

AN ANALYSIS OF MAXIM FLOUTING UTTERED BY THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN ARMAGEDDON MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

To achieve a successful communication, particularly in the verbal one, the participants are expected to be cooperative. To be cooperative in a conversation, the participants are expected to follow some principles called Cooperative Principles that consist of maxim. Considering it, the research objectives is to describe the types of maxim and reason of maxim. The researcher used descriptive qualitative. The subject was the main character in armageddon movie. The instruments of this research were researcher as primary instrument, data sheet, laptop, DVD player, and script text. In data analysis there are four procedures, namely classifying the data, describing the data, examining the data, drawing conclusion. The result showed that there were 22 items of maxim that is found in armageddon movie. The dominant reason of maxim was to give additional lesson as much 10 items. For suggestion, the researcher suggested that this research can contribute to give some advantages and can be reference to write the other research.

Keywords: *Pragmatic, Maxim, Armageddone Movie.*

ABSTRAK

Untuk mencapai komunikasi yang sukses, terutama dalam komunikasi verbal, para peserta diharapkan untuk bersikap kooperatif. Untuk menjadi kooperatif dalam percakapan, para peserta diharapkan untuk mengikuti beberapa prinsip yang disebut Prinsip Kooperatif yang terdiri dari pepatah. Mempertimbangkan itu, tujuan penelitian adalah untuk menggambarkan jenis-jenis pepatah dan alasan pepatah. Peneliti menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif. Subjek adalah karakter utama dalam film Armageddon. Instrumen penelitian ini adalah peneliti sebagai instrument utama, lembar data, laptop, pemutar DVD, dan teks skrip. Dalam analisis data ada empat prosedur, yaitu mengklasifikasikan data, mendeskripsikan data, memeriksa data, menarik kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa ada 22 item pepatah yang ditemukan dalam film Armageddon. Alasan utama pepatah adalah untuk memberikan pelajaran tambahan sebanyak 10 item. Untuk saran, peneliti menyarankan agar penelitian ini dapat berkontribusi untuk memberikan beberapa keuntungan dan dapat menjadi referensi untuk menulis penelitian lain.

Kata kunci: *Pragmatis, Maxim, Film Armageddone.*

INTRODUCTION

In a conversation, there are two essential roles taking part. They are speakers and listeners interchanging their role. Levinson (1989 : 284) defines a conversation as a familiar predominant kind of talk where two or more people freely alternate in speaking that commonly occurs outside some institutional settings like religious services, law courts, classrooms, etc. Hence, to achieve a successful communication, particularly in the verbal one, the participants are expected to be cooperative. To be cooperative in a conversation, the participants are expected to follow some principles called Cooperative Principles.

Grice in Yule (1996: 37) states that Cooperative Principles order the participants to make conversational contribution as it is required, at the stage at which it occurs, and by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange. Furthermore, Cooperative Principles are elaborated in four sub-principles called maxims. They are maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relation, and maxim of manner.

These four maxims organize how the participants should participate in a conversation such as telling the truth, being relevant, and trying to be as clear as they can in order to make the conversation run smoothly. Yet, some people often break the maxims by infringing, violating, opting out, suspending, or flouting them. Unlike flouting,

the other kinds of the failure of observing maxim do not generate implicit meaning within them. By flouting maxims, the participants of the conversation seem to be uncooperative but actually they do. The participants themselves have certain intentions of flouting the maxims. There are some intended meanings and certain purposes which are conveyed by the speaker behind the utterance where maxim flouting occurs.

Hence, by flouting the maxims, the participants are not said to be uncooperative in a conversation. It is because maxim flouting is a way to make the hearer look for the real meaning beyond what is said implicitly by the speaker. the phenomenon of maxim flouting can be seen not only in real life but also in movies.

