

# Maxim Variation, Conventional and Particulized Implicature on Students' Conversation

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# Maxim Variation, Conventional And Particularized Implicature On Students' Conversation

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**Abstract:** Conversation is one of the activities that students do in their lives. Conversation is in relation to the maxim and implicature. Without realizing, the students usually violate and obey the maxim. Thereby, this study aims at knowing the types of maxim and implicature. The study used qualitative design. This study used transcription of the students' conversation. Besides, this study used coding analysis. The findings of this study showed that most of the students obeyed the maxims of quality, quantity, manner and relevance, however, some students still disobeyed the maxims. Furthermore, there were two types of implicature that the students did in conversation namely conventional and conversational implicature. Therefore, by knowing the maxim and the implicature, the students can know the role in the conversation.

**Index Terms:** maxim variation, implicature, students' conversation.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Conversation is one of the speaking skills which involves communicant and communicator. In this millennial era, the ability to master conversations is part of the communication skills that a person must master (Noermanzah & Friantary, 2019). Syafryadin, et al. (2019) stated that conversation is one of the parts from speaking activities. Celce-Murcia (2001) stated that the conversation, speech, interview, dialogue are categorized in speaking skill part. Many people always do conversation in their daily lives. The communication which is occurred during the conversation must be communicative in order to make the speaker and hearer understand their talk. In daily conversation which involves the conversation that happens in the work field, such as between the customer and the clerk, buyer and seller, student and teacher and other forms of conversation fields. The conversation happens in various ways either it has implicit or explicit meaning. Understanding each other in this conversation should also pay attention to rhetoric in speaking on aspects of ethos, pathos, and logos (Noermanzah, et al. 2019). In language, especially in speaking skills also need to pay attention to the accuracy in the delivery of messages or ideas that must be supported by the accuracy of the language used, vocabulary, spelling usage, and grammatical abilities (Kartto, et al., 2019). Therefore, there must be a principle or rule in doing a good conversation among interlocutors. The principle in the conversation is called a maxim. Maxim is the rule of conversation. Maxim is also called as cooperative principle because cooperative principle refers to a principle which used by the speaker and hearer in cooperating while doing conversation, so the conversation runs well. Yule (2014), May (2001) and May (2009) stated that maxim or cooperative principle defined as fundamental thing which must be noticed by the speaker and addressee during the conversation. The conversation is good if the interlocutors obeys the maxims. The conversation will be communicative, if the speaker and addressee obey the rules or cooperative principle in maxim.

As Yule (2014:35-36) said that the conversation can run well if the speaker and hearer obey the maxim in the conversation. Besides, it is in line with Grundy (2000) who reveals out that conversation that happens among the speakers must fulfill the maxims because it is useful to keep the conversation in the right track. However, the conversation which takes place in daily life or in the work fields such as in police office, nurse flouts the maxims. According to Yule (2014), maxim can be divided into four types. Those are maxim of quantity, quality, relevance, and manner. Maxim of quantity is one of maxim types which expects the speaker to convey the sufficient information. The speaker is prohibited to deliver less or more information. The example of this maxim is illustrated below.

### A: Where have you been?

B: I have been to the Muria Hotel

Based on the conversation above, it can be said that the speaker B tells the information as informative as required. Maxim of quality is one of maxims which expects the speaker to deliver information based on the fact or evidence. In this maxim, the speaker may not lie to the addressee. The example of this maxim is illustrated below.

### A: Why do you borrow her pen?

B: I borrow her pen because I forget my pen in my house.

Based on the conversation above, the speaker B tells the truth that B forgets to bring his pen. Maxim of relevance is one of the maxims which requires the speakers to be relevant in doing conversation. In this maxim, the answer of the speaker must be relevant to the question. The example of this maxim is illustrated below.

### A: Where is your book?

B: My book is on the table.

Based on the conversation above, it obeys the maxim of relevance because the question of the speaker A is relevant with the answer of the speaker B. Maxim of Manner Maxim of manner is one of the maxims which requires the speaker to deliver the information briefly, clear, obviously and not ambiguity. The example of this maxim is illustrated below.

### A: What do you want to eat?

B: I want to eat fried rice.

Based on the conversation above, it fulfills the maxim of manner because the speaker's answer is clear and not ambiguity. Maxim is flouted if the speakers disobey the rule of the maxims. In this case, four maxims which have been

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mentioned in the previous explanation can be flouted by the speakers. The explanation of those flouts are as follows.

### 1.1 Flouting of quantity maxim

The quantity maxim is flouted by the speakers if the speaker does not obey the rule of maxim of quantity. The example of this issue is as follows.

#### A: What is your fullname?

B: My fullname is Aryana Grande, but you can call me Ary.  
Based on the conversation above, it shows the flouting of maxim quantity because the speaker B answers the question of Speaker A not informative as required.

### 1.2 Flouting of quality maxim

The quality maxim is flouted by the speakers if the speakers do not obey the rule of maxim quality namely based on the fact or evidence. The example of this issue is as follows.

#### A: What is the capital city of United State of America (USA)?

B: Sydney  
Based on the conversation above, the speaker B's answer flouts the maxim of quality because the answer is not based on the fact. The fact, the capital city of USA is Washington DC.

