

## IMPLICATURE USED BY ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STUDENTS

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### Abstrak

Di departemen bahasa Inggris, siswa seharusnya mempelajari keterampilan berkomunikasi bahasa Inggris yang baik untuk menjalankan interaksi yang efektif. Keterampilan komunikasi yang baik diperlukan ketika pembicara dan pendengar ingin bertukar informasi. Dalam beberapa kasus siswa memanfaatkan prinsip-prinsip pragmatis untuk menghubungkan jarak dan bergantung pada Pendengar agar memiliki prinsip yang sama dalam memahami interpretasi ucapan. Hal ini disebut implikatur. Penelitian ini berfokus pada implikatur percakapan bahasa Inggris pada siswa jurusan bahasa Inggris yang menggunakan bahasa Inggris sebagai bahasa utama. Penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk mengungkapkan kemampuan siswa dalam memproduksi implikatur untuk bertukar informasi dengan pendengar. Ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif yang dilakukan untuk menggambarkan maksim percakapan dan menganalisis implikatur percakapan yang digunakan oleh para siswa. Teori yang digunakan adalah prinsip-prinsip kooperasi dan implikatur percakapan oleh Grice. Data dikumpulkan dari pengamatan siswa dalam konteks kelas reguler dan pertemuan ESC (English Speaking Community). Data dianalisis melalui proses mengkategorikan, menganalisis dan membahas. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa implikatur juga terkait dengan cara pembicara mematuhi, mencemooh atau melanggar maksim percakapan. Dari 28 data, maksim kuantitas paling sering dilanggar. Siswa cenderung mencemoohkan atau melanggar maksim percakapan dengan maksud membuat percakapan yang efektif dan menciptakan pemahaman yang lebih baik untuk pendengar. Selain itu ada dua jenis implikatur percakapan yang digunakan oleh siswa yaitu Generalized Conversational Implicature (GCI) dan The Particularized Conversational Implicature (PCI). Ada 12 GCI yang menunjukkan bahwa semua pendengar dapat memahami implikatur pembicara dengan sangat baik. Hal ini karena GCI adalah konteks bebas, kesimpulan ini didasarkan pada pengetahuan umum, bukan konteks. Di sisi lain, 16 PCI memiliki dua kemungkinan yang berkaitan dengan pemahaman pendengar. Pendengar bisa mengasumsikan maksud dari pembicara dengan mudah atau tidak. Hal ini didasarkan pada pengetahuan peserta terhadap kesimpulan yang terikat dengan konteks tertentu.

**Kata kunci:** pragmatik, Implikatur Percakapan, Maksim Percakapan, Model Percakapan.

### Abstract

In English department, the students supposed to acquire good English communication skill to run effective interaction. The good communication skill is needed when the speaker and hearer want to exchange the information. In some cases the students tacitly exploit pragmatic principles to connect the gap and counts on hearer H to invoke the same principles for the purposes of utterance interpretation. It is called Implicature, This study focus on Implicature in English conversation especially in the conversation of English department students whose use english as the main language. This study also aims to reveal the students ability in producing the implicature to exchange the information with the hearer. It is a descriptive qualitative research which is conducted to describe the conversational maxims and to analyze the conversational implicature used by English department students. The theories are the cooperative principles and conversational implicature by Grice. The data are collected from the observation of English department students in regular class context and ESC (English Speaking Community) meetings. The data are analyzed through the process of categorizing, analyzing and discussing. The result of the study shows that implicature also related to the way of a speaker obeys, flouts or violates the conversational maxims. From 28 data, quantity maxim is mostly flouted. Student tends to flout or violate maxims of conversations with the intention of making effective conversation and creating better understanding to the hearer. Moreover there are two type of conversational implicature which is used by the students. They are Generalized Conversational Implicature (GCI) and The Particularized Conversational Implicature (PCI). There are 12 GCI data which show that all of the hearer can understand the speaker's implicature very well. It is because the GCI is context free, the inferences is based on the general knowledge, not the context. On the other hand, 16 PCI data have two possibilities that are related to the hearer's comprehension. The hearer can assume the speaker intended meaning easily or not. It is based the knowledge of the participants toward the inference that tied up to the particular context.