A movie is one of some kinds of entertainment. Bordwell and Thompson (1997: 3) state that movies are equal with buildings, books, and symphonies. It is an artifact that is made by humans for humans' purposes. Movie is defined as an art that can be a reflection of humans' life since it is made based on social phenomena and cultural values. It is also classified as a form of spoken discourse in which the phenomena that the researcher analyzes, that is maxim flouting, are reflected. Movies have some aspects which can reflect the phenomena clearer than other media. In movies, unlike in novels, the phenomena are depicted clearer through the context, setting, facial expression, and the like. Hence, analyzing maxim flouting through a movie can represent the analysis of maxim flouting in the real life. There are many movies that can be analyzed in terms of the occurrence of maxim flouting, but in this research, the researcher chooses *Armageddon* as the subject of the study.

Armageddon is a movie about a giant, global-killing asteroid, like the one that killed off the dinosaurs 65 million years ago is 18 days away from hitting the Earth. NASA's been caught with their pants down and needs a new plan to stop the rock. They enlist the help of Harry Stamper, an expert deep core driller, to train their astronauts and help them drill into the asteroid and plant a nuclear bomb. But Harry figures the astronauts can't be trained in time and opts to go with his own oil drilling crew. They eventually went to the asteroid to save the planet. The focus of this study is

highlighting the conversation involving the main character, Harry Stamper.

The researcher chooses the movie because she is interested in one of the main male characters in this movie who has a very good track as actors, Bruce Willis. He has been nominated several times for an Academy Award through out his career and the award of the greatest actor went to him twice. Moreover, the researcher is interested in analyzing the maxim flouting done by the main male characters in this movie. In addition, studying the movie's maxim flouting is challenging. This movie can represent the real examples of maxim flouting uttered by the woman characters.

There are some topics under pragmatics that can be conducted in relation to the subject of this research. They are deictic expressions, speech acts, politeness strategies, adjacency pairs, implicature, cooperation, etc. Yet, in this study, the researcher only focuses in analyzing maxim flouting that occurs in *Armageddon*. It covers the four types of maxim flouting. They are maxim of quality flouting, maxim of quantity flouting, maxim of relation flouting, and maxim of manner flouting. Also the function of maxim flouting done by the characters in the film are analyzed in this research.

Based on the arguments above, this study is going to focus on "An Analysis of Maxim Flouting Uttered by The Main Characters in *Armageddon* Movie"

METHODOLOGY

Descriptive qualitative will be applied in this study. According to Bogdan and Taylor (1975: 4) in Rukmanasari (2012: 40), a qualitative method discusses the procedures of the research consisting descriptive data, people's own written or spoken words or conversation and observable behavior.

This study will describe the phenomena of flouted maxims uttered by the main characters in the *Armageddon* movie. Descriptive qualitative method will be the suitable method to use because it describes and analyzes the phenomena of the study in description of words. This study will not only describing the data but also give deep understanding about flouted maxim in movie.

In addition Fidel (1993:225) states that A qualitative research centers on processes; it examines the dynamics of a process, rather than

the static attributes of a process. It is suitable with this study that will show the data in the written form rather than in static data. The researcher will obtain the data of utterances in the main characters of Armageddon movie.

FINDINGS

The finding section presented the types of flouted maxim used by the main characters in Armageddon movie and the reason about it.

4.1.1 The Types of Maxim

The flouted maxim used by the main characters were presented in the table below.

Table 4.1. Types of Maxim

| No | Types of Flouted Maxims | Frequency |
|----|-------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Maxim of Quality | 1 |
| 2. | Maxim of Quantity | 7 |
| 3. | Maxim of Relation | 14 |
| 4. | Maxim of Manner | - |
| | Total | 22 |

There were three types of maxim which is flouted by the main characters, they were maxim of quantity, maxim of quality and maxim of relation. The table 4.1 above showed the frequency of flouted maxim happens in Armageddon movie.

4.1.2 The Reason of Maxim

In this research, there were some reason that underlying the maxim happened in this movie. They were, The first is flouted maxim of quality. The speaker flouts the maxim seems to be untruthful. This maxim flouted once in the movie done by Harry.

The second is flouted maxim of quantity. The speaker flouts the maxim when he/she seems to be uninformative. Means that the speaker give too much or too little information. This maxim flouted in seven times. Harry did in five times while the rest done by A.J.

