FLOUTING MAXIM IN FAMILY’S COMMUNICATION AT HOME DOMAIN

by

Nurhayati Sitorus*
English Education, Universitas HKBP Nommensen, Indonesia
nurhayatisitorus@uhn.ac.id

Beslina Afriani Siagian
Indonesian Education, Universitas HKBP Nommensen, Indonesia
beslinasiagian@uhn.ac.id

*Corresponding Author


Abstract:
Cooperative principles are the thing that should be applied in communication, but some people ignore it. Furthermore, the flouting maxim happens when it happens. This research aims to investigate the kinds of flouting maxims that happen in the home domain and to analyze the flouting maxim in the home domain. The design of this research used descriptive qualitative research. People who did communication at the writer’s home are taken as the subject of this research. The research instruments were observation and field notes. Data were collected by observing and recording the conversation at home domain. Then, utterances containing flouting maxims were noted and analyzed using Miles and Huberman's Model, which consisted of three stages: data reduction, displaying data, and drawing conclusion/verification. The study’s result shows that four types of flouting maxim occur in a family’s communication at home: flouting maxim in quality, flouting maxim in quantity, flouting maxim in relevance, and flouting maxim in manner. In communication, the flouting maxim is done to get intention and purpose. This research can be used as material in teaching-learning, especially in teaching pragmatics.

Keywords: communication; family’s communication; flouting maxim; home domain

Abstrak:

How to cite this article
https://doi.org/10.24127/pj.v12i2.5529

Kata kunci: domain rumah; komunikasi; komunikasi keluarga; pepatah cemoohan

INTRODUCTION

In speech events, the place is an important thing in communication. In addition, it is necessary to pay attention to cooperative principles when doing communication. If the cooperative principles are applied, the information conveyed is clear and the communication can run smoothly. But, in fact, speakers often ignore the cooperative principles in communication. So, there is a flouting maxim. The flouting maxim occurs when the speaker wants to deceive the speech partner so that the speech partner only understands the literal meaning. This flouting can occur intentionally (Cummings, 2007). There are some previous researchers that discuss about flouting maxim such as Hidayati, Wahyuni, dan Erdayani. Hidayati (2018) said that flouting maxim happened when a speaker wants to deliver certain implicit meaning. It is done to assure listener, give surprise, ask for attention and avoid conflict.

The flouting maxim that he found flouting maxim of quantity, quality, relevance and manner. Flouting maxim of quantity was done to assure listener, flouting maxim of quality was done to give surprise, flouting maxim of relevance was done to ask for attention and flouting maxim of manner was done to avoid conflict. Wahyuni (2019) found that there are 44 data that contained flouting maxim and it has implied meaning and it depends on the context. It has function to insult, rebuke, request and praise. Last, Erdayani (2022) discuss about flouting maxim in the movie. She found that there are four kinds of maxim in the movie, they are flouting maxim of quantity, flouting maxim of quality, flouting maxim of relevance and flouting maxim of manner. In this case, she just analyzes the kind of flouting maxim without discussing function or the reason why the speaker does flouting maxim.

Based on the previous researches show that the previous researchers just focus to analyze the flouting maxim in the movie. It means they did research by using library research. In this research, the writers will discuss the flouting maxim by taking data in daily conversation. So, the utterances are delivered by speaker or listener more naturally. Besides that, the writers will discuss why the speaker or listener do flouting maxim when they are
doing communication and it was not discussed yet by the previous researchers, they just analyze the kinds of flouting maxim and function of flouting maxim. That’s why the writers are interested to investigate the flouting maxim in daily communication at home domain and the purpose to do it.

Through this research, people will be aware and know that they often do flouting maxim in doing communication. It is done not always to show negative purpose (Hidayati, 2018), but someone does it to get intimacy (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Napitupulu, 2022; Puspita & Musyahda, 2016), to get purpose and to have humorous (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Wahyu et al., 2012). In other hand, it can be used as the reference for the next researcher and it can add insight in pragmatic field, especially in flouting maxim. Last, the result of this research can be used as the material in teaching learning process, especially in pragmatic subject.

Flouting maxim is often met in daily communication, especially in family domain. A family is the smallest unit of society. In the family, of course, the members of family will communicate to maintain harmonious family relationships. Communication is carried out to convey messages, ideas, ideas and information both orally and written. It can run well if the utterances are clear. This means that all sentences uttered are clear and precise. The clarity and accuracy are the keys in communication.

