

CONVERSATIONAL IMPLICATURE FOUND IN STUDENTS' CONVERSATIONS OF PRAGMATIC CLASS

by

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Abstract:

Pragmatics is a relatively new branch of linguistics. Pragmatics can be interpreted as a branch of linguistics that studies the meaning intended by speakers or, more often, studying language in terms of language speakers. Language plays an important role in communication. This role will impact the interlocutor's acceptance of the speaker. Sometimes, spoken language functions in a different form. What is said with what is intended is sometimes different. This study will be discussed in conversational implicature. Conversational implicature tries to analyze a conversation to obtain its true meaning. The concept of conversational implicature explains the differences between what is said and what is implied. Humor is the mental ability to find, express, or appreciate something funny or uncommon. Each implicature has a specific intent and purpose by each speaker.

Keywords: conversational implicature; humorous conversation; pragmatics

Abstrak:

Pragmatik merupakan cabang ilmu linguistik yang relatif baru. Pragmatik dapat diartikan sebagai cabang ilmu bahasa yang mempelajari makna yang dimaksudkan oleh penutur atau yang lebih sering disebut mempelajari bahasa dari segi pemakai bahasa. Bahasa memegang peranan penting dalam berkomunikasi. Peran tersebut akan berdampak pada penerimaan lawan bicara terhadap penutur. Terkadang bahasa yang diucapkan berfungsi dalam bentuk yang berbeda. Artinya, apa yang diucapkan dengan apa yang dimaksudkan tidak selalu sama. Kajian ini akan dibahas dalam implikatur percakapan. Implikatur percakapan mencoba menganalisis sebuah percakapan sehingga diperoleh makna yang benar. Konsep implikatur percakapan digunakan untuk menjelaskan perbedaan yang sering terjadi antara apa yang diucapkan dengan apa yang diimplikasikan. Humor adalah kemampuan mental untuk menemukan, mengekspresikan, atau mengapresiasi sesuatu yang lucu atau sesuatu yang benar-benar tidak biasa. Setiap implikatur memiliki maksud dan tujuan tertentu oleh setiap penutur.

Kata kunci: pragmatik, implikatur percakapan, percakapan humor

INTRODUCTION

Humans are social creatures. As social creatures, we always communicate with people in society. There is a means of communication, namely language and a set of speech tools. One

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form of interaction is having a conversation. Through language, humans express feelings and opinions; even with language, humans can think and reason. Understanding the difference between "what is said" and "what is implied" is crucial for understanding implicatures (Horn, 2005; Yeboah, 2021). Conversational implicature is a process in which meaning is not directly stated in a conversation but can be understood or inferred by the listener or reader. This implicature often appears due to the principle of cooperation in communication proposed by Grice (1975). Conversational implicature is an important aspect of understanding the meaning of messages conveyed in daily conversations. This implication is a preposition usually found toward the bottom of the page (Parker, 1986, p. 21; Wijana, 1996, p. 37). Understanding of speech is not only in the explicit meaning but also must understand the implied meaning. Conversational implicature is also essential in helping us understand the messages hidden in conversations and can improve the overall effectiveness of our communication.

In humorous conversations, implicature is often used to create a humorous effect or invite laughter. One technique that is often used is irony. Irony occurs when the speaker expresses something that contradicts the literal meaning of the words spoken. The listener then deduces the true meaning from the context and the speaker's facial expression. For example, when someone says, "I'm very happy today," in a clearly unhappy tone, the listener will infer that the person is actually upset or unhappy. In addition to irony, conversational implicature in humor conversations can also use the concept of expression class. Class of expression is a term used to describe words or expressions with special connotations in a particular language or culture. Using unusual or unexpected expression classes can create humorous effects in humorous conversations. For example, in Indonesian, the word "kuda" is often used in the expression "kuda-kuda" which means to get ready. However, it can be considered humorous if someone says "kuda-kuda" in an irrelevant context, such as in a conversation about food. In this context, conversational implicature can be used to analyze conversations and understand the intentions hidden in conversations. In humorous conversations, the implicature becomes more complex as there is often a hidden intention behind spoken words.

