



Context Situation Analysis of Characters' Utterance in "Little" Movie: Maxim of Quality Violation

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Abstract

The research is concerning about the maxim violation of quality in which focuses in the portrayal of context situation that can be identified in the *Little* movie. The cooperative principles are roles or principles by Paul Grice's theory (1975) in which used in the conversational analysis as purpose to make the idea or information easier to recognize and acceptable by the participants, speakers or the listeners in the conversation, where the types of the maxim include: maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relevance and lastly the maxim of manner. The analyses are about the maxim violation in the *Little* movie applied the descriptive method in presenting data. In this analysis focuses on violation of the maxim quality, which can be identified 15 data of maxim violation of quality, and also concerning the portrayal of the context situation (field, tenor, and mode) based on Halliday & Hassan theory (1985) that consist of several scenes.

Keywords: *maxim violation quality, movie, grice's theory, context situation*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini mengenai pelanggaran maksim kualitas yang mana difokuskan pada penggambaran dari konteks situasi yang dapat diidentifikasi di dalam film *Little*. Prinsip kerjasama merupakan peran dan prinsip dari teori Paul Grice (1975) yang digunakan dalam analisis percakapan bertujuan untuk membuat gagasan ataupun informasi lebih mudah untuk dikenali dan diterima oleh partisipan, pembicara atau pendengar dalam percakapan dimana jenis-jenis maksim meliputi: maksim kuantitas, maksim kualitas, maksim relevansi, dan terakhir maksim cara. Analisisnya berkaitan dengan pelanggaran maksim dalam film *Little* yang menggunakan metode deksriptif dalam mempresentasikan data. Di dalam analisis ini befokuskan pada pelanggaran maksim kualitas, yang dapat diidentifikasi dalam 15 data pelanggaran maksim kualitas, dan juga mengenai penggambaran dari konteks situasi (medan wacana, pelibat wacana, dan sarana wacana) berdasarkan teori dari Halliday & Hassan (1985) yang terdapat dalam beberapa adegan.

Kata kunci : *pelanggaran maxim kualitas, film, teori grice, konteks dan situasi*

Introduction

People conduct conversations in their daily life to find information or express their own ideas in the communication to socialize themselves in the community or interact with another individual, they are affected by the same perception of ideas or principles in the communication by the speaker or the listener, as the purpose to make the conversation run smoothly. People consciously or unconsciously sometimes do not follow any principles in the communication and contrast presents any ideas or information in the communication, they contribute to telling lies or untruth information by the speaker or the listener in which affect them because of the context situation that they have in the conversation between one person to others, (Grice, 1975:45). Moreover, it's considered a contrast with conversational principles which is known as violation of maxims of quality in the conversation. In this analysis which concerns the portrayal of the context situation that can be identified in the data that is found in the little movie, where the data contribute to against the cooperative principles' maxim of quality. The Little Movie (2019) is directed by Tina Gordon and Tracy Olivier under Wall packer house production in America, where the movie is typical of a Comedy-Family movie with a long duration of the movie is an hour and 48 minutes. The movie has supported the analysis to provide the data of Maxim violation of quality by their characters' utterances in the movie, in which it's potentially important to give acknowledgement to readers and give information about the context situation (Halliday and Hassan, 1985) the reason behind the maxim violation that contains in the movie, as purposes to gives better references towards the readers to have better portrayal about the context situation as the reason giving truthfulness answer or information by the character in the conversation. Similar topics in terms of the literature already selected by previous studies in analysing conversation about the context situation's portrayal in which can be identified in the maxim violation of quality in order to provide the clear portrayal and the reason for violation in each scene.

The first reference is taken from an article Raharja & Rosyidha (2019). They used the theory of Paul Grice (1975), focusing the data based on one type of Maxim of violation based on the problem that occurs in stand-up comedy by analysing Dodit Mulyanto utterances, The contrast found in the analysis was about the second problem of study, which concerned the intended meaning of utterances as the reason to support the maxim violation analysis by giving intended meaning to make the data is easier to be understood and providing the reason behind the character was violating the maxim in the cooperative principles, where in this study focuses on the context situations and also the data source that used also different, which used Rush Hour 3 as data source, while in this study used the Little movie. The second review of related literature had taken by Vikry (2007) In these sources could identified from the data, it's known as an American action-comedy movie. The difference from previous analysis was about the context situation analysis in which about field, tenor and mode, in contrast in this analysis focused on violation of quality and stated the reason of the violation related to context of situations. Third reference had taken from Pitaloka (2017), where in this analysis focuses on maxim on analysis related to context of situation which affect the utterances, where the contrast found from the previous analysis about the results, focused of analysis and also methods that used. The fourth reference where the data is taken from Pratiwi (2019). The data source is about the trilogy that was released on 4 September 2018, in an observation method is chosen to analyse the data which the result of the study shows that the highest violation by the characters' utterances

dominantly conducted in maxim of quality and relevance, which also followed by context situation analysis by Halliday & Hassan theory (1985). The last reference had taken used handbook of pragmatic by Benjamin (2009), as purpose to provide better analysis. The source of reference provides the context situations meaning and analysis from the pragmatic field, the difference between the analysis only focused on one problem.

