Conversational Implicature in Big Momma's House 1 Movie

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Abstract

In much of our conversations, the writer assumes that the speakers and listeners are generally cooperating with each other. However, in some circumstances, a speaker intends to communicate more than is said, that something must be more than just what the words mean. It is an additional meaning, called conversational implicature. Conversational implicature is an interesting thing where it is not a matter of sentence but instead of an utterance's meaning. Therefore, in this study, the writer is interested in analyzing what conversational implicature are found the utterances of the main characters, what is being implied based on the main characters on those utterances in the conversation and then why the characters use conversational implicature do. The writer chose Big Momma's House 1 because it is a great movie with some mission of FBI. The writer used Grice's theory of conversational implicature as the basis of the analysis of the study. The utterances containing implicature divided into two categories; generalized and particularized conversational implicature. From the findings, most of the characters are using generalized conversational implicature.
Keywords : *Types of Conversational Implicature, Utterance, Big Momma's House 1 Movie.*

Abstrak

Dalam banyak percakapan, penulis berasumsi bahwa para pembicara dan pendengar umumnya bekerja sama satu sama lain. Namun, dalam beberapa keadaan, seorang pembicara berniat untuk berkomunikasi lebih dari apa yang dikatakan, bahwa sesuatu yang disampaikan harus lebih dari sekedar apa arti dari kata-kata itu. Ini adalah makna tambahan, yang disebut implikatur percakapan. Implikatur percakapan adalah hal yang menarik di mana itu bukan masalah kalimat melainkan makna ucapan. Oleh karena itu, dalam penelitian ini, penulis tertarik untuk menganalisis apa implikatur percakapan yang ditemukan pada ucapan-ucapan dari karakter utama, apa yang tersirat berdasarkan karakter utama pada ucapan-ucapan dalam percakapan dan kemudian mengapa karakter menggunakan implikatur percakapan tersebut. Penulis memilih Big Momma's House 1 karena ini adalah film yang hebat dengan beberapa misi dari FBI. Penulis menggunakan teori Grice tentang implikatur percakapan sebagai dasar analisis penelitian. Ucapan yang mengandung implikatur dibagi menjadi dua kategori; implikatur percakapan umum dan khusus. Dari analisis penulis, sebagian besar karakter menggunakan implikatur percakapan umum.
Kata kunci : *Jenis Implikatur Percakapan, Ucapan, Film Big Momma's House 1.*

INTRODUCTION

In this new era of globalization, English people dominate in almost every sector in the world. It is the reason that English Language becomes the International Language. Therefore, if we do not want to be old fashioned in this world, it is important for us as a non native English speaker to master the English Language. In daily conversation, English people often communicate in their own ways to express their feeling. They use of that "way" is in order to maintain the communication run smoothly and effectively. However, there are many cases which show that sometimes the communications turn up in the opposite ways. Even it can also make a misunderstanding between the speaker and the hearer.
In order to achieve a successful communication, the hearer must recognize the speaker's intention. Communication works because the speaker and the hearer know and understand what they are talking about. The hearer must get the messages the same way as the speaker had in his or her mind. When the speaker implies or does not express his or her messages literally, that implication is called an implicature. As a non-native English speaker, sometimes we do not know the implicatures because we have different language and culture with English people.

In analyzing the implicatures, the writer uses the theory of implicatures by H.P Grice (1975). Grice notices when people communicate in daily conversations, they often make their literal expression implied. So, he stated the term "implicatures" to express the implied meaning, and then puts forward "conversational implicatures" to express implied messages involved in conversation exchange. Furthermore, Grice develops an influential theory to explain and predict conversational implicatures, and describe how they can be understood. He postulates

the "Cooperative Principle" and four "Maxims" to specify how to be cooperative in a good communication. This is an example, when the speaker does not express his message literally; there is a possibility if the hearer cannot catch what the speaker's means at that time.

A: When this competition begin?
B: Soon.

Through the theory of conversational implicatures, we can get what the speaker B (from the example above) may intend to say. From that conversation, A wants to know when actually the competition begin, but B does not provide necessary information required and is flouting the maxim of Quantity. Thus B may express his implied meaning that "I do not want to tell you".

Another supposition can be derived from the situational context. A and B are involved in a specific environment, they are in the same place to watch some competition and waiting for the beginning of the event. We can say that B expresses the possible implicatures "Do not leave, because the competition will begin immediately". This supposition can be accepted in daily life because the context is factually possible, so we can conclude that the conversational implicatures are reasonable.