**Keywords:** Pragmatics, conversational Implicature, Conversational Maxims, Communication Style

### INTRODUCTION

Human daily interactions need language as the important aspect of speech production. People use language to share idea and interpret their meaning to the hearer. Without language, people cannot communicate in any real sense. However, people do not recognize the process of understanding and producing the utterances. People think that the way they speak and communicate is

naturally. In Communication, people do activities in sending and receiving message to convey the ideas in their mind. Communication can take in form of speech, letters email, text, or sign language. Talking is the most common in form of communication. Good communication is needed in order to make the interaction runs effectively. Listeners and speakers must do it cooperatively and mutually accept one another to be understood in a particular

way. Indeed the ability of the human communication is based on several knowledge of linguistics that human have.

It is a research about the context of utterances which are used by the speaker. The utterance contains speaker intention that should be understood by the hearer. The hearer will builds interpretation toward the speaker's utterance. Grice (1975) makes two differences between what is said by speaker of a verbal utterance and what is implied. What is implied might be either conventional (largely generated by the standing meaning) or conversational (dependent on the assumption that is speaker obeying the rules of conversation to the best of their ability). There are two types of Conversational Implicature, Generalized Implicature and Particularized Implicature. Generalized Implicature is a conversational Implicature that is assumed without reference to any special context. Particularized Implicature is conversational Implicature that is derived only in specific context.

Paul Grice also proposes Cooperative Principle which states "Make your conversational contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged." Cooperative Principles controls speakers to organize their utterances to be understood by hearers. The expression "*Make your conversational contribution such as required*" means the speakers should provide enough and not too much

information. Then the expression "*At the stage which it occurs*" means speakers' utterances should be connected to the context of the speech. Then the expression "*by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged*" means speakers should deliver the meaning obviously and avoiding uncertainty. The Cooperative Principle illustrates how effective communication in conversation is accomplished in common social situations. Grice (1975, p.45) specify four conversational maxims that he asserted people generally follow when communicating efficiently. They are Maxim of Quality, Maxim of Quantity, Maxim of Relevance and Maxim of Manner.

This means that linguistics knowledge can be used only when human should interpret the meaning of the utterances. One cannot describe the meaning of indices-one can only describe rules for relating them to a context, in which the meaning can be found. Here the phenomena are between linguistics, cognitive, and social development. Meaning is what people learn how to make sense of each linguistically. People should know about other's intended meaning, their assumption, their purpose or goal, and the kinds of actions that they are performing when they speak. So the meaning indices can be described by using those aspects.

The researcher is interested in doing research about conversational implicature for her study because the researcher wants to reveal the English ability of the students which is

supposed to acquire good skill in English communication especially in understanding and producing implicature in English language. To answer the research question, the theory about conversational implicature and cooperative principles by Grice (1975) are used.

## **METHOD**

The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. It is used to analyze the Implicature which are used by English department students in English expressions. In this case, it focused on the conversational one especially English conversation of the students. The data were the English department students' utterance. Meanwhile, the sources of the data were collected from the observation of English department students in regular class context and ESC (English Speaking Community) meetings. All of the settings were in formal context. The research involved English Department students of Unesa as the second language learner. All of the participants were in the sixth semester. This observation was done in several meeting class and Esc start from 27-2-2015 until 2-4-2015. It focused on certain phenomena related to the Implicature that used by the English department student used the formal context of the regular classes and ESC meetings. The observation was done three times for each class for the minimal meeting requirement in the observation.