Method

The process of collected the data in this study was taken from Little Movie by downloaded the movie from the internet, source: <https://www.stagatv.com/little/>. In order analysed the data easily, the descriptive qualitative method was used in analysed the data, which concerned Maxim of quality data analysed the context situation as the reason behind the violation found in the movie, descriptive qualitative was the process throughout describing and classifying technique in form of words or sentences. Moreover, in this analysed the followed sequence begun with watched the movie and followed by classifying the data that contains the maxim violation of quality and analysed the data to focus on the context situation as the background the character by violated or against the cooperative principles of maxim of quality by contributing false information or telling lies. Some terminology that has been carried out related to the idea that has been carried by the previous study, especially in the pragmatic fields. The concept was arranged by using some terminologies to acknowledge the readers and make it easier to understand, especially for the readers. Following terminologies are used in this study, such as Maxim violation quality according to the theory that proposed by Paul Grice and the context situation by Halliday & Hassan theory (1985).

Result and Discussion

Based on the data in The *Little Movie*, it can be identified that there are a total 15 data of maxim violation of quality, where the most utterances found in April William and Jordan Sanders utterance in violating the maxim of quality by characters' utterances.

Data of Violation maxim quality by participants

Characters' Name	Utterances of Maxim Violation Quality
Mr & Mrs Sanders	<i>And do you know what happens to smart people when they're big? They become the boss</i>
April William	<i>No, it's not unreasonable at all</i>
Trevor	<i>I overslept. Forgive me</i>
Jordan Sander	<i>'D' is...it's-it's De Andre, which is French for Trevor</i>
Trevor	<i>What? Huh? I can't...That-that was for one night. I can't. Hear, can't hear you, What...?</i>

April William	<i>No, no uh...</i>
April William	<i>Oh. Uh, of course. She is gonna love that you're sitting at her desk with your feet up</i>
Jordan Sanders	<i>Please, stay seated with your feet on my desk. It's... actually fine.</i>
Jordan Sanders	<i>Um, Jordan Sanders is my mom. Well, she keeps me hidden. Just, please don't tell anyone you saw me.</i>
April William	<i>She's a crack head. Yeah, Jordan is a crack baby. It's so sad. That's why she's so hyper all the time.</i>
JD McCrery, Raina	JD McCrery : <i>No, uh, we're-we're-we're good.</i> Raina : <i>We're just chilling.</i>
April William & Jordan Sanders	<i>No, no but this is, this is just temporary, because she's going back to her dad soon Hm, -hmm very soon</i>
April William	<i>No, that's my brother, like do they just think we all look alike</i>
April William	<i>Yes, hell yes. We love that school</i>
April William, Jordan Sanders	<i>You know how Jordan always asks me to do everything. Uh, well this is her niece, yeah I'm watching her while she's out of town" uh-hm</i>



Figure 1 Jordan parents violates the maxim of quality towards Little Jordan

Mr Sanders : *When you grow up, it won't be like this.*
 Jordan : *It won't?*
 Mr Sanders : *Nope, because you're smart.*
 Jordan : *Yes, I am smart, aren't I?*
 Mr Sanders : ***And do you know what happens to smart people when they're big?***
 Mrs Sanders : ***They become the boss***

The conversation above occurred among Jordan Sanders, Mr Sanders and Mrs Sanders in the scene, they are Jordan Sanders parents. Based on the maxim violation of

quality, they against the cooperative principles of truthfulness in the conversation because mention about Jordan condition in the future, that a child when growing to be adult automatically become a boss or rich. It's contrast with the truth information that they mention as the purpose to give motivation to Jordan Sanders after the condition that she has after injured. Related to the context of situation it's strongly influence by the field, which is related to the situation that affect Jordan sanders because she got bullying in the school, where her friend threw big ball into her body and finally, she has to stay in the wheelchair to recovery. So based on that situation the context situation of field mostly dominates Mr & Mrs Sanders need to violate the maxim of truthfulness by giving false information to their child.

