

Flouting of the Maxims in Info Pacitan Facebook Group

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FLOUTING OF THE MAXIMS IN INFO@PACITAN FACEBOOK GROUP

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Abstract: The way people respond to the information depends on many factors. The education background, culture, personality style, age, even sex play important role in responding information. Info@pacitan is a Facebook public group with 171.484 group members in Pacitan. It is the place for sharing information among the people. However, not all the member can respond effectively on the information shared. Some of them give comments as they want. Therefore, the ineffective communication happens. This paper aims to know the flouting of the maxims in info@pacitan Facebook Group and to know the probable factors for the members in flouting the maxim. The data were the information posted in group and the comments from the members. The data were taken in May and June 2019. Note taking was used as the instrument of gathering the data. To complete the analysis, the researcher checks the member profile to collect the information. The result shows that members flout four maxims by Grice: flouting maxim of quality (433 comments or 31.70%), flouting maxim of quantity (358 comments or 26.21%), flouting maxim of manner (212 comments or 15.52%), and flouting maxim of relation (363 or 26.57% comments). The ineffective responds are caused by the jokes and the members' limited information.

Keywords: Facebook, Flouting the Maxim, Pragmatic.

INTRODUCTION

Since human beings cannot live by themselves, they need to communicate with other people. They need to interact with each other. They need to share things, ideas, feelings even opinions. Therefore, communication becomes the basic need for them. Communication itself is defined as the process of transmitting information and common understanding from one person to another (Keyton, 2011). From this definition, information becomes the core of communication. In communication, there are two most important parties, the sender and the receiver. The sender starts the communication and initiates the exchanging information, while the receiver is the one who get the message. The information shared in the process of communication is called the message. It runs through the medium of communication. The medium or channel in communication can be in the form of face-to-face communication, telephone call, or even written form.

Sometimes, the communication cannot run well due to the existence of barriers. Noise also becomes the problem in effective communication. According to Lunenberg (2010), different perceptions of the message, language barriers, interruptions, emotions, and attitudes are examples of noise. However, there is feedback to give responds to the senders related to the message sent by the sender. Many factors give influence toward the receiver's responses. The education level, the background even the social condition play important role for the receiver to give responses to the sender. When there is no feedback, the communication process is admitted as one-way communication. However, two-way communication and feedback or responses are preferable.

To construct good communication, the communicators should follow the cooperative principle stated by Yule (1996). The cooperative principles order the participants to make conversational contribution, as it is required, at the stage at which it occurs, and by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange. Simply, the contributors of communication do not give the information more or less, than what is required.

Cooperative principle itself has four maxims that can help the conversation become more effective, including maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relevance, and maxim of manner. The first maxim is the maxim of quantity. Maxim of quantity covers the statement "Make your contribution as informative as is required" and "Do not make your contribution more informative than is required". The second maxim is the maxim of quality, which states that the person making an utterance should not say something that they do not believe to be true or for which they lack adequate evidence. The third maxim is the maxim of relation, which



states that the utterance should be relevant. The fourth maxim is the maxim of manner, which states that the utterance should be “brief, be orderly, avoid ambiguity and avoid obscurity of expression” (Thomas 1995). If all of the maxims are being observed, there will be no additional set of meaning added to the conversation (Thomas, 1995:64).

However, people sometimes break the maxims by giving more or less information, being irrelevant, saying something false, and being obscure as flouting the maxim. According to Levinson (1983), flouting of maxim occurs when the speaker deliberately ceases to apply the maxims to persuade their listeners to infer the hidden meaning behind the utterances; that is, the speakers employ implicature. In brief, flouting the maxim means that the speakers fail to fulfill the maxim.

Similar to maxims, flouting of maxim also covers four classifications: flouting of quality maxim, flouting of quantity maxim, flouting of manner maxim, and flouting of relation maxim. The speaker flouts the maxim of quality when the speaker says something that is admitted to be false or lack of evidence. The speaker flouts the quantity maxim when the speaker gives too short or too much information than what is needed by the speaker. The speaker flouts the relation maxim when the speaker gives the irrelevant information toward the discussion. The last, the speaker flouts the manner maxim when the speaker uses ambiguous and unclear language in responding the question or utterance.

