

**FLOUTING OF GRICE'S MAXIM IN *JANE EYRE* NOVEL BY  
CHARLOTTE BRONTE**

**A GRADUATING PAPER**

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Graining the Bachelor  
Degree in English Literature



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Kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris. Atas perhatian yang diberikan, saya ucapkan terimakasih.

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## **FLOUTING OF GRICE'S MAXIM IN *JANE EYRE* NOVEL BY CHARLOTTE BRONTE**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Everyone has each way to give response in communication process. Based on the theory of Cooperative Principle, Grice states that both speaker and listener can apply four maxims to reach the goal of communication and create a good relation in communication process. These four maxims are Quality, Quantity, Relation and Manner. However, in this practice these four maxims are not always observed by speaker and listener because of some reasons.

This research is entitled “*Flouting of Grice’s Maxim in Jane Eyre Novel by Charlotte Bronte*”. This research aims to analyze type of flouting maxim by characters in Jane Eyre novel and explain the reason why they flout the maxim in conversation. The method of analyzing data used in this research is descriptive qualitative. The result of the analysis shows that these four maxims are flouted by characters in Jane Eyre novel. Some reasons why the speakers flout certain maxim in their utterance; First, the speakers flout the maxim of quality because; (1) the speakers want to keep the feeling of the listener by not saying the truth, (2) the speakers want to hide something and do not want the listener know their feeling and condition. Second, the speakers flout the quantity maxim because; (1) the speakers want to explain something by giving additional information, (2) the speakers want to express their feeling. Third, the speakers flout the relation maxim because; (1) the speakers are not interested in the topic of discussion, (2) the speakers want to avoid from the something that are talking. Fourth, the speakers flout the manner maxim because the speakers ask the listener to looking for the meaning of their utterances.

**Keywords:** cooperative pricipile, implicature, flouting maxim

# FLOUTING OF GRICE'S MAXIM IN *JANE EYRE* NOVEL BY CHARLOTTE BRONTE

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## INTISARI

Dalam komunikasi sehari-hari, setiap orang memiliki cara tersendiri dalam memberikan respon terhadap lawan bicaranya. Berdasarkan teori Cooperative Principle yang digagas oleh Paul Grice menyatakan bahwa, baik pembicara maupun pendengar dapat mengaplikasikan empat maksim untuk menciptakan komunikasi yang baik dan mencapai tujuan komunikasi. Keempat maksim tersebut yaitu kualitas, kuantitas, relevansi dan cara. Namun pada kenyataannya, keempat maksim tersebut tidak selalu dapat dipatuhi oleh pembicara maupun pendengar karena alasan tertentu.

Penelitian ini berjudul ***“Pelanggaran Maksim yang Dilakukan Tokoh Dalam Novel Jane Eyre oleh Charlotte Bronte”***. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis jenis pelanggaran maksim yang dilakukan oleh tokoh dalam novel *Jane Eyre* sekaligus menjelaskan alasan mereka melakukan pelanggaran maksim tertentu ketika terlibat dalam sebuah percakapan. Metode analisis data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil analisis menunjukkan bahwa keempat maksim tersebut dilanggar oleh para tokoh dalam novel *Jane Eyre*. Maksim tersebut antara lain maksim kualitas, maksim kuantitas, maksim relevansi dan maksim cara. Beberapa alasan pembicara melakukan pelanggaran maksim dalam proses komunikasi diantaranya; Pertama, pelanggaran maksim kualitas dilakukan karena; (1) pembicara ingin menjaga perasaan pendengar dengan tidak memberikan informasi yang sebenarnya, (2) pembicara tidak ingin pendengar mengetahui kondisi, perasaan dari pembicara. Kedua, pelanggaran maksim kuantitas dilakukan karena; (1) pembicara ingin memberikan detail informasi kepada pendengar tentang sesuatu hal, (2) pembicara ingin mengekspresikan perasaannya. Ketiga, Pelanggaran maksim relevansi dilakukan karena; (1) pembicara tidak tertarik untuk membahas topik yang sedang didiskusikan, (2) pembicara menghindari untuk membicarakan tentang topik tertentu. Keempat, Pelanggaran maksim manner dilakukan karena pembicara menginginkan pendengar untuk mencari maksud lain dari apa yang telah disampaikan oleh pembicara.