Jordan: *Put my slippers 53 centimetres away from the bed so when I hop
Out my Feet can land on them, I mean, am I being unreasonable?*

April : *Yes, bitch (whispering)*

Figure 2 April William violates the maxim of quality to Jordan Sanders

Jordan : *Is that too much to ask?*

April : *No, it's not unreasonable at all.*



April William and Jordan Sanders as the participants in the scene, where they conducted conversation talks about Jordan request to April William in the morning. April William violates the maxim of quality by mentioning that she was okay about Jordan request to her, but the fact she was unhappy towards Jordan utterance. The context situation influences the character violates the maxim of truthful in her utterance actually influence by the participants status and role in the scene, where portrayed Jordan Sanders is her boss in the office, so in order to keep her relation well to Jordan Sanders, she need to hide the truth and her feelings in the conversation. Jordan Sanders role and her status has more power rather than April William in the office, she can do and used her power to control April William by giving comments and instruction, as results she has to accept that condition under Jordan Sanders.



Figure 3 Trevor mentions about untruthful information towards Jordan Sanders

Jordan : *Good morning, Trevor.*
Trevor : *Oh, good morning, Jordan.*
Jordan : *What are you still doing here?*
Trevor : *I overslept. Forgive me.*

In the scene the conversation occurred between Jordan Sanders and Trevor conducting conversation in the morning, Trevor is Jordan Sanders close friend. The situation portrayed by Trevor waking up from the bad and continue her activity to make a cup of coffee and the moment she asked him why she keep to stay longer, he mentions by violating the maxim of quality that he was overslept. Based on his utterance identified that he wants to spend more time with her in consciously. The reason behind the violation by him because influenced by their relation and their status as the close friend, he wants to spends more time with her because he loves herself, so in her utterance she contributes to violation of maxim truthfulness.



Figure 4 Jordan Sanders telling lies to Trevor about the contact information

Trevor : *You got my name as "D Boy in your contacts. Yes, I saw that.*
Jordan : *"D" is...it's-it's De Andre, which is French for Trevor*

The conversation above occurred between Jordan Sanders and Trevor in the conversation, where in this scene is continue from previous scene, but in this the violation of the maxim quality mentions by Jordan Sanders talking about a name of the contact in Jordan phone, Jordan asked about why Jordan save his contact by 'D' boys, and seem he realizes that 'D' means delivery. She wants to avoid any argues among them mention that 'D' is De Andre, which mean French for Trevor. So, the truth from her contact is a someone came only for requests, and that violation in the scene can be identified that the violation influenced by mode, where the languages expected to ensure him to believe on her utterance when she mentioned about the false information in the scene.



Figure 5 Trevor lies about the key to Jordan Sanders

Jordan : *Oh, wait, I need my key back.*
Trevor : ***What? Huh? I can't...That-that was for one night. I can't hear, can't hear you, What...?***

The conversation above is occurred continue to the scene when Jordan Sanders talks to Trevor, she asked about the key and he pretends to hear nothing from their conversation by saying he can't recognize Jordan's utterance even if the way the talk so close. Based his utterance against the cooperative principles of maxim quality by saying false information towards Jordan Sanders. He mentions about false information influenced by the tenor in the context situation, where his violation influences by their relation that he thinks their relation as close friend, he wants to tempt her because of the relationship that the made. Moreover, the violation on his utterance can be identified as the violation influenced by tenor when it's related to their status and the relationship that they have when conduct the conversation.



Figure 6 April mentions about the false information to Preston

Preston : *I got... I got your sugar all over me*
April : *Wow that looks so good on you.*
Preston : *Huh? Huh? I thought you said something.*
April : ***No, no uh...***

The conversation above occurred between April William and Preston as the participants in the scene, the maxim violation of quality occurs when Preston asks about something that mention by April, but in that moment, April chooses to violate the maxim of quality that she never says something to him, even the fact Preston hears her mentioning about admire towards him. The reason behind the violation is the relation between them, April seems interested with Preston but she never told the truth to him, instead she keeps pretending her feelings. So based on her utterance against the cooperative of truthfulness because the status they have, which is in this case related to tenor in their conversation.