In identifying Conversational Implicatures, the writer uses American movie "Big Momma's House 1" as a data. The writer thinks that this data is worth analyzing because it provides many examples of utterances with implicatures. In addition, the main characters in Big Momma's House 1 movie use implicatures because implicatures can make their conversation run well. Also, the main characters imply because they want to hide their identity as FBI. Moreover, Big Momma's House environment is in American society's daily life. The movie shows that there are two agents who move in some area just because they want to know Sherry, a girl that has close relationship with guy. That guy is suspect of bank robbery. So, they live with Big Momma as their neighbor. Big momma and Sherry have a close relationship, because when Sherry was child, she adopted by Big momma. Someday, Big Momma must leave her house for two weeks, it makes two agents can enter her house freely, but suddenly there is call from Sherry who wants to stay for several days in her house. It is a chance for two agents to start their mission, so Malcolm makes his body like Big Momma to find many information about Sherry and her ex boyfriend as a suspect. In doing his mission, there are several conflicts that almost make the disguise uncovered, but in the end of the story, Malcolm tells everybody that he is a FBI and fall in love with Sherry. In this movie, Malcolm and John use conversational implicature in doing their mission not only to hide their identity as FBI, but also to get much information from Sherry.

This study will analyze the implicature used by the main characters in Big Momma's House 1 movie. In this case, it focuses on the conversation used by the main characters. The writer chooses conversational implicature for her study because the writer finds that it is an interesting thing where three main characters in the movie use conversational implicature to get the respons

of the hearer. From what the speaker says, the hearer uses conversational implicature to imply something related to the utterances. This qualitative study hopefully can be one of the research sources to improve the student's capacity in the application of Pragmatics especially in understanding and producing implicature in English language.

In studying the utterances with implicatures, the writer wants to reveal the implied meaning of the implicatures. Sometimes, the hearer cannot catch the speaker's message clearly, and that is why the writer is intended to identify the implied meaning of utterances with implicature so it can be easily understood. By revealing the implied meaning of utterances with implicatures, the writer hopes that she can understand more about the speaker's intention in daily conversations.

Through this study, the writer expects that the reader could learn and understand English language more efficiently. Sometimes, when two English native people communicate, they have a hidden message or an implied meaning in their conversation. They can understand what the hidden message is because they have the same language and cultural background. As a non native speaker, we often do not understand the hidden message and it can create misunderstanding. Therefore, this study can help the readers to reveal and identify such hidden message or an implied meaning so it can be easily understood. Moreover, through this study, the writer also hopes that analyzing implicatures broaden the reader's knowledge and understanding in English conversations.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, the writer used descriptive qualitative approach. She used descriptive method to analyze the data and to obtain a picture what goes in particular situation and setting, and then described the finding as to answer her research questions. It holds true since in this study the writer identified and analyzed the implicatures that occur in a particular setting, namely a movie entitled *Big Momma's House 1*. This qualitative research mostly was employed to describe, interpretively rather to count statistically the data and the finding of the research. This kind of research described the result in forms of words or sentences.

The theories were used to help and enrich the researcher's insights in analyzing and interpreting the finding. The study was concerned with the meaning of the language use. The researcher only found the script of the movie, found some data, stated the research question, collected some data, analyze the data and reported it. This research was done on the basis of the context in which communication of the main characters in Big Momma's House 1 movie.

Subject of the study are Malcolm, John and Sherry as the main characters in Big Momma's House 1 movie that have some mission. Malcolm and his partner John, want to investigate Sherry because Sherry is the one who close

with the bank robber. They want to know where the bank robber hides. Malcolm change his body becomes Big Momma to get closer with Sherry. In doing their mission, there are a lot of conflicts happened that almost make their disguise failed. Being an old woman is not easy for Malcolm, but he enjoys it because he falls in love with Sherry. His disguise as Big Momma not only helps him in doing his mission, but also he can marry.Therefore, the setting is the conversation between Malcolm, John and Sherry. The location of the conversation which is done by three main characters are in Big Momma's house, office, Malcolm and John's house, the river and Sherry's car.

The source of data for this study is Big Momma's House 1 movie. The transcription of the movie and non linguistic clues such as gesture of the main characters and physical movement is used to help the writer to analyze the data. The transcription takes from the internet and also the original DVD of *Big Momma's House* movie. The writer chose the DVD rather than VCD format because the DVD format provides English subtitle, which helps her in analyzing the data. The data of this study were the utterances which contain conversational implicature expressed by Malcolm, Sherry, and John in Big Momma's House 1 movie when they are talking to each other characters.