In this study, the writer was the main instrument in the collecting data process. The writer collected, evaluated, and analyzed the words data to answer the research question. The other supporting tools that were necessarily needed were the block note and also voice recorder. Those instruments tend to help the researcher to analyze the data effectively. The data are analyzed through the process of categorizing, analyzing and discussing.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

The findings show that in during the observation of this research, implicature occurs in 28 data. Implicature is derived from "a general principle of conversation plus number of maxims which speaker usually obeys (Levinson:1987). A general principle here means the cooperative principle theory that must be followed in every conversation to create an effective talk. In certain cases, the maxims that usually obeys are flouted or violated generate the term of implicature. Flouting maxim of quantity occurs when speaker's contribution is not adequate. Flouting maxim of quality occurs when speaker's contribution is not true. Flouting the maxim of relevance occurs when the speaker's contribution is not relevance. Then flouting the maxim of manner occurs when speaker's contribution is not perspicuous and it may be obscure, ambiguous and not reasonable direct. On the other hand, violating the maxim is when the speaker deliberately produces insufficient information, say something that is insincere, irrelevant or

ambiguous and the hearer wrongly assumes that they are cooperating (Cutting, 2002:40). For the example is in the silence of the speaker. This expression violates all of the maxims because the writer cannot assume the real intention of the speaker. This makes the function of the communication breaks down because one of the participants is uncooperative.

In addition, the maxim that is mostly being flouted is the quantity maxim. From all of the conversational maxim there are 23 data that flout this maxim. The speaker usually gives limited or too much information in order to deliver their message. For the example, in one of the data, the hearer tends to flout the maxim of quantity in order to add more explanation to her previous statement. Her statement **"Hmm... I prefer the room that is comfortable, depends on the situation. Because my room is near to the living room, when the guests come, I feel disturbed. So, I move to my brother's room in the second floor."** (58) give too much information than the hearer required. On the other hand, another data shows the speaker produce limited utterance that flouts the quantity maxim as well. To make the utterance into the adequate ones, the speaker need to give more specific and more affective information. On the other hand, 5 from 28 data flout maxim of quality. it means that the only several speakers do not show his or her sincerity. This maxim is least flouted because the speaker always wants to say the information based on the truth. The

speaker wants to show his or her sincerity to the hearer.

Based on the implicature point of view, The occurrences of the implicature are divided into two categories, generalized conversational implicature and particularized conversational implicature (Grice : 1975). This categorization is based on the inferences to figure out the conveyed meaning, which is then matched with the Gricean Maxims. The particularized conversational implicature in the students expressions occur more often than the generalized conversational implicature. From 28 that are found, 16 of them are categorized as particularized conversational implicature.

The implicature is called Generalized Conversational Implicature when the participants hear the information from the speaker, they do not need to draw background knowledge to infer what the speaker's intended meaning or the participants do not depend on special feature or context to understand the intended message. it is usually called context-free. On the other hand, the inference of Particularized Conversational Implicature always tied to the context.

In the Generalized Conversational Implicature the way the speaker produces the implicature by using declarative sentence, imperative sentence and interrogative sentence. Those types of sentences are used to carry out the function and the meaning to the hearer. The functions of the

implicature are promising, accepting request, refusing request, ordering or asking request, giving explanation and confirming idea. In addition, the writer finds that the declarative sentence is mostly used in GCI conversation. The function that is aimed by the speaker is not always to declare or verifying something to the hearer. Some of the data shows that the declarative sentence can be used as an imperative sentence. For the example in data 2, “**They are N’s classmates mbak.**”(4) this statement is categorized as a declarative utterance. In fact the implied meaning of this utterance is for directing or ordering the hearer to do something. It means that the hearer is directed to ask another student (N) to get the information. This situation shows that the speaker success to deliver the intended meaning through a declarative statement. In Generalized Conversational Implicature data, all of the hearers (or they can be indicated as second speaker) can understand the first speaker utterance easily. Although the utterance contain some implicatures, the hearer does not seem find any difficulties in getting the real meaning. It is because the GCI is context free. It does not need any particular knowledge to know the inference.

Table 1.