Figure 7 April William tries to violate the maxim of truthfulness

Mr Connor : *Nope. She's fine with me chilling in here. Um Cool, cool.*
 April : ***Oh. Uh, of course. She is going to love that you're sitting at her Desk with your feet up.***

The conversation conducted by Mr Connor and April William as the participants in the scene, he is known as one of the most important clients of Jordan Sanders. From the conversation April William choose to violate the maxim of quality when she mentions that just okay he is sitting at Jordan desk with his feet up, but the fact is Jordan saw him, she wasn't happy with Connor act in the scene, based on the relation on violation maxim of quality with the context situation is influenced by Connor status as the most influence person for the development of Jordan Sanders company, so as an assistant 'April has to safe his face by telling false information considering about Connor's power for the betterment of JSI Company. Moreover, untruthfulness is consciously mentions by April towards Connor in the conversation.



Figure 8 Jordan Sanders violates the maxim of the quality to Connor

Mr. Connor : *There she is.*
 Jordan : ***Connor the Incredible. What a pleasant surprise. Please, stay Seated with your feet on my desk. It's... actually fine.***

The conversation above is occurred in the scene when Jordan Sanders meets with Mr Connor in her office and greeting Mr Connor well even if his feet up on her desk and make her office in a mess, but actually from her act showing that wasn't good to do that by him. Jordan Sanders violates the maxim of quality on her utterance by telling lies as the reason of the status or power that he has as the most important clients for JSI company, so his decision more powerful rather than Jordan Sanders, so to keep him to feel welcomed and appreciated by her, she needs to against her principle of truthfulness from heart by saying lies to her own self when she talks to Mr Connor in her office.



Figure 9 Jordan violates the maxim of quality to her neighbours 'Fella's mother'

Fella's mother : *Hey, little girl. Who are your parents?*
 Jordan : ***Um, Jordan Sanders is my mom.***
 Fella's mother : *Uh-uh. Jordan doesn't have a child.*
 Jordan : ***Well, she keeps me hidden. Just, please don't tell anyone you saw Me.***

The violation of maxim quality can be identified in the scene between Fella's mother and Jordan in the conversation, Fella's mother saw a little girl near Jordan Sanders apartment, Jordan telling lies about her identity when Fella's mother asked about her mother and she said that her mother is Jordan Sanders. Actually, the truth is little girl is Jordan Sanders. She changes become a little girl after she got a curse from Stevie, because of her bad attitude towards her employees in the office. Moreover, the violation of the maxim quality strongly influences by field in the context situation, because she has to mention that information falsely related to what is happening on her body, and how condition of her body contributes she needs to tell untruthfulness on her utterance.



Figure 10. April William violates the maxim of quality in the interview moment towards Agent of BEA

Agents of BEA : *And your mother is where?*
 April : ***She's a crack head. Yeah, Jordan is a crack baby. It's so Sad. That's why she's so hyper all the time.***

The conversation above occurred between April William and Agent of BEA in the scene, where the conversation occurred because the previous scene when Fella's mother reports the neglected children's cases by accusing Jordan sanders keep hiding little Jordan at her apartment and Agent of BEA interview April William and Little Jordan at her apartment. She telling false information during interview process when she mentions Little Jordan mother has problem on her mental, but the truth Jordan Sanders is same person with Little Jordan. The contribution of false information by April related to Field in the context situation, because the untruthfulness caused by what happened by the character, why something can happen and how the character act in giving false information in her utterance.

Figure 11 *Jordan's friends violate the maxim of quality*

Jordan : *Come on, guys. What do you say?*
 JD McCrery : *No, uh, we're-we're-we're good.*
 Raina : *We're just chilling.*

The violation of maxim quality can be identified from the scene among Jordan, JD McCrery and Raina as the participants in the scene, Jordan's friend violates the maxim of quality when they mentioned about their condition if they can't perform in front of their friends on the stages. The events of Winchell Middle school known interesting event of school every year. Jordan's friend chooses to tell lies that they just okay to presents in front of their friend but from their heart they really want to perform because they already prepare that event well, but because feel afraid if they can be bullied by their friends, they have to violate the maxim of quality, the violation also related to the tenor in the context situation that portrayed because their status coming from underprivileged society, or minority got bullying towards their friends in the conversation.



Figure 12 *April violates the maxim of quality*

Agent of BEA : *"Let me just document this, Aunt and cracked baby"*
 April William : *"No, no but this is, this is just temporary, because she's going Back to her dad soon"*
 Jordan Sanders : *"hmm very soon"*

The conversation above occurs among Agents of BEA, April William, and Jordan Sanders as the participants in the scene. In the scene conducted after the previous scene where she back to her apartment and Agent of BEA visiting her apartment, because Fella's mother calls the children services in that area to check Jordan Sanders apartment under accusing Jordan Sanders because keep her daughter secretly inside of the apartments. based on that situation that being portrayed in their conversation, the main character 'April William' and 'Jordan Sanders Is telling lies or mentions false information on her utterance and contribute against the cooperative principles of maxim quality, where she supposed to mention about the fact information in the interview process that they involved, but in that situation, they prefers to choose violates the maxim of quality because April William consciously wants to keeps Jordan's secret from Agent of BEA and make she believes on their utterance. Moreover, the violation related to field in the context situation, which is concerned about something that occurred, how the character experienced in her lifetime.