Communication is a basic need for humans, it is same like food that is a basic human need. In communication, there are human’s reasons to do communication. First, the human desire to control and regulate circumstances or environment. It means human can increase their views and knowledge. Second, communication is a form of adaptation (Iqbal, 2017; Moats, 2000). Communication is done to create a harmonious life. The last reason is to transform and preserve cultural heritage. This shows the existence of humans (Awi et al., 2016; Azmussya’ni dan Wijaya, 2021; Budi Purwanto, 2018; Prajarto, 2017).

An effective communication occurs if the messages or information are delivered are clear and also applied the cooperative principles. In fact, the principles are ignored, so flouting maxim occurs. Flouting maxim is done with a purpose (Noertjahjo et al., 2017; Setiawan et al., 2017; Wahyu et al., 2012). Someone does it to amuse and make humorous (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Wahyu et al., 2012). While Dwi E.S., (2015) said that someone do it because lack of linguistic and actional competence. Flouting maxim can occur anytime and
This conversation takes place in home domain where a child actually wants to enter his aunt's room but he says that his intentions and goals are not in accordance with his statement, namely by saying ‘mau ambil selimut’ so that his aunt (Ika) opens the door and the speaker (Rezvan) can enter the room. In this case the speaker (Rezvan) does flouting maxim in quality. Where the speaker does not provide real information to his interlocutor. So that the action was taken by the speaker (Rezvan) is a floating maxim in communication. In this case, the speaker does not convey the actual information.

Based on the explanation above, the writers are interested to investigate the flouting maxim at home domain. So, the objective of this research is to investigate the kinds of flouting maxim that occurs at home domain, to know and analyze the purpose to do the flouting maxim.

**METHOD**

**Design**

This research employs descriptive qualitative research (Creswell. JW, 2015; Ishtiaq, 2019; Silva, 2016). In this case, the writer focused on the conversation that contained flouting maxim. It was done by observing the conversation or the communication that done by participants during at home. It was conducted to know the kinds of flouting maxim that occurs at home domain that is done by participants (Creswell. JW, 2015; Ishtiaq, 2019; Silva, 2016)

**Participant**

Subject is people who will be as the source of the data in this research. The subject of this research is the member of the family that lived at writer’s house and people conducted
conversations with writer’s family. There are five people to be the subject of the research that consisted of 2 males and 3 females. So, all utterances that found when people do communication be the data in this research.

**Instrument**

Instrument is a tool that used to collect the data. In this research, the writers did observation and field note to get the data. In doing observation, the writers needed a handphone to record the conversation. In other side, note book and pen are also used to write or transcript the data from handphone.

**Data collecting technique**

The collecting data was done by observing the conversation or communication that happened at house. In this case, the writer was involved in this conversation. All the conversation was done naturally. So, the data was gotten be natural. All utterances were recorded and noted. So, the technique used in this research was observation and field note.

**Data analysis technique**

After the data was collected, then the writer analyzed the data by using Miles and Huberman theory. There are three stages in analyzing data, namely data reduction, displaying data and drawing conclusion/verification (Miles, M. B., Huberman, M. a, & Saldaña, 2014). In the first stage, the data or the conversation involved flouting maxim that the writer was taken. If the data or conversation consisted of same flouting maxim, just a conversation was taken as the data analysis. Then, the writer displayed the data in matrix. The last stage is drawing conclusion. In this case, triangulation was done to verify the data by seeing source, method, and theory.

![Data analysis model by Miles and Huberman](image)

Figure 1 Data analysis model by Miles and Huberman
RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Results

Based on the data analysis, there are four flouting maxim that occurred in family’s communication at home domain. The data analysis can be seen in the following table 1.

