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Co-operative Principle Reflection in “A Cup of Tea’s” Dialogues by Katherine Mansfield

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Abstract: Interlocutors imply the Cooperative Principle’s Maxims to remain relevant, authentic, ordered and brief in their communication. Rationally, it is an increasing concern in pragmatics to decipher the way communicators use Paul Grice’s approach to Maxims of Conversation to achieve common ends. The purpose of this miniature research paper is to dig out the obeyed maxims in a literary piece of work’s dialogue between different fictional characters. The role Maxims plays in unfolding the variety of aspects of speakers and the way they use it to achieve their intentional purpose by elucidating their conversation through using Paul Grice’s approach. This qualitative research, under Paul Grice’s Cooperative Principle as a theoretical framework, analyses the dialogues between literary characters of the short story ‘A Cup of Tea by Katherine Mansfield. This also portrays the variety of themes emerges during their communication. The inference of this analysis shows that the social, economic and cultural backgrounds of the interlocutors play a significant role in their choice of maxims in communication. Rich people imply more manners and relation maxims in conversation to show their power, property and to elucidate their hypocritical communication. They use more quantity and quality maxims when communicating with those who belong to high strata of society, the same as the speaker. This study definitively answers the question that Maxims make communication clear, but also the social situation. This research implies that it enhances the awareness at the social and psychological level regarding communicators and the use of different maxims according to situation, making communication fruitful.

Key Words: Cooperative Principle, Four Maxims, Communication and Dialogues, Qualitative Analysis, Ratio of Obeyed Maxim

Introduction

Conversation is a communicative interaction in which two or more participants use verbal or non-verbal language to convey their thoughts. Conversation is not as simple as it is thought to be, but it is a very complex social activity. In conversation, the message is encoded and decoded by participants in different contexts. Levinson (1983) said that conversational analysis (CA) is part of Pragmatics. Conversational Analysts stand apart from Levinson’s point of view and say that there are differences between CA and Pragmatics. But Paul Drew (2017) says that CA contributes a lot to understanding concepts in Pragmatics, such as Speech Act by Searle (1969) and Austin (1962) presupposition and well-formedness by Lakoff (1971) and Implicature and Cooperative Principle by Paul Grice.

This concept of Cooperative Principle was introduced by Paul Grice in (1975) in an article named “Logic and Conversation”. He states that conversation is not merely an exchange of talk, but it is a mutually common purpose-directed conversation. Participants in a conversation attempt to be clear, informative, relevant and truthful. He extends

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this theory and states that if interlocutors want to make conversation meaningful, then they have to follow these four maxims of conversation. These four maxims of conversation are as follows:

- i. **Maxim of Quality:** Says everything in conversation based on reality. Don't say anything false.
- ii. **Maxim of Quantity:** Information should be concise and precise.
- iii. **Maxim of Manner:** In conversation, information should be clear, orderly, and brief.
- iv. **Maxim of Relevancy:** Information should be relevant.

Sensitivity to break the maxims of cooperative principles according to the 'Conversational Violation Test' increases from the age of (4-6) years old, and adults understand all maxims. There is another maxim, and that is the maxim of politeness, and the capacity to understand the maxim of politeness varies from preschoolers to adults.

Robin Lakoff (1972), Brown and Levinson (1978), and Geoffrey Leech (1980) have given central concepts in linguistic pragmatics on Politeness. Geoffrey Leech states that there are politeness maxims as conversational maxims that Paul Grice has given. Leech gives a list of six politeness maxims. These maxims are as follows:

- i. **Tact Maxim:** Minimise cost to others and maximise benefits to others.
- ii. **Generosity Maxim:** Minimise benefits to self and maximise cost to self.
- iii. **Approbation Maxim:** Minimise dispraise of others and maximise praise of others.
- iv. **Modesty Maxim:** Minimise praise of self and maximise dispraise of self.
- v. **Agreement Maxim:** Minimise disagreement between self and others and maximise agreement between self and others.
- vi. **Sympathy Maxim:** Minimise antipathy between self and other and maximise sympathy between self and others.

Research shows that the importance of these maxims varies from culture to culture. In some cultures, it is considering of importance and in some they are considered downright. Usually, these maxims occur in pairs, such as first with second, third with fourth, fifth with sixth.

