

IMPLICATURES FOUND IN THE MOVIE *LITTLE WOMEN*

A THESIS

by

Gebby Oktariani

Student Number: 06011282025023

English Education Study Program

Language and Arts Education Department



FACULTY OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION

SRIWIJAYA UNIVERSITY

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PALEMBANG
2024

Approved by
Advisor,

Dr. Ismail Petrus, M.A.
NIP. 196211151989031002

Certified by
Head of English Education Study Program,

Ervansyah, M.A., Ph.D
NIP. 196907181995121001

COMMITTEE APPROVAL
IMPLICATURES FOUND IN THE MOVIE *LITTLE WOMEN*




Gebby Oktariani
06011282025023

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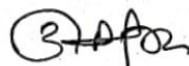
Chairperson : Dr. Ismail Petrus, M.A. ()

Member : Prof. Soni Mirizon, M.A., Ed.D. ()

Palembang, 20 May 2024

Certified by,

Head of English Education Study Program



Ervansyah, M.A., Ph.D
NIP. 196907181995121001

DECLARATION

I, the undersigned,

Name : Gebby Oktariani

Student Number : 06011282025023

Study Program : English Education

Certify that the thesis entitled "Implicatures Found in the Movie *Little Women*" is my own work and I did not engage in any plagiarism or inappropriate quotation contrary to the ethics and regulations set forth by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Indonesia, Number 19, 2010, regarding plagiarism in higher education. Therefore, I acknowledge that I deserve to face legal consequences if I am found to have plagiarized this work.

Indralaya, 13 Mei 2024

The undersigned,



Gebby Oktariani

NIM. 06011282025023

DEDICATION

I dedicate this thesis to:

My beloved parents, Ibu and Bopo, always support and love me in every possible way.

My beloved family, Mama Ibu and Pakde.

My older sister, Anisa Indriani.

MOTTO

Memento Vivere

(Remember to Live)

Memento Mori

(Remember you will die)

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Lastly, the writer hopes this thesis could be useful for teaching and learning in the English Education Study Program.

Indralaya, Mei 2024

The writer



Gebby Oktariani

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IMPLICATURE FOUND IN THE MOVIE *LITTLE WOMEN*

ABSTRACT

Implicature is the consequence of flouting the maxims that are often found in daily conversation and also in the dialogs in the movie. This study's object was the Movie Little Women. The aims of this study were (1) to find out what kinds of implicatures found in the Movie Little Women, (2) to find out what maxims flouted in the implicatures, (3) to find out the meaning of the implicatures found in the Movie Little Women, (4) to disseminate implicature at MAN 1 Muara Enim. This study utilized descriptive qualitative research. In collecting the data, this study downloaded the Movie and the scripts from the internet. The data were classified into some types of implicatures and flouting maxims based on Grice's theory (1975). The result shows that there were 30 instances of implicatures in the Movie Little Women. There are 28 instances of particularized conversational implicature and 2 instances of generalized conversational implicature. For flouting the maxim, there are 5 instances of implicature flouting the maxim of quality, 8 instances of implicature flouting the maxim of quantity, 16 instances of implicature flouting the maxim of relation, and 1 instance of implicature flouting the maxim of manner. The dissemination of implicature at MAN 1 Muara Enim showed that in the eleventh grade, most students could classify the flouting maxims in the conversation.

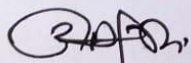
Keywords; Implicature, Flouting the Maxim, movie Little Women

A thesis by an English Education Study Program Student, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Sriwijaya University

Name : Gebby Oktariani

Student Number : 06011282025023

Certified by,
Head of English Education
Study Program



Eryansyah, M.A., Ph.D
NIP. 196907181995121001

Approved by,
Advisor



Dr. Ismail Petrus, M.A.
NIP. 196211151989031002

x

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents (1) the background, (2) the problems, (3) the objectives, and (4) the significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Communication is the process of exchanging information between individuals or groups through symbols, signs, or behavior. According to Fiske (1982, p. 1), Communication is easy to study, but a variety of disciplinary methodologies are required to conduct a thorough investigation. All communication relies on signals and codes. Signs are artifacts or activities that relate to something other than themselves, i.e., they represent a construct. Codes are the systems that arrange signs and establish how they relate to one another.

