

## VIOLATION OF GRICE'S COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE ON THE DIALOGUE OF "THE WILD DUCK" BY HENRIK IBSEN

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### Abstract

Communication is important for people in society. Pragmatics offers Grice's cooperative principle to make the conversational contribution such as is required, context based acceptable, and accepted purpose of the talk. Violation on Grice's maxims can cause misunderstanding which makes conversation fail. It also happens on the dialogue of drama, which is a representation of human's communication. The subjectives of this research are to know kinds of maxims violation and the dominant maxim violation found on the dialogue of "The Wild Duck" by Henrik Ibsen are. This research belongs to descriptive qualitative research. Furthermore, the technique of collecting data is documentation where the script of drama "The Wild Duck" by Henrik Ibsen as the basic data to be analyzed in term of violation of Grice's cooperative principle. Then, to analyze the data, the writer uses Krippendorff (2004) content analysis. The result of this research shows there are 51 (100%) maxim violations. They are divided into 16 (31.37% ) violations of quantity maxim, 12 (23.53% ) violations of quality maxim, 12 (23.53%) violations of relation maxim, and 11 (21.57%) violation of manner maxim. Moreover, the dominant violation is quantity maxim with 16 (31.37%) violations of total findings.

**Keywords – communication, Grice's cooperative principle, maxim, violation, drama**

### Introduction

Communication is one of aspects of human being. However, there are some problems faced by people, such as people find difficulties in understanding the implied meaning of the speakers' utterances. Speakers do not always apply cooperative principle in order to have effective communication. Violation of cooperative principle makes conversation fail. Misunderstanding or misinterpretation occurs in the performed play.

Language, as means of communication provides tools for humans to be socialized among them. It refers to exchanging meaning, from the use of some utterances in context. However, speakers do not realise that they make conversation ineffectively. Pragmatics offers cooperative principle to make the conversational contribution such as is required, context based acceptable, and accepted purpose of the talk.

Cooperative principle attempts to make explicit certain rational principles observed by people when they converse (Hadi, 2013, as cited in Arezou & Saghebi Ali, 2013). It is so called because listeners and speakers generally speak cooperatively and mutually accept one another to be understood in a particular way, unless they have reasons for not doing so. There was Grice who introduced the cooperative principle in four maxims. Grices' maxims imply that utterances make sense in whether missing or incomplete elements. Violation on these maxims can cause misunderstanding which makes conversation fail.

Moreover, dialogue refers to the conversation when people meet each other. It depends upon mutual understanding and mutual trust. People share meaning as communication that



happens among them. There is a literary dialogue which performed on the stage, as the narrator reports, of the characters characterization. It is called as script, one of representation of communication or conversation in a play or drama. Likewise, in the interaction, cooperative principles provide rules to gain a mutual and effective communication, even on the dialogue of a script play. The implicit meaning makes audiences have to think to understand when a play does not obey those principles. It makes people difficult interpret the message of the play.

According to Grice, Cooperative principle refers to make your conversational contribution such as it is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged; speakers and listeners usually cooperate with each other very well in order to communicate smoothly. It has four maxim, such as maxim of quantity, quality, relation, and manner.

Below is the example of all maxims in one conversation.

*A: Where is Tina?*

*B: She is in her room, I'm sure.*

It can be seen that speaker B, according to Grice's principles, observes all of the maxims as he answers speaker A's question clearly (Manner) and truthfully (Quality). Moreover, speaker B's contribution is sufficiently provided (Quantity), and his answer is directly relevant to speaker A's question (Relation).

Grice also stated the violation of maxims. They are the violation of quantity maxim which means speaker does not provide enough information or give more or less information than its actual need in conversation. The violation of quality maxim refers to offer false message deliberately or say something which do not have enough evidence. Even the speaker is not honest and provides wrong information. The violation maxim of relation, one can observe that the speaker endeavors to change the discussion subject or to deflect the hearer. The violation of manner maxim, the speaker may say everything excepting what the hearer desires to cognize.

## Methodology

This research belonged to descriptive qualitative research which meant a study about phenomenon that happens in society. Then, the writer used data in the form of words, phrases, sentences, and clauses on the dialogue of drama "The Wild Duck" by Henrik Ibsen which violated Grice's cooperative principle. The setting of this research was the script of drama entitled "The Wild Duck" by Henrik Ibsen. It was published by Blackmask Online in the copyright of 2001, which consisted of 159 pages and divided into five acts. The object of the research was the dialogue on the script of drama entitled "The Wild Duck". The script was divided into five acts which was written by Henrik Ibsen.

The technique of collecting data was documentation that used to be in the form transcript, books, newspaper, magazine, script of drama, and others. The writer searched several scripts of play in the internet, and downloaded them. Then, the writer read some scripts to choose which on could be analyzed by Grice's maxims. Finally, the script of "The Wild



Duck” by Henrik Ibsen was chosen as the basic data to be analyzed in term of violation of Grice’s cooperative principle. To analyze the data, the writer used Krippendorff (2004) content analysis which was a research technique for making replicable and valid inferences from texts (or other meaningful matter) to be contexts of their use. The procedures of analyzing the data were as follows.