***Kata kunci:*** prinsip kerjasama, implicature, pelanggaran Maksim

## MOTTO

خَيْرُ النَّاسِ أَنْفَعُهُمْ لِلنَّاسِ

*“The best of people are those that bring most benefit to the rest of mankind”*

*(HR. Thabrani dan Daruquthni)*

**“The best pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do”**

**(Dewi Imrotus Sholikhah)**

**“Dreams will come true if we have courage to pursue”**

**(Walt Disney)**

*“And for those who fear Allah, He will make their path easy”*

*(Q.s At-Thalaq: 4)*

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## DEDICATION

*This graduating paper is dedicated to:*

- ❧ *My beloved parents*
- ❧ *My beloved husband and my beloved baby boy*
- ❧ *My beloved brothers*
- ❧ *All my best friends*
- ❧ *English Departement of Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University, Yogyakarta*



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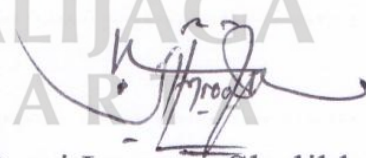
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I realize that this graduating paper has much weakness. Therefore I hope  
suggestions and critics for make it better. I hope this graduating paper will be  
beneficial for the readers or the students, especially in English Department who  
want to do similar research.

*Wassalamu'alaikum Wr.Wb.*

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of study

Communication has important part in relation with social interaction in our daily life, both in family and society. People need to know and understand how to create a good communication in social interaction. People have a good conversation if they fulfill the cooperative principle which is categorized in four maxims; quality maxim, quantity maxim, relation maxim and manner maxim (Grice, 1989: 26). In his book entitle *Studies in the way of word*, Grice explains that Cooperative Principle means “Make your conversational contribution such as required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged” (1989: 26). These four maxims in cooperative principle above have each contribution in communication process. These maxims explain that every speaker must give contribution in communication by giving information which is appropriate, true, relevant, brief and orderly (1989: 26-27).

In Islam, base principle of communication is explained in Q.S Al-Baqarah: 83

وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِيثَاقَ بَنِي إِسْرَآئِيلَ لَا تَعْبُدُونَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسَاكِينِ  
وَقُولُوا لِلنَّاسِ حُسْنًا وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ ثُمَّ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِّنْكُمْ وَأَنتُمْ مُّعْرِضُونَ

“And remember We took a Covenant from the Children of Israel (to this effect): worship none but God; treat with kindness your parents and kindred,

*and orphans those in need; speak fair to the people, be steadfast in prayer; and practice regular charity. Then did ye turn back, except a few among you, and ye backslide (even now).”* (Yusuf Ali, 1996: 32)

Nevertheless, in this practice of communication, the maxims are not always observed by participants in their utterance. Sometimes, people flout the maxims in communication process because of some reasons. In Grice's Theory, the cases above are named Floating maxim as part of Non-Observance Maxim. The Floating maxim means he/ she may blatantly fail to fulfill the maxims (1989: 30). The flouting maxim has four types; flouting of quality maxim, Flouting of quantity maxim, flouting of relation maxim and flouting of manner maxim. The speaker flouts the quality maxim when she/ he lies or says something that is believed to be false. The speaker flouts the quantity maxim when she/he talks too short and too much in giving information. The speaker flouts the relevance maxim when the she/ he make the conversation unmatched with the topic of discussion. And last the speaker flouts the manner maxim when she/ he used ambiguous language in her/ his utterances.

In this analysis, the researcher uses *Jane Eyre* novel as the object of the study. *Jane Eyre* novel is a victorian novel written by Charlotte Bronte and it is published at 16<sup>th</sup> Oktober 1847 by Smith, Elder and Co, in London, England. The book became a bestseller and established a platform for feminist writing in the nineteenth century. The novel would be appropriate for any

curriculum thematically based on topics of heroism, dreams, women's studies, or social standing (Colleen A. Ruggieri, 2007:3).

