

# A PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF HUMOUR IN “INI TALKSHOW” TELEVISION PROGRAM

Fifi Nur Ulwiyah

STAI AR-ROSYID SURABAYA

[fifinur@gmail.com](mailto:fifinur@gmail.com)

## Introduction

Humor is frequently produced by utilizing numerous inappropriate or exceptional language angles and it is generally accomplished by defying the standard norms of dialects. Analyzing humor can be done by using some linguistic approaches, for example semantics, pragmatics, and sociolinguistics. In this study, the researcher analyzes humor using pragmatic approach. Pragmatics is one of certain methodologies of both spoken and composed language description. This approach studies about language in connection to the relevant foundation highlights. It considers the unique situation, content, and capacity (Cutting, 2002:2). In the region of pragmatics, language specialists are keen on the manner in which humor is conveyed in regular discussion and the elements of silly interchanges, for example, joke-telling, prodding, and irony, in relational collaborations (Norrick in Martin, 2007:89).

Humor in daily life is certainly not a hard thing to find in society. It occurs in people's everyday discussion and conversation. Humor can likewise be considered through broad communications, for example, magazine, advertisement, newspaper, movie, motion picture, or sitcom. Situation comedy or sitcom can be an example of how amusingness are utilized in discussions. There is numerous incredible humor TV program out there. *Ini Talkshow* on NET TV is one of Indonesia sitcom that can depict how humor assumes individuals' daily life.

Practically, when people make some some humorous utterances, they as a rule abuse Grice's Cooperative Principle. It turns into the main issue that the researcher found in this object. The researcher found that the presenters in *Ini Talkshow* Television Program at some point mocked sayings to make humor expressions. It is distinguished that the presenters in *Ini Talkshow* Television Program flout maxims of Cooperative Principle to create humor in a high frequency.

In addition, there are some issue identified with the forms of humor. The researcher found that there are a few types of forms of humor utilized by the presenters in *Ini Talkshow*

Television Program. The forms of humor that do exist in a society will be not the same as other societies. It depends on the culture, historical background, and also geographical zone. In this sitcom, the researcher found a wide range forms of humor that can represent the characteristics of Indonesia humor.

Related to the flouting of maxims that are utilized by the presenters and guess stars, the researcher employs Grice (1989:26) who said that there is a lot of suspicions directing the conduct of conversation, and these assumptions may be formulated as guidelines for efficient and effective use of language. The guidelines, as indicated by Grice, are four our basic maxims of conversation which together express a general Cooperative Principle. Cooperative Principle itself consists of four maxims; they are maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relation, and maxim of manner. At times people are invited to violate the maxims to express the feeling or the protest of a specific condition. This makes a diversion an amusement because the violation can create humorous utterances. Flouting of maxims is often done by speakers for some reasons, for instance to follow the practices of being polite and also to create a humorous situation in a conversation.

#### **-Research Problem**

1. What are the maxims are flouted by the presenters to create humour in “Ini Talkshow” Television Program?
2. What are the forms of humour created by the presenters in “Ini Talkshow” Television Program?

#### **-Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this study is to analyze the maxims that are flouted by the presenters to create humor in *Ini Talkshow* Television Program. In addition, this study also wants to describe and explain the forms of humor created by maxim flouting in *Ini Talkshow* Television Program.

#### **-Paper organization**

This paper was organized as follows. In the second part, it describes about theoretical framework that become the underpinning of the study. Instrument of data collection and data analysis was explained in the next part to show the method of study. Furthermore, all the finding and discussion was analyzed in the fourth part. It followed by the conclusion that stated in the final part.

## Theoretical Framework

### Pragmatics Aspects of Humor

Wijana (1995: 8) clarifies that humor can be dissected through linguistics; this is because of incongruity and conflict. Parts of incongruity and conflict are clarified in semantics through the standards of pragmatics both literary and relational. Literarily, the confusion is finished by disregarding Cooperative Principle, while the relational disjointedness is finished by damaging Politeness Principle.

Several linguists have been trying to make a general pragmatic explanation on humor with reference to Grice's theory concerning Cooperative Principle and conversational implicature. Raskin and Attardo (1991:35) stated that humor, from one perspective, includes a few degrees of infringement of the Cooperative Principle, at the same time, then again, humor is additionally an agreeable demonstration since it can pass on data. Raskin (1985:87) suggests that joke-telling method of communication is as yet administered by the Cooperative Principle because he believed that humor carries communicative functions.

#### **a. Cooperative Principle**

Pragmatics is fundamentally concerned with what people do with discourse rather than with the linguistic or cognitive processes involved in it. A standout amongst the most significant ideas in pragmatics is Cooperative Principle. Grice (1989:24) suggests that communication is a procedure that expects conversationalists to be agreeable with one another, and he formalized the Cooperative Principle that aides speakers to make their commitments fitting to the discussion. The guidelines, as per Grice, are four basic maxims of conversation which together express a general Cooperative Principle. The principle is: making commitment as is required, at the phase at which it happens, by the acknowledged reason or headings of the discussion trade in which individuals are locked in (Grice, 1989:26). Cutting (2002: 34-35) explains the four maxims of Cooperative Principle as follows:

#### **Maxim of Quantity**

The speakers should be as informative as they required, that they should give neither too little information nor too much.