Table 1. Data of Research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Conversation</th>
<th>Types of Flouting Maxim</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rezvan: tante, buka pintunya? (aunty, open the door?)</td>
<td>Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ika: (diam tanpa merespon) (silence without responding)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: tante ... oh... tante (aunty... oh... aunty)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ika: ya, Evan (yes Evan)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: buka pintunya tante (open the door aunty)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ika: mau ngapain? (what are you doing?)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: mau ambil selimut (I want to get a blanket)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ika: membukakan pintu (open the door)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: masuk (enter)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Oma: Rezvan, papa kemana? (Rezvan, where is your daddy?)</td>
<td>Quantity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: Papa kerja (my daddy works)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oma: oh, papa kerja (oh, your daddy works)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: iya, beli susu, beli truk 2, beli bus (yes, buying milk, two trucks, bus)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oma: (senyum dan ketawa) (smile and laughing)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Berto: suka kalilah mama pake baju daster mama yang uda koyak itu. (you like very much to use your broken clothes)</td>
<td>Relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nurhayati: (senyum) ada dana pa? (smile) is there any fund?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Berto: cukup sejuta (it is enough one billion)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nurhayati: cukup pakel kali lah Pa. (sambil ketawa) (it’s too enough (while laughing))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Papa: Pigi papa kerja ya nak. (I go to work)</td>
<td>Relevance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: tutup papa nanti kena hujan (bilangkan tutup helmnya)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>close, dad. It’s rain (want to say closing helm)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Papa: tos dulu nak? (give five finger) (sambil menutup helm) (while closing his helmet)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: bau papa (smelly daddy)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Papa: (pergi) (go)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rezvan: jangan kencang-kencang papa (don’t ride too fast)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Berto: Ma, cuciakan tangan Rezvan ma. (ma, wash Rezvan’s hands, ma)</td>
<td>Manner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nurhayati: Lagi masak. (I’m cooking)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 1 shows that there are four types of flouting maxim that happen in home domain. They are flouting maxim in quality, flouting maxim in quantity, flouting maxim in relevance, and flouting maxim in manner.

**Discussion**

In doing communication, there are some things that should be paid attention. One of them is cooperative principles by Grice. Grice (1975) said that there are four cooperative principles in communication. They are (1) quantity maxim. In this case, the speaker must give right information, based on the needs, and do not act more (2) quality maxim. It refers to give suitable information and it is based on the fact. (3) relevance maxim. In this case the speaker must give the relevant information (4) manner maxim. It is said manner maxim if the speaker gives a clear information and avoid ambiguity information. But, in fact, there are so many speakers that do not apply the cooperative principles. So, flouting maxim happens. Flouting maxim happens when the speaker wants to deceive the interlocutor so that the interlocutor only understands the literal meaning. This flouting can occur accidentally (Cummings, 2007). Setiawan et al., (2017) said that flouting maxim is done with purposes. Citra & Fatmawati (2021) said that someone does flouting maxim to get intimacy, to get purpose (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Noertjahjo et al., 2017; Setiawan et al., 2017; Wahyu et al., 2012) and to have humorous (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Wahyu et al., 2012). The different thing is delivered by Hidayati. Hidayati (2018) said that flouting maxim happened when a speaker wants to deliver certain implicit meaning. It is done to assure listener, give surprise, ask for attention and avoid conflict. Then, Fatmawati, (2015) found that flouting maxim happens to show competitive, collaborative, convivial, and conflictive. In this research the speaker does flouting maxim to get purpose and humorous. The kind of flouting maxim that found in this research can be explained below.

**Flouting maxim in quality**

Flouting maxim quality occurs when the speaker gives the information that are not based on the fact. The data 1 in the table 1 shows that flouting maxim occurs in the conversation. The flouting maxim was done by Rezvan. In this case, a child actually wants to come in (enter) his aunts’ room but he (Rezvan) said his intension and goals (purposes) are not based on his statement. It can be seen when he said ‘*mau ambil selimut*’ (want to take
blanket). It is done so that the interlocutor (his aunt) open the door and the interlocutor (Rezvan) can come into the room. In this case, the speaker (Rezvan) did flouting maxim in quality where the speaker does not give the right information to the interlocutor. So, the action was conducted by the speaker (Rezvan) incudes into flouting maxim. The results of this study is relevant to the theory of Grice and the previous research where the flouting maxim is done because of intension and goals from the speaker (Noertjahjo et al., 2017; Setiawan et al., 2017; Wahyu et al., 2012). In the previous research that was done by Wahyu, flouting maxim occurs in a conversation and he also said that the flouting maxim is conducted accidentally to get humor (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Wahyu et al., 2012) whereas in this research the speaker did flouting maxim to get his purpose.

**Flouting maxim in quantity**

The flouting maxim in quantity occurs when the speaker does not give enough information or information more. The data 2 in the table 1 shows that the flouting that happen in the conversation, namely flouting maxim in quantity. This case was indicated by Rezvan’s response that saying ‘iya, beli susu, beli dua truk, beli bus’. In his mind actually he wants to say that his daddy works to get money so that it can be used to buy something such as milk, two trucks, and bus. In this case ‘truck and bus’ he means toys. Although Rezvan does flouting maxim, the interlocutor (oma) can achieve his intention and purpose. The flouting maxim that done by Rezvan make the interlocutor to smile and laugh. It means that the statement that Rezvan said to make the interlocutor happy and it is humorous for her. And the result of this research is still relevance with the previous research that have been done by Wahyu. He said that the flouting maxim was found in his research, it was done to get humorous and to make people laughing (Citra & Fatmawati, 2021; Wahyu et al., 2012).