This novel tells about the struggle of life from a woman whose name is Jane Eyre. Since her parents were dead, her uncle (Mr. Reed) adopted her as his child and asked her to stay with his family (Mrs. Reed, John, Georgy and Lizzy). Aunt and the children always talked wildly and dropped a brick to her. They hate Jane so much. After uncle was dead and some months later, Mrs. Reed sent her to Lowood School. It is a charity institution for orphan girls. In this school, her condition was changed. She got some skills like sewing, learning of music, and learning of language.. She also found a best friend (Helen) and a best teacher (Mrs. Temple). A new history started to write in her life after she studied in Lowood School for 6 years and became a teacher for 2 years. She decided to look for an occupation as a private teacher by writing an advertisement in the newspaper. Some weeks later, she got an answer for her advertisement. A woman whose name was Mrs. Fairfax asked her to teach a girl who was 4<sup>th</sup> years old in Thornfield, Milcotte, Shire. Finally, she took this job and went to the place soon. In this place, her love story was begun. She met with Mr. Rochester, the master of Thornfield. Both of them have different ages which was so far. Jane was 18<sup>th</sup> years old and Mrs. Rochester was 40<sup>th</sup> years old. In the end of the story they got married and lived in happiness.

The researcher is interested to analyze this novel as the object of study in this research because of some reasons. First, this novel is not only as the entertainment for the readers but also it has a moral and education value in the

content. Second, this novel has some elements such as social criticism, discrimination of social class, sexuality and proto-feminism. Third, the language that is used in this novel. The researcher finds the using of flouting maxim in the utterance of the characters in conversation in this novel.

Example:

Jane : after your mama went to the Holy Virgin, as you say, with whom did you live then?’

Adele : ‘With Madame Frederic and her husband: **she took care of me, but she is nothing related to me. I think she is poor, for she had not so fine a house as mama. I was not long there. Mr. Rochester asked me if I would like to go and live with him in England, and I said yes; for I knew Mr. Rochester before I knew Madame Frederic, and he was always kind to me and gave me pretty dresses and toys: but you see he has not kept his word, for he has brought me to England, and now he is gone back again himself, and I never see him.**’

In the conversation above, Adele’s utterance flouts the maxim of quantity because she gives too much information than is required by the hearer. In Jane’s question, she asks to Adele ‘with whom did you live after your mama went to the Holy Virgin? Actually, in her answer, Adele is enough to say ‘With Madame Frederic and her husband’.

Mr. Lloyd : ‘Well, you have been crying, Miss Jane Eyre; can you tell me what about? Have you any pain?’

Jane : ‘No, sir.’

Bessie : ‘**Oh! I daresay she is crying because she could not go out with Missis in the carriage,**’ interposed Bessie.

In this case, Bessie flouts the maxim of quality because information that is given by her is not true. She lies that Jane was crying because she could not to

go out with Missis in the carriage. The true information about Jane's condition is she is crying because she locks in the red-room and she looks like ghost of her uncle, Mr. Reed.

## 1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of study above the problem statements in this research as follow:

1. What kinds of flouting maxim of Grice's Cooperative Principle in *Jane Eyre* novel by Charlotte Bronte?
2. What are the reasons of speakers' utterance when they flout the Grice's maxim in *Jane Eyre* novel by Charlotte Bronte?

## 1.3 Objectives of Study

As stated in problem statements above, the objectives of study in this research are:

1. To analyze kinds of flouting maxim of Grice's Cooperative Principle in *Jane Eyre* novel.
2. To explain the reason of the speakers' utterances when they flout the Grice's maxim in *Jane Eyre* novel.

#### 1.4 Significances of Study

Theoretically, this research can give contribution for developing of language in scope of pragmatics study especially about non-observance maxim by Grice Theory. In addition, this research can be reference or additional source for the readers who want to analyze similar research. Practically, this research wants to show that both speaker and listener need to know and understand about cooperative principle in their utterance because everyone has different ways when giving a feedback in communication process. Therefore, the using of Grice's maxim in cooperative principle may be observed and not observed by participants in their utterance for certain condition and situation.

#### 1.5 Literature Review

The researcher finds some prior researches which have similar analysis. The first is "Gothic Language Style in Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*". The thesis by Hemy Suzana from Sebelas Maret University, Surakarta (2010). The subject in this research is *Jane Eyre* novel. The research question is how is Charlotte Bronte's language style applied in her novel entitle *Jane Eyre* in order to raise the mood of gothic as the aesthetic aspect or literariness?

Her research is descriptive qualitative library research. In analyzing the data, she uses stylistic approach. The result of this research shows that the stylistic device in the novel, such as dictions, point of view and sentences are

successful in building the mood and atmosphere of gothic as it can be seen in the method of description.

The second prior research is “Parents’ and Children’s Use of Cooperative Principle in *Despicable Me 2*” by Rosiana Rizqy Wijayanti from State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta (2014). She has three research questions, (1) How does Gru as the father use the cooperative principle in *Despicable Me 2*? , (2) How do Gru’s children use the cooperative principle in *Despicable Me 2*? , (3) How are the difference and similarity of Gru’s and Gru’s children use cooperative principle in *Despicable Me 2*?