Investigations in the field of psychology have shown two types of attitudes on the part of the speaker: cooperative and non-cooperative attitudes. If interlocutors obey conversational maxims, then the message will be decoded successfully; this is called the non-cooperative attitude. In this situation, the speaker flouts the maxim of conversation, and then it is difficult to understand the message. To overcome this difficulty, Paul Grice introduced the notion of 'Conversational Implicature'.

Jia (2008) states that flouting of conversational maxims refers to the occasion when there is an absence of one or more maxims in the communication process. The very prominent example she has given is jokes when people flout conversational maxims to make others laugh. Sometimes flouting cooperative maxims makes communication more comprehensible compared to obeying them. In this situation, implicature plays an important role in decoding the messages of speakers in communication.

Implicature refers to the intended meaning that is different from the literal meaning of the speaker. This is flexibly present in an utterance, not strictly implied.

This is mostly derived from the verbs in utterances, for example, 'Bob had a stroke and retired'. This example's intended meaning shows that he had a stroke before retiring. It is necessary to recognise the conversational Implicature to understand the intended meaning of the speaker. This recognition also helps in understanding the non-cooperative behaviour of speakers.

Leech proposes the Politeness Principle in order to account for the violation of the Cooperative Principle. In some situations, it is necessary to flout conversational or cooperative maxims to be polite. For example, in a military scenario, a subordinate answer to his seniors

'Yes, Sir' to show his obedience regardless of his willingness.

Statement of the Problem

This miniature research investigates the dialogues in 'A Cup of Tea by Katherine Mansfield from Paul Grice's approach to Maxims. The obeyed Maxims among the literary characters and the significance in communication are deciphered.

Objectives

The objective of this miniature research is to disclose the importance of obeying the Cooperative Principle (Maxims) in communication, as it increases the authenticity of information. It also highlights which maxims of Cooperative Principles have been followed in this short story.

Research Questions

There are the following two investigative aspects of this research paper.

- a) Which Maxims of Cooperative Principle are obeyed in this short story?
- b) What is the importance of following these Maxims in a short story?

Rationale of the Study

Previous research has explored this story from different perspectives, such as the psychological analysis of female literary characters, and the aspects of colonisation have been searched out through this short story. This story has also been investigated from the angle of reader interpretation, as the writer left an interpretation for readers. The style of this short story has also been explored through Halliday's approach to the functional aspect of language.

But researchers have left a pinhole in the pragmatic analysis of this short story. A Cup of Tea's literary dialogues by Katherine Mansfield are analysed under the Paul Grice approach to Cooperative Principles and Maxims. This study gives a brief overview of the obeyed Maxims, which classes follow them and the significance of following four of the Maxims.

Literature Review

The researcher have gone through some of the prominent authors who contributed to the area of cooperative principle, taking into consideration its different perspectives and also see some researchers who have researched 'A Cup of Tea by Katherine Mansfield that take it from different perspectives. This overview is as follows:

Research on the communicative nature of jokes has been conducted. This clarifies that people who make jokes break cooperative maxims. The intention behind that is to make people laugh. The humorous communicative nature of jokes has been justified through this research (Attardo, 1993).

This article elucidates that teachers develop their own principles to teach in the classroom. The analysis of teachers' maxims elucidates cultural factors, the system of belief and experience. This also states which maxim the teacher gives priority to and in what way it influences teaching practice (Richards, 1996).

Interlocutors, when using Paul Grice's Conversational Implicature in communication they flout cooperative maxims. In this way, what they say literally is somehow different from what is meant (Sedivy, 2007).

Studying in the area of meta-discourses from the genre of research articles of the academic discourse community on the basis of Grice's cooperative principle helps multilingual students. This shows that in which ways it is used in writing research articles (Abdi, 2010).

This miniature article highlights the importance of objectivity of news in an age of science and technology. But the vagueness of language in newspapers reduces the clarity of information. This research has collected some English newspapers through the Grice Cooperative Principle. This also reveals that vagueness in language increases the artistic effect of the newspaper (Pan, 2012).

Since the publication of Galtung and Ruge's article in 1965, scholars and researchers have regarded the Cooperative Principle as a set of values of news language. This research shows that news is a mutual conversation between the audience and the media. Media researchers in recent decades have been rewording these maxims in the context of

news values. Journalists take into consideration these maxims while composing news stories in such a way that they are observable (Kheirabadi & Aghagolzadeh, 2012).

