

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter the writer presents the description of the study to recall the source of the study, the findings and the discussion of maxim flouting in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script. This chapter consists of two parts of report: data description and findings and discussion.

4.1 Description of the Data

The corpus of this study is the dialogue taken from “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script released in 2013, directed by Richard Linklater. The data used in this study are the conversation of the two main character, Jesse and Celine, taken from the script of the movie. This study analyzed maxim flouting in “*Before Midnight*” and its implied meaning. There are four types of them, flouting maxim quality, flouting maxim quantity, flouting maxim manner, and flouting maxim relation. Further, all the conversation are identified and categorized based on the rule of conversational maxims proposed by Paul Grice. In addition, the writer finds and analyzes the maxim that mostly flouted and the reason of why the two main characters addressed the flouting.

The criteria in categorizing each flouting maxim: 1) Maxim flouting quality happened when the speaker intentionally say untrue or false statement. Also, a situation when the speaker uttered some figurative language such as metaphor, irony, banter, sarcasm and also hyperbole is claimed as maxim

flouting quality; 2) Maxim flouting quantity exists when the speaker intentionally giving too much contribution or less related to information in exchanging conversation; 3) Maxim flouting manner happened when the speaker intentionally saying ambiguity, and obscurity. Besides, when the speaker uttered some statement that difficult to understand, that also claimed as maxim flouting manner; 4) maxim flouting relation happened when the speaker intentionally giving their contribution by making irrelevant response while exchanging information during the conversation. The writer in addition analyzed the implied meanings according to the maxim flouting in conversation.

4.2 Findings

According to analysis, the writer found 124 maxims flouting in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script. The results of the analysis are presented in the table and chart below:

No.	Types of Flouting Maxim	Total	Percentage
1.	Maxim quantity flouting	24	19%
2.	Maxim quality flouting	63	51%
3.	Maxim manner flouting	25	20%
4.	Maxim relation flouting	12	10%
Total		124	100%

Table 4.2 Flouting maxim in “Before Midnight”