These implicatures help us understand the context and deeper meaning of a conversation. Pragmatics is a field of linguistics that studies how context, purpose, and social context affect communication. Various phenomena that arise in practical life will majorly affect a language. Often, the agreed language rules experience stagnation in the face of the

phenomenon of language use at a practical level. Pragmatics is the study of language that examines the implied meaning and can accommodate aspects outside the language in its study. Conversation implicature is an important topic in pragmatics classes because it helps students understand everyday conversations better. Understanding pragmatic meaning has drawn increasing attention in the field of foreign language learning in order to increase pragmatic competence in language learners (Taguchi, 2005; Lee, 2018; Abdurahmonov & Kozokova, 2021; Mao & He, 2021). In pragmatics, students are also taught to develop practical speaking skills. With a good understanding of conversational implicatures, they can use these implicatures to convey messages more effectively and avoid misunderstandings. That is, how the speaker can use excellent and correct language in communication. Conversation is a container that allows the formation of communication in language events. Conversation is a form of cooperative activity in communicative interaction, as stated. It is in this conversation that pragmatics is applied. Pragmatics is the use of language to communicate according to and in connection with the context and situation of the user. Applied pragmatics are often used to refresh the atmosphere, satirize subtly, and create a pleasant impression. According to Morteza (2020), speakers' communication is considerably more affluent than what they openly say. Its linguistic meaning significantly influences the message sent and comprehended in a conversation.

A study related to the analysis of conversational implicature in humorous conversations found that one of the problems is that it is difficult to understand or capture the implied intention that the speech partner wants to convey by using humor to sound more fun. However, another fact was also found: the speaker already understood or knew the intention of the speech partner but needed to understand the meaning of the humor. This causes a gap between the research that has been done and the facts that have happened. For this reason, it is necessary to understand the implicature of conversation so that the interlocutor can understand what is said. Understanding the implicature also depends on the situation and conditions during the speech. Whether the speakers and interlocutors already know each other and at the time of the conversation, use the correct intonation because intonation plays a vital role. In conversational implicatures, there is also general humor that speakers often convey. Often, we convey humor in different ways depending on who our interlocutors are.

Humor is a gesture intended to make people smile and laugh. It is a concept taken from an old Latin medical term that asserts that human health and emotions control bodily fluids' humor or balance. Every person has a unique sense of humor. There are undoubtedly

differences in people's levels of comedy. Events might inspire humor or the desire to make us laugh. Humor, according to Holmes and Marra (2002), is a way to enhance relationships and communication between speakers and listeners. Humor has long been employed as a therapeutic tool. Even in research, we can laugh enough and reduce tension and other things. Many linguists have considered humor to be a category that includes "any event or object that causes laughter, amusement, or is considered humorous" (Attardo, 1994, p. 4); it could be a consciousness or a sensation, a sign or something we create for ourselves or someone else. There are many types of comedy, including both positive and bad humor. Humor containing something negative, such as offensive, pornographic, insulting, or reproachful, is considered harmful. Cheerful humor, on the other hand, is a comedy that can make the listener feel happy. Humorous conversations can occur wherever we are. Sometimes, some humorous conversations conveyed by speakers contain implied meanings to their interlocutors but still use humor not to sound too serious or to refresh the situation at that time.

The goal that the author wants to achieve in this paper is to find out the description of the application of pragmatics in conversations containing humor that often occurs within the scope of students. This research will study the implications of humorous conversations in a social group in the campus environment, namely STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo. In communication between students, it is possible for a humorous conversation to appear with specific intentions that sometimes differ from what is contained in the humor.

Based on the background of the problems that the researchers have described above, the researchers formulate the problems in this paper as follows:

1. Is there any application of pragmatics in conversations containing fresh humor
2. What functions of conversational implicature are used in humorous conversations?

