

**MAXIM VIOLATION DONE BY DONALD TRUMP IN SOME TV TALK  
SHOWS**

**THESIS**



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**SHOWS IN USA**

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In a conversation, a speaker and a hearer are supposed to respond to each other in their turn and to exchange the needed information that benefits both of them (Crowley & Mitchell, 1994). By giving the required information, they can understand each other's utterances and their conversations become smooth. The speaker and the hearer are said to have fulfilled the Cooperative Principle when they manage to achieve a successful conversation. According to Grice (1975), Cooperative Principle which consists of four maxims (maxim of quality, quantity, relevance, and manner) is the suggested principles for the speaker and the hearer to show their cooperation by giving an appropriate contribution in their conversation. By applying the Cooperative Principle, the speaker allows the hearer to draw assumptions on the speaker's intentions and the implied meaning.

However, the conversation will be unsuccessful when the speaker and the hearer misunderstand each other. According to Grice (2002), 'when a speaker does not fulfill or obey the maxims, the speaker is said to "violate" them'. Violation is the condition where a speaker does not purposefully fulfill certain maxim.

Moreover, according to Grice (1975), the maxim of quantity is how 'a speaker should say no more and no less than what is needed'. While the maxim of quality based on Grice (1975) is the expectation of a speaker to give a listener true information. He must not say something which he believes to be false or he does not have required information about it (Grice, 1997). As for maxim relevance, the communicators must contribute a relevant contribution to the context of the dialogue. Finally, the maxim of manner means the communicators avoid obscurity

of expression and ambiguity. Moreover, the communicators are to say something concisely and orderly.

Furthermore, there are several reasons for the maxim violation. According to Cristoffersen (2005), people tend to tell lies, they believe that a lie is a natural tool to survive and to avoid them from anything that may put them in appropriate condition. However, the major purpose for people to tell a lie is that they want to save their face. Sometimes, when people do something bad, they have no choice but to lie to cover up their secret and to save their face. There are many reasons for people to lie such as to hide the truth, to please the hearer, or maybe the speaker envies other people, and many others (Tupan, Natalia 2008).

There have been several studies conducted in the maxim violation. The first was conducted by Deni Iskandar (2010) entitled "*The Gricean maxim Analysis in the scripts of the Simpsons Season 5*" from State Islamic University of Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta. Deni investigated the types of maxims that were used in the dialogue of 'The Simpsons Season 5' movie. He analyzed the data through descriptive qualitative that used himself as the main research instrument to obtain the data by watching the movie of 'The Simpsons Season 5'.

The result indicated that the speaker in the movie of 'The Simpsons Season 5' considered applying the maxims when he gave a suitable contribution in interacting with others. And the speaker had fulfilled the indicators of applying those maxims such as the significance response, being truthful, being adequately informative, and being brief. On the other hand, the speaker sometimes violated the maxims because he/she tried to hide some information or the speaker refused

to share information and purposely gave incorrect information. Nevertheless, this study is less natural, because the script of the dialogue movie has been made by the play director.

There was also research conducted by Maria Anggryani Eno Toda and Imam Ghozali entitled “*Violence of maxims analysis of cooperative principle in Maleficent movie.*” This research belongs to discourse analysis because it analyzed the utterance produced by the characters from a movie and the transcription itself. She chose the utterances consisting of maxim violations from the script then she classified the utterances based on the categories of the maxim. After that, she analyzed the character’s reasons for violating the maxims. And the result showed that the researchers found the characters in one situation violated one maxim in one utterance. The characters intentionally violated the maxims in order to achieve certain purposes. By employing certain ways, they violated the maxims in order to save face, to hide the truth, to please the hearer, to build someone’s belief, to avoid punishment, to express a feeling, and to avoid discussion. The main reason the characters violated the maxims in the Maleficent movie was to hide the truth.

The next research was conducted by Nurul Anwar in 2015 entitled “*an analysis of conversational maxim in the script of the movie ‘How to Train Your Dragon’*”. The researcher used a descriptive qualitative method using a film script for the data source. The result indicated that the types of conversational maxims in the script of “how to train your dragon 2” was dominated by the maxim of

relation. The domination of the maxim of relation was a sign of good conversation.

Yet, this study is too general because he did not use a specific speaker or actor meanwhile they have different age and different life background. Yet, this study seems to be too general since the researcher analyses every speaker without considering their age and life background. Whereas, those aspects influence the occurrence of maxim violation. Conti and Camras (1984) state that the higher the level of education, the higher the chance of maxim violation to occur.

Therefore, this present study aims at filling in the gaps by the previous studies: they use the script of the movie as their data source. While scripts of the movie are made by the play director, therefore the researches are less natural. Furthermore, the new present study, the researcher wants to analyze conversational activity in talk show without any setting by the play director in which the conversation goes naturally and investigates maxim violations done by Donald Trump in a tv talk show in the USA. As we know that a talk show is the television programs to interview and to discuss something happening in society. The speaker that has been chosen by the researcher is Donald Trump, we know that Donald Trump is the President of America. His speech or utterances in public television has become a trending topic in some social media. Then, the researcher wants to find out whether the conversations violate the maxims or not.

The researcher chooses talk show because talk show is a forum for public criticism, discussion, as well as creating a direct interaction between a resource, broadcasters, and listeners. Talk show is a way of attracting listeners because the













## 2.2 Cooperative principle

The speaker approach to the interaction produces the success of the conversation. The way in which people try to make communication run well is called cooperative principle (Dewi, 2015). The cooperative principle is an important term made by the speaker and the hearer when they speak one another. Grice (1975) offers the cooperative principle which states “make your conversational contribution such is required, like the stage at which it occurs by the accepted purpose or the direction of the talk exchange which you are engaged”. It can be said that the speakers need to supply meaningful, fruitful utterance to extend and maintain the conversation. Therefore, the speaker always tries to make his utterance relevant to the context, clear and understandable, concise and straightforward, so that communication will run well. Furthermore, the listener needs to assume that his or her conversational partner is doing the equivalent principle. Grice has divided the cooperative principle into four basic conversational maxims.

