The Adoption Of Grice's Maxims In Social Media By EFL Iraqi College Students

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Abstract
This study has conducted to investigate the Grice's maxims that are used by Iraqi college students. The study used a descriptive qualitative approach to identify Grice's maxims among college students on social media. Participants and a sample were not used in this study to get the primary data. Eight images extracted from college students' posts on various social media platforms serve as the study's corpus. In order to determine where college students deviate from Grice's conversational maxims, the maxims of quality, quantity, manner, and relation and what the inferred meaning is, the study examines the data gathered by applying them to samples. The results It demonstrated how Iraqi college students applied the four maxims quality, quantity, style, and relation in their communications. As a result, it is reasonable to anticipate that user language evolves together with the technological framework. Nonetheless, the findings show that Iraqi college students frequently employed acronyms in their writing but had less understanding of grammar norms. In conclusion, people should understand that developing their language communication abilities would not only help them become more effective communicators but also enhance their culture and nation's standing abroad.
Key Words: *Grice, Grice's Maxims, Cooperative Principle, and Social Media*

I. Introduction

People from all walks of life may now communicate with each other thanks to the internet, which was created to link computers worldwide. However, because many websites and forums are anonymous these days, it is challenging to know when to change registrant and style based on the interlocutor. Additionally, it enables users to conceal their true identities, a feature that is absent from conversations in real life. In the film "You've Got Mail," two people have a passionate online affair despite the fact that they truly hate one other, as Yus (2001:21) notes.

Few people are able to show what is absolutely required to guarantee that a conversation goes smoothly. According to Grice (1975), language is a flexible and creative system that enables communication, but successful communication also requires certain characteristics. In daily discourse, he (1975) suggested that speakers and listeners share a set of CPs. "Make your conversation contribution such as is required, when it arises, by the accepted goal or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged" is the definition of the CP (Grice, 1975, p. 45). Speakers don't have to explain something they can assume their audience already knows.

Among the Grice (1975) CPs that have long been essential to pragmatics are quality, quantity, manner, and relation maxim (Brown, 1989; Davies, 2008; Mukaro, Mugari, & Dhumukwa, 2013; Yule, 2013). According to pragmatics, exchanging information is the main objective of communication. People often collaborate to express their intended intentions and the underlying connotation of their remarks. Accordingly, discussions are cooperative endeavors that occur on a shared basis and proceed in accordance with a group's joint decision. Pragmatics emerged as a separate field of linguistics owing to Grice's (1975) work on the CP (e.g., Darighgoftar & Ghaffari, 2012; Hadi, 2013; Jia, 2008; Yunxiu, 2012; etc.).

Statement of Problem

People use communication to express their ideas and opinions on a daily basis. The intention is to facilitate understanding of what has been spoken by others. The substance and purpose of what individuals are saying are just as important as the way they can express themselves when it comes to social media communication. H.P. Grice explains cooperative principles, also known as maxims, in a principle. Rather than a universally applicable Gricean maxim, the principles or maxims can be applied to different contexts and to different degrees (Thakur, 2016). People start depending on it to figure out what language means. Language users must abide by four norms of conduct in order to uphold the cooperative concept. The industry uses terminology like quality, quantity, relation, and way to characterize them (Sadi & First, 2020).

Social media communication has a number of problems. As is evident, not everyone has the ability to express their ideas and thoughts in a way that other people can comprehend. They're still confused even though it caused a breach between them. As a result, misunderstandings arise. Despite the fact that most individuals are aware of the idea, they often speak from a place of self-centeredness. It indicates that they speak with the hope that the meaning they intend to convey is clear to the listener.

The aforementioned problems prevent people from upholding the cooperative principles or maxims. This instance suggests that while they were conversing with one another, they disregarded maxims. Even when people's communication may not adhere to the cooperative principle, they nonetheless find it enjoyable. Thomas (2013, p. 65) defines flouting as when a speaker willfully disregards a maxim in order to create an implicative. Quantity, quality, relation, and method are the four maxims that are broken. Presumption: According to Hariyani and Setyawan (2020), the speaker anticipates that the listener would infer their simplified meanings. The idea that breaking a rule conveys an underlying message that the audience can understand has theoretical support.

Research Questions

This study aims to identify and analyze the Grice's maxims adoption in social media by college students. However, the research questions are as follows;

What are the Grice's maxims that EFL Iraqi college students used in social media?

Significance of the Study

The theoretical foundations of this book are primarily covered by Grice's maxims. This thesis examines how college students react to instructions that deviate from conversational rules on social media using descriptive qualitative analysis techniques. The interdisciplinary nature of this study, however, points to a chance for further research to use Grice's maxims to assess speech.