The writer began the analysis by noting down the settings, situation, and non-linguistic clues such as physical movement which was aimed to support the analysis. The analysis was conducted based on what implicature that found in the movie. The writer classified what types of conversational implicatures found in the movie produced by the speakers. To decide what types of conversational implicature produced by the speakers, the writer used Grice's theory of implicature.

The writer continues analyzes the implied meanings based on the main characters on those utterances in the conversation. The writer writes down the conversation which contains of implicatures, and then explains what is being implied of the utterances. Then the writer analyzes the purpose based on the main character's utterances in the conversation. The writer writes down the reason why the characters use conversational implicature.

Therefore, the researcher is employed as the tool in seeking the answer for the research question. As Fraenkel and Wallen in Creswell (2009:228) stated that the researcher is the primary instrument in data collection rather than inanimate mechanism. So, the writer was the instrument in conducting the study. She was the one who transcribed and analyzed the data. The transcription takes from the internet and also the original DVD of *Big Momma's House 1* movie. The script was collected by downloading from the internet. Those instruments tend to help the researcher to analyze the data effectively

In collecting the data, the writer watched the film several times and then she made the transcription. After finishing the transcription, she browsed the internet to find Big Momma's House's script. Then she did a cross check both the transcription which is written down by the writer with the help of subtitle and that from internet. When she found unmatched utterances, she will correct them by watching again the movie for several times. These procedures were done so as to as certain that the writer could get a reliable transcription for her research data. Then, the writer identified all the utterances produced by Malcolm, Sherry and Paul, and giving the time of the conversation occurred in the movie that contains implicature.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

FINDING

The writer will analyze the data using the existing theories and also will answer the research questions. The research questions concern on the form of the Types of conversational implicature based on Grice's (1975) theory of implicatures as the main theory and Hymes (1967) context of situation as the supporting theory. Here the conversations of the main characters in Big Momma's House 1 movie that contain the implicature. There are two subs heading such as Generalized Conversational Implicature (GCI) and Particularized Conversational Implicature (PCI) of the main characters' utterances in the movie.

Generalized Conversational Implicature of the main characters' utterances

Data 1
1) Setting: Malcolm and John go to fight area, a place where illegal competition between human and dog.

Situation: Malcolm wears an old man mask to hide his identity as FBI to catch the people who organize that event. Suddenly, there is a guy who pulls the mask off.

Malcolm: "Y'all never heard of Seoul, Korea? FBI! Everybody freeze. Don't move! John!!"

John: "A little helps down here, please?"
Malcolm: "No doubt. Are you all right?"

00:02:10 – 00:02:36

Speaker	Utterances	Implicature	Types of CI		Context
			GCI	PCI	
John Malcolm	A little helps down here, please?	He needs a help	v	-	-
	No doubt, are you all right?	He helps John			

From the speaker's utterance, he expects that the hearer be able to assume what the speaker's need. When the speaker asks a request "A little helps down here, please?" to the hearer, he accepts it by saying this expression, "No doubt, are you all right?" This expression is assumed to be relevant to what has been said before and clear enough. The speaker will understand that he will accept the request. "A little helps down here, please?" means the speaker in a condition that he needs a help and hope the hearer gives an action as soon as possible. The hearer answers with "No doubt, are you all right?" which mean that he want to ensure that he will go to down and help him. Those implicatures belong to the Generalized Conversational Implicature since the inference can be drawn from general features of the context and the world-knowledge. They do not depend on particular feature of the context.

The reason why they use conversational implicature is they are in a hurry situation, so that John uses a generalized conversational implicature to make the hearer (Malcolm) understand the speaker's utterance about what exactly he need. He does not need to give the signals or code to make the hearer understand. The expression "A little helps down here, please?" is categorized as an imperative sentence rather than a declarative. However, the hearer knows the intention of the speaker in uttering that expression.

Particularized Conversational Implicature of the main characters' utterances

Data 16
2) Setting: In the living room when Ben force to come inside the house

Situation: Big Momma surprised of Ben's coming and she has no idea who is he actually.
Ben: There is my sugar
Big Momma: You would better put that nasty-ass tongue back in your mouth before I rip it out.
Ben: Yes ma'am my mouth is closed by my hands is open for business.

00:25:37 – 00:25:45

Speaker	Utterances	Implicature	Types of CI		Context
			GCI	PCI	
Big Momma	You would better put that nasty-ass tongue back in your mouth before I rip it out.	She gets angry because he tries to flirt her.	-	v	-
Ben	My mouth is closed but my hands are open for business.	He seems like knowing her for a long time and wants to do something bad to Big Momma.			