METHOD

Design

This research used a qualitative descriptive method to describe the implicature of humorous conversations that arise in communication between students. According to Regoniel (2023), descriptive qualitative research is a research method focused on understanding a single phenomenon by examining its characteristics and qualities. Sulistyobasuki (2006) also explains that descriptive research tries to examine more closely the precise and covering descriptions of all aspects of activities, objects, processes, and people. In this study, analysis and observation of the process are the focus; research is descriptive, explained

by words and pictures rather than numbers, and literature shapes interpretation so that process takes precedence over results. Researchers are the critical reading tool in economic literature.

Participant

This research was conducted at STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo. The participants in this study were 7th-semester students who were taking pragmatics in the academic year 2020. They were chosen as participants because they had taken the pragmatics class in the previous semester and could be considered competent in learning. Second, because they are studying to become English teachers in the future, they will recognize who they are and strive to be role models for every individual around them by improving their English proficiency, thereby making them able and confident in English to fulfill the goal of becoming an English teacher.

Instrument

The study employs two instruments; observation and analysis on document. These two instruments yielded qualitative data. Thus, all utterances produced by the research participants are certainly conventional implicature.

Data collecting technique

Data collection techniques in this study using observation and document analysis. Observations are made by paying attention, listening to conversations in the classroom, and analyzing the data taken from the conclusion of observations, sorting out which ones include implicature. Data analysis was carried out using the active interactive method. The interactive research technique fosters strong collaboration among many stakeholders during the study process. This sort of research enables engagement at various research levels, all the way down to the person. Raw data obtained in the field about the problem of conversational implicature were selected.

Data analysis technique

Data is the most essential thing in research besides data collection techniques. Analysis. The collected data were examined, sorted, and classified by collected data first and started to analyze whether it was on the research question. In this step, the researcher concludes and verifies the answers to the research questions in presenting data by comparing observation and interview data. At the same time how the authors cite employs a model of “offline automatic system by using Mendeley Desktop (MD) or currently known Mendeley Reference Manager (Turmudi, 2020,p.59).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics used to study language. One of the areas of pragmatics is implicature. The first question in this research question is whether pragmatics is applied in conversations containing fresh humor. The researcher made observations and analyzed the data. In the observation, the researcher found the use of implicature in the students' humor conversation in the pragmatics class. The context of the humor is different; some are mocking, motivating, or just to refresh the situation in class.

The following are the results of the application of pragmatics in conversational implicature containing humor:

In this discourse, the conversation occurs between students in a classroom while a lesson is in progress. A student is too late to class, often more than once, making all her close friends laugh when she enters.

Irma : "Assalamu'alaikum, permisi pak". (Assalamu'alaikum, excusme Sir.) (spontaneously, her friends laughed) (then suddenly there was a student who said)

Karin : "Wah, iku mang arek e berangkat isuk banget loh, kejabak macet e gedangan koyok e seng macet e iso ngerenggut masa depanmu! (Wow, she left really early, maybe she got stuck in the traffic jam at the intersection of the Gedangan area where the traffic jam can take away your future)

Karin intended that Irma would not be late again, so she said with a sarcastic sentence whether with the sarcastic sentence, Irma would change it or even be late again.

This conversation took place between students in the classroom before the lecturer arrived. The humor in this conversation occurred when Nanda asked Tri, seeing Tri look different than Nanda asked Tri.

Nanda : "Kate pengajian ndek endi sis?" (Where do you want to recite, sis?)

Tri: "Klambiku kabeh loh jek dicuci, terpaksa gamisan" (My clothes were still being washed, so I had to wear a robe)

Nanda : "Walah, ta pikir hijrah teman iki mau hahaha" (I thought you really hijrah hahaha)

Tri: "Aminin dulu deh" (I hope so).

Tri meant that some of the clothes she used to wear to college were being washed, which is why she wore a robe to college. So, Tri looked neat and wore a robe because some of her clothes were being washed, and it was a new thing for Nanda because she had never seen Tri wearing a robe on campus.

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In a lecture, a lecturer invites a student who arrives late or after the lecture has started.

