a conversation.

The maxim of quality requires the speakers contribution.

Try to make your contribution one that is true:

1-Do not say what you believe to be false.

2-Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence.

Example of following the rule:

1-A: Why were you late last night?

B: My car broke down.

In the example, B gives truthful information that the car broke down and that's why they were late.

Example of violating the rule:

2-A: Is Reno in Mexico?

B: Sure, and Philadelphia is in Florida.

In the example, B provides incorrect information to A, violating the maxim. ( Davies , 2008 : 2308 )

## **1.4.2 Maxim of Quantity**

It's one of the four conversational maxims that make up the cooperative principle.

Grice proposes this maxim as an explanation for a certain kind of regularity in conversational behavior with respect to the amount of information provided in each turn of a conversation.

The maxim of quantity relates to the amount of information provided in conversations.

When engaged in conversation the maxim of quantity requires you to:

1-Make your contribution as informative as is required(for the purpose of the exchanges).

2-Do not make your contribution more informative than is required.

Example of following the rule:

3-A: What time do you work tomorrow?

B: Tomorrow I work at 2pm.

In the example, B responds to A's question without adding other information.

Example of violating the rule:

4-A: Do you have school tomorrow?

B: I have classes all day but I must go to the doctor when I'm finished.

In the example, B violates the maxim because too much information, rather than providing a yes or no answer. ( Davies , 2008 : 2324 )

### **1.4.3. Maxim of relation**

It's one of the four conversational maxims that make up the cooperative principle.

Grice proposes this maxim as an explanation for a certain kind of regularity in conversational behavior with respect the relevance of information provided in each turn of a conversation.

When engaged in conversation the maxim of relation requires you to:

Be relevant.

The maxim of relevance requires the speaker to provide relevant information to the discussion, avoiding things that are not pertinent to the discussion.

Example of following the rule:

5-A: How is the weather today?

B: It is rainy and cloudy.

In the example, B provides accurate information that is relevant to A's question.

Example of violating the rule:

6-A: Where is my Halloween candy?

B: Mine is missing too.

In the example, B does not provide a relevant answer to A's question, instead something completely unrelated is said. . ( Davies , 2008 : 2328 )

#### **1.4.4. Maxim of manner**

It's one of the four conversational maxims that make up the cooperative principle.

Grice proposes this maxim as an explanation for a certain kind of regularity in conversational behavior with respect to the way information provided in each turn of a conversation.

The maxim of manner is related to how something is being said in the conversation.

When engaged in conversation, the maxim of manner requires you to be perspicuous.

1-Avoid obscurity of expression.

2-Avoid ambiguity.

3-Be brief.

4-Be orderly.

Example of following the rule:

7-A:Where was the professor when class ended?

B: She left class and went to her office.

In the example, B responds with orderly information to the question posed by A.

Example of violating the rule:

8-A: How is Kate today?

B: She's the usual.

In the example, B violates the maxim by responding with a statement that is ambiguous; the 2 perceptions of Kate could be different. . ( Davies , 2008 : 2329 )

## **1.5. Kinds of Cooperation**

Numerous researchers influence refinements between various types of collaboration keeping in mind the end goal to point of confinement to the extent of Grice's agreeable rule. For instance, pavlidou (1991: 12) separate between formal collaboration and considerable participation. In her words," formal collaboration is much the same as "participation in the Gricean tradition,acting as per the conversational sayings (or against them)". In any case, substantial collaboration alludes to "sharing shared objectives among correspondence accomplices, objectives that go past

maximal trade of data. This qualification sounds like the refinement amongst phonetic and additional semantic goals.

Others utilized diverse phrasings to recognize a more extensive and a smaller thought of participation and their related objectives. Gu (1999) makes a qualification amongst open and additional informative objectives. Thomas (1986) recognizes the social objective sharing understanding of participation and the apparently negligible idea of phonetic collaboration. Sarangi and Slembrouck(1992) contend that we ought to be careful while recognizing semantic and social objective sharing participation.

Lumsden(2008)claims that there are two sorts of cooperation: social and semantic or formal cooperation. He gives a smaller definition to the idea of participation (etymological collaboration) and tries to apply Grice's rule just to that. In any case, there is by all accounts an issue with this more extensive objective, since when we have participation with a more extensive objective, this objective sounds to specify significance in the discussion.

Nonetheless, the wide technique can be useful in depicting Grice's agreeable rule. Such a refinement is helpful and adequate, in light of the fact that it speaks to that when we don't have additional phonetic participation, we can depend on just semantic cooperation(Lumsden, 2008).

