

Implicature in the Dialogue of 500 Days of Summer Movie by Marc Webb: the Study of Pragmatics

PUSPITA SARI¹

English Department
Universitas Widyatama

ANNE JULITZA LITBAGAY

English Department
Universitas Widyatama

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR:

¹PUSPITA SARI, puspita.sari@widyatama.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The title of this research is "Implicate in The Dialogue of 500 Days of Summer Movie by Marc Webb: Pragmatics Study". The topic studied in this research is about implicature that is as a tool of meaning submission implicitly in an utterance. This research aims to identify and analyze types of implicature and levels of intended meaning that appear in the dialog of 500 Days of Summer movie. The method of this research is descriptive analysis method. The descriptive analysis method is a method that explains or describes an object research through analyzed data. The source of data used is taken from the dialog of 500 Days of Summer movie, derived from the website.

The results of this research show that there are four types of implicature appear in the dialog of 500 Days of Summer and there are 30 data have been analyzed as implicatures. There are data as generalized conversational implicature, 2 data as scalar implicature, 19 data as particularized conversational implicature, and 8 data as conventional implicature. Besides that, the results show that the implicatures contain intended meanings that have been classified according to the levels of intended meaning. There are 6 data as speaker's literal meaning, 2 data as speaker's occasion meaning, 13 data as the hint level, 6 data as the manipulation level, 2 data as the secret deception level, and one utterance as the subconscious or self-deception level. Therefore, it can be concluded that particularized conversational implicature is a dominant implicature and the hint level as a dominant level of intended meaning that appear in the dialog of 500 Days of Summer movie.

INTRODUCTION

Recently, people love to put an implied meaning in the way they communicate. Often, people use encoding to convey the intended meaning, indirectly. Therefore, the hearers or the interlocutors have to understand the intended meaning of the speaker. This situation, the language phenomenon, usually found among teenagers and youth. Teenagers and youth commonly convey

the intended meaning indirectly. There is an implied meaning behind their utterance. This language phenomenon is usually known as implicature. In some cases, there is misunderstanding occurred between speaker and hearer. This happens because the speaker and the hearer have different perceptions, so the message of the utterance was not delivered properly. That is the problem of this language phenomenon. To

minimize misunderstanding, the author wants to explain that kind of language phenomenon deeper in this research.

A linguist, Paul Grice (1975), said that implicatures are a branch of pragmatics that refers to what is suggested in an utterance, even though neither expressed nor strictly implied by the utterance. Based on Grice's theory, we know that implicature is about the speaker's meaning. The utterance of the speaker has an implied meaning. It means that the meaning behind the speaker's utterance is conveyed indirectly, even is hidden. There are four types of implicature based on Grice's theory. The first is conventional implicatures. This one no needs a context to get the meaning of an utterance because it conveys a literal meaning. Conventional implicature is easy to get what the speaker means clearly. The second is the generalized conversational implicature. This kind of implicature needs context but not too much. Although the meaning behind the speaker's utterance is easy enough to be gotten by the hearer, the hearer still needs context to avoid misunderstanding. The third is scalar implicature. Scalar implicature also needs context but it is closely related to the numbers or scale of something. The last one is particularized conversational implicature. Contrary with conventional implicature, particularized conversational implicature really needs context, even depends on the context. This kind of implicature is difficult enough. The hearer gets what speaker means because the speaker hides the literal meaning behind utterance and sometimes conveys the different meaning of an utterance. So, that is why implicature is closely related to the context because it is needed by the hearer to get what speaker means clearly.

Besides that, implicature is also related to the meaning. As the explanation above, implicature is about giving meaning indirectly, even sometimes hiding the meaning behind

an utterance. So, the meaning is also needed by the hearer to get what exactly the speaker means. To measure how intended is the meaning of an utterance, the author uses Stiles' theory, which is known as levels of intended meaning. The levels of intended meaning are speaker's literal meaning, speaker's occasion meaning, the hint level, the manipulation level, the secret deception level, and the last is the subconscious or self-deception level. Through Stiles' theory, it is easy for the reader to understand how intended is the meaning of an utterance.