Lecturer (Speakers 1) : "Silakan masuk, Pak Dosen. Tidak biasanya bapak terlambat"
(Please come in, Professor. You're not usually late)

Student (Speaker 2): "Maaf, Pak" (I'm sorry sir).
(most of the students in the class laughed).

Most students who laugh have the same background, perception, or understanding as the lecturer as the first speaker. With the same Understanding and reference association, humorous communication can run well because both the speaker and the interlocutor have understood the meaning. The late student looks like a lecturer because of his appearance is like a lecturer, which supports the Understanding of this communication.

This conversation took place in the classroom before the lecturer arrived. A male student with a long hair

Anggra : "YaAllah sa ta pikir mahasiswi sopo iki mau kok teko mburih rambut e wapik banget, habis mbo catok ta?" (Oh my God, I thought who is a student how come from behind her hair looks good, did you get your hair done?)

Ganesa : "Engga, ini tadi rambutku habis dibuat bahan praktikum sama adek kelas jurusan kecantikan, jadie di smoothing" (No, my hair was used as a practicum material for my younger classmates in the beauty department, so my hair was straightened).

This incident is due to the context that a student is called a female student because her hair has been smoothed and looks very straight, like a woman's hair from behind.

The conversation was conducted between students who are members of the HIMA organization; the conversation took place in the campus hall when they were preparing for an event.

Arin : "Tirainya kapan dipasang ini ?" (When is the curtain installed?)

Caca : "Ini anak-anak yang cowo mau nyiapin, masih diambil kainnya" (The boys were still setting up, they said they were still taking the curtain fabric.)

Arin : "Ayo sing lungguh-lungguh bantu dekorasi seng lain, tolong keikhlasan tenaganya." (Let's those who are sitting around help with the other decorations, sincerity of labor please.)

Lily : "Waduh, aku gadue keikhlasan tenaga eh, ada e keikhlasan doa." (Oh my, I don't have the sincerity of labor, only the sincerity of prayer).

In this condition, Arin asked the friends sitting around to help put up the other decorations; Arin used the phrase "Sincerity of labor" as a sarcastic sentence. Lily, who responded to Arin's words, actually already knew the meaning of Arin's words, but she deliberately answered "sincerity of prayer" only humorously to liven up the atmosphere to make it more fun.

The second research question is what functions of conversational implicature are used in humorous conversations. Based on the observations made by the researcher, it was found

that some of the conversational implicatures used in humor conversations are the expressive implicature function of "insinuating." The function of expressive conversational implicature is insinuating that the speaker in the conversation is insinuating about something. The results of humorous conversations that contain the function of expressive conversational implicature of insinuating are as follows :

Putri : Baik, saya tutup persentasi kelompok saya sore hari ini, mohon maaf bila ada kesalahan kata dan terimakasih atas perhatiannya. (Okay, I would like to close my group's presentation this afternoon, please apologize if there are any mistakes in words and thank you for your attention.)

Chai : Baru tau aku kalo kelompok isinya cuma 1 orang. (I just found out that there is only one person in the group.)

Putri : Sebenarnya 4 orang kok, yang lainnya persentasi dirumah masing-masing. (Actually 4 people, the others did presentations at their homes.)

(sontak seisi kelas tertawa canggung) (suddenly, the entire class laughed awkwardly).

The conversation occurred in class when Putri's group was presenting, but only Putri was presenting; her groupmates were absent without reason. Therefore, Chai suddenly issued a sentence insinuating that Putri's group was absent. Putri then replied to Chai's words by making insinuations that intended to break the atmosphere so as not to be too tense.

Discussion

Conversational implicature is a part of pragmatics that studies the inferences that can be drawn from the utterances spoken by speakers. Conversations often involve pragmatic comedy, which is sometimes only realized after the fact as it is often unintentional and only sometimes planned or arranged in advance. Dialogue involving two or more speakers may be considered funny by one of the speakers but not necessarily funny to the other. Each person's level of sensitivity and Understanding will have a significant impact on that person. These assumptions are based on rational considerations and can be formulated as guidelines for using language effectively and efficiently in conversation (Bambang et al., 1997, p. 221). The general principles underlying the effective use of language based on cooperation are called conversational maxims or conversational maxims. The principle of cooperation is a combination of four conversational maxims.