As mentioned above, some conversational implicature may occur if one of the speakers does not fulfill the cooperative principle. He (2003) said that the cooperative principle is followed suitably, not something like obligatory. The hearer could be unrealized when the speaker does violation in the cooperative principle deliberately.











From that conversation, it could be seen that Chris gives complete and detail explanation to Alan about the position of his book.

To be more understandable, Grice (2002) shows us the analogy of how the conversational maxims work. The analogy for each category is as follow:

- 1) Quantity: I want you to help me repairing my car. I ask your help and your contribution not less or more than what my car needed. For instance, in some condition, I need four screws and I hope that you will not give me seven or eight.
- 2) Quality: I want you to give a contribution to be serious and not to be false. In some moment, I need sugar to make a cake and you help me to make. I hope that you will not give salt or black pepper: if I need a fork, I don't expect you give me a spoon.
- 3) Relation: I want my partner has the appropriate contribution for me to immediate needs at each stage of the contract. Grice (2002: 28) said that, "If I am mixing the ingredients for a cake, I do not expect to be handed a good book, or even an oven cloth (though that might be an appropriate contribution at a later stage)".
- 4) Manner: I want a partner to make it clear what contribution he is making and to complete his performance with reasonable news.











## **3.2 Data Collection**

### **3.2.1 Data and Data Source**

The data of this research were the utterances of Donald Trump in the best tv talk show in USA. The researcher used the videos that have been taken from Youtube Channel as the source of data. It contains 12 videos with different topics from best tv talk shows in USA. The subject of this research was Donald Trump.

### **3.3 Instrument**

There were two instruments of this research, first is the researcher herself. The researcher was the key of this research. Besides that, another tool of this research was computer. It was used to open youtube website and to watch the video.

### **3.4 Techniques of Data Collection**

The researcher used Youtube as the main source to collect the data and it was done through the several steps, as follows:

- The first step was opening youtube website and downloading all parts of videos consisting of interviews with Donald Trump in tv talk show in USA in computer.
- The second was, the researcher understood the conversation for many times through listening and watching.



























**Data 4**

(2)

- Host** : “I ask Bernie Sanders because he’s gonna be here tomorrow to ask a question... have you met Bernie? Have you guys met before?”
- **Trump** : “I’ve never really had the privilege.”

The conversation above happens between Donald and the host. In this topic, Donald and host are talking about Bernie Sander. The host asks Donald, “I ask Bernie Sanders because he’s gonna be here tomorrow to ask a question... have you met Bernie? Have you guys met before” and Donald answers, “I’ve never really had the privilege”.

Donald’s answer “I’ve never really had the privilege.” is classified into violation of maxim quantity. He breaks the rule of the maxim of quantity which ‘make your contribution as informative as is required for the current purpose exchange’ and ‘do not make your contribution as informative that is required’. His answer is not to the point. Donald does not give feedback needed by the host. He might have answered, “I never meet him”.

**Data 4**

(3)

- Host : “Do you cry? Ever?”
- Trump : “yeah. When I was one, I guess.”
- Host : “no, but you’re a grandparent? You’re a grandfather!”
- **Trump** : “I am. In fact my daughter... my beautiful daughter ... anybody ever heard of Ivanka? (I love it! your daughter) she’s going to have her 3<sup>rd</sup> baby in 2 months so we’re very happy about that and proud. She’s been terrific and beautiful children.”



















<p>eleven debates. I was in eleven debates. You know, the primary system. And, I loved it. I really liked doing it, but I never debated professionally or from a political standpoint before, but I enjoyed that process. And I look forward to the next debate, and last year's— the moderator— I think it's very thoughtful last year because frankly, I thought Matt Lauer did a fantastic job. And they trying to game the system by saying that Trump won the debate because Matt Lauer wasn't as tough on trump as he was on Hilary Clinton... and that wasn't it. I mean he was very tough on me, and he was tough on her, but—they're trying to make it so that last years a come out and really be</p>				
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## 4.2 DISCUSSION

Donald's utterances in the best tv talk show in the USA contain the maxim violations. Donald's utterances in the talk show are interesting to be discussed and analyzed because the utterances break some of the maxim rules. Donald Trump in some Tv talk show uttering thirteen utterances that violate the maxims. Those thirteen utterances consist of violations of maxim quality, violations of maxim quantity, and violations of maxim relation. The researcher does not find the violation maxim in manner from those utterances. There are four violations of the maxim of quality, six utterances of maxim quantity violation, and three violations in maxim of relation.

The important rules to know that utterances contain maxim violation is understanding the context. It will help the readers to understand about maxim violation because the situation will change into misunderstanding when the speaker disobeys the maxim in order to communicate with each other. Some speakers unconsciously violate the maxim or disobey the maxim for some certain reasons.

Furthermore, the previous studies that have been mentioned in Chapter I are different from this present study. Deni Iskandar in his research (2010) entitled "*The Gricean maxim Analysis in the scripts of the Simpsons Season 5*", he analyzed the types of the maxim in the Simpsons Season 5. Then, the study from Maria Anggryani Eno Toda and Imam Ghozali entitled "*violation of maxims analysis of cooperative principle in Maleficent movie*". They focused on the









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