Research shows that teachers create an interactive environment through question-answer techniques. Qualitatively, this article shows that there are three maxims that students break frequently in TEFL classes. These three important maxims that students flout are the maxim of quality, the maxim of quantity and the maxim of manner. The major ratio of flouting a maxim is the maxim of quantity that is violated more frequently in students' responses (Agung & Kurnianingtyas, 2016).

Researchers state that, on the basis of an online survey, the use of cooperative maxims at the time of stating information in Wikipedia articles, it increases the authenticity and relevancy of information. Cooperative principle use makes these articles more relevant to the students' needs and objectives (Fidler & Lavbič, 2017).

This paper analyses the story from a structural angle of the short fiction genre. This explores the themes, plot, women's behaviour and other elements of this fiction genre. The publication of this short fiction in 1922 in the 'Story Tellers' and later appeared in 'The Doves' Nest and Other Stories- 1923' is also explored in this investigation (Ms. Kainat Shaikh).

This presents the analysis of 'A Cup of Tea' from an artistic and behavioural perspective of upper and lower-class people in society. Hypocrisy of the upper class towards lower-class peeps out through this story. This figure out that rich people do this to satisfy their ego and to show that they are generous (Murray, 2016). In this essay, a pre-colonial deplorable picture of New Zealand is drawn. Through this fiction, reality is depicted. It shows that at this time, class distinction is prevalent in society, and the condition of colonised people is very bad.

This study gives a different perspective on 'A Cup of Tea'. Its plot seems simple, but through these characters' complexities of the upper and lower sections of society are explored. The upper class is criticised for doing nothing except trivial things, and they are doing nothing for the needy people in society. This also represents the insecurity of women (Ardhendu De, 2015).

This research paper deals with the stylistic analysis of the story as stylists use different models and theories to analyse the function of text. This investigation shows the function performed through language in 'A Cup of Tea' under the theoretical framework of Michael Halliday. Three functions of language, such as ideational, interpersonal and textual, are searched out in this genre through the paper (Ghariri, 2020).

Under Maslow's concept of esteem, need and consumerism, the psychological representation of upper-class women is dug out in 'A Cup of Tea'. It explores that women have low self-esteem and such characters always need attention and praise from other people. This attention they get through by following the upper-class pompous lifestyle. (Asmarani, 2018).

This research paper shows that Katherine's stories present a world through the eyes of literary characters and leave interpretation to readers, just as Virginia Woolf does in her writing. This has been explored through approach to five linguistic techniques, such as direct, indirect, free direct, free indirect and narrative report of thought, acted by the help of the writer through characters. This clears out the process through which the narrator conveys her views through characters (Khalil, 2007).

Overview/Plot of the Story

The story begins with the depiction of a very fashionable upper-class female protagonist, Rosemary Fell. She is young, pretty, well dressed, loves to read and organises parties in which she invites all important members of society. One winter night, she goes to an antique shop from where she chooses to buy an antique box that is very expensive, at twenty-eight guineas. She leaves this piece with the shopkeeper and says that she will buy it later on. When she comes out of the shop, she is very upset, and there she meets another thin, poor beggar girl. Her name is Miss. Smith. She begs Rosemary for money for 'A Cup of Tea'. She takes with her to her home to show that 'Women are sisters' and fairy godmothers like Rosemary are there. There she gives Miss Smith a cup of tea and things to eat. At that time Philip

Rosemary's husbands entered the room, and he knew that his wife that she won't let this girl go easily. To do that, he says to his wife that Miss Smith looks pretty. She feels this, and after giving some money, she lets Miss Smith go and asks her husband 'Am I Pretty?' and with this interrogation story end.

Theoretical Framework

This present miniature research is drawn on the 'Cooperative Principle by Paul Grice'. 'The Last Leaf by O. Henry' under this theoretical framework is analysed to figure out the conversational maxims in this short story.

Cooperative Principle by Paul Grice: Paul Grice gave this approach in 1975 to describe its role in dramatic conversation. This explains the hidden meaning behind the literal sentences.

Conversational Cooperation: Grice says that when we are communicating, we assume this without realising that these participants in communication mutually cooperate to achieve the purpose of communication. This principle works even in the case when participants are not socially cooperative. This cooperation in communication manifests itself in a number of ways through maxims.