Utterances	Conversational maxims			Implicatures
	Ob	Fl	VI	
S: Do you know RP, PC, VC, AR, BK, and FD? Can I ask	Ql Mn	Rl		The hearer says that she doesn’t have the information and

for their contacts?				direct the speaker -
H: <b>They are N’s classmates mbak.</b>				to ask another student.
S : After the presentation , please make a note and write the points about the material! H : <b>Wait, mam!</b>		Qn Rl		The hearer asks for extra time to prepare note-taking.

Notes :

Ob : Obeying Maxim

Fl : Flouting Maxim

VI : Violating maxim

Particularized conversational implicature occurs when the implicature is strongly tied to the particular feature of the context (Yule, 1996 p.42). this implicature are mostly used by the Students in their conversations. From the 28 data, there are 16 data that included into PCI specification. In this research, the writer finds that the PCI occurs in two situations. The first situation is when the hearer understands the speaker’s meaning and another is when the hearer does not understand the speaker’s meaning. When the hearer understands the speaker meaning, the hearer tends to use declarative sentence. The functions are for replying the request (acceptance or rejection), giving order or request, giving explanation, reassuring the future action. For the example, in data 13 the second speaker utters declarative sentence “**The red ones are not necessary to read**” (10). Here the word ‘Red’ contain

implicature that only the speaker and the hearer who know the meaning. The word ‘Red’ means the words that were written in red color. This conversation happens in the middle of the lecture when a student asks something to the presenter. Here the hearer tends to express declarative statement (in extract 10) to reject the previous order of the first speaker’s statement “ **I cannot see the red**” (9) that also uses the declarative statement (in extract 9). Beside the hearer also produces other expression such as silent and smile. One of the data shows that the hearer keeps silent when the first speaker utters a question. In this case, the silent has an implicature. It is intended to pause the conversation and to give extra time for the hearer to think. This silence does not mean the incapability of the hearer in giving the response because the hearer can give the appropriate answer after that. It means that the hearer comprehends the first speaker means.

Table 2.

Utterances	Conversational maxims			Implicatures
	Ob	Fl	VI	
S :I cannot see the red (words)! H : <b>The red ones are not necessary to read.</b>	Ql	Mn Rl		the hearer declines the order of the speaker to change the color of the word or to explain the word
S1 :Can you do the		Qn	Qn Ql	The hearer is

demonstration of the research and show us? H : <b>(Kept silent and didn't give any response)</b> S2 : Your friend ask you something. H : So, we will demonstrate it (give explanation)			Rl Mn	still confused with the order to do the demo of the research and needs extra time to think.
S : L, join fear factor! H : <b>(Smile)</b>			Qn Ql Rl Mn	The hearer tries to give polite response

Notes :

Ob : Obeying Maxim

Fl : Flouting Maxim

VI : Violating maxim

In contrast, the hearer also produces silent when the hearer does not understand the first speaker utterance in PCI. This aims to show that the hearer cannot give the appropriate answer. The example can be seen in data 23. When the first speaker produces a question, the hearer (in this case is the students) only keep silent and keep talking to the others. They show their inability to answer the question. Furthermore the speaker also tends to use the interrogative sentence when they are not sure to answer the question. Data 24 shows that the hearer utters interrogative statement toward the first speaker order. It means that the hearer wants to ask the clarity. In this case, there is a possibility that make the



second speaker (hearer) does not understand the first speaker's meaning, it is background knowledge. In a conversation the speaker and the hearer should understand the information that they are exchanged well to get the goal. It is possible if there are some inferences inside the conversation. Here speaker and hearer's knowledge is needed to identify the message behind the utterance. The communication will be failed if one of the parties cannot get the real meaning. It is because the participants might have different knowledge toward an inference. Moreover, it is also possible if one of the parties does not belong to the same community. It makes the hearer wrongly assumes about the meaning because he/ she does not used to be familiar with the inference. If the participants are part of the same group, they can assume same mutual knowledge as the other group members in (Cutting, 2002: 5), and groups with mutual vary in size. This study has great deal with people interaction to recognize the parts of human communication.