## Section Two

### " Flouting and Criticising Grice's Maxims "

#### 2.1..Flouting the Maxims

The infringement of maxims which involves exploitation, that is, a procedure by which a maxim is flouted for the purpose of getting a conversational implicature, is usually carried out by means of indirect, contradictory utterances, or figure of speech such as irony, metaphor, overstatement, understatement, tautology, and hyperbole. Grundy (2000) states that whenever a maxim is flouted there must be an implicature to save the utterance from simply appearing to be a faulty contribution to a conversation. Consider these four sentences examples

A: What time is it?

B: It's two a'clock, in fact it's four pass two, and now it's Sunday

Maxim of quantity and its implicature occur when the speaker or the writer conveys messages that are not as informative as they are required or the information is too much and unnecessary. B flouts the maxim of quantity, since he gives too much information to A, while too much information can distract the listener. However, it is not very difficult to recover the implicature that B wants to show to A that he is a kind of "on time" person.

A: What is the Capital City of Indonesia?

.B: I believe it's Bogor, or maybe Jakarta, Indonesia has wide territory



Maxim of quality and its implicature occur when your contribution one that is untrue or lack adequate evidence. B flouts the maxim of quality since he gives insincere answer for A's question. The implicature of this flouting maxim would be that B doesn't know exactly about Capital City of Indonesia.

Mom: Have you done your homework?

Son: My bicycle is broken mom.

Maxim of relevance and its implicature arise when the speaker deviates from the particular topic being asked and discussed. The answer of the son is not answering the mother's question. The son tries to direct his mother's concern away from the question which he does not like .

It's the taste

Maxims of manner and its implicature occur when the utterances are not brief, ambiguous, and obscure. Advertisements often flout the maxim of manner. The statement flouts maxim of manner because it is obscure. The utterances triggers an inference process in which the addressee looks for the likeliest that is relevant in the context that obtain – that the taste is good for people who favor Coca cola and bad for those who dislike it.

## 2.2.Critisizing Grice Maxims

Grice's theory is often disputed by arguing that cooperative conversation, as with most social behaviour, is culturally determined, and therefore the Gricean maxims and the cooperative principle cannot be universally applied due to intercultural differences. However, Harnish points out that Grice only claims his maxims hold in conversations where his cooperative principle is in effect. The Malagasy speakers choose not to be cooperative, valuing the prestige of information ownership more highly. (It could also be said in this case that this is a less cooperative communication system, since less information is shared). (Keenan,1976:67-80)

Another criticism is that the Gricean maxims can easily be misinterpreted to be a guideline for [etiquette](#), instructing speakers on how to be moral, polite conversationalists. However, the Gricean maxims, despite their wording, are only meant to describe the commonly accepted traits of successful cooperative communication. (Ibid.)

Ladegaard (2008) suggests that both the semantic and the pragmatic sides of human interaction as well as all the linguistic awareness necessary for the perception and interpretation of meaning in any communicative behavior should be covered in any theory of conversational cooperation. He argues that Grice only considers the semantic aspect of an utterance and then makes it clear based on pragmatics, or according to the context which help us to interpret the speaker's intentions.

Gumperz (1982) argues that it is necessary for the speakers to take into account all the contextual clues which exist in various discourse types. These include turn-taking strategies, speech accommodation, and voice alterations. Ladegaard (2008) also adds that in order to understand

the intention of speaker accurately in an interaction, and interpret the underlying meaning of an utterance, the use of these cues is really essential.

Ladegaard (2008) states that instead of applying the traditional view to language and communication offered in Pragmatics, in which human interaction is viewed as naturally deficient and problematic, a broader view should be considered. He mentions that Grice is extremely biased towards cooperation. Grice's assumption is that people communicate logically, and all of them attempt to be "good" communicators. However, Ladegaard's (2008) analysis conflicts with Grice's position. He claims "human interaction may be irrational and illogical, and that resistance and non cooperation may be adopted as the preferred discursive strategy, and that interactants seem to try their best to be 'bad' communicators.

## Conclusion

Grice's theory is defective. To begin with, it is excessively one-sided towards participation. Grice trusts that individuals go for communicating effectively and adequately and in endeavoring to settle their issues. All things considered, he disregarded the way that there are times when the design is to deliberately miscommunicate.

The maxims whole up Grice's idea of the co-operative principle that he says, underlies of human discourse like numerous standards of human conduct. Grice's maxims are romanticized and frequently abused in like manner here.

In this research dealt with a specific aspect, which is the Grice's maxims and analysis. Which is one of the most important aspects that can be utilized.

the analysis and examples presented give evidence showing that flouting and criticizing the four maxims. the research have shed light on Grice's maxims analysis also flouting presented examples where maxims is flouted by the speaker in addition to presented criticizing Grice's maxims like Ladegaard, Gumperz and another.

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