The last is flouted maxim of relation. The speaker who flouts the maxim of relation seems to be irrelevant. The speaker chooses to flout the maxim for some reasons such as avoid to continue the conversation. This maxim is the most flouted maxim in the movie, it is about fourteen times, Harry did eleven times while A.J did three times.

Discussion

4.2.1. The Reason of Maxim

a. Flouted maxim of quality

Grace : (awkward pause)"A" rig's acting up. The drill string kicked twice this morning, gave Chick a nasty bruise in the head.

Harry : **Good. He's not vulnerable there.**

The conversation above happens when Grace and his father Harry in a short conversation. In that dialogue Harry was playing golf while Grace comes close to him and they had a conversation then.

Based on the conversation above, Harry flouts the maxim of quality by saying "Good. He's not vulnerable there.". Harry flouts the maxim because he seems untruthful by answering "Good" in fact that what is Grace said is terrible.

b. Flouted maxim of quantity

Harry: You're sweating, A.J.

A.J. : **You know there comes a time in a man's life when...(to himself) No, that's a cliché...(to Harry) Can I start again? I, uhh, fell...I've fallen...**

The dialogue above happens when A.J tries to ask Harry permission to married to her daughter Grace. In the movie, Harry was an overprotective father that seems like he does not really like A.J. Harry's behaviour was make A.J so nervous to talk to him.

Based on the dialogue above, it can be seen that A.J answer "You know there comes a time in a man's life when...(to himself) No, that's a cliché... (to Harry) Can I start again? I, uhh, fell...I've fallen..." is flouted the maxim of quantity because he was giving too much information than required because of he was too nervous.

Another example can be seen in the following dialogue between Golden and Harry.

Golden: I wonder if we might speak alone?

Harry: These two are my right and left arms.
Grace Stamper and

Albert Jack Frost. Stupid name, so we call him A.J.. (handshakes)

They run my company. You talk to me, you talk to them.

The dialogue above happens when Golden asks Harry to talk about something important about the earth. In that dialogue Harry seems uninterested with Golden and his topic.

Based on the dialogue above, the maxim of quantity is flouted by Harry. Harry's answer "These two are my right and left arms. Grace Stamper and Albert Jack Frost. Stupid name, so we call him A.J.. (handshakes) They run my company. You talk to me, you talk to them." Is flouted the maxim of quantity because Harry seems too informative.

c. Flouted maxim of relation

Grace: You know you donate 300 grand a year to Greenpeace.

Harry: **What'd your mother call me?**

The dialogue above happens when Harry and Grace are involved in a conversation. Harry was playing golf then Grace was coming closer to him to had short conversation.

Based on the dialogue above, Harry flouts the maxim of relation. The statement "What'd your mother call me?" is flouted the maxim because it seems irrelevant with the question. Another example of flouted maxim of relation is shown in the dialogue below.

Harry : I understand we're having problems with "A"rig.

A.J. : I'm on top of it

The dialogue above happens when Grace has been informed her father that "A" rig was making Chick broke his head. Then Harry was coming to A.J to asks his explanation about what is happening with the rig.

Based on the dialogue above A.J seems being irrelevant by answering "I'm on top of it". The answer was irrelevant with the question asked by Harry

Conclusion

After conducting the research, the researcher comes to the conclusion as follows:

5.1.1 The types of Flouted Maxim Occured in Armageddon Movie

Based on the data the researcher found four types of flouted maxim, namely flouted maxim of quality, quantity, relation. As the main character of armageddon movie the researcher found three maxim there are maxim quantity seven, maxim quality one, maxim relation fourteen.

5.1.2 The Reason of Flouted Maxim Occured in Armageddon Movie

Based on the data, the researcher found there are some reasons in each types of maxim. First, the reason to show something as much 2 items. Second, the reason to give the additional information as much 10 items. Third, the reason to force something as much 1 items. Fourth, the reason to expect something as much 5 items. Fifth, the reason to avoid talking about something. The last reason is to make clear about something as much 1 item

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