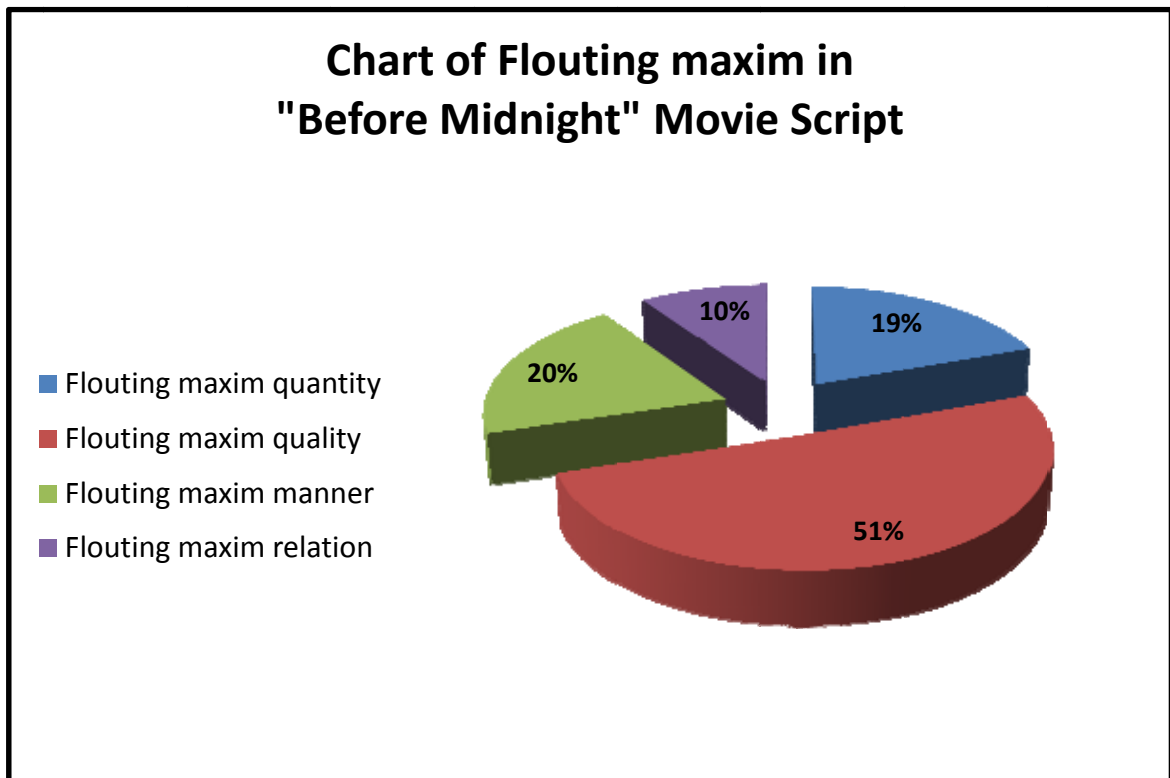


Figure 4.2 Flouting maxim in “Before Midnight” Movie Script

From the table and the chart above, the writer found 124 flouting maxim in the rest of “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script. It is discovered that from 124 flouting maxim, the four types of flouting maxims appears. It shows that flouting maxim quality has the highest percentage (51%), in the second place there is flouting maxim manner with the percentage of 20%, followed by flouting maxim quantity as in the third position (19%), and the least percentage is flouting maxim relation (10%). In the next section, the writer will discuss further about the result and explain the significance of the percentage.

4.3 Discussion

From “Before Midnight” Movie Script the writer found that all four conversational maxims are addressed by the two main characters, Celine and Jesse. The most flouted maxim that always appeared is flouting maxim quality (51%). The rest result that the flouting maxim relation takes the least percentages (10%) than the other two; flouting maxim manner (20%) and flouting maxim quantity (19%).

As the findings stated above flouting maxim quality is mostly flouted by the main character, Celine and Jesse. Based on that, the writer can imply that the conversation in “Before Midnight” dominantly doesn’t follow the maxim quality of cooperative principle which proposed by Paul Grice (1975). As elaborated in chapter II, the rule of maxim quality is not saying what you believe to be false and do not say your contribution for which you lack of evidence (Grice, p.45).

Seeing that the maxim of quality has flouted mostly by the main character in conversation during the movie, the writer consider that during their conversation the character often saying untrue statement for which lacks of adequate evidence. From the context and implied meaning, the writer conclude that these two main characters adressed flouting maxim quality often to minimalizing guilt, lowering dignity hen using irony and sarcasm, also to show humour and mocking as well. By seeing the context of the movie, Celine and Jesse are dealing with real life struggle; parenting their girl twins in the age of 40, facing past from Jesse’s ex wife who making hard for Jesse to meet his son,

Henry, and they are also having substantial jobs which often result tense situation between this two. Therefore, the way they communicate with each other doesn't concern much about maintaining good relation in communicating due the fact that they have been live together for years.

The flouting of maxim quality occurs when the character saying a lied which lacks of adequate evidence by using some figurative language like: irony, metaphor, and sarcasm. For example, when Jesse asked her opinion about Joan of Arc in the middle of comparing women power toward men, Celine sarcastically answered '*Forget France. She was burned at the stake and a virgin, okay? Nothing I aspire to. What a great achievement.*' She was saying untrue statements using sarcasm as well, Jesse know that and he just laughing hearing Celine's respond. From this utterance and its scene, it can be interpreted that the implied meaning from celine's utterances is she's not impressed by how Joan of Arc putting aside her own needs and fight for humanity interest more. Although Joan of Arc captured as one of the inspiring women, she then implied her own issue when giving her opinion about Joan of Arc. The use of also watching the movie for the result of analysing is from the movie context, Celine here is a contrast of what a submissive women would like; she is an icon of feminism and intellegent women. Therefore, seeing the movie as well would gain the analysis to draw the conclusion of each implied meaning found in their dialogues or conversation.

The flouting of maxim quantity occurs when the character do not explain or answer to the point, and gives uninformative contribution whereas it is neither

less or more than it required. It can be seen from Jesse's utterances. It is when Celine asked Jesse a question about would he asked her to get off the train with her if she is as right now (not young anymore). Later on Jesse replied with long unnecessary statements which is not answering what Celine's just asked, then she respond with '*what can't you just say "yes"?*' From Jesse's answer, Celine then acknowledge that she know Jesse feels that she's no longer attractive as she assumed she is. The implied meaning in maxim quantity is found by associating the context or the scene in the movie to their utterances. With watching the movie the writer will know the background or the plot of this movie, for example the term "the train" which also have the substantial part during their relationship; their first meeting in 1994. Based on the analysis, the writer found that the character who flout maxim quantity have certain purpose such as: when giving some contribution more informative than is required the speaker want to minimizes the misunderstanding caused by refusal, and intimidates the hearer. While their contribution less informative it's for current of the exchange that used to control the hearer, can be used to show politeness, and to generate joke in hope to reach the intimacy.