II.   Literature Review

Introduction

A basic component of language use in communication requires close attention. The principle of language usage emphasizes the importance of cooperation in discourse, as noted by Grice (1975). Presenters strive to be brief, problem-focused, understandable, pertinent to the moment, error-free, and clear (Firda & Hidayat, 2021). These ideas are summed up in the cooperation principle's maxims. A number of aspects of cooperative principles in communication have been thoroughly examined in earlier research. Grice (1975) uses the Cooperative Principle and its tenets to describe conversational implicature.

The paper makes an effort to give background information on Grice's cooperation principle and its tenets in this part. Similar to other languages used on the Internet, English is limited by new media technology. As users try to force the methods of contemporary information technology on the outdated linguistic system, some new linguistic styles and variations that are employed in communication become apparent. Academic research and security interest in the connection between language and the Internet is expanding. Numerous studies on sociolinguistic research have been published online in recent years, with a focus on how computers and cellphones are altering our perceptions of language.

According to Lenhart et al. (2008), many teenagers use electronic devices like computers and cellphones to text their buddies for hours every day. They also point out that we need to comprehend the electronic realm in which teenagers operate if we are to comprehend the current state of writing among young people. "Digital tools like Facebook enhance communication and human interaction potentially be harnessed for language learning," according to Godwin-Jones (2008, p. 7). According to Ibarra, "when using can Facebook as a platform for practicing writing skills...it could be determined that respondents appreciated and enjoyed working on Facebook." This is because there appears to be a general feeling that working online reduces stress and anxiety because the respondents' "affective filter was reduced." In a quantitative analysis of undergraduate instant messaging discussions, Baron (2009) found that misspellings, acronyms, and abbreviations are quite rare. He adds that a Pew Internet and American Life Project survey found that middle school and high school pupils were able to distinguish between the language used in digital media and the language used in the classroom.

Lenhart et al. (2008) provide more support for this claim, stating that people typically "understand what kind of language is appropriate and in what context." Gouws et al. (2011) made a noteworthy contribution to the analysis of digital communication by elucidating the characteristics of microtexts. The authors talk about how people who use electronic media often create new writing "to conventions appropriate the user contexts such as their age, geographic location, how they want to be outwardly perceived, and so on" in order to satisfy their specific demands. Not all digital domains are created alike, but "certain populations of users are much

more likely to use certain types of lexical terms," according to a research they did on Twitter users. According to a study they had conducted on Twitter users, it was revealed that not all digital fields are equally created, but 'certain populations of users are much likely to use certain types of lexical transformations thanothers. For example, it was found that British users tend to use fewer out-of-vocabulary terms compared to users within the United States.'

In identifying the devices, text, context, and media communication, each of the researchers listed in this literature study has made a significant contribution. Through their Facebook discussions, a group of educated people will be able to describe the new media digital language they use and their awareness of the application of Grice's Maxims (1975). Furthermore, the linguistic patterns—such as politeness, gender, race, register, code-switching, spelling, and dialect—that the interlocutors relate to one another will also be identified.

Wahyudi et al. (2020) highlighted instances in which students and teachers violated cooperative principles, which negatively impacted the teaching and learning process. The necessity of cultural matters for numerous civilizations was emphasized by Pishghadam (2021). Zhao (2019) conducted a thirteen-week action research project to investigate the English language ability of Chinese university students in the context of cooperative principles. A review of the literature led McConachy (2019) to discuss learning a second language as an intercultural endeavor. Cooperative interactions amongst middle-aged women getting ready for a wedding ceremony were further examined by Revita et al. (2021).

Even while previous research has primarily focused on maxim violations, it is equally crucial to examine instances of maxim compliance in order to have a comprehensive understanding of cooperative principles. Therefore, this study aims to investigate maxim adherence and violation rather than focusing on only one element. Additionally, this study examines two significant EFL-related difficulties. The concepts proposed by Hymes (1974) regarding the speaking framework and Grice (1975) regarding cooperative principles will serve as the foundation for this investigation. This study aims to resolve the current gap in the literature by examining the interactions between instructors and students during the university-level teaching and learning process.

Cooperative Principle

Grice(1975)believes that when people get engaged in a conversation, they follow the Cooperative Principle (CP) in order to make a successful conservation. Grice's CP stated:"Make your conversational contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged" (Grice, 1975, p. 45).

Grice's Maxims

In meaning in interaction, Jenny Thomas (1995:63) summarizes Grice's maxims (quality, quantity, relation and manner) as follows:

Maxims of Quantity:

According to this maxim, the speaker must make his/her contribution as informative as is required for the current purposes of the exchange, and doesn't make his/her contribution more informative than required.

Maxims of Quality:

According to this maxim, the speaker should not say what he or she believes to be false or say anything that lacks adequate evidence.

Maxim of Relation: the speaker's speech must be relevant.