Based on the introduction explained before, the author has two interesting research questions to discuss further in this research, there are:

1. What are the types of implicatures that appear in 500 Days of Summer movie?
2. Based on Stile' theory, in which level the intended meaning behind implicatures that appear in 500 Days of Summer movie?

So, the author is going to explain more about four types of implicature based on Grice's theory and also explain six levels of intended meaning based on Stiles' theory to answer these research questions above.

METHOD

To analyze the implicatures and levels of intended meaning behind an utterance, the author chooses movie script of 500 Days of Summer as the object research. The author chooses 500 Days of Summer movie as the data because the author is interested in the way the actors communicate in this movie. It is complicated enough because they often do implicature. The method of this research is descriptive analysis method. The descriptive analysis method is a method that explains or describes an object research through analyzed data.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Data 1

Tom and Summer are dating for the first time. They are just like a cute couple, holding hands and laughing together. Summer just has a thought that she does not want to put a label on their relationship, although they are together now.

Summer: This is fun. You are fun.

Tom: Thanks.

Summer: I mean, I just want to say, up front, I'm not looking for anything serious. Are you cool with that?

Tom: Oh, yeah.

The dialogue above is an implicature, especially included in the generalized conversational implicature. This dialogue is general and easy to understand. So, it is not too difficult for the hearer (Tom) to get the meaning of the speaker's utterance (Summer). Although the dialogue above is easy to understand, the hearer (Tom) still needs a context to get what the speaker (Summer) means clearly because there is an implied meaning behind speaker's utterance (Summer).

As explained before, implicature contains an intended meaning. Through the speaker's utterance (Summer), "...I mean, I just want to say, up front, I'm not looking for anything serious...", it seems there is a message that speaker wants to say to the hearer (Tom). The speaker (Summer) wants an easy relationship, without putting a label on their relationship. The speaker (Summer) says that slowly to keep the hearer's feeling (Tom). Through that, it can be categorized that the dialogue above is included to the level 1, speaker's occasion meaning.

Data 2

One night, Tom is just like a mess because he broke up with Summer. Rachel, his little sister, comes to help Tom by listening to him.

Tom tells Rachel everything that happens between Summer and him. He tells about the relationship and the mood swings of Summer lately, and also the way they broke up.

Rachel: Maybe she was just in a bad mood.

Paul: A hormonal thing.

Rachel: P.M.S.?

Tom: What do you know about PMS?

Rachel: More than you.

The dialogue above is an implicature, especially included to the scalar implicature. It is included to the scalar implicature because there is "more" in the dialogue that shows a scale of something. If an utterance contains numbers or scale of something, it must be a scalar implicature because it is one of the characteristics of scalar implicature. Besides that, the dialogue above is not too difficult for the hearer (Tom) to get the meaning of the speaker's utterance (Rachel). Although the dialogue above is easy to understand, the hearer (Tom) still needs a context to get what the speaker (Rachel) means clearly because there is an implied meaning behind speaker's utterance (Rachel).

The meaning of speaker's utterance (Rachel) above is categorized to the level 2, known as the hint level. It is because speaker's utterance, "more than you", is a sign for the hearer that the speaker (Rachel) knows well about the PMS because she is a girl who goes through PMS. The utterance is also a satire for the hearer (Tom), although he is a man, she really sure that he knows nothing about PMS because he has no experience about PMS. Besides that, if an utterance is a sign or satire, it must be included to the hint level because it is the characteristic of the hint level.

Data 3

Tom and Summer are in the restaurant, want to have dinner together, but they let silence controls them. Summer is the first that

makes conversation, but she talks about their relationship. So, they start arguing.

Summer: This can't be a total surprise. I mean, we've been like Sid and Nancy for months.

Tom: Summer, Sid stabbed Nancy seven times with a kitchen knife. We've had some disagreements but I hardly think I'm Sid Vicious.

Summer: No... I'm Sid.

Tom: So, I'm Nancy?!