Her research used descriptive qualitative research and Grice’s cooperative principle theory. The result in this research shows that the father, Gru and the Gru’s children not only observe the maxim but also break the maxim. They observe the maxims of cooperative principle because they want to cooperate with the hearer and make the conversation flow successfully. In other hand, they also fail to observe the maxims of cooperative principle because they have own intention to the hearer in topic of conversation. They fail to observe the maxims by using some ways; violating, flouting and opting out.

The third is thesis by Siti Nur Khasanah Fatmawati, the student of Yogyakarta State University (2015). Entitle of her thesis is “A Pragmatic Analysis of Maxim Flouting Performed by Solomon Northup in *12 Years a Slave* Movie” by Siti Nur Khasanah Fatmawati, the student of Yogyakarta State University 2015. Her subject is a movie entitle *12 Years a Slave Movie*.

The research questions are (1) what maxims are flouted by Solomon Northup in *12 years a slave* movie? (2) What Strategies are used by *12 years a slave* movie to flout the maxims? (3) Why does Solomon Northup in *12 years a slave* movie flout the maxim?

This study uses both qualitative and quantitative research. The theory used in this research is cooperative principle by Grice. The result in this research shows that Solomon Northup in *12 years a slave* movie performed four types of maxim flouting, they are quality, quantity, relevance and manner maxim flouting. In this movie, Solomon Northup also applied five strategies of flouting maxim such as tautology, understatement, overstatement, metaphor and irony. While for the reason, there are four reasons why Solomon Northup does flout the maxim in *12 years a slave* movie, they are competitive, collaborative, convivial, and conflictive reason. The last result concludes that quantity maxim flouting is the highest rank and relevance maxim flouting is the lowest rank. For the strategies, overstatement is the most frequently used and metaphor is the most rarely used and for the reason, conflictive reason has the highest rank in its occurrence.

The fourth prior research is from Rizky Yuliana Nursanti, the student of Yogyakarta States University (2015). Her thesis entitled 'A Pragmatic Analysis of Maxim Flouting in *Hunger Games* Movie'. The objectives of her study are to identify the types of flouting maxim conveyed by the character of *Hunger Games* movie and to describe the function of flouting maxim

conveyed by the character of Hunger Games movie. This research uses qualitative and quantitative method in analyzing the data.

The result in this research is all the maxims are flouted by the characters of Hunger Games movie. The flouting of relation maxim is in the highest rank in this movie, and the flouting of quantity and manner maxim is in the lowest rank in this movie. The researcher finds four functions of flouting maxim conveyed by the characters in this movie; Representative, Directive, Commissive and Expressive. The representative is the most dominant function in this movie

The last prior research is from Robiatul Adawiyah, the student of Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang (2016). Her thesis entitles “Flouting Maxim Used by The Main Characters in *Focus* Movie”. The objective of this research is to find out the type of flouting maxim that used by the main characters in this movie and also the reason why they flout the maxim.

In her analysis, the researcher uses qualitative research that focuses on understanding language phenomena deeply. The result of this analysis concluded that the main characters in this movie flouted four maxims that proposed by Grice’s Theory. They are quality maxim, quantity maxim, relation maxim, and manner maxim. One of the reasons why the speaker chooses to flout the maxim is because she or he is motivated by cultural aspect that is politeness consideration. The speaker sometimes states implicitly since she or he is considered that it will be nice if it is stated implicitly such as

flouting quantity maxim to give additional information, flouting relation maxim to imply the hidden meaning that she or he does not feel comfortable with the topic they discuss. Moreover, the speaker often flouts the quality maxim for insulting the addressee.

The researcher uses *Jane Eyre* novel as the object in this research. The similarity this research with the previous researches is from the theory used. It is Grice's Cooperative Principle Theory. The difference of this research is the researcher focuses to analyze the utterance of characters in *Jane Eyre* novel which contain of flouting maxim and explains the reason why the characters flouts the certain maxim in their utterances.

### 1.6 Theoretical Approach

For analyzing the data, researcher uses Grice's cooperative principle theory. Cooperative Principle means "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" (Grice, 1989: 26). In this theory, Grice divided the maxim of Cooperative Principle into four maxims:

- a. Quality maxim : Don't say what you believe to be false.  
Don't say that for which you lack of adequate evidence.
- b. Quantity maxim : Make your contribution as informative as is required. Don't make your contribution more informative than is required.