The flouting of maxim manner occurs when the character saying ambiguous statements. For example, when Jesse caught up lying that Celine's was his first love, Celine assumed that he's doing that to work on their "little" special night they have plan, Jesse then respond with "*Hell yeah. I got a Trojan in my bill fold, and a rocket in my pocket.*" The word "rocket" in this context is his private genital and "Trojan" is a brand of condom, he prefer to use ambiguous word to

play a joke with Celine. The writer found the purpose which result the character flout this maxim, such as: for the purposes of minimizing guilt in some situational context, to giving a compliment, expression of showing surprise, asking their interlocutors for understanding and for saying a protest.

Then, the flouting of maxim of relation, which appeared less in this movie. This flouting of maxim relation occurs when the speaker give their contribution irrelevant in exchanging information, which can be used to conceal something, to shift some foci, or to stop the topic that been going on. For example, when Jesse is talking to Celine about how he thinks Henry, his only son from his ex-wife, need his presence as a father, and he – in smooth ways, implied that he can't take it anymore about his long distance relationship with his son who lived in Chicago with his ex-wife. Celine give her irrelevant contribution out of the blue by saying 'Jesse, I'm not moving to Chicago'. She is giving irrelevant respond due the current conversation because she knew what Jesse is about to ask her for, therefore she jump into that conclusion when Jesse's is not talking about that yet.

To sum up the discussion, to comprehend thee implied meaning in each flouting maxim such as flouting maxim quality, quantity, manner and relation, the audience should relate it to its type of conversation which is flouted and its scene (context). Moreover, flouting in this movie is used to show and describe their characteristics and personalities. And it is also to create and develop humorous and dramatic situations in verbal interaction. All of those could be seen by how

they converse, how they show their expressions and emotions, and how they have their certain attitudes.

In the next section, there is the discussion about the findings and the examples of conversation based on the conversational maxim. The utterance that show the flouting maxims are typed in bold style.

4.3.1 Maxim Quantity Flouting

The flouting of maxim quantity occurs when a speaker gives too much or less information than its required appeared in “Before Midnight” conversation. During the analysis, 24 utterances that contains maxim quantity flouting were found. These are the examples of flouting maxim quantity.

Data 1

Scene: Jesse and Celine on their way to vacation with the twins, Ella and Nina who were fell asleep in the back seat. In the middle of talking, Celine realized that Ella want to see the ruins, however Jesse didn't stop the car and refused to wake Nina up.

Jesse: We're teaching them a valuable lesson. If you snooze, you lose in this world.

Celine: **And when the girls are in rehab, recovering from 10 years of addiction to coke and speed, they'll say, "We never felt comfortable**

falling asleep." "Daddy used to tell us, 'You snooze, you lose.'" And that'll be your fault again.

Jesse: (Laughs) Okay, okay. Well, we are shitty parents.

Based on the conversation, Celine acknowledges Jesse defend himself for not stopping the car by pretending to give their girls a valuable lesson. She then uttered more insignificant explanation to argue Jesse's statement. It is considered as maxim flouting quantity because according to Grice's conversational maxim, Celine gave too much information. The implied meaning of Celine's utterance is to blame Jesse.

Data 2

Scene: In hotel room, the night that supposed to be their romantic night disturbed by the conversation about Henry's custody, who lives now in Chicago with Jesse's ex-wife.

Jesse: Let me just ask you one question. You think Hank's life would be better served by consistent presence from you and me?

Celine: Yes, it'd be better if he lived with us. Okay. I think his mom is a fucking alcoholic, hateful cunt that used the time we were in Paris and I was giving birth almost died to legally move Henry out of New York. Fuck her.

Celine has offered an amazing job in Paris government however after Jesse dropped Henry off at the airport, he indirectly suggesting Celine to move to Chicago because Jesse want to be there for his son, Henry, in his crucial time. And Celine think the opposite. She asked Jesse to make Henry lived with them, in fact Jesse's ex-wife always make it hard for Jesse to meet his only son, and Jesse acknowledge this fact. In this exchanging conversation, Celine then expressed her anger right after Jesse's question by uttered too much information. From her long speech it can be implied that Celine think Jesse's ex-wife is a terrible person and doesn't deserved to have the full custody of Henry's. By saying too much information Celine considered to commit maxim quantity flouting.

