

## Conversational Implicature and Politeness Principles in Sumbawanese Daily Conversations

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**Abstrak:** This study investigated conversational implicatures and politeness principles in Sumbawanese daily conversations. This study concerned on examining several forms of violation in each maxim of Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle. It also examined the importance reasons from native speakers of Samawa language, particularly Taliwang dialect in applying implicatures for their daily communications. This research employed descriptive qualitative method. The purposive sampling had been applied to take samples toward this study. Conversational Analysis was used to analyze the data. Data were collected by using the recording of Sumbawanese daily conversations, dialects of Taliwang. Based on the results of the study, it was found that a violation had emerged from each of Cooperative Principle's maxims and Politeness Principle's maxims in single and double forms. All forms of violations in a single maxim emerged from both of Cooperative Principle's maxim and Politeness Principle maxim. Violations in the form of a double maxim of the Cooperative Principle were divided into six types, covering; 1) Quantity and Relevance, 2) Manner and Relevance, 3) Quality and Manner, 4) Quantity and Manner, 5) Quality and Quantity, and 6) Quality and Relevance. While, in double maxim of Politeness Principle, the violations included five forms, namely; *1) Tact and Agreement, 2) Tact and Approbation, 3) Sympathy and Tact, 4) Generosity and Modesty, and 5) Sympathy and Approbation*. Furthermore, the general reasons of applying implicatures in native speaker's daily conversations were for transferring information to the addressee, changing topic of conversation, maintaining politeness of the utterance, hiding something from the addressee, refusing something, asking for something and getting something out of the addressee. This research was also expected to contribute more to Samawa language's learning materials in particular and to the relation between language and society in any language in common.

**Kata Kunci:** Conversational Implicature, Politeness, Cooperative Principle.

### Introduction

Language as a means of communication exists in order to connect between people. Through language, people can fulfill their desires as individual society to share their thinking and ideas in form of communication. Commonly, communication may occur in written or oral setting. Both are emphasized on people productive skills of language namely utterances. As the main function, utterances are produced to convey messages or ideas. However, an utterance may derive hidden meaning apart from its literal or truth meaning. Therefore, people are intended to have more than of their linguistics knowledge in interpreting those kinds of meaning. In this term, utterances based on context are needed. For example, a speaker may produce an utterance such "*It is*

*quite hot here*" when she/he is in a room. Listening to this utterance, a listener responds with "*I will make a glass of juice.*" Through this case, we identify that an utterance is not merely enough to be interpreted or to be understood in its literal meaning. This kind of linguistic phenomenon was then familiar as implicature and can be analyzed through pragmatic study.

The popularity of pragmatic analysis, especially for the theory of implicature was traced by the philosopher H. Paul Grice (Saeed, 2003: 204). Implicature is a component of speaker meaning that comprises an aspect of what is meant in a speaker's utterance without being part of what is said. Shortly, we can identify that what a speaker intends to communicate is typically outlying more rich than what she

directly expressed: linguistic meaning fundamentally undetermined the message conveyed and understood.

The implicature of an utterance may perform from the violation of conversational principle. This principle should be considered and followed by participants to develop a smoothly interaction. Moreover, the conversational principle actually contains of cooperative principle and politeness principle. Therefore, in pragmatic analysis, implicature can be linked to politeness. Theory of politeness that used for analyzing utterances as: politeness theory from Brown and Levinson (1978) and Leech (1983). Brown and Levinson theory of politeness basically is a representation of Goffman's work in 1963 about politeness concept that derive from "the public self-image." Then Brown and Levinson present a notion of *Face* into two kinds: *positive* and *negative politeness*. Brown and Levinson distinguish between two aspects of 'face': positive and negative. The former is defined as the want of every member that his wants be desirable to at least some others, the latter as the want of every 'competent adult member' that his actions be unimpeded by others. Brown and Levinson propose that politeness as a need to minimize the imposition that put on addressee in general occasions of interaction. It potentially represents Face Threatening Act (FTA).