What is the reason behind the Not to Call Rules but Maxims? It seems that these maxims are rules, but this is not the case. P. Grice calls them Maxims because they are more broken down than grammatical or phonological rules into miniature on this basis of this, he calls them maxims.

Conversational Maxims: Paul Grice gives four maxims in the cooperative principle which communicators try to follow in conversation. These four maxims are as follows:

1. Maxim of Quality: (Give information that is true and based on reality)

This maxim seems very simple, but determining the truth is difficult sometimes. For example, it is difficult to lie when someone asks you a direct question.

2. Maxim of Quantity: (Amount of information)

This refers to the amount of information that should not be too short, not too long, but give the right information that is to the point.

3. Maxim of Manner: (Information delivered in an orderly and clear manner)

The good evidence for this is just what you do in the essay. Interlocutors provide information in communication in order and should not be too wordy.

4. Maxim of Relation: (Be relevant)

Communicators impart relevant information; do not start communicating as per your desire, which is irrelevant to the continued talk.

Flouting A Maxim (Implicature)

Flouting a maxim refers to the process of not obeying the conversational maxims. This is called Implicature, which means what is literally said is different from what is meant. Sometimes flouting a maxim carries more information. This shows that when a person flouts a maxim during communication, it means that the interlocutor wants to convey more information.

Violation of the maxim is considered good in some places, for example, to break the maxim of quantity to keep social distance. But sometimes breaking the maxim of conversation is considered wrong, as violating the maxim of quality in court is against the law.

Research Methodology

This is a qualitative analysis of the short story under the theoretical framework of an approach from Pragmatics, Paul Grice's Cooperative Principle and analyzed a few dialogues in order to identify the obeyed maxims in these short clips of communication.

Research Type: This is 'Qualitative' research. In this paradigm of research, the deep meanings of words on the superficial and contextual level have been dug out and categorized according to themes.

Data Collection: Researcher takes a few dialogues between literary characters from this artistic piece of work named 'A Cup of Tea by Katherine Mansfield, for the qualitative analysis of the dialogues to find out which maxims have been followed and what their significance.

Sample: I have used purposive or subjective sampling in order to analyse these dialogues. In 2002, Patton defined this as collecting information for the persuasive application. This is used in qualitative research to collect a sample, e.g. from a literary piece of work as a sample.

Theoretical Framework: The Cooperative Principle is used to analyse data that was taken from the genre short story 'A Cup of Tea by Katherine Mansfield. Under this theoretical framework, it has been finding out the role of Paul Grice Pragmatic approach to Maxims in communication has been found.

Findings and Interpretation

1. Textual Line (Page no. 2, Paragraph no. 2, Line no. First three)

"Charming! Rosemary admired price? "Twenty-eight"

Context

Rosemary as she is a rich female protagonist in this short story. She is used to going shopping and buying things as a hobby. She is a pretentious and hypocritical lady. Once she goes to an antique shop, where she chooses to buy an antique box, but the price of the box is too high. She cannot buy it at that moment, and she says to the shopkeeper to keep it and not sell it to anybody. She will come later on and buy it by herself. He says simply yes, and she comes out of the shop.

Interpretation

In this conversation between the shopkeeper and this rich lady, the shopkeeper uses the Maxim of Quantity because Rosemary belongs to the rich class, and she is used to giving orders to other people who are lower in rank than her. This is prevalent through her style of communication with the shopkeeper as she asks him to the point that you keep this antique piece for her and she will buy it later. The shopkeeper uses the Maxim of Quantity because all his effort to talk to this rich lady in a good manner is to sell his commodities and get money. He simply tells her about the price (that is, twenty-eight guineas) of this antique box and assures her he will keep it for her. But the shopkeeper rarely uses the maxim of quantity because he elaborates his conversation every time, he talks to this rich lady to convince her to buy something, and when he gets confirmation, then he quantitatively tells her the price of the box.

Both the lady and the shopkeeper obey this Maxim of Manner. Lady firstly investigates the preciousness of this box, and after knowing that, she asks about its price. Shopkeeper follows this maxim professionally in his communication because he has to sell his things and deal with customers, which will aid him in his business.

2. Textual Line (Page no. 2, Paragraph no. 3, Line no. Last two lines)

"Well, keep it for me - will you? I'll..."