The speaker's expects the hearer to understand if she does not want to meet him. She gets angry because the hearer's tries to do something bad to her in front of Sherry. He says something which makes others think he has a relationship with Big Momma. Big Momma shows her madness by stating "You would better put that nasty-ass tongue back in your mouth before I rip it out" it implies he did bad things to her and she will do further action if he do that again. The hearer seems does not know about what the speaker's say. He feels like Big Momma changed. So that, the hearer answers by saying "My mouth is closed but my hands are open for business" which make he wants to touch her breast. It makes Big Momma is angrier than before. These utterances belong to Particularized Conversational Implicature because there are some certain references that should be understood to get the meaning of the implicature.

The speakers states inappropriate sentences because she wants to make the hearer understand that she gets angry. She feels he annoys her when he tries to touch her breast. The hearer response it with particularized conversational implicature with the expectation that the speaker knows about what usually they do. Because of Malcolm is not the real Big Momma, he pretends to be a Big Momma but he cannot stand it anymore. Then, he choose to kick Ben away from the house.

DISCUSSION

After obtaining data, the writer needs to discuss the findings in order to clarify the answer of research question. The first problem is what conversational implicatures are found in Big Momma's House 1 movie. The writer put the data by categorized the characters utterances in a table, before put on the table, the writer analyze the setting and the situation. Conversation is mainly about talking. The term "Conversational Analysis" is to represent any study of people talking together, oral communication, or language use. The structure of talking, the basic pattern of "I speak- you speak – I speak – you speak" will derive from the fundamental kind of interaction people acquire first and most often (Yule1996). From the example in Data 1 when the speaker said "A little helps down here, please" he seems does not know who talk with. After the hearer response it by saying "No Doubt, are you all right?" it means that the speaker and the hearer make an interaction. The utterance above generalized conversational implicature concerning to Grice theory (1975). When no special knowledge is required in the context to calculate the additional conveyed meaning. In this case of the example between Malcolm and John, it has no special background knowledge of the context.

In answering research question number 2 about what is being implied based on the three main characters on those utterances in the conversation, we can have a look in this example, Malcolm: "Nah you bring them over. That is how you meet the new neighbors", then John: "Oh, man? Where are you going?" from that conversation, it is included particularized conversational implicature. John's response does not provide a "yes" or "no" answer. Malcolm assumes that John is being cooperative, so he considers John's question and clearly the answer is "yes". While John says "Oh, man? Where are you going?" it means he does not want the partner leave him alone with the neighbors. He wants to meet the new neighbors with Malcolm, but without answer John's question, Malcolm only gives him command to stall them and he will set the surveillance.

The third problem is, why do the characters use conversational implicature? For answering this research question, the study will look the previous results and analyses it. By using theory of implicature from Grice (1975) and supporting theory from Hymes (1967), research question number 3 may be answered. For example, have a look at the data 2, the reason why they use particularized conversational implicature is he prevents Malcolm go out in order to accompany him meet the new neighbors indirectly. The situation of that time supports John to use particularized implicature. 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 reflects the speaker's idea.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

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With regards that what is meant goes beyond what is stated, and that Big Momma's Hoouse 1 movie contains implicature that might confuse the viewers, the writer is interested in conducting this study. The writer used Grice's theory of conversational implicature as the basic theory in conducting her study. To do her investigation, the writer collected the data from Big Momma's House movie transcription, which was taken from internet. The writer was the instrument who transcribed and analyzed the data.

Findings of this study reveal that generalized conversational implicatures are produced the most by the main characters. It takes a big opportunity than particularized ones, which the data only 5 conversation. Doing this research, the writer can also conclude that between the two implicatures, generalized and particularized, the latter is the more difficult one. The reasons are, firstly clear understanding of the context should be clearly derived so that proper understanding of the implied meaning can be achieved. Secondly, the difficulty in interpreting the intended meaning of the utterances, namely those on particularized conversational implicature is doubled by the fact that they are very much context dependent and that they may related to culture, particularly that of America. Therefore, shared background knowledge and cultural schemata are essential.

Next the writer's findings do not confirm the claim of Yule (1996:42) that most of the time, our conversation take place in very specific context in which locally recognized inferences are assumed. The writer found that generalized conversational implicature was produced the most, especially because of the use of scalar terms and indefinite article of "a/an" which are frequently used in our daily conversation. All in all, Implicature is the one of efficient way to delivering the message

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SUGGESTION

The writer expects this research can improve the reader's understanding about the concept of conversational implicature. Conversation is one thing around us which not only has a function of sending and receiving the information but it also become an interesting subject of research. The writer expects that the reader who will become the next researcher will be able to apply the theory of conversational implicature in different subjects.

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