Maxim occurs not only in spoken communication, but also in written communication. The researcher analyses the maxim in info@pacitan Facebook group due to several reasons. First, this group is the most popular Facebook group in Pacitan with 119.222 members per July 30 2019. The information is completed from the Pacitan people and from the government. Second, the members are spread from various elements of social life with different education background, different culture, different economical background, even different geographical areas. Those differences cause the language used in responding the post from the members. Some of the members cannot respond the question or information shared by other members. Some of them do bullying even joking in responding the important question that needs clear and valid information. However, some of them still respond clearly as the information needed by using polite and good language. Flouting of maxims occur many times in language used in group. Therefore, this research is important to be done.

METHOD

The researcher used descriptive qualitative research design. The data were the posts in info@pacitan Facebook group taken from July 1 2019 until July 30 2019. The data were gathered by using table analysis as the instrument. The researcher focused on the question posts by members. The researcher omitted the advertisements, news, and other information shared in this research. The data were gathered as well as analyzed by these procedures: reading the posts in info@pacitan Facebook group, sorting the posts based on the recent post, limiting the analysis on the question posts, putting the tally of analysis in the table, calculating the number of flouting maxims and the number of following the maxims, displaying the data into chart and drawing the conclusion.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

After analyzing the data, the researcher found that the posts and comments in info@pacitan Facebook group is classified into two kinds: following the maxims and flouting the maxims. From the 1917 comments, there are 551 comments or 28.74% that follow the maxims and 1366 comments or 71.26% that flout the maxims. The data are presented in the following chart:

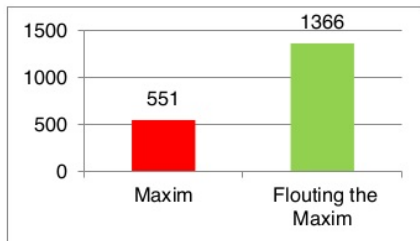


Figure 1. The Comments in Info@pacitan Facebook Group

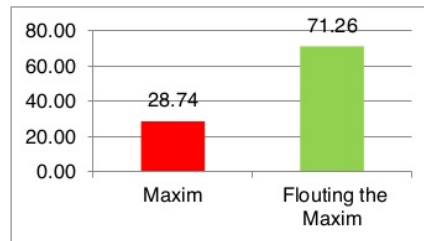


Figure 2. The Comments in Info@pacitan Facebook Group (Percentage)

The chart above showed that the majority comments from the Pacitan netizen were flouting the maxims. Those flouting the maxims category are also classified into four kinds of flouting the maxims: flouting maxim of quality, flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of manner, and flouting maxim of relation. The category is presented in the following chart:

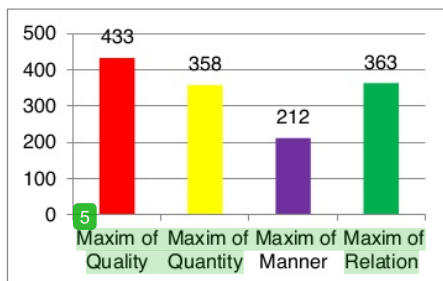


Figure 3. Four Kinds of Flouting Maxims in Info@pacitan Facebook Group

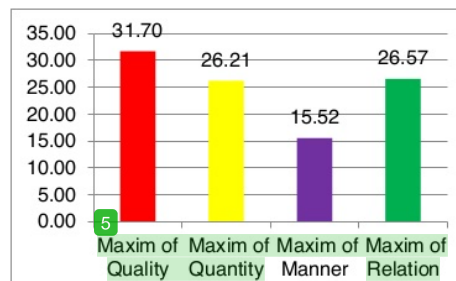


Figure 4. Four Kinds of Flouting Maxims in Info@pacitan Facebook Group (Percentage)