Context

Rosemary is still in an antique shop at that time, she wants to buy an expensive box, and she is still examining it. But its price she cannot pay at that time and says to the shopkeeper to keep it until she buys this box.

Interpretation

Rosemary obeyed Maxim of Quantity because she indulged in her thoughts while examining the preciousness of this box. But this time, the shopkeeper is continuously admiring the lady and the box. Rosemary still does not respond to him. She only responds at the time to ask the price and secondly, here, as she is ordering (sentence starts with verb in an authoritative tone) him to the point to keep it for her.

The shopkeeper uses Quantity Maxim here because he intends to sell his things, and his purpose is achieved. Now he does not need to say anything else to her and says only yes, he will keep it for her because he knows about her social status and the way she communicates with him to the point that makes him assured.

3. Textual Line (Page no. 3, Paragraph no. 5, Line no. first five lines)

"Come home to tea with me my car and have tea."

Context

Rosemary comes out of the antique shop, and she is sad at that time because she cannot buy the antique box. At that time, a poor beggar girl came towards that lady and begged for money to have 'A Cup of Tea'. She wonders why this poor girl (Miss Smith) does not have enough money to take tea. Then an idea comes to her mind, and Rosemary asks Miss Smith to accompany her home. Rosemary takes this as an adventure, and she wants to show off to others that fairy godmothers like her still exist on this earth.

Interpretation

Rosemary obeys the Maxim of Manners. She communicates with Miss Smith in an orderly manner. Firstly, she invites her to tea, then she shows this beggar that she is willing to take her to her home. Then she shows her car to Miss Smith to elucidate that there is no difficulty. She communicates in this way to her to win her confidence that she really will ease her.

Rosemary obeys another Maxim of Relation as she relates all these things to her wealth, her car, and her manner, so that she will treat her in a good way. Through the use of this maxim, she elucidates her pretentious communication. As Rosemary shows, she has no problem taking her home, and she will give her tea and comfort. Rosemary communicates in this way because she knows about this girl's needs, and Miss Smith agrees.

But Rosemary's intentions are different as she is relating everything to her wealth and points out Miss Smith's need. This is evidently clear from the communication of Rosemary Fell because she did not use Quality and Quantity Maxim here in her conversation with Miss Smith. But the reality is totally different from what it seems. Reader interpretation shows that as Rosemary Fell see Miss Smith, and she asks for money from her, she takes it as an adventure. She thinks that this poor beggar does not even have money to buy tea. She used to read Russian novels, and from there she takes the idea of adventure to bring strangers home, as Rosemary Fell does to Miss Smith. Another perspective is that she wants to show this poor beggar that fairy godmothers like her still exist in reality, and she intended to discuss it at her kitty parties.

4. Textual Line (Page no. 3, Paragraph no. third last, Line no. first three)

"You're - you're not taking You care to tell me?"

Context

Rosemary, outside the antique shop, is talking to this poor girl. She is convincing her to come with her. She will not harm her; instead, she will facilitate her and listen to her.

Miss Smith about her worries. She will not take her to the police station but to her home.

Interpretation

Rosemary Fell follows here the Maxim of Relation. Because Miss Smith is afraid that she will take her to the police station. Rosemary relates all this situation to Miss Smith's need and tries to assert that she only wants to help her by giving her 'A Cup of Tea' as it is cold outside. Rosemary is doing so that she can communicate with her and wants nothing else more than that in return. By saying so, Rosemary wants to assert that a fairy godmother like her still exists on earth.

Miss Smith does not believe what she says to her. Miss Smith predicts that her intentions are not as Rosemary Fell shows at this time. Her intentions are indeed contrary to the situation. She is taking it as an adventure and again relating the situation only to the needs of this beggar girl. At last, Rosemary makes her agree to go with her.

5. Textual Line (Page no. 4, Paragraph no. 3rd last, Line no. first five)
"I darent, madam," said the girlthin figure into its deep cradle."

Context

Rosemary takes Miss Smith with her to her home. There she treats her with care pretentiously because Rosemary Fell takes off the coat and torn hat and puts them down on the floor. She tries to provide her with a comfortable atmosphere. She takes Miss Smith upstairs because she does not want anybody to see her there. Miss Smith is frightened as well as shocked to see all this decoration and wealth.

Interpretation

Rosemary is still following the Maxim of Manner and Relation side by side because she wants to assure Miss Smith that she is doing all that only for her. She is talking to her in an orderly manner, as she says first to take off her coat and hat, then go to the next room to take tea.