The politeness theory of Leech (1983) utilizes the Politeness Principle through several maxims involve: *maxim of tact, generosity, approbation, modesty, agreement and sympathy*. Leech presents the politeness concept by using terms such; *self* and *other*. *Self* refers to speaker, and other

refers to addressee or interlocutor, which is joined or not in a certain speech events. The reinforcement of this politeness concept is intended to the detail explanation of language politeness in other situation rather than language politeness in 'face' interaction as offered by Brown and Levinson. Further, this study will more concern on the politeness theory by Leech with his maxims analysis.

The concept of implicature that offered by Grice theory is divided into two types, namely *conventional* and *conversational implicature*. Conversational implicature is derived from a general principle of conversation plus a number of maxims which a speaker normally obeys. Conversational implicature deals with Gricean maxims. It means that the conversational implicature pursues on what Grice called as Cooperative Principles. For example, someone who says, "I bring a pencil" while she is asked to bring a pencil, and a marker can be accomplished as cooperating and subsequent the quantity maxim since she does not declare the item that was not brought. It can be said that the speaker has conveyed more than he said via conversational implicature (Yule, 1996:40), while the listener recognizes the meaning via inference. Thus, implicature concerns the case in which what a speaker means or implies is different from what is said (Grice, 1975). In Levinson (1983), Grice divides conversational implicature into two kinds. Generalized conversational implicature and particularized conversational implicature.

Therefore, the writer has more curiosity in finding conversational implicature on Samawa language which

seeks the politeness in implied utterances of Sumbawane daily conversations, particularly of Taliwang Dialect at Sumbawa Barat Regency, as one kinds of Samawa language that is a compulsory to be used. In this occasion, the discussion will be concerned to a question in how violation of some maxims of Cooperative Principle (CP) and Politeness Principle (PP) were occurred.

### **Method**

This research applied qualitative descriptive approach. The technique of attaining samples of this research was purposive sampling. Regarding to this extent, purposive sampling technique concerned to native speakers' knowledge and research objective. The researcher determined of native speaker's background and knowledge, and selected of their utterances which had tendency to generate such implied meaning. By applying Conversational Analysis (CA), there were four major activities to be recommended toward this study, which covered; recording, transcribing, analyzing and presenting of findings (Ellis and Donohue, 1986: 169). There were 50 segments of conversations recorded from native speakers' daily conversations. The setting was concerned on family members, neighborhoods, and staff officers. In this case, the researcher positioned herself as participant and non-participant observer.

After recording data, then it will be transcribed into written form, a script. The process of analysis data started from finding such implied expression that contained on the data scripts one by one. The discussion was organized into phenomena of violation

in several aspects of conversational implicature and politeness principles. In qualitative research, criteria of data validation involved four types; credibility, transferability, dependability and confirm ability (Sugiyono, 2010: 366). In fact, credibility test was the most important way in checking our data. One of the technique tests was triangulation. In some occasion, triangulation had been selected as comparison to another data, for example to the source of data, method or theory being applied.

### **Findings**

There were violation forms in single and double for several kinds on maxim of CP and PP. All violation forms both single and double for CP and PP maxims were counted as 149 utterances. In single form, violation was generated in all kinds of available maxims either CP or PP. It had been found that violation form for CP as 6 forms and PP as 5 forms. Violation forms of double maxim of CP contained; 1) Quantity and Relevance, 2) Manner and Relevance, 3) Quality and Manner, 4) Quantity and Manner, 5) Quality and Quantity, 6) Quality and Relevance. Moreover, violation forms of double maxim of PP involved on; 1) Tact and Agreement, 2) Tact and Approbation, 3) Sympathy and Tact, 4) Generosity and Modesty, and 5) Sympathy and Approbation. Each kind of maxims and its forms of violation, in fact, have its own goals. In this study, all segments of conversation showed several main goals. There were five types of speech acts found in this study, namely; declarative (naming), representative (giving information,

confirmation, clarification, boasting himself), directive (ridicule, allusion, critic, advise, prohibit), expressive (distraction, humor, dislike, persuade, lying, disagreement, antipathy) and commissive (refusal, encouraging, threatening).

The reasons why native speakers of Samawa language used implicature for their daily conversations were based on several considerations; 1) transferring information to the addressee, changing topic of conversation, maintaining politeness of an utterance, hiding something from the addressee, rejecting something, requesting something, and getting something to addressee.