#### **1) Maxim of Quality**

The speakers are expected to be sincere, to say something that they believe corresponds to reality. They assumed not to say anything that they believe to be false or anything for which they lack evidence. Some speakers like to draw their hearer's attention to the fact that they are only saying what they believe to be true, and that they lack adequate evidence.

## 2) Maxim of Relation

The speakers are assumed to be saying something that is relevant to what has been said before.

## 3) Maxim of Manner

the maxim of manner is flouted when the speaker uses a metaphor or irony, but the speaker assumes that it has communicative effects. The same maxim is involved when a non-chronological order is selected for telling a story.

### b. Maxim flouting

The maxim flouting which is done by the speaker of a conversation and the speaker himself or herself has already had a belief in their mind that the hearer will understand the implicature of his or her flouting. Cutting (2002: 37-39) explains the maxim flouting as follow:

#### 1) Maxim of Quantity Flouting

The speaker who flouts the maxim of quality seems to give too little information or too much information.

#### 2) Maxim of Quality Flouting

The speakers flout maxim of quality in several ways. First, the speakers may quite simply say something that obviously does not represent what they think. Second, they may flout the maxim by exaggerating as in the hyperbole. Third, a speaker can also flout the maxim of quality by using a metaphor. The last two ways of flouting the maxim of quality are irony and banter.

#### 3) Maxim of Relation Flouting

The speakers flout maxims of relation when they expect that the hearers will be able to imagine what the speakers do not say and to make the connection between the speakers' utterance and the preceding ones. If a speaker flouts the maxim of relation, it means that he or she gives irrelevant information.

#### 4) Maxim of Manner Flouting

It occurs when a speaker gives ambiguous response. It means that there is more than one meaning in the conversation.

## Humor

### a. Forms of Humor

Most of the humor and laughter that happen in daily lives arise spontaneously in the course of people typical relations with other people (R. A. Martin and Kuiper

in Martin, 2007: 11). This kind of relational funniness happens in about each sort of informal and formal interaction, including conversations between lovers, close friends, fellow students, coworkers, business associates, store clerks and customers, doctors and patients, teachers and students, and even complete strangers standing in line at a bank.

Besides, Martin (2007:11) divides humor that occurs in everyday social interactions into three broad categories: (1) jokes; (2) spontaneous conversational humor; and (3) accidental or unintentional humor.

### **1) Jokes**

In everyday conversation, joke-telling is usually prefaced by verbal or nonverbal cues. Despite the fact that joke-tellers commonly attempt to draw connects between the jokes they tell and and the ongoing topic of conversation, a joke is a context-free or setting-free independent unit of humor that carries within itself all the information needed for it to be understood and enjoyed. It can therefore be told in many different conversational contexts (Long and Graesser in Martin, 2007: 12).

### **2) Spontaneous conversational humor**

#### **a. Irony**

possibilities of those particular character types interacting with each other in that situation, and may not involve lines or gags which are funny in isolation (Ross, 1998: 89).

#### **b. Satire**

Satire is aggressive humor that pokes fun at social institutions or social policy. It emphasizes on the beliefs held by the culture and presents them for criticism. This criticism provides social commentary and questions current cultural traditions (Rybacki, 1991: 320).

#### **c. Sarcasm**

There is an extremely close connection between sarcasm and irony, and literary theorists in particular often treat sarcasm as simply the crudest and least interesting form of irony (Muecke in Hayman, 1998: 20).

#### **d. Overstatement and understatement**

Overstatement is also known as hyperbole. Hyperbole is to say more than what is necessary. It can be used by a speaker to flout the maxim of quality (Cutting, 2002: 38).

#### **e. Self-deprecation**

It is a humorous remark targeting oneself as the object of humor. This may be done to demonstrate modesty, to put the listener at ease, or to ingratiate oneself with the listener.

**f. Teasing**

It is a humorous remark directed at the listener's personal appearance, habit, and characteristics. Unlike sarcasm, the intention is not to seriously insult or offend (Long and Graesser in Martin, 2007: 13).

**g. Replies to rhetorical questions**

Rhetorical questions are not asked with the expectation of a reply. Giving an answer to one violates a conversational expectation and surprises the person who posed the question. This can therefore be perceived as funny, and the intention is usually to simply entertain a conversational partner.

**h. Clever replies to serious statements**

This means clever, incongruous, or nonsensical replies to a statement or question that was meant to be serious.

**i. Double entendres**

It is a statement or word that is deliberately misperceived or misconstrued so as to evoke a dual meaning. Double entendres, when used intentionally, can be fun and entertaining because the idea is to get a laugh both from people in the know and from people who do not get the second meaning (Ross, 1998:10)

**j. Transformations of frozen expression**

Transformations of frozen expression happens when the speaker transforming well-known words, clichés, or proverbs into novel statements

**k. Pun**

A pun is humorous use of a word that evokes a second meaning. It is usually based on a homophone, a word with a different meaning that sounds the same.