Table 3.

Utterances	Conversational maxims			Implicatures
	Ob	Fl	VI	
S : What is Modularity , What is one of the component ? H : (Keep silent and keep talking to			Qn Ql Rl Mn	The hearers don't know the answer.

their friends in low voice)				
S : Please, write these words with the same order. H : <b>With the space?</b> S: Yes and the capital letters.		Qn Rl		The hearer tries to reassure his future action.

Notes :

Ob : Obeying Maxim

Fl : Flouting Maxim

VI : Violating maxim

All in all, the writer concludes that the speaker tends to flouting and violating the maxim in order to deliver the implicature to the hearer. This means that the conversational implicature influence the conversational maxim and vice versa. The conversational implicature (GCI and PCI) takes place in the context of communication. Then in this research, the writer adds that the inference can be drawn mostly on the context of communication, the context of previous event, and also context of logical knowledge to extract the implied meaning of speaker's utterance. Furthermore, the speaker tends to flouting and violating the maxim in order to deliver the intended meaning to the hearer. The speakers often break the maxims of Cooperative Principle; they do not follow the rules of Cooperative Principle. In the conversation, the occurrence of flouting maxim often happen because the speaker and participants do not follow on the convention of communication but they tend to be more focus on how speaker's



meaning can be understood by the listener.

## CONCLUSION

After discussing the result of analysis, The occurrence of conversational implicature is also caused by the result of flouted maxim. For the example, the writer concluded that the speaker flouts maxim of quality when the speaker makes certain thing to hide the truth. Next, the speaker flouts the maxim of quantity when speaker tries to elaborate the information and give a hint (for giving too little information) to the hearer. Then the speaker breaks maxim of manner to when he /she responds to the participant's statement with vague or confusing response. The last, the speaker flouts maxim of relation when the answer seems to be irrelevant. The writer concluded that in communication the speaker and hearer often flout conversational maxim. The aim of the speaker when using the implicature in communication is not in located in the form or conventional rule that being applied, but it tends more to the efficiency of communication such how speaker's utterance and intended meaning can be conveyed successfully to the addressee. On the other hand, the participant convey intended meaning the addressee in effective way such like implicature. Implicature is just like a bridge that connects what utterance that is being said and what is in speaker mind.

Moreover the writer finds that the conversational implicature that are used by English department student are the Generalized Conversational Implicature, which the inference can be drawn from linguistic feature and general fact without considering the context and the Particularized Conversational Implicature, which inference can be drawn by understanding the context. Particularized Conversational Implicature are mostly occurred in the conversation. In PCI the type of sentences are declarative sentence, imperative sentence, and interrogative sentence. Furthermore, there are several expressions that are used also by the speaker. There are smiling and silent. In the research the PCI shows two conditions that are related to the hearer comprehension. The first condition is when the hearer can assume the intended meaning of the speaker. Then, it is when the second hearer cannot assume the intended meaning of the first speaker. This kind of phenomena can happen because the PCI contains inference that is tied to the context. However, in the certain context, the hearer might have different assumption to the speaker. On the other hand, in GCI the way the speaker produce the implicature is using the declarative sentence, imperative sentence and also imperative sentence. Those types of sentence are used to carry out the meaning. The type of sentence that is mostly used is the declarative sentence. The functions are for verifying something and also giving order. In GCI all of the hearers can understand the

implicature of the speaker easily. GCI does not rely on the particular inference which is made the implicature easier to understand. All in all, Implicature is the one of efficient way to delivering the message because the speaker does not need to utter too much explanation in order to express the idea or thought. The speaker can use the implied meaning which contains the hints which is connected with certain aspect of situation and hearer's knowledge. It is aimed to make the hearer extract the intended meaning of the first speaker which also reflect the speaker's idea.

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