Figure 13 April violates the maxim of quality

Agent of BEA : “*That is President Barack Obama*”.
 April William : “*No, that’s my brother, like do they just think we all look alike*”
 Agent of BEA : “*Same dog and everything*”

The conversation about the interview process among them in their conversation, where Agent of BEA collects more information about Little Jordan’s parents, she asks about Jordan’s father and April William replies with pointing a photo of President Barack Obama, and Agent of BEA notices a mistake and she replies “*That is president Barack Obama*” and April William disprove her by saying “*No, that’s my brother, like do they just think we all look alike*”. So, based on her utterance it can be identified that she is telling lies or false information in the conversation influenced by field in the context situation, where they supposed to say truth information during the interview process.



Figure 14 April William violates the maxim of quality to Agent of BE

Jordan Sanders : “*Oh, hell no*”
 April William : “*Yes hell yes. We love that school*”
 Agent of BEA : “*Enrols her there, and I will be checking that you do so*”

The conversation above occurred where the conversation involved Agent of BEA, April William and Jordan Sanders as the participants. Agent of BEA recommended April William to register Jordan Sanders to Windsor Middle School, where that school was actually Jordan’s sanders school in 1993, and that worse memories in that school about bullying and discrimination time wanted to avoid by her to enter the similar school in 1993. The reason the Agent of BEA obligates her to enter that school, because she realizes that Little Jordan has to get an education, but actually Jordan Sanders is the same person with little Jordan. She got magic stuff on her body by Stevie’s curse and she changes into a 13 years old girl. When Jordan hears the information from the Agent of BEA that the school, she mentions is Windsor, she replies “*Oh, hell no*”. April William continued her statements by saying “*Yes hell yes. We love that school*”. According to April William’s utterance, she telling lies towards the information by Agent of BEA that they love that school for Jordan

Sanders, and consciously the violation influenced by Field in the context situation because of the situation strongly influence about what happening, why something can happen and how something can occur in the scene as part of context situation.



Figure 15 April William mentions false information about Jordan to Vince.

Vince : "Uh, you know this kid?"
April William : "**You know how Jordan always asks me to do everything. Uh, well This is her niece, yeah I'm watching her while she's out of town**"
Jordan Sanders : "**uh-hm**"

The conversation above occurs among Vince, April William and Jordan as the participants in the scene, Vince is Jordan Sanders staff, worked as security in her apartment, the conversation is conducted when Vince sees Jordan Sanders and April William near the car at Jordan Sanders apartment, Vince asks April "**You know how Jordan always asks me to do everything. Uh, well this is her niece, yeah I'm watching her while she's out of town**". So, based on April and Jordan's utterance contains violation maxim of quality, because they mention about untruth information towards Vince, April says that Little Jordan is Jordan's niece. But actually, she is Jordan Sanders. The reason April William violates the maxim of quality, because she wants to convince him to let her use Jordan's car, so they have to say that the little girl who comes with April is part of Jordan's family, so they can use that Lamborghini to escort little Jordan to go to Windsor Middle School. Moreover, the violation of maxim quality influenced by Field in the context situation in the scene.

Conclusions

The main characters namely Jordan Sanders and April William contribute to violate the maxim of quality in the conversation among the other participants, they say untruth information or deliver a false information in the conversation. The reason they contribute against the cooperative principles of maxim quality is because of the context situation that influenced them, where they have to face a condition that consciously and unconsciously violates the maxim of quality in the conversation. Some characters violate the maxim of quality because of the context situation (field, tenor, mode) influence them, but most of that conducted by the main character, especially April William and Jordan Sanders tried to hide the truth that she has changed become little girl, she contributes to give a false information towards other participants in the scene, also concern about the context in the scene when they saying lies information to safe their life and pretend their secrets spread among the people and cause her lose their privileged in controlling JSI Company. Moreover, Jordan Sanders has to accept the condition that something changes in her life to makes her adapt

with the situation that she has in the scene. So, can conclude that the violation maxim based on truthfulness, sometimes occurred in the conversation between speaker or the listener, and there are always the situation or condition that affect them in contributing violated the maxim of quality.

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