Data 3

Scene: Jesse and Celine are in the middle of argument of who is the most responsible as a parents relate to domestic households.

Jesse: All I've seen you to do is frolic in the sea and shove salad down your throat. But it is not indicative of you spending your life in domestic servitude.

Celine: **You know what I love about men? They still believe in magic. Little fairies around who pick up their socks, little fairies unload the dishwasher, little fairies sunscreen the kids. Little fairies who make the fucking Greek salad that you eat like a pig.**

Celine and Jesse start to argue about responsibility in parenting. When Jesse comes with the statement that indicated humiliated Celine somehow, Celine then giving too much contribution during conversation to expressed how pissed she was because all the “little” things she do as a mother and wife invisible in Jesse’s eyes. This flouting is considered as maxim quantity flouting because Celine’s uttered too much information.

Data 4

Scene: They are having walk and do the talk in the grassland along, and they came to a painting illustrated about a husband and wife who died together.

Jesse: Well, you wanna die with me?

Celine: **Maybe. You know, if it were, you know, our first night together then, a long time ago. But now, no. I'd like to live.**

Jesse: Well, I wanted you to say something romantic and you blew it.

Jesse asking a question in the hopes to raise a romantic situation with Celine, unfortunately Celine respond it cold by saying too much information that implies Celine regret about having Jesse now, because Jesse was used to someone’s ex husband that making their life now complicated. As Grice’s conversational maxim proposed this conversation is considered as maxim quantity flouting because Celine replied Jesse’s question more than its required.

4.3.2 Maxim Quality Flouting

Maxim quality flouting occurs when the speaker intentionally speak untrue statement and saying something which different from their own thought. It also occurs when speaker make utterances that consists of figurative language such as metaphor, banter, irony, and sarcasm. In “*Before Midnight*”, maxim quality flouting is the dominant type that mostly appeared.

Data 5

Scene: In the middle of their vacation to Greece, Jesse grabs a half-eaten apple from Ella while she’s sleeping and takes a bite from the green part of it, while Celine filming him with the camera.

Celine: Ella, this is evidence of your father stealing food from you. If you become bulimic or anorexic, it is not my fault. Don't blame it all on your mother.

Jesse: **Ella, this is a family apple. I'm teaching you the value of sharing. I love you, honey.**

Celine: (sarcastically) Aw. So sweet.

Jesse’s respond is the expression defending himself by saying untrue statement to minimizing guilt from the statement that Celine uttered. He intentionally speaks false statement also to state a joke even more, because he acknowledge Celine’s question is also a joke as well.

Data 6

Scene: Celine tells Jesse about Henry's "little" secret and Jesse than found out from her that Henry have romance with the little Melina.

Jesse: What's gonna happen now?

Celine: I don't know. They must be friends on Facebook. Keep in touch for a while.

Jesse: Hey, hey. What if they end up spending their life together, you know?

Celine: You're so corny! **Sometimes, I'm just like... What are you, a 12-year-old girl?**

As stated from Grice's conversational maxim, when a speaker intentionally uses figurative language or sarcasm during the exchanging conversation, she or he is considered to flout a maxim quality. Based on the conversation above, we can see Celine's doesn't mean to saying that Jesse is a 12 year old girl. She implied that Jesse is as naive as 12 year old girl. According to Grice's conversational maxim, Celine's utterances are acknowledged as maxim quality flouting because she lied in order to tell how naive Jesse is by comparing him with 12 year old girl with the sarcasm tone.

Data 7

Scene: After talking about Melina and Henry, Jesse bring up a conversation about first love. Celine then respond it by asking something related to it.

Celine: First love, do you even remember who it was?

Jesse: **Yeah, I do. It was you**

Celine: Oh, please, like you were a virgin at 23.

Flouting maxim quality occurs when the speaker not saying what he or she means for many purposes. One of them is to tell a joke. Here, Jesse lying meant to playing with Celine. He answered what Celine asked with giving untrue statement, the implied meaning is Jesse just playing a joke with Celine. For saying untruth statement, Jesse is considered to commit one of this flouting maxim.

Data 8

Scene: Jesse tells Celine that giving back Henry to his ex-wife in Chicago hits him in the heart for the first time. And he conflict about it in the next conversation.

Celine: Well, listen, you're a wonderful father. He loves the relationship you have. He loves the letters you send him.

Jesse: **He doesn't even read the letters that I send.**

Celine: No, of course he reads them. He just doesn't compliment the writing you want.