### 1.3 Flouting of relevance maxim

The relevance maxim is flouted by the speakers if the speakers utterance are not relevant. The example of this issue is as follows.

#### A: Where is your pencil?

B: I like that pencil  
Based on the conversation above, it shows that the speaker B flouts the maxim of relevance because B's answer is not relevant to the A's question.

### 1.4 Flouting of manner maxim

The manner maxim is flouted if the speakers disobey the rules of manner. The example of this issue is as follows.

#### A: What do you want to eat?

B: I want to eat f-r-i-e-d-r-i-c-e  
Based on the conversation above, the speaker B flouts the maxim of manner because the speaker B spells the name of the food. If the speaker spells the name of the food, it means that the speaker does not give the direct name of the food or not brief. Several previous studies are related to the maxims. The first, Sobhani (2014) who conducted the research which aimed to investigate new ways of understanding non-cooperative attitudes of the speakers and the violation of Cooperative Principle maxims in real Iranian psychological consulting session. The second, Machali (2012) and Alduais, (2012) conducted the research who aimed to see how the maxims can be problematic when we are faced with concepts of politeness. The third, Mukaro, et al. (2013) aimed at looking at the infringement of conversational maxim in public conversations in Shona. The fourth, Xin (2015) aimed at knowing and analyzing the cooperative principle use in English Euphemism. The fifth, Tan, Wang, & Peng (2013) conducted the research who aimed at knowing and analyzing the use of cooperative principle in the listening comprehension of non-English majors. The sixth, Hadi (2013) conducted the

research who aimed to critically examine various representations and interpretations of Grice's Cooperative Principle. The seventh, Keshvardoost (2014) aimed to compare the adoption and violation of Grice's Cooperative Principles in Sport and Political News in American media and identify which of these four Principles (Quality, Quantity, Manner and Relation) has been violated most and which of them has been violated least. The results reveal that the Grice's Cooperative Maxims were more adopted in Political News in compare with Sport News and among these Maxims, the Principle of Manner was most violated in both Sport and Political News. According to the results, the Principle of Quality was most adopted in Sport News and the Principle of Relation was most adopted in Political News. The eighth, Okanda, Asada, & Itakura (2015) conducted the research which aimed to revise a violations of conversational maxims in 4-6 year old Japanese child and adults. Hidayati & Indarti (2013) also conducted the research on maxim violation, but the focus only maxim, not implicature. In short, most of the previous studies conducted the research on violating and infringing of maxims in public conversation, English euphemism, psychological consultation. Based on the previous studies, the current research is different because the current research analyzed the flouting of the maxims in the conversation which takes place in various occupations and their implicature. The research questions of this research are as (a) What are obeying and Flouting (disobeying) types of maxim happen in the conversation? (b) What are kinds of implicature happen in the conversation?. The objectives of the Study are to know obeying and flouting types of maxim happen in the conversation and to know the types of implicature.

## 2 RESEARCH METHODS

### Research Design

This research used the qualitative design. According to Creswell (2014:187), qualitative design is one of the research designs which focuses on describing and analyzing the data qualitatively.

### Sample of the Research

This research used the conversation recording from seventeen students of Universitas 17 Agustus Semarang who had jobs.

### Instrument

This research used document analysis from conversation recording of the students.

### Method of Data Collection

This research used a qualitative data. The qualitative data was obtained by identifying, describing and analyzing from the conversation transcripts.

### Method of Data Analysis

This research used qualitative data analysis. The qualitative data were analyzed by coding and summarizing as coding is one of the ways to analyze the qualitative data.

## 3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1 Results

#### Conversation 1

Miss Endang : Hallo Miss Anin, can you teach Miss Tutik's

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students today?

Anin : I able to teach, What time I do to teach begin?

Miss Endang : 3 o'clock, Miss.

Anin : Why Miss Tutik doesn't teach today?

Miss Endang : Because she is sick.

Anin : Ohh, All right Miss Endang.

### Analysis

#### Maxim

It obeys maxim of quantity because both speakers give enough information as is required.

It obeys maxim of quality because both speakers are assumed to say the truth. It obeys maxim of manner because both speakers are perspicuous. It obeys maxim of relevance because both speakers answer each other relevantly. In short, it obeys all maxims as it is in conversation 1, "Miss Endang: Hallo Miss Anin, can you teach Miss Tutik's students today? And the answer of Anin: I able to teach." The answer of Anin requires enough information.

### Implicature

It implies that Anin will teach Miss Tutik's students today.

### Conversation 2

Intan: Anin, I will to order a logo design.

Anin : What kind a logo design will be your order, tan?

Intan: I will to design logo's for my catering.

Anin : Okay, Can you describe your logo's like?

Intan: a round shape with vegetables and condiments in around and in this center there is my catering name's with telephone number.

Anin : Okay tan, wait for minute.

### Analysis

#### Maxim

It obeys all maxims. Firstly, it obeys maxim of quantity because both speakers give enough information as is required as it is in the conversation, "Anin : What kind a logo design will be your order, tan? Intan: I will to design logo's for my catering." Secondly, it obeys maxim of quality because both speakers are assumed to say the truth. Thirdly, it obeys maxim of manner because both speakers are perspicuous. Fourthly, it obeys maxim of relevance because both speakers answer each other relevantly.