The chart above shows that flouting maxims of quality plays the highest flouting in overall comments in the group, while flouting maxims of manner becomes the lowest flouting in all the comments. Each of categories above will be explained below: Flouting maxim of quality happens when the speaker says something that is admitted to be false or lack of evidence. In the analysis, there are 433 comments or 31.70% that belong to flouting maxim of quality. Here is the example:



Figure 5. The Example of Flouting Maxim of Quality

The picture above shows that the speaker asks about the job vacancy for his/her aunt. There are three comments in the up level among 40 other comments. The first comment implies that there is a vacancy but there is no salary. This statement belongs to flouting maxim of quality because he/she does not sure about her/his comment truth. However, the speaker answers by statement “*Golek tenan iki*” that indicates that she/he needs the trusted answer and serious information. The second comment also indicates floating the maxim of quality because the comment only mentions the other account that she/he does not know whether the account already get the maid or not.

Flouting maxim of quantity means that the speaker gives too short or too much information than what is needed by the speaker. In the analysis, there are 358 comments or 26.21% that belongs to flouting maxim of quantity. Here is the example:

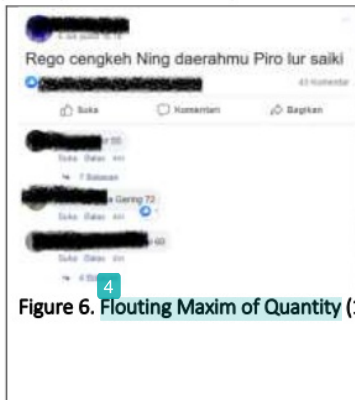


Figure 6. Flouting Maxim of Quantity (1)



Figure 7. Flouting Maxim of Quantity (2)

The pictures above are classified into flouting maxim of quantity. The left picture shows that the speaker asks about the price of *Cengkeh*. Then, there are three comments captured on the screen. All those comments indicate flouting maxim of quantity because they give incomplete information related to the question asked. They give the price without giving the specific place. The right picture also implies the flouting maxim of quantity. The speaker just need the information related to ophthalmologist in Klinik Pelangi Husada. The first comment gives incomplete information (Flouting maxim of quantity). The second comment gives the other question. The third comment gives too much information than what is needed by the speaker. He/she tells his/her personal experience related to eye treatment. However, it belongs to flouting maxim of quantity.

Flouting maxim of manner means when the speaker uses ambiguous and unclear language in responding the question or utterance. After analyzing the data, there are 212 comments or 15.52% from the overall comments captured. Here is the example:



Figure 8. Flouting Maxim of Manner

The picture above implies flouting maxim of manner. The speaker asks the information related to job vacancy in Pacitan and the comment shows the irrelevant answer for the question. He/she gives another question for the speaker.

Flouting maxim of relation occurs when the speaker give the irrelevant information toward the discussion. It means there are no connected ideas between the question and the answer. in the findings, there are 363 or 26.57% comments. Here is the example:



Figure 9. Flouting Maxim of Relation

The picture above shows the flouting maxim of relation. In the left side, the speaker asks the information related to tailor, but the comment gives the information related to rice mill. The right picture shows that the speaker asks the information related to job vacancy but one person answers with the expression love vacancy. However, there is no connection information between the speaker and the comments.

Flouting of maxims above is caused by two main factors: the jokes and the members' limited information. Some of the members love to tell jokes in answering to the question. However, they cannot differentiate between the serious and urgent-respond information and the jokes. It causes ineffective in communication. The member's limited information also plays the ineffective communication. Some of them just write the comment without giving the precise information.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the findings, there are four kinds of flouting maxims occurred. They are flouting maxim of quality (433 comments or 31.70%), flouting maxim of quantity (358 comments or 26.21%), flouting maxim of manner (212 comments or 15.52%), and flouting maxim of relation (363 or 26.57% comments). those flouting maxims are caused by the jokes and member's limited information. some of the member just want to write comments without considering the information needed.

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