Rosemary makes her communication clear by obeying these maxims. She shows her elite class manner. Even Rosemary continues to talk, but Miss Smith tells her to give her tea because she is not feeling well. She calls to bring Brandy and tea. Miss Smith refuses to take brandy and starts to weep. This represents her superficial attitude because she wants to show off her wealth. She is just busy in her manner and mannerism.

6. Textual Line (Page no. 6, Paragraph no. 4, Line no. first three lines)
"Philip Miss Smith, excuse us?"

Context

When Rosemary is talking to her at that moment, her husband comes. Philip does not like that his wife is sitting with a poor beggar girl, as he is rich. He takes his wife with him and asks Rosemary about this girl. He says to her to leave her and let her (Miss Smith) go.

Interpretation

Philip obeys the Maxim of Quantity because he directly asks her to come with her. After all, she wants to talk to Rosemary in seclusion. This represents that he does not like Miss Smith's presence there.

Philip does not want to communicate in front of Miss Smith because he knows that reality is contrary to the situation. He asks formally that the poor beggar give us a little time, and Rosemary replies from her side authoritatively, yes, she will.

He talks to his wife to tell him the reason for bringing this poor stranger to his home. He says to her spade a spade that this is not the way to bring strangers home. Even though they both do not talk (defy Quality Maxim) in front of her.

7. Textual Line (Page no. 6, Paragraph no. 6th and 7th, Line no. first five)
"I say I brought her home with me. "

Context

In seclusion, Rosemary tells the truth about this girl. She says to him Miss Smith is a beggar, and she is asking money for a cup of tea from her. She takes her like a thing and brings her home. She is laughing by saying so. She takes this as an adventure to bring a stranger home with her. Philip says that's not right to bring strangers into the home.

Interpretation

Rosemary obeys the Maxim of Quality here. She is pretending in front of Miss Smith, but in reality, she tells the truth to her husband that she does not care about her. She takes Smith as a thing and an inhuman object. This represents her dualism of behaviour, although she is communicating with Miss Smith, but this is hollow and fake.



She really tells him the truth, the real intention of bringing this impoverished girl into her home. Her behaviour through her way of communication with him vividly shows that Miss Smith is just an object for her. As she cannot buy a box, she picks this object from the street.

8. Textual Line (Page no. 7, Paragraph no. last, Line: last)

"Am I pretty?"

Context

Rosemary gets jealous when her husband says that Miss Smith seems attractive. He says so because he knows that his wife does not let this girl go so easily. To enforce his wife indirectly, he uses a technique as he apparently shows his interest in

Miss Smith. Rosemary notices this and, after giving some money to this girl, lets her go. After this, she meets her husband and asks him if she is pretty and leaves the interpretation to readers with this story's end.

Interpretation

Rosemary uses four of the maxims in this brief interrogative sentence that she asks of her husband. She tries to dig out the truth that, in reality, she is beautiful to her husband. She is asking this by associating beauty with 'I' herself in a brief manner, that is she pretty? Here, the writer leaves interpretation to the readers.

She briefly, orderly and to the point asks a direct question of her husband by relating the existing question to Philip's previous comment on Miss Smith. This comment creates a sense of insecurity in her. In reaction, she gives some money and lets her go.

Here, she negates her own view about women being sisters. Rosemary's views are superficial and materialistic, just like her communication with Miss Smith. All the time, she relates everything to wealth through verbal and non-verbal conversation.

Reporting and Discussion

The researcher analyses the dialogues between different literary characters from 'A Cup of Tea' and finds that different characters follow different maxims to make their communication clear to the other interlocutors and to assert their point of view. This fluctuated use of maxims in communication reveals different personality traits of characters.

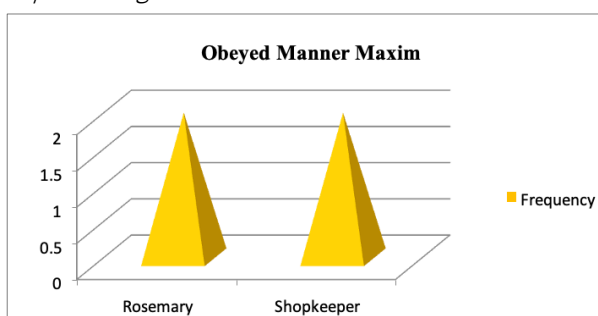
Table 1

Obeyed Maxim (First Research Question)

Obeyed Manner Maxim	Frequency
Rosemary	2
Shopkeeper	2

Graph 1

Representing Maxim of Manner



Note: The table no. 1 and graph no. 1. Both are showing the frequency of the obeyed maxim of manner by the characters Rosemary and Shopkeeper.