### Implicature

"and" shows conventional implicature which implies that Intan wants to order a logo design with vegetables and condiments circling around her catering's name and phone number.

"a logo design" is categorized as indefinites implicature which is implied to any logo design.

### Conversation 3

Intan: Nin, have you got Mrs. Sumaryanti's book?

Anin : Not, yet Tan.

Intan: When will you get the photo copy?

Anin : Later, I have no money right now. It would cost 50 thousand rupiahs.

#### 1. Maxim

Intan: Nin, have you got Mrs. Sumaryanti's book?

Anin : Not, yet Tan.

- It obeys maxim of quantity because Anin's

respond is as informative as required.

- It obeys maxim of relevant because there is a correlation between the question and answer.
- It obeys maxim of manner because the answer is clear, not ambiguous.
- It obeys maxim of quality because Anin's respond is true, she doesn't lie.

### 2. Implicature

The conversation above is conventional implicature because the answer is explicit and the word "yet" is found in the conversation.

#### 1. Maxim

Intan: When will you get the photo copy?

Anin : Later, I have no money right now. It would cost 50 thousand rupiahs.

- It disobeys maxim of quantity because the answer provides too much information.
- It obeys maxim of relevant because there is a correlation between the question and answer.
- It disobeys maxim of manner because the Anin's respond is ambiguous. There is no clear time she will copy the book as Intan asks.
- It disobeys maxim of quality because there is no evidence that the cost of copy is 50 thousand rupiahs. Anin is doubt.

### 2. Implicature

The second part of conversation is conventional implicature because Anin answers explicitly toward Intan's question. It means Anin will not copy the book till she has at least 50 thousands rupiahs.

### Conversation 4

Lisa : Intan, have you eaten?

Intan: I have no appetite.

Lisa : Let's eat. Don't be like that.

Intan: What do you want for lunch?

Lisa : How about you? What do you want?

Intan: Whatever you want.

#### 1. Maxim

Lisa : Intan, have you eaten?

Intan: I have no appetite.

- It disobeys maxim of relevant because there is no a correlation between the question and answer.
- It disobeys maxim of quantity because Intan provides too much information. It should be "No, I have not".
- It obeys maxim of quality because Intan doesn't lie that she has not eaten because she doesn't have appetite.
- It disobeys maxim of manner because the Intan's respond is ambiguous. We can infer that even if you don't have appetite, you can eat or have eaten. It doesn't guarantee that have no appetite means you don't eat.

#### 2. Implicature

The first part of conversation is categorized as particularized because Intan's respond must be drawn the conclusion by Lisa that she hasn't eaten yet.

#### 1. Maxim

Intan: What do you want for lunch?

Lisa : How about you? What do you want?

It disobeys maxim of relevant because there is no a correlation between Intan's question and Lisa's respond. Lisa should answer Intan's question instead of asking her.

## 2. Implicature

The part of conversation above is conventional implicature because Lisa explicitly asks what Intan wants to their lunch. She will have her lunch by eating food Intan wants. We don't need to draw a conclusion about Lisa's respond.

### 1. Maxim

Lisa : How about you? What do you want?

Intan: Whatever you want.

- a. It disobeys maxim of manner because Intan's respond is ambiguous and isn't clear. She doesn't mention a certain food.
- b. It obeys maxim of relevant because there is a correlation between the question and answer.
- c. It obeys maxim of quantity because Intan's respond is enough.

## 2. Implicature

The conversation above is conventional implicature if we conclude about the menu they will eat. But we also categorize it as particularized implicature because the Intan's respond has a hidden meaning that she actually doesn't want to have lunch.

## 3. Discussion

Based on the findings of the study, firstly, it can be said that most of the conversations obey the maxims (quantity, quality, manner, relevance). It means that the conversations run well among interlocutors. According to May (2009) and Yule (2014), the conversation is good if the conversation does not flout the maxim, consequently, it does not happen misunderstanding between the speaker and the hearer. However, in this study, it also still happened the flouting of the maxim, but it is less, such as flouting of manner maxim and quantity maxim. Secondly, based on the findings, it showed that conventional implicature and particularized implicature are dominant in the conversation. In this part, conventional implicature is characterized by using several conjunction, such as and, therefore, but and etc. However, particularized implicature tends to make the hearer think about the hidden meaning from the speaker. Yule (2014) stated that the conversational implicature determine whether or not the hearer or the second speaker understands or not what the first speaker means in the conversation. In brief, maxim and implicature exist in the students' conversation. However, the students did not only obey the maxims, but also violate the maxim. The examples of maxim violation were manner and quantity. Moreover, the implicature surely existed in the conversation eventhough, the implicature which happened in the conversation only particularized and conventional.

## 4 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, conversation which happens in several jobs can obey and flout of the maxims, but most of them follow the maxims. Besides, the implicature of the conversation can be understood by the interlocutor. The implicatures that occurs in the conversations are conventional and conversational implicature.

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