Before the emergence of language, people communicated with each other using body language, gestures, and facial expressions. Over time, communication becomes more complex, involving more vocabulary, grammatical rules, and more deeper meaning. Communication is divided into two; oral and written communication. Oral communication is a highly complex and heterogeneous phenomenon that has been studied scientifically and divided into various aspects. Oral communication research is divided into several categories, including verbal, nonverbal, syntactic, semantic, pragmatic, sound level of analysis, and different languages and cultures (Quasthoff, 1995).

Dimbleby and Burton (2020) divide communication into four categories; intrapersonal communication, interpersonal communication, group communication, and mass communication. In this study, we will talk about interpersonal communication. Conversation is a part of interpersonal communication. Conversation is the way people socialize, develop, and maintain relationships with one another (Liddicoat, 2021). Conversation occurs everywhere whether it is verbal or written. Conversation also occurs in a movie as a form of dialogue. According to Merriam-

Webster dictionary, dialogue is a written composition in which two or more characters are shown conversing. We can see dialogue in dramas, novels, short stories, movies, etc. The movie is one of the numerous forms of entertainment and digital literature.

Roundhay Garden Scene produced the first movie in 1888. It is a 2.11-second cinematic masterpiece in which four people walk through a garden. Some historians argue that the first film was Eadweard Muybridge's *The House in Motion* in 1878. The film industry is also rapidly evolving as time passes. Starting with animated photographs or living pictures, then moving on to producing sound films, and finally producing colorful films as we see today. The roles of the movie have a significant contribution to educational perspectives. People will be able to comprehend difficult concepts. A movie can simplify a complex concept by using visuals and narratives. Movies also provide glimpses into various cultures, societies, and points of view. Students become more empathetic, tolerant, and appreciative of differences after watching films that feature people from diverse backgrounds. Some films also have complex plots that necessitate critical thinking and analysis. Students learn to think critically, identify cause-and-effect relationships, and make connections between different elements as they interact with the film's characters, ideas, and storyline. Students can emotionally and intellectually connect with topics through movies. The combination of visual and auditory elements draws attention and leaves an impression.

In the eye of pragmatics, we could see many kinds of conversational maxims in the dialogue of the movie. Paul Grice (1975), a British philosopher, states that meaningful dialogue is characterized by cooperation, and his Cooperative Principle theory is based on the assumption that participants in a conversation usually try to be truthful, informative, relevant, and clear to facilitate successful communication. With this assumption, there are four conversational maxims according to Grice. They are the maxim of quality, the maxim of quantity, the maxim of relevance or relation, and the maxim of manner.

The maxim of quality means that people should not tell a lie intentionally and say things that they believe to be true. People have to tell something that can be proven to be true. The second principle is the maxim of quantity. People are required to be informative but do not contribute more information than required to. The next is the maxim of relations or the maxim of relevance. People must keep conversations on track and prevent random conversations from occurring. This maxim also aids us in comprehending non-obvious utterances in conversations. The last one is the maxim of manner. The maxim of manner is a communication principle that encourages speakers to be clear, concise, and orderly in their expression. People should avoid using large or overly complex words that they know their listeners will not understand, and they should strive to be concise and coherent. However, people tend to break this cooperative principle.

There are two ways to undermine conversational maxims. The first way is to violate them. Violating the maxim means we broke the maxim secretly. If we violate the maxim of quality, the listener doesn't know that we lied. We violate the maxim of quantity by not giving enough information. If we give an irrelevant answer to the question, we violate the maxim of relevance. Lastly, if we give a vague answer to the question or say something out of order, we violate the manners maxim.

The second way to break the maxim is flouting the maxim. When we flout the maxim, it means we break the maxim blatantly or purposely. By doing this, the speaker expects the hearer to get extra meaning from the utterance. We flout the maxim of quality if we tell people the information that everyone knows to be false. The speaker purposefully uses sarcastic language to convey the implicit meaning to the listener. We flout the maxim of the quantity when we either give less or more information than what is required so that the listener can't get the answer they want explicitly. We flout the maxim of relevance when we fail to be relevant and ambiguities occur in the conversation. Lastly, we flout the maxim of manner when we purposely obscure the meaning of the sentence.