- c. Relevance maxim : Be relevant. Whatever that you say must be relevant to the conversation at hand.
- d. Manner maxim : Avoiding obscurity and ambiguity in conversation. Be brief and orderly in information needed (1989: 26-27).

In other hand, a participant may not only observe the maxim but also she or he may fail to fulfill the maxim because of some reasons.

- a. He may quietly and unostentatiously *violate* a maxim; if so, in some cases he will be liable to mislead.
- b. He may *opt out* from the operation both of the maxim and of the Cooperative Principle; he may say, indicate, or allow it to become plain that he is unwilling to cooperate in the way the maxim requires. He may say, for example, *I cannot say more; my lips are sealed*.
- c. He may be faced by *a clash*: he may be unable, for example, to fulfill the first maxim of Quantity (Be as informative as is required) without violating the second maxim of Quality (Have adequate evidence for what you say).
- d. He may *flout* a maxim; that is, he may blatantly fail to fulfill it (1989: 30).

## **1.7 Methods of Research**

### **1.7.1 Type of Research**

The type of this research is qualitative research. The qualitative Research is especially important in the behavioral sciences where the aim is to discover the underlying motives of human behavior. Through such research we can analyze the various factors which motivate people to behave in a particular manner or which make people like or dislike a particular thing (Kothari, 2004: 3). These methods attempted to present the data from the perspective of the subjects or observed group, so that the cultural and intellectual biases of the researcher did not distort the collection, interpretation, or presentation of the data (Jacob as cited in Herbert, 1989: 118).

### **1.7.2 Data Source**

The data analysis in this research is taken from the utterances of the characters in *Jane Eyre* novel by Charlotte Bronte. This research uses primary data from this novel. The primary data are those which are collected afresh and for the first time, and thus happen to be original in character (Kothari, 2004: 95).

### **1.7.3 Data Collection Technique**

The data collecting technique in this research is documentation. The researcher reads the novel first and collects utterances which contain flouting

maxim as the data by numbering and noting the page of novel which the data taken and then classifies the data based on type of flouting maxim by Grice's Cooperative Principle Theory.

#### **1.7.4 Data Analysis Technique**

There are some steps in analyzing the data:

1. Identifying the utterances in Jane Eyre novel which contain of flouting maxim.
2. Classifying the data based on the type of flouting maxim by Grice Cooperative Principle Theory.
3. Analyzing the data to answer the research problems.
4. Explaining and describing the context of the data.
5. Drawing conclusion of the analysis.

#### **1.8 Paper Organizations**

This research consists of four chapters. The first chapter is introduction that has some points such as background of study, research question, objectives of study, significance of study, literature review, theoretical approach, and method of research and paper organization. The second chapter is theoretical review. This chapter will present about theory of Cooperative Principle by Grice relates to the research problems in this research. The third chapter is finding and discussion. The researcher will discuss and analyze the data using the Grice's Cooperative Principle theory. The last chapter is

conclusion. It explains conclusion and suggestion for this research about the result of analysis.



## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

#### 4.1 Conclusion

Based on the data findings and data analysis, the researcher takes the conclusion that in some condition and situation, the participant may flouts the maxim for certain reason. The result of the analysis shows that four types of flouting maxim are done by characters in Jane Eyre novel.

Firstly, the participants flout the quantity maxim when they give too much and too little information than is required by the hearer. From the data analysis, the participants flout the quantity maxim because of some reason; they want to explain something by giving additional information and they want to express their feeling. Secondly, the participants flout the maxim of quality when she/ he lies or gives untruth information to the hearer. Some reasons which make the participants flout the quality maxim is when they want to hide something and do not want to the listener know their feeling and condition. Thirdly, the participants flout the relevance maxim when she/he gives irrelevant response to the topic of discussion. One of the reason they flout the relevance maxim is because they are not interested with the topic of discussion so they try to change it. Another reason is because they want to avoid from the something that are talking. The last, the participants flout the manner maxim when the language used in conversation make obscurity or ambiguous.

#### 4.2 Suggestion

The researcher hopes that this research can be useful for the students who want to do the same research about conversational maxim flouting in the novel using Grice's Cooperative Principle theory. Furthermore, for the readers, this research can enrich the knowledge about cooperative principle, especially about flouting maxim that found in communication process.



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