1. The writer read the script of dialogue of drama “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen using close reading strategy.
2. The writer identified the data to catagorize them into the types of violation maxim based on Grice’s cooperative principle.
3. The writer classified them into each types of maxim violation based on Grice’s cooperative principle.
4. The writer specified the types of maxim violation and its dominant violation that were found on the dialogue of “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen based on Grice’s cooperative principle.
5. The writer calculated the percentage of the maxim violation and its dominant violation that were found on the dialogue of “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen based on Grice’s cooperative principle by using the following formula.

$$P = \frac{N}{T} \times 100\%$$

Where

P : Percentage of particular type of maxim violation

N : Frequency of particular type of maxim violation

T : Number of type of maxim violation

6. The writer drew conclusions based on the result of the analysis.

### **Finding(s) and Discussion**

After analyzing the data, it shows that there are many violations found on the script of drama entitled “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen. There are many violations of four maxims, such as violation of quantity, quality, relation, and manner maxim. They are:

#### **a. Violation of Quantity Maxim**

There are 16 violations of quantity maxim found in this research or 31.37% of the total findings. The following is an example of violation of quantity maxim which is taken from the text act first.

*Jensen.*

*You don't say so?*



**Petterson.**

*No mistake about it. But then he went into the timber trade or something of the sort. They say he once played Mr. Werle a very nasty trick. They were partners in the Hoidal works at the time. Oh, I know old Ekdal well, I do. Many a nip of bitters and bottle of ale we two have drunk at Madam Eriksen's. (page 4)*

Since Petterson gives less information about an army officer Old Ekdals. He tells about how Old Ekdals was and how Petterson spent their time in the past. Through this conversation, students can learn how to give appropriate information.

**b. Violation of Quality Maxim**

There are 12 findings to violation of quality maxim or it can be presented in 21.53%. The following is an example of violation of quality maxim which is taken from the text act second.

**Hialmar** (*comes to a standstill*).

*It may be a fine wine. But of course you know the vintages differ; it all depends on how much sunshine the grapes have had.*

**Gina.**

*Why, you know everything, Ekdal. (page 37)*

Actually, Hialmar just heard it from one of the Chamberlains who worked in the Werle's party. Therefore, he violates maxim of quality because he lies to what he has said. Through the analysis, students know when someone does lie he tends to give more information which is not based on his fact. He tries to cover the false and makes the hearers believe to his information.

**c. Violation of Relation Maxim**

The writer finds 12 violations of relation maxim or 23.53% of the total amount of violations. The following is an example based on the text, act first.

**Pettersen** (*lights a lamp on the chimney—place and places a shade over it*).

*Hark to them, Jensen! now the old man's on his legs holding a long palaver about Mrs. Sorby.*

**Jensen** (*pushing forward an arm—chair*).

*Is it true, what folks say, that they're very good friends, eh? (page 2)*

Pettersen asks Jensen to listen attentively to the guests' conversation, but Jensen does not listen to them, he, however, asks Pettersen about their relationship. As in the relation maxim, students know how to give a relevant information to the interlocutor's wants.

**d. Violation of Manner Maxim**

There are 11 violations of manner maxim or it is 21.57% of the total findings. Here is an example of violation of manner maxim based on the data analysis, act third.



**Gregers.** *For my part, I don't thrive in marsh vapours.*

**Relling.** *Marsh vapours?*

**Hialmar.** *Oh, don't begin with that stuff again!*

**Gina.** *Goodness knows there's no vapours in this house, Mr. Werle; I give the place a good airing every blessed day.*

**Gregers** (leaves the table). *No airing you can give will drive out the taint I mean.*

**Hialmar.** *Taint!*

**Gina.** *Yes, what do you say to that, Ekdal! (page 89)*

Gregers breaks principle of manner maxim, and the speaker has to be perspicuous. He says something unclearly in his statement for he says “marsh vapours” when he talks about where he come from. It makes him violates manner maxim. Students know there are many phrases which are unknown if they do not study Pragmatics. Moreover, through the above conversation, students will understand that metaphor phrases are such obscurity expression to show implied comparison of a good airing place.

This research also found the dominant violation maxim. The following table represents the result of the data analysis of the kinds of violation maxims found on the dialogue of “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen.

Tabel 1. The Result of Violation Maxims

No.	Kinds of Violation Maxim	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Quantity maxim	16	31.37%
2.	Quality maxim	12	23.53%
3.	Relation maxim	12	23.53%
4.	Manner maxim	11	21.57%
	<b>Total</b>	51	100%

Based on the above explanation, it can be seen that the dominant maxim violation is violation of quantity maxim. It has 16 violations of quality maxim or 31.37% of total amounts found on the dialogue of “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen

### Conclusion(s)

Based on the analysis of the data of violation of Grice’s cooperative principle, the writer would like to draw some conclusions. There are four maxims found on the dialogue “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen, they are maxim of quantity, quality, relation and manner. The dominant violation which is found on the dialogue of “The Wild Duck” by Henrik Ibsen is violations of quantity maxim.

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