

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter draws explanation about the background of the study, the problems or the research questions, the purpose of the study, the significance of the study, and the scope and limitation of the study.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Language is the method of human communication of symbols that convert some words in mind into a sentence of spoken words (Yule, 2006). Therefore, language plays an important role in human life since basically any time we interact with each other it is high likely that language will be used to communicate, be it in spoken or written form.

Communication is the sharing and exchange of information and ideas from one person to another. Communication mainly occurs in people daily conversation. In order to achieve an effective communication, both the speaker and the hearer have to maintain coherence conversation to deliver the right meaning of the messages. In theory, when participants having a conversation, they are asked to not trying to confuse, trick, or withhold relevant information from each other.

Paul Grice (1913-1988) stated, *“Make your contribution such as it is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged”*. Related to this, the speaker and the

listener who involved in the conversation have to speak cooperatively and mutually accept one another to be understood in a particular way. Otherwise, it can lead to misinterpretation. Therefore, people should obey the principle to enhance effective communication proposed by Paul Grice (1975). The requirement of cooperative principle are being relevant, clear not ambiguous, enough information given, and being truthful. A conversation is considered successful if those principles are fulfilled (Grice, 1975).

In fact, people do not always say what they actually mean. People frequently mean much more than what their words actually say. In addition, people use and interpret the meanings of words differently, so even simple messages can be misunderstood.

Paul Grice (1995) examines five ways of failing to observe a maxim. First, *flouting* of a maxim; imply a speaker fails to observe a maxim so that it can lead a hearer to look for a hidden or implied meaning behind. Second, *violating* of a maxim; in contrary with the flouting maxim, a speaker does not want a hearer to understand. Third, *infringing* of a maxim, it intend a speaker fails to observe a maxim when he or she is have no power to control anything regarding the conversation. Fourth, *opting out* of a maxim; it senses a speaker fails to observe a maxim by saying nothing. And the last, *suspending* of a maxim; it signify that what is said is not completely true or that there are things a speaker ought not to say (Thomas 1995: 64 in Grice, 1995).

From the explanation above, the writer choose to focus on flouting of maxim only. Because the other four categories do not pull out the implicature as

for flouting maxim is the substantial categories which deal the most issue (Yuanita, 2011).

Flouting maxim happen when the speaker say things indirectly to avoid some of the discomfort which comes from saying unpleasant things directly or to imply without offended their interlocutor. One of the reasons many people flout the maxim because they want to put forward their dislike, protest, and critic in unobvious ways, as in commit flouting maxim may draw a cynical comment in smooth way (Rani, 2012). Hence, when people in conversation frequently tend to use sarcasm, banter or irony to express with the intention that the hearer might recognizes the actual meaning of what they actually meant more than what they said, those are considered as flouting (Cutting, 2002).

In consonance with the explanation above, therefore the writer chooses "*Before Midnight*" directed and written by Richard Linklater (2013) movie script to be elaborate, seeing that "*Before Midnight*" related to the topic that will be analyzed. It has sharp, brilliantly natural conversations to the audience which makes this movie a masterpiece (Sundance Movie Report Review, 2013). The ease and the brilliance of their winding conversations leads to the naturalness dialogues as well as the flouting maxim they often address in most conversation which captured real life struggle. The writer will use Grice Theory (1995) to investigate the type flouting maxims that exist and also to inspect the implied meaning of the conversations that flout the Gricean maxims.

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

According to the background of the study above, the identifications of the problems in this research proposal are:

1. What are the types of the conversational maxim flouting found in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script?
2. What are the implied meanings of each maxims flouting in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script?
3. To what extent do the main characters flout the maxims in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script?

## **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

The expected purposes of this research from the problem statement are:

1. To identify the types of conversational maxim flouting appeared in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script.
2. To find out the implied meaning of flouting the conversational maxim in “*Before Midnight*” Movie Script.
3. To find out the circumstance in which the characters use the maxims flouting.

## **1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study**

This study is done within the scope of pragmatic study focusing on investigating conversational maxim flouting, analyzing the implied meaning in

*Before Midnight* Movie Script. The flouting maxims were analyzed on the basis of flouting of maxim quality, quantity, manner, and relation. This research is limited to '*Before Midnight*' written by Richard Linklater which was released in 2013. Conversational maxim flouting that occur in '*Before Midnight*' become the object of investigation and the utterances spoken by Celine and Jesse as the main characters. The reasons why the writer focused on the two main characters are because the utterances they produced contain a lot of conversational maxim flouting the most.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

In this study the writer tries to raise research in field of pragmatics especially in English Department of State University of Jakarta. Furthermore, the writer hope that this study will be useful input to enrich their understanding about the conversational maxim flouting especially from movie script, therefore it guides and encourages English Department students, who are interested with this field as well as extend the studies of language in conversation in movie.

### **1.6 Previous Related Studies**

In completing this research, the writer consult with some related studies that presented on the similar approach (A Pragmatic Study). The first is Yuanita Damayanti (2011); analyzed the flouting of conversational maxim found in the movie *Kung Fu Panda*. She focus on investigated the types as well as the

frequencies of maxim flouted in this movie. She come with the final conclusion that the most dominant type of conversational maxim flouting is Maxim of Quantity. Her study is based on the theory of Cooperative Principle, proposed by Grice (1970).

In consonance with the study above, Rani Setiawati (2012) investigated the types of Conversational Maxim Flouting that appeared in “*How I Met Your Mother*” TV Series season six. What makes her study different from the previous one that the writer have mentioned before is she also scrutinized the implied meaning of each conversational maxims by the theory of the flouting maxims based on Grice’s, namely conversational maxim flouting quantity, maxim flouting quality, maxim flouting manner, and maxim flouting relation, she found different level of frequency to each maxims. In addition, she presented her analysis of flouting maxims in table.

Agus Purwanto (2008) analyzed the flouting of conversational maxim that exist in *Titanic* movie. The theory applied in his study is by Grice’s cooperative maxim. In his study, he reveal that maxim of relevance was mostly flouted by the main characters. He also concluded with various kinds of reasons why the main characters flouted the maxim in this movie.