**Flouting maxim in relevance**

Flouting maxim in relevance occurs when the speaker delivers irrelevant information. This maxim was found in this research. Data 3 and 4 in the table 1 above shows that the conversations have flouting maxim in relevance. It is indicated when Nurhayati said ‘ada dana pa?’ (look at data 3) and when Rezvan said ‘tutup papa nanti kena hujan’ and ‘bau papa’ (look at data 4). In data 3, Nurhayati’s utterance/response is not based on the topic that discussed by the speaker (Berto). In this case, Nurhayati said ‘ada dana pa?’ has purpose when she did flouting maxim. In this case, she wants to get money so that she can go shopping to buy ‘daster’ and the other. While Berto said ‘suka kalilah mama pake baju daster’
mama yang uda koyak itu’ so that his wife does not wear it again but his wife took the chance. Then, flouting maxim is also found in data 4 when Rezvan said ‘tutup papa nanti kena hujan’ and ‘bau papa’. In this case, Rezvan does not give irrelevant response towards his father statement. Actually, when Rezvan said ‘bau papa’, he wants that his father does not go to work and stay at home with him. It can be concluded that the flouting maxim that done by Nurhayati and Rezvan because of purpose. So, this research is still relevant with the previous research that someone does flouting because s/he has purpose (Noertjahjo et al., 2017; Setiawan et al., 2017; Wahyu et al., 2012).

Flouting maxim in manner

Flouting maxim in manner occurs when the speaker does not talk correctly, clearly, and tend to ambiguity. The flouting maxim in manner is found in data 5. It is indicated by Nurhayati’s statement, namely ‘lagi masak’. In this case, Nurhayati does flouting maxim by saying ‘lagi masak’ because she has intension and purpose. Flouting maxim can occur because someone has purpose (Noertjahjo et al., 2017; Setiawan et al., 2017; Wahyu et al., 2012). In this research, Nurhayati does flouting maxim because she cannot wash Rezvan’s hand. It can be concluded that the result of this research is still relevant with Grice’s theory and the previous research that done by Noertjahjo et al (2017), Setiawan et al. (2017) and Wahyu (2012).

CONCLUSION

Communication is used to deliver message. In human daily life, communication has necessary role. It is human’s need. By doing communication human can build harmonious relationship. To make harmonious relationship, they should have cooperative principles. But sometimes human ignore it. When someone ignore it, it is called as flouting. Flouting is also found in home domain. Based on the finding of the research, there are four flouting maxim that happened in home domain, namely flouting maxim in quality, flouting maxim in quantity, flouting maxim in relevance, and flouting maxim in manner. The flouting maxim occurred when the speaker or the listener wants to achieve intention and purpose.

Limitation

This research is still limited to some factors. The number of informant and the instruments to obtain data should be concerned in the future studies. In addition, data triangulation needs
attention to make the found data valid. So, it is necessary to do research with different domain and to add the number of the subject or participant in the research.

**Implication**

Through this research, everyone will use the cooperative principles in communication. In other hand, it can be used in teaching learning process as the learning source especially for Pragmatic subject.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

This article is an Assignment of Pragmatics Course at Linguistic Program Doctoral degree, University of Sumatera Utara. That’s why we say thank to Prof. Octavianus, M.Hum for his guidance, advise and suggestion.

**BIO-PROFILE**

**Nurhayati Sitorus and Beslina Afriani Siagian** are lecturers at HKBP Nommensen University. They works in different study program, Nurhayati Sitorus is at English Education and Beslina Afriani Siagian is at Indonesian Education. They are now pursuing her Linguistic Program doctoral degree in University of Sumatera Utara. Our expertise is in linguistics and education field. Corresponding email: nurhayatisitorus@uhn.ac.id
REFERENCE


Iqbal, F. (2017). Konflik dalam adaptasi budaya (Studi deskriptif pada komunikasi mahasiswa fakultas ilmu sosial dan humaniora di lingkungan UIN sunan kalijaga Yogyakarta) [Conflict in cultural adaptation (Descriptive study on student communication of faculty of social sciences and humanities within UIN sunan kalijaga Yogyakarta)]. Profetik: Jurnal Komunikasi, 10(2), 57. https://doi.org/10.14421/pjk.v10i2.1337