Maxim quality flouting happened when one intentionally saying untrue statement and speaks for which lacks adequate evidence. Here, from the conversation above Jesse lied to tells Celine that implies he is not happy with his relationship with Henry. From what Celine's respond we can see that Henry just doesn't care much about something that Jesse thinks matter, however Jesse doesn't agree that much.

4.3.3 Maxim Manner flouting

Data 9

Scene: *Celine and Jesse walk in the grass land and having a good talk.*

Celine: Do you hear what I hear?

Jesse: The sea?

Celine: No.

Jesse: **What? Oh! No small feet. Nothing being knocked over, nothing we have to clean up, no injustices being done.**

It is known from conversation that both Jesse and Celine were overwhelmed parenting the twins that makes them not having a quality time for themselves. Having with the two of them, Celine is asking a question which implied she's hear no voice from the twins (or simply means peaceful situation), later on Jesse give his contribution by saying ambiguous manner to tell what he really means. He is implied their boring rutinities they used to do as a parents

since they have the twin. Since Jesse saying ambiguous statement, therefore the ambiguity that Jesse uttered is considered as maxim manner flouting.

Data 10

Scene: Jesse and Celine are in the hotel room, they are having tense conversation because Celine trying to conflict what Jesse did back when she first be a mom for the twins.

Celine: I asked a question. If, while I was carrying that double stroller down the stairs and getting ass-raped in Pigalle, you fucked that little Emily Brontë girl?

Jesse: I don't know what Emily. What are you talking about?

Celine: The one that wrote the e-mails about Dostoevsky? "Oh, Jesse, you're so right." "The Grand Commander is the deepest passage of all of Russian literature."

Jesse: **If you're asking me if I'm committed to you, the girls and the life we built together, the answer is a resounding yes.**

Celine: So you did fuck her. Thank you very much

Here, Jesse trying to avoid to arguing and not giving any information related to what Celine just asked. As Grice have stated that maxim manner flouting is a act when a speaker uses ambiguous statements and usually to cover up something (Grice, 1975) Since, Jesse is answering Celine's question in a long

ambiguous in order to cover up the right meaning he is about to say, his replied is considered as maxim manner flouting.

Data 11

Scene: Celine and Jesse are walking the ground in the grass land and Celine start to make a conversation.

Celine: It's just so weird.

Jesse: What do you mean?

Celine: Just this. Us, walking, having a conversation...

Jesse: Oh, i know.

Celine: ...about something else than scheduling, food, work.

Jesse: **Yeah, how long's it been since we just wandered around bullshitting?**

Celine and Jesse find it hard to have their own moment together, just the two of them. This couple have know from their brilliant dialogues, and most of the times they just do the talking and the magic start right after the audience could relate anything they said in the movie. In *Before Midnight*, they are in their forties raising two kids and embrace real life issues. Here, Jesse uttered something implied that he realizes it is been years their habit to talk about anything stop since having the twins around. According to Grice (1975) flouting manner happen when the speaker saying obscurity and ambiguous utterance, therefore the ambiguous utterance that Jesse said is considered as maxim manner flouting.

4.3.4 Maxim Relation flouting

Data 12

Scene: *Celine and Jesse in the middle of talking about problems Celine had in works and her final decision about taking the job with Remy.*

Jesse: Isn't Remy the guy who used to throw his pens at his assistant?

Celine: **Okay, I should have taken this job a year ago. You know, I was scared of the amount of work, but I think it's the best opportunity ever and it's more money and I'm doing it.**

Here, Celine is making irrelevant responses to the current discussion by not answered Jesse's question. Celine sense Jesse is trying to effect her decision with reminding Remy's bad things, so that she refused to answer his question.

Data 13

Scene: *Jesse and Celine suddenly caught in a conversation about Henry custody.*

Jesse: A father is supposed to teach you that.

Celine: Okay, he just doesn't like baseball, does he? Who can blame him.

Jesse: No. It's an example, okay? It's a metaphor for everything. He's turning 14, and he needs his father.

Celine: **Jesse, I'm not moving to Chicago.**

Jesse: Did I ask you to?

(Celine rolls her eyes)

Here, Celine comes up with the solid statement which is not relevant due to the conversation being discussed. Celine sense what Jesse about to ask her for. Therefore, she uttered irrelevant answer (contribution) due to the exchanging information in their conversation, and for that Celine's response is considered as flouting maxim relation for saying another topic in their conversation with Jesse.