The dialogue above is an implicature, especially included to the particularized conversational implicature. Particularized conversational implicature is the hardest one, so it depends on the context. Context is needed to interpret the meaning behind an utterance. Context is important because not all people understand about what speaker means. Usually, the hearer has to think hard enough to get what the speaker means clearly. It happens because the speaker hides the literal meaning behind an utterance. It needs special knowledge to understand the speaker's meaning.

Just like the dialogue above, the speaker (Summer) hides her literal meaning through her utterance, "...we've been like Sid and Nancy for months.". The speaker (Summer) using pengandaian to hide her message because she does not want anybody to know what she exactly means. The speaker (Summer) just wants the hearer (Tom) who knows about it. Actually, the speaker (Summer) wants to tell the hearer (Tom) that they are tidak cocok lagi and also wants to break him up. From this case, it clearly shows that the dialogue above is categorized in level 4, known as the secret deception level. The secret deception level is closed and private. So, that is why this data is categorized as the secret deception level.

Data 4

Friday night, in the official event, Summer joins with McKenzie and Tom. They chit-chat

and laugh together until McKenzie open the real conversation. He asks Summer about her love life. Then, the conversation becomes more serious. So, Tom and Summer start arguing about what love is for exactly.

Tom: So then... what happens if you fall in love?

Summer: You don't actually believe that, do you?

Tom: Believe what? It's love, it's not Santa Claus.

Summer: What does that word even mean? I've been in a relationship before and I can tell you right now, I've never seen it.

The dialogue above is an implicature, especially included to the conventional implicature. Conventional implicature is the easiest implicature because the speaker conveys the meaning literally. The speaker conveys the message behind utterance directly, so this kind of implicature no needs context. The hearer can understand what the speaker means easily without special knowledge. That is why conventional implicature does not depend on the context in interpretation meaning. Besides that, in the speaker's utterance, "...I've been in a relationship before and I can tell you right now, I've never seen it.", there is "and" that shows this dialogue contains the condition of consequence. The condition of consequence is one of the characteristics of conventional implicature. So, it is clear enough that this dialogue is a conventional implicature.

The dialogue above is categorized in level 2, known as the hint level. It happens because this dialogue contains of a satire. It is showed by the utterance, "...I've been in a relationship before and I can tell you right now, I've never seen it.", which means the speaker (Summer) has many more experiences of relationship than the hearer (Tom), so, she disagrees with the hearer (Tom). Through the explanation, it is seen clearly that the speaker (Summer)

satirizes the hearer. That is the reason why this dialogue is categorized to the hint level.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research of the dialogue 500 Days of Summer movie, the author concludes that implicature is about the speaker's meaning where the utterance of the speaker contains implied meaning. There are four types of implicature appeared in the dialog of 500 Days of Summer and there are 30 data have been analyzed as implicatures as follow: one datum as generalized conversational implicature, 2 data as scalar implicature, 19 data as particularized conversational implicature, and 8 data as conventional implicature. Besides that, the results show that the implicatures contain intended meanings that have been classified according to the levels of intended meaning. There are 6 data as speaker's literal meaning, 2 data as speaker's occasion meaning, 13 data as the hint level, 6 data as the manipulation level, 2 data as the secret deception level,

and one utterance as the subconscious or self-deception level. Therefore, it can be concluded that particularized conversational implicature is a dominant implicature and the hint level as a dominant level of intended meaning that appear in the dialog of 500 Days of Summer movie.

REFERENCES

- Grice, Paul. 1975. *Logic and Conversation*.
Grice, Paul. 1991. *Studies in The Way of Words*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
Grundy, Peter. 2000. *Doing Pragmatics Second Edition*.
Levinson, Stephen. 1983. *Pragmatics*. Cambridge: University Press.
Stiles, William. 1986. *Level of Intended Meaning of Utterances*. Miami University.
Yule, George. 1996. *Pragmatics: Oxford Introduction to Language Study Series*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
www.springfieldspringfield.co.uk/movie
www.repositorywidyatama.ac.id