Flouting the maxim presents implicature. Grice (1975) defined conversational implicature as a non-literal meaning inferred by people based on the assumption of relevance and contextual information. This statement is consistent with Morris' (1938) statement. Morris defined pragmatics as the study of the contextual aspects of language. It considers how knowledge about the world, shared by both the speaker and the listener, influences language interpretation. The context, including grammar and situational cues, determines the meaning. Implicature presents as a result of flouting the maxim. We could find implicature in every conversation. To support this statement, here is an example:

Tasya : I heard there's a new coffee shop downtown. Have you been there?

Aziza : I haven't had the chance yet.

In this dialogue, it is implied that Aziza has not visited the new coffee shop downtown. The implicature stems from the cooperation principle, notably the maxim of quantity (provide only the information required). Aziza did not provide any other information regarding why they had not been there, so the listener assumes that it is because they have not had the opportunity. Implicatures are frequently context-dependent, thus interpreting them necessitates taking into account the speakers' shared knowledge and previous information.

Flouting the maxim does not only occur during an informal conversation. There are many ways to flouting the maxim in the formal conversation. To support this statement, here is an example:

Interviewer : So, what would you say is your biggest weakness?

Aldi : Oh, I'm a perfectionist. I can't stand it when things are not done perfectly.

In the dialogue above, Aldi flouts the maxim of quality the quality maxim by not being completely honest about your weakness. While being a perfectionist may seem like a great trait, it may not always address a genuine deficiency or provide significant insight into areas where a person can grow. This statement is a typical cliché

used in interviews to present a shortcoming in a positive light, however, it lacks sincerity and depth, contradicting the maxim of quality. By saying “I’m a perfectionist”, Aldi implies that he has no weaknesses because he can’t stand things that are not done perfectly.

People also tend to flout the maxim of relation by changing the subject of the conversation. To support this statement, here is an example:

Noveni : I’m really excited about the Seventeen concert next weekend. Have you listened to Seventeen’s new album?

Rizka : Actually, I have been thinking about starting a new workout routine. I need to get in better shape.

In the conversation above, Rizka is flouting the maxim of relation by diverting the talk away from the impending concert and toward their fitness objectives. While Rizka finds fitness necessary, it is not immediately related to the discussion of the concert and Seventeen's new album. This turn in topic might make the conversation appear fragmented, leading Noveni to believe that their excitement for the event is not being acknowledged or shared.

The last is flouting the maxim of manner. Flouting the maxim of manner means breaking the principle of being brief, clear, and orderly in the conversation. Here is an example:

Dilla : So, how was the movie?

Retni : Well, it was like, you know, kind of like, um. Ah, I don't know, it was confusing to say, but it was interesting in a way.

In this case, Retni is flouting the maxim of manner by being unclear, using filler words (such as "um" and "uh"), and being reluctant in her speech. Instead of delivering a clear and succinct comment regarding her thoughts on the film, Retni's communication is fragmented and difficult to understand, violating the principle of style. This lack of clarity can impede good communication and leave Dilla confused about Retni's true feelings regarding the movie. In the dialogue above, Retni's

responses imply that she was confused and couldn't give the best description of the movie.

This paper will see the implicatures found in the movie *Little Women*. *Little Women* is a romance drama movie that was released in 2019 and was directed by Greta Gerwig. Based on IMDB, this movie earned a rating of 7.8/10 from worldwide viewers. It is the seventh film adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's 1868 novel of the same name. This movie tells the story of the lives of March's siblings—Jo, Meg, Amy, and Beth in the 19th century. This film tells the story of the March siblings' journey to achieve their dreams. This movie contains the dialogue between siblings, family, and colleagues. The writer was fascinated by the values in this movie. This movie shows familial love, hard work, helping each other, friendship, feminist issues, and how Jo March attempted to break free from the stereotypes that existed at the time. Because of these values, the writer is interested in choosing this movie as the subject of her thesis research.