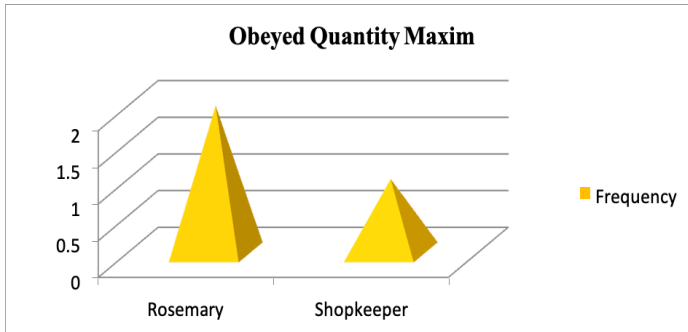
Table 2

Obeyed Quantity Maxim

Obeyed Manner Maxim	Frequency
Rosemary	2
Shopkeeper	1

Graph 2

Reflecting Quantity Maxim



Note: The table no. 2. And graph no. 2. Are showing the maxim of quantity obeyed by the characters Rosemary and Shopkeeper.

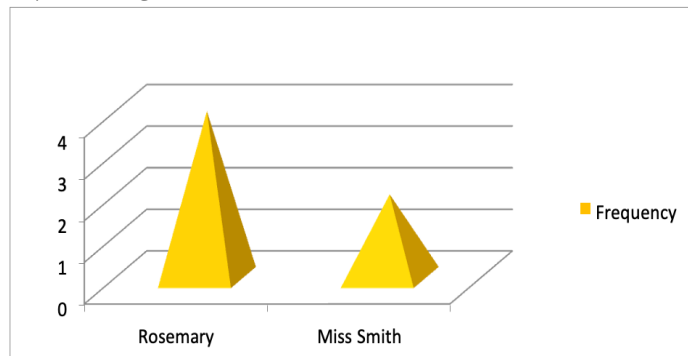
Table 3

Obeyed Maxim of Manner

Obeyed Manner Maxim	Frequency
Rosemary	4
Miss Smith	2

Graph 3

Representing Maxim of Manner



Note: The table no. 3 and graph no. 3 are frequency of the maxim of manner obeyed by the characters Rosemary and Miss Smith.

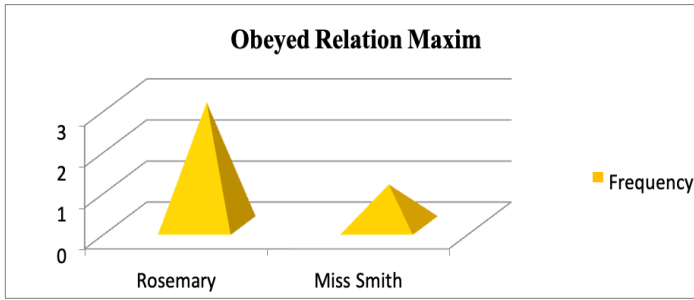
Table 4

Obeyed Maxim of Relation

Obeyed Manner Maxim	Frequency
Rosemary	3
Miss Smith	1

Graph 4

Representing Obeyed Maxim of Relation



Note: The table no. 4 and graph no. 4 are representing the maxim of relation obeyed Miss Smith and Rosemary.

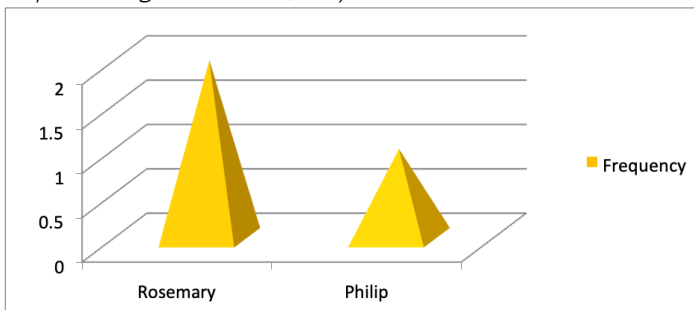
Table 5

Obeyed Maxim of Quality

Obeyed Manner Maxim	Frequency
Rosemary	2
Philip	1

Graph 5

Representing Maxim of Quality



Note: Graph no. 5 and the table no. 5 both are representing the frequency of the obeyed maxim of quality.