As assumed earlier, the violation of Gricean maxim and PP maxims could generate an implicature form. The finding showed that there were 64 utterances as single violations forms and 33 utterances as double violations forms on CP maxims. The single form was dominated by maxim of Manner as 20 utterances. The following was Quantity as 18 utterances, Quality maxims as 14 utterances and Relation or relevance 12 utterances. This condition was found because the participants mostly showed their allusions through unclear expressions. In several cases, they generated allusion by expressing utterances in ambiguity. However, they still understood each other even the expression broke their turn and conveyed expressions longer. The double violation form of CP maxims was dominantly generated by Manner and Quantity maxim as 12 utterances. Then it was continued by Manner and Relevance maxim as 10 utterances, Quantity and Relevance counted as 4 utterances, Quality

and Quantity as 4 utterances, Quality and Manner maxim as 2 utterances and Quality and Relevance as 1 utterance. Furthermore, it was also identified that those native speakers of Samawa language particularly of Taliwang dialect showed their intention by violating single and double forms of PP maxims. Single forms included all kinds of PP maxims. There were approximately 29 utterances that emerged as violation on single form. The agreement maxim as the most frequently emerged. This maxim identified native speakers in expressing their disagreement and critic through. In this study, Agreement maxim was identified as 12 utterances. It was followed by Tact maxim as 6 utterances, generosity counted as 3 utterances, approbation and sympathy maxim were identified as 3 utterances each, and the least one was modesty maxim as 2 utterances.

At double form of violation for PP maxim, 4 kinds of form implicature had been identified. They were totally counted as 23 utterances. The most frequently appearance was the combination of Sympathy and Approbation maxim as 8 utterances. The next, was Tact and approbation by amount 6 utterances, Tact and modesty maxims as 6 utterances and the last was Tact and agreement as 3 utterances. Therefore, all kinds of violation in CP and PP maxims was totally counted as 149 utterances.

As introduced before, several kinds of maxim violation on CP and PP were produced in the communication. All types were identified by details; the highest frequent was representative as 67 utterances. It contained three main aims; those were

giving information as 32 utterances, confirmation as 27 utterances, boasting as 7 utterances and clarification as 1 utterance. It was followed by directive illocution as 45 utterances by detailed ridicule as 12 utterances, allusion as 18 utterances, critic as 12 utterances, and advice as 2 utterances and prohibit as 1 utterance. Furthermore, expressive utterances totaled 24 utterances, divided into 7 categories; those were; distraction as 3 utterances, humor was 11 utterances, dislike as 3 utterances, lying as 1 utterance, antipathy as 3 utterances, disagreement as 2 utterances and persuade as 1 utterance. Commissives found as 12 utterances which were categorized into 3 parts; those were refusal as 6 utterances, threatening as 5 utterances and 1 utterance for encouraging. The lowest was declarative illocution with naming category as 1 utterance.

## Conclucions

All kinds of violation on maxims of CP and PP have been found. There are both single and dual forms of violation in each of CP and PP maxims. In single CP, it is found in all four of Grice's Cooperative Principle maxims, while the dual forms are combination between; 1) Quantity and Relevance, Manner and Relevance, Quality and Manner, Quantity and Manner, quality and Quantity, and Quality and Relevance. In addition, violation on CP maxims also is found in all PP maxims, while dual visions are found in Tact and Agreement maxim, Tact and Approbation maxim, Sympathy and approbation maxim, and Tact and modesty maxim. Regarding the aim of breaking several kinds of maxims CP and

PP, illocutionary act are enumerated. Representative Illocution contains of providing information, confirmation, clarification, and boasting. Expressive illocution is found in showing distraction, humor, dislike, lying, antipathy, disagreement, and persuade others. Directive covers ridicule, allusion, critic, advice, and prohibit. Then, Commissive emerges to show speaker's refusal, threatening and encouraging. Further, declarative is contained of naming.

The reasons of native speakers of Samawa language in using implied meaning involve; 1) transferring information to addressee, 2) obtaining information from addressee, 3) maintaining such polite and impolite intention to addressee, 4) changing topic of a certain communication, 5) requesting or commanding something to addressee, 6) rejecting as smoothly to an advice or a request from an addressee, and 6) concealing something to the addressee.

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