



## An Analysis Of Maxim In Novel “Me Before You”

By Jojo Moyes

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### Abstract

This study aims to determine what maxim is dominant in a novel entitled "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes. This study was investigated using the Gricean pragmatic theory. This type of research is a qualitative descriptive study and the data used are the utterances contained in the novel Me Before You by Jojo Moyes which there are four maxim, maxim of quality, maxim of quantity, maxim of relation, and maxim of manner which they are intended as cooperative principle by Yule. After do the research the researcher found quality is the maxim that is more widely used

**Keywords:** Maxim, Novel, Me Before You

### Introduction

In conversational, the speaker speaks some words or utterances and the hearer interprets the meaning of the utterances. The utterance can be explicit, which means corresponding to its meaning, or implicit, having different meaning from the literal one, called as implied meaning. Concentrating on the implied meaning, many kinds meaning that can be found in one utterance, depend on the context and the situation the conversational is used. Between the speaker and the hearer need cooperation in conversation. They will know the intent of each other's utterances and the conversation will be smooth with using cooperation. The cooperation in their conversation is called as cooperative principle by George Yule. The cooperative principle has four maxims, namely maxim of quality, maxim of quantity, maxim of relation, and maxim of manner.

When we speak to another person, we are trying to cooperate with another to build the meaningful conversations. That assumption is known as the Cooperative Principle. "Interlocutors in a conversation are often expected to follow all principle in order to communicate successfully" (Herawati, n.d.). However, it does not rule out the possibility that the hearer is fail in responding to an utterance.

The principle explains the effectiveness of communication in a conversation that can be achieved in four maxims. (1) Maxim of Quality, say only what you have reason to believe is true. A : Do you know where the Barelang Bridge is? B : It's in Batam. (2) Maxim of Quantity, say enough, but not say too much. A : Where is your mother? B : In the kitchen. (3) Maxim of Relation, say only what is relevant. A : How was my performance mom? B : Not so bad. (4) Maxim of Manner, be brief, clear, and unambiguous. A : Where are we going to make assignments? B : In my house, Tembesi Centre block C6 number 9, Batu Aji Binner (2013)

Recently, the uses of Cooperative Principle not only find in daily conversation, but also in film and drama. Most of them are in drama because in novel there are lot of conversations. Cooperative Principle not only uses in drama, but can be found in novel, and it can be known from the dialogues they speak. In this case, the writer chooses a novel that has read and learn and decided to use it as the Cooperative Principle object. In this research the writer chose Me Before You novel which uses conversation Cooperative Principle in writing Me Before You novel.

Novel is a long prose that presents characters and displays a series of events and structure settings Sardjiman (1990: 55). Novel is chosen as long as it was interesting to research and it contains the Cooperative Principle material that can be observed.

Me Before You is a modern novel and romanticism written by Jojo Moyes in 2012. Set in London, Will tried to end his life by committing suicide and going to a suicide community called Dignitas in Swiss. He ended his life because he thought that his paralyzed body was no longer useful. His life was filled with sadness because he imagined his old life, which he was an active and a businessman who had a lot of work.

The writer take Me Before You novel to be analyze the Cooperation Principle through utterances in novel. When the speaker speaks and then hears an utterance, it will generally be correctly assumed, has the right of information, be relevant, and will understandable term. The novel has simple words that are easy to understand and can immediately imagine it. The author is also interested in all the characters in this novel. Interested here what is meant by the author is the study of the Cooperative Principle in line and violating the maxim using the novel "Me Before You". Here the author conducts a study entitled An Analysis of Cooperation

Principle on "Me Before You" novel.

Cooperative Principle is often applied in daily conversations. Its general application occur using maxim quality. Maxim quality also cannot be separated from the use of language. Language that is used naturally will create a separate understanding by the hearer depending on the environment and culture Thakur (2016). Cooperative Principle also has a function. All of that will be revealed based on the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. In some conversation like in *Me Before You* novel the writer has found the Cooperative Principle. The Cooperative Principle is presupposition that speaker and hearer in a conversation normally attempt to be truthful and clear. In the conversation the participants are supposed to respond each other in their turn and exchange in the right time related to the information that they need and benefit for them. By giving the information, they can understand each other utterance and the conversation will be done in smoothly. By using the Cooperative Principle the speaker allows the hearer to assume what the speaker intention in the utterances.

### **Method**

Following the title and purpose of the study, this type of research is qualitative research, because qualitative research according to Wibowo (2013:38) qualitative research is research used to find out and analyze what is not seen or in other words, qualitative research looks at the content of the communication that is implied. By using qualitative research researcher can see what is behind an utterance in the form of words and language. The data in this research are utterances from Gricean theory namely maxim. The data source in this study comes from the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes with 410 pages and published in 2012.

### **Result**

### **Discussion**

**Me Before You novel** Moyes (2012)

#### **Quality**

1. After some drunken people helped Will free from the mud that had made his wheelchair stuck (pg.170)

Will: The tall one dropped his entire beer down my right leg. I smell like a brewery.

Will should have said my feet smelled of beer because of the tall man's beer spill, so that the sentence seemed simple.

2. Clark tells his family life after his grandmother died (pg.172)

Clark : My mother stood most days at her washing-up bowl, her back rigid with the effort of trying to suppress her tears.

Clark should only say that after his grandmother died, his mother worked more on his own homework.

3. Clark tells the story of the story when he was still naughty (pg.173)

Clark : The whole day was punctuated with laughter, with fizzy drinks guzzled under a hot sun, and blue sky's light glinting off the battlements.

Laughing all day is a statement that is excessive. It would be better if Clark just mentioned we laughed cheerfully.

4. When Will offered a free ticket to watch a concert with Clark's mother, Clark refused the offer (pg.175)

Clark : My mum does not really go out.

Clark should only answer that his mother rarely went out of the house. If Clark answered like before, it was too much.

5. When Clark was not confident in the costume she was going to wear and Will tried to convince her that people would not care about Clark's costume because they would only focus on the music (pg.178)

Clark : You know nothing about women

It would be better if Clark said that Will did not understand women well.

Quantity

1. A woman named Camilla Traynor is interviewing Louisa Clark (pg. 24)

Camilla : So, Miss Clark. Do you have any experience with quadriplegia?

Clark : No

Clark answered as needed according to what was asked by Camilla.

2. A woman named Camilla Traynor is interviewing Louisa Clark (pg. 24)

Camilla : Can you drive Miss Clark?

Clark : Yes

Clark answered as needed according to what was asked by Camilla about skill

3. A woman named Camilla Traynor is interviewing Louisa Clark (pg. 25)

Camilla : How old are you?

Clark : I am twenty-six

Clark answered as needed according to what was asked by Camilla about age.

4. Clark asks Camilla about Will, Camilla paralyzed son (pg.34)

Clark : What does he like to do?

Camilla : He watches films. Sometimes he listens to radio, or to music.

Camilla answered according to what Clark asked about the things that will be liked by Will.

5. After Camilla finished explaining all the rules in her house, then she asked Clark (pg.35)

Camilla : Do you have any question?

Clark : No

Clark answers Camilla's questions briefly and that is the answer that matches the question Camilla Traynor.

## **Conclusion**

The writer has analyzed several examples of utterance from the novel titled *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes using Gricean's pragmatic theory. The maxim used in some examples of utterances cited is the maxim of quality and maxim of quantity. Pragmatics is considered as one of the fields that studies linguistics through speech. Pragmatics examines the meaning called the speaker's meaning. After reading the novel *Me Before You*, the writer concludes that in the novel, the author uses more quality maxim.

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