An utterance can imply a proposition, which is neither part of the utterance nor a logical consequence of the utterance; for clarity, consider the following example.

Nanda: Ya apa persentasi grup Billa? (How does the Billa group presentation ?)

Lala: Weh, pembukaan mbe penutup e apik poll se. (Wow, the opening and closing were really good.)

Lala's answer implies that Billa and her group's content or presentation may need improvement; the only good thing is the opening and closing. There are three things to note in the implicature example:

(1) the implication that Billa and her group's presentation is not good is not part of Lala's speech because she does not say so, (2) the implicature is not a logical consequence of Lala's speech, (3) an utterance can have more than one implicature, depending on the context. From Lala's answer, it can also be concluded that Billa and her group's presentation differed from the other groups, whose opening and closing could have been better than Billa's group.

Lala's answer also implies that the presentation presented in the class could have been better than Billa's group's presentation. Almost every utterance has additional meaning or information that the speaker does not utter. Even though the speaker does not say it, the listener can capture the extra meaning as long as he has communicative competence in the language concerned.

This result emphasizes that context is essential in understanding implicature conversation and is in line with previous research. This finding is relevant to previous studies by Musa and Subaiah (2022), who confirmed that implicature conversation sometimes has a different meaning in every context. The meaning of an implicature conversation can be varied depending on the context of the current conversation. One of the theoretical difficulties in understanding conversational implicature in research also reinforces Davis' (2019) opinion that conversational implicature relies on the assumption that the speaker follows the Cooperation Principle. Grice's (1975) principle of cooperation states that communication is fundamentally the most necessary communication by speech participants in various forms of correct communication. Some theories used in the study of conversational implicature include Grice's (1975) theory of cooperation principles, conversational maxims, and conversational implicature. Factors that influence conversational implicature include the situation of the conversation, the people involved, the issues discussed, and where the conversation takes place. This research is also in line with previous research by Sulistiani (2018) that conversational implicature in humorous conversations can be in the form of questions or statements in the form of begging, demanding, suggesting, praising, criticizing, and complaining.

CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION

Conclusion

The research was conducted to answer the application of pragmatics in conversational implicature in humorous conversations that students often conduct. In response to this question, the researcher used the observation method to analyze the humorous conversations between students in the pragmatics class directly. The use of pragmatics in conversations containing humor is prevalent in students' conversations, in the form of satire, mockery, or humorous flattery. Conversational implicature is an important aspect of pragmatics that helps create more profound meaning in a conversation.

Limitation

There is a potential bias in the results of this study. This may be an essential factor when interpreting the results of this study. The use of pragmatics in students' humorous conversations where the limitation in the scope of this study is only within the campus environment. The methodology used to analyze the use of pragmatics in humorous conversations is observation. Furthermore, this clearly defines how the outcome measure will be researched. Other methods are not included in the scope of research, and their exclusion may be a limitation of the study. This research aims to provide suggestions for students or teachers to explore further the meaning of conversational implicature, especially the implicature of humorous conversations that often occur between students or students with teachers. By understanding conversational implicature, the interlocutor can understand the implied intent of the speech partner. Researchers also hope that future research can use nominal methods to clarify the conclusions.

Implication

In pragmatic analysis, conversational implicature is a complex and essential concept to understand in conversations. By understanding conversational implicature, we can appreciate the more profound and contextual meaning of the conversations we face every day. Understanding conversational implications in humorous conversations can help us better understand how language is used in social contexts and how it affects the meaning of communication. Comprehending conversational implicature allows students to understand a conversation's hidden meaning more quickly and efficiently and to communicate effectively in English. Moreover, it can help students understand the English language used in daily life and improve their ability to understand the culture and customs of English speakers.

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