The film shows a back-and-forth storyline with different conflicts and backgrounds. There are many flouting maxims and implicatures that occur in this movie. An example of implicatures in the movie is when Meg is in the tailor shop with Sallie.

Sallie : Oh Meg! That would look so lovely on you. I know just the dressmaker to send you to. You'll be the prettiest wife in Concord.

Meg : **Oh no, John needs a new coat for winter, and Daisy and Demi need new clothes and-**

It begins with Sallie complimenting Meg about how the silk would look good on Meg. Then Meg replied "John needs a new coat for winter, and Daisy and Demi need new clothes" which implies she can't buy the silk because she needs to buy a new coat for John and new clothes for Daisy and Demi. In this conversation, Meg flouts the maxim of quantity by giving too much information than needed to reject Sallie's suggestions because she can't afford the silk and needs to buy something else instead.

The study conducted by Alvino (2023) when he analyzed the main character in *Money Monster* shows that there are 11 flouting maxims were found and the reasons why the flouting maxims occur. By using Cutting and Fordyce's theory of flouting maxim, the result shows that the maxim of quantity is flouted one time, the maxim of quality is flouted two times, the maxim of relation is flouted five times, and the maxim of manner is flouted three times. In another study conducted by Safyra, Ouelya, Maula, & Ramadhany, A.(2023) who analyzed flouting maxims on the talk show 'TALKPOD' with Chateez as the guest shows the result that there are 19 flouting maxims found from the data. It consists of 12 flouting maxims of quantity, three flouting maxims of quality, three flouting maxim of manner, and one flouting maxim of relation. In addition, another study conducted by Gustari & Dikramdhanie (2018) who analyzed the flouting maxim in Mata Najwa's Talkshow shows that there are 29 flouting maxims from guest speaker's utterances. It consists of one flouting maxim of quality, nine flouting maxim of quantity, 13 flouting maxim of manner, and six flouting maxim of relation. However, based on the three studies, there are various reasons why the flouting maxim occurs. In the first study, the flouting maxim occurs because personal purposes of the main character. In the second study, the guests of the talk show flout the maxims for entertainment purposes. In the last study, the guest of Mata Najwa's talk show flouted the maxim by giving too little information. So we could assume that the guest didn't know much about something the host was asking about. Another difference from the studies above is that two out of 3 data were using Bahasa Indonesia. It means, flouting maxims occur regardless of the language.

Based on the three studies above, the writer was interested in conducting the study to analyze the implicatures in the movie *Little Women* (2019) and wanted to see the cooperative maxims flouted, and the meaning of the implicatures found in the movie *Little Women*. Thus, this movie can help the readers to realize and familiarize the implicatures in conversation dialogues and hopefully can improve their English skills. Implicature can become a good way for students who learn English as a foreign

language (EFL) to improve their understanding through this concept because conversation is a part of learning a language. EFL students rarely find an opportunity to learn implicature because a daily conversation in textbooks sometimes only shows a straight conversation without any implicature.

To conclude, the writer was interested in analyzing the conversational implicature in the movie *Little Women* and the expansion at MAN 1 Muara Enim. Hence, the title of this study is “*Implicatures Found in the Movie Little Women*”.

1.2 Problems of the Study

In the line to the background, the problems are formulated in the following questions:

1. What kinds of implicatures are found in the movie *Little Women*?
2. What maxims are flouted in the implicatures?
3. What are the meanings of the implicatures found in the movie *Little Women*?
4. How is the dissemination of implicatures to students of MAN 1 Muara Enim?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the problems, there are four objectives of the study. The first is to find out the types of implicatures in the movie *Little Women*. The second is to find out the maxims flouted in the implicatures. The third is to find out the meaning of the implicatures in the movie. The last one is to see the dissemination of implicatures in students of MAN 1 Muara Enim.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to contribute to learning activities for students, teachers, and future researchers. For teachers, the result of this study is expected to help English teachers in every school to teach flouting maxim and implicature in the classroom. They can also use this study as material to create teaching modules. For students, the result of this study is expected to help English learners in

every school to improve their understanding of cooperative principles of maxims and the concept of implicatures. For the future researchers, this study is expected to be used as a reference for the future study.

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