

ABSTRACT

Nurhayati, Yuli. 2012. **Humorous Effect Caused by Flouted Conversational Maxims in the TV Series “How I Met Your Mother”**. Study Program of English, Universitas Brawijaya. Supervisor: Nurul Chojimah; Co-supervisor: Yuni Astuti

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In conversation, a cooperation between the speaker and the hearer is required, so the intention of the speaker can be accepted well by the hearer. However, in some cases, the speaker and the hearer do not always comply with the cooperative principle with a specific purpose. For example, in the context of humor, speakers flout the conversational maxim with the purpose to cause the effects of humor and laughter from his interlocutor. In this study, there are two research problems: (1) which flouted maxims cause humorous effect in the conversations between Ted Mosby and the other characters? and (2) how can the flouting of the maxims cause humorous effect?

This study uses a qualitative approach in understanding the phenomenon under study. In the study, the researcher uses text documents that assist her in conducting research. She writes the conversations of the characters as the data studied.

In this study, the researcher finds that the four maxims are flouted by the character to cause laughter from the audience. The maxim which is often flouted by the character is the Maxim of Quality that is by lying, mocking, denying or making exaggerated statements. The next maxim which is also often flouted is Maxim of Quantity because the character provides too little information or provides explanations using many words. The third maxim, Maxim of Relation is also flouted several times by the character by providing an irrelevant topic or by changing the subject. The maxim which is most rarely flouted is Maxims of Manner, which is by giving statement which is ambiguous or unclear statement. The researcher finds that there are factors that contribute to the flouting of the maxim in every utterance of the character, which is the relationship between the main character with other characters, as well as the emotions of the main character during a conversation. In addition, the researcher finds that the background knowledge and the culture of the audience also affect their interpretation in any humor made by the characters.

The researcher suggests that future researchers analyze factors that lead to the emergence of humor by using other theories. It is also suggested that future researchers analyze the other objects of humor, such as the caricatures, cartoons, movies, sketch comedy or Stand-up Comedy.