**Ini Talkshow Television Program**

There is a great variety of comedy on TV and it reaches a large audience, so it is potentially very influential. Television has a range of types of scripted humor. One of the most popular genres of television is the situational comedy, also known as a sitcom. TV offered a whole range of various sketches, situational comedy series were most popular (Corner, 1991: 75).



**Note:**

S1	: Season 1	OU	: Overstatement and understatement
E7	: Episode 7	SD	: Self-deprecation
Sc5	: Scene 5	T	: Teasing
1	: Number of Datum	RR	: Replies to rhetorical question
MQt	: Maxim of Quantity	CR	: Clever replies to serious statements
MQl	: Maxim of Quality	DE	: Double entendres
MR	: Maxim of Relation	TF	: Transformations of frozen expressions
MM	: Maxim of Manner	P	: Puns
Jo	: Jokes	UH	: Unintentional Humor
SCH	: Spontaneous Conversation Humor		
I	: Irony		
St	: Satire		
Sr	: Sarcasm		

**Result and Discussion****1. What are the maxims are flouted by the hosts to create humor in “Ini Talkshow”?**

Humor creation in “*Ini Talkshow*” Television Program is based on the presenters’ utterance and guess star’s utterance. The purpose of this study is to analyze the maxims that are flouted by the presenters to create humor in *ini talkshow*. Hence, the researcher found that the presenter and the guess star employed all typed of maxim flouting. The occurrence of maxim flouting to create form and functions of humor is presented in table 2.

Table 2. Findings of Maxim Flouting in “*Ini Talkshow*” Television Program.

No.	Types of Maxim Flouting	Percentage
1.	Maxim of Quantity	28 %
2.	Maxim of Quality	34 %
3.	Maxim of Relation	28 %
4.	Maxim of Manner	10 %
Total		100 %

**2. What are the forms of humor created by the hosts in “Ini Talkshow”?**Table 3. Findings of Maxim Flouting and Form of Humor in “*Ini Talkshow*” Television Program.

No.	Types of Maxim Flouting	Forms of Humor	
		Types	Frequency
1.	MQt	Jo	7
		SCH	
		St	2
		T	4
		TF	1

			14
2.	MQI	SCH I Sr OU	2 4 11
			17
3.	MR	SCH St SD T CR	2 1 2 9
			14
4.	MM	SCH CR P	2 3
			5

Table 2 and Table 3 shows that the types of maxim flouting in terms of maxim of quantity flouting, maxim of quality flouting, maxim of relation flouting, and maxim of manner flouting are employed by the presenters and guess stars to create humor. From the four types of maxim flouting, the most prominent one is the employment of maxim of quality flouting, its percentage is 34%. The second are maxim of quantity and maxim of relation which have the same percentage, 14 %. The third is maxim of manner, its percentage is 5%. The presenter and guess stars' employ maxim of quality flouting to create forms and functions of humor. In terms of forms of humor, the presenter and guess stars' flout maxim of quality to create spontaneous conversational humor. There are only two forms of humor that are created by maxim flouting, i.e. joke (7 times out of the total of 50 data) and spontaneous conversational humor (43 times out of the total of 50 data). There are 10 types of spontaneous conversational humor found in the sitcom. They are irony (2 times out of the total of 50 data), satire (4 times out of the total of 50 data), sarcasm (4 times out of the total of 50 data), overstatement and understatement (11 times out of the total of 50 data), self-deprecation (1 times out of the total of 50 data), teasing (6 times out of the total of 50 data), clever replies to serious statements (11 times out of the total of 50 data), pun (3 times out of the total of 50 data), and transformations of frozen expressions (1 times out of the total of 50 data). In terms of function, all the four types of functions of humor are found in the sitcom.

### Conclusion

Based on results and discussion, the researcher draws the conclusions as presented in the following.

1.All maxim flouting are employed by *"Ini Talkshow"* Television Program to create humor, flouting maxim of quantity (28%), maxim of quality (34%) , maxim of relation (28%), and maxim of manner (10%).

2. There are only joke (7 times out of the total of 50 data) and spontaneous conversational humor (43 times out of the total of 50 data) forms of humor that are created by maxim flouting. There are 11 types of spontaneous conversational humor found in the sitcom. They are irony, satire, sarcasm, overstatement, self-deprecation, teasing, replies to rhetorical question, clever replies to serious statements, pun, and transformations of frozen expressions.

### **Suggestion and Further Study**

The results of this study indicate that all maxim flouting are employed by the presenter and guest stars in *Ini Talkshow* Television Program to create humor, such as flouting maxims of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relation and maxim of manner. But there are only a few form of humor that are created by maxim flouting. Moreover, this study only analyzed humor created by maxim flouting in *Ini Talkshow* Television Program and form of humor, and hence the researcher would suggest that other researchers in the future may use different types of sitcoms with various topics to see whether all the findings in question are conclusive or not.

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