Maxims of Manner: this maxim requires that the speaker take these points into consideration:
• Avoid obscurity of expression.
• Avoid ambiguity.
• Be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity).
• be orderly

Violating the Maxims

Violation of a maxim happens when the participants in a given conversation do not observe or obey a maxim with an intention to communicate alternative or implied meaning (Thomas, 1995, p. 65). According to Grice, the implied meaning which results from the violation of the maxims is one way to create conversational implicature (ibid.). The violation of Grice's maxims is discussed below:

Violation of the Quantity Maxim:

Violating the maxim of quantity occurs when interlocutors in conversations provide more or less information than is required. Consider the following example:

Teacher: Did you read the novel and write up the critique? Student: I read the novel.

The student in the previous example violates the maxim of quantity since he provides less information than required. The student's violation of the maxim indicates that he read the novel but he did not write the critique.

Violation of the Quality Maxim:

This type of violation refers to the occasions when people in conversations offer false information or information which lacks evidence. For example:

A: I am married to an angle

The speaker violates the maxim of quality because he lies (he is not married to an angle). The speaker violates the maximin order to communicate another meaning rather than the literal one. The implied meaning is that he is married to a perfect woman like an angle.

Violation of the Relation Maxim

This violation occurs when people offer irrelevant information. For example: Ahmed: Did you like my singing? Nader: The music was impressive, wasn't it?

Nader in the previous example violates the relation maxim (Nader's answer is irrelevant to the question) to imply that he did not like Ahmed's singing.

Violation of the Manner Maxim

This violation happens when the speaker is ambiguous. Stephen Levinson (1983,p.104) provides a good example:

A: Let's get the kids something.

B: Okay,butIvetoI-C-EC-R-E-A-M-S

The speaker B violates the maxim of manner so that the kids will not understand what they are talking about.

III. Methodology

The study uses a descriptive qualitative method to find the Grice's maxims in social media by college students. This study did not employ participants and sample in getting the core data. The corpora of the study are 8 pictures taken from college students' messages from different social media programs. The study analyzes the collected data through applying Grice's conversational maxims (maxim of quality, quantity, manner, and relation) to samples to identify where the college students violates the maxims and what is the implied meaning.

The technique of textual analysis entails comprehending language, particularly symbols and images, in order to "decipher" how individuals interact with one another. The visuals and symbols in this system give a hint as to how communication could be understood. The textual The four categories of Grice's Maxims (1975) analysis were used in this study: the maxim of quantity (be informative and avoid repetition); the maxim of quality (be truthful); the maxim of relation (be relevant); and, finally, the maxim of manner (avoid ambiguity and be courteous). In order to determine the adoption, examples of the language used by the group of Iraqi translators were gathered, and their usage was categorized into four groups. Their language is evidently characterized by a particular style, grammatical understanding, politeness, colloquialism, and frequent usage. It can be seen that their language includes specific style, grammatical knowledge, politeness, colloquialism and frequent use of abbreviation in their speech.

IV. Findings And Discussion

According to the 8 pictures are taken from college students' messages, the findings are showed in the table below;

Grice's Maxims	College students' messages in social media	Number of frequency
Maxim of Quality	S1 : How are you? S2: I am fine S3: Did you read for the exam? It is so difficult to read. S4: I do not know what to do.	4
Maxim of Quality	S5: Can you send to me the materials to read? S6: Ok, I'll send all of them, don't worry. S7:How many hours did you spend on reading for the exam. S8: 6 hours, but it is very hard for me. S9: Page 4 and 5 has a lot of information	5

Maxim of Manner	S10: Do you know it is not my favorite topic, what about you? S11: Me too, but I know how to read it so that it will be easier for me.	2
Maxim of Relation	S12: All the exams are not easy, I hope we can succeed in them. S13: I hope so, too. S14: The last two exams are so difficult.	3

From the table above, It showed that Iraqi college students used the four maxims in their messages which are as follows; maxim of quality, quantity, manner, and relation. Therefore, it can be assumed that language of users changes as technological framework changes. However, the results indicate that Iraqi college students used less knowledge of grammatical rules but frequent use of abbreviation in their communication. In summary, people should realize that improving language communication skills will not only enable them to become better communicators but also improve their culture and country's position in the international arena. The writers hope that the findings in this study will contribute to this process of education on social media's knowledge. It would be desirable to conduct further research to examine how users' words change over time and also investigate the relationship between interlocutors as this would enable educators to further develop strategies for user interlocutors' education and also seek improvement in interaction.

V.   Conclusion

By using Grice's people, social media enables users to keep up flimsy social connections with a lot of individuals. According to Maxims (1975), the majority of the Iraqi participants in this study possess a rudimentary comprehension of social media discussion that occurs in specific contexts. The concept of linguistic control in their communication seems to satisfy them. They appear to clearly understand that their degree of language proficiency is correlated with the number of friends they have, even though many limit their choice of appropriate terms. On social media, however, new features and applications are constantly being created and added. The writers hope that the findings in this study will contribute to this process of education on social media's knowledge. It would be desirable to conduct further research to examine how users' words change over time and also investigate the relationship between interlocutors as this would enable educators to further develop strategies for user interlocutors' education and also seek improvement in interaction.

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