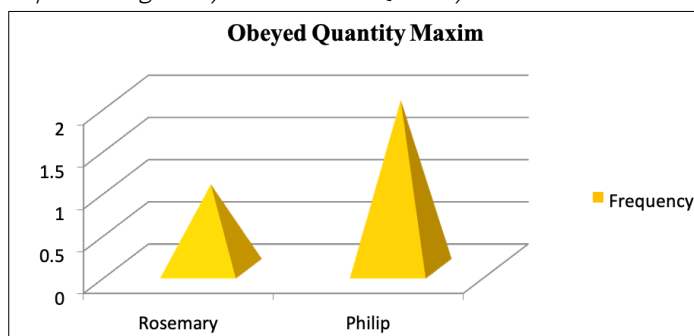
Table 6

Obeyed Maxim of Quantity

Obeyed Manner Maxim	Frequency
Rosemary	1
Philip	2

Graph 6

Representing Obeyed Maxim of Quantity



Note: The table no. 6 and graph no. 6 both are representing the obeyed maxim of quantity by the characters Rosemary and Philip.

Significance of Obeying Conversational Maxims

Interlocutors communicate to convey their ideas through language. In this process, they are consciously and unconsciously following some rules of language, as this pragmatic analysis makes clear this stance. There is great importance in following these maxims in communication because it works on two levels, these are as follows:

1. Make Communication Comprehensible
2. Unfold Different Aspects About Interlocutors

As in this story, 'A Cup of Tea', Rosemary follows the Maxim of Manners when she communicates with the shopkeeper, and he too uses this maxim because he has to sell his commodities. But Rosemary most often uses this maxim of manners, which represents that she belongs to the high strata of society, which is the reality.

Rosemary uses a quantity maxim when she communicates with the shopkeeper and tries to remain to the point. This maintains the social distance between them. This also shows her social high-status power, for example, when she tells him to keep that box for her, and he obeys her.

Rosemary's communication with Miss Smith shows that she uses the Relation, Maxim. She tries to assert that when she is communicating with Miss Smith, she is wealthy enough and she does not feel any problem in helping her. While communicating, she relates to her car, and then she shows Smith her decorated home. This shows her pretentious nature.

Rosemary uses the Maxim of Manners when communicating with Smith, which shows that she tries to convince her and also make her feel at ease, but this also represents that she comes from a rich family. The manner and ways of communicating do matter in the elite class.

Rosemary uses more Quality Maxim when she communicates with Philip, her husband. This shows that she tells her truth, but less Quantity Maxim, which represents that there is less social distance between them.

Philip uses a quantity maxim when he communicates to Rosemary, which shows that he has authoritative power over his wife, and he enforces her to do according to his desire. But Philip uses less quality maxim, which depicts that he hides something from his wife.

The last sentence of Rosemary, where she uses all the maxims although she tries to find out the reality from her husband, also shows her sense of insecurity.

Emerged Themes

Through the pragmatic analysis of this literary piece of work from Paul Grice, the Cooperative Principle approach has revealed different themes. These themes emerge as characters communicate and behave towards each other. Some prominent themes are as follows:

Class Distinction in Society

This artistic piece of work clearly depicts class distinction in society through the female literary characters Rosemary Fell from the upper strata of society and Miss Smith from the lower strata of society, as she is an impoverished beggar girl. Rosemary is rich enough that doing shopping is just a hobby for her, and Miss Smith is poor enough that she does not even have money to take 'A Cup of Tea'.

Hypocrisy or Pretentiousness

There, Rosemary shows dual behaviour. She is pretending with Miss Smith through her pretentious communication that she cares for her. But in reality, she is just playing a game. She makes hypocritical communication with her. Rosemary wants to make Miss.

Smith assures that she is a good woman. 'A Cup of Tea' means a lot to Miss Smith, but to Rosemary Fell, it is meaningless because she already has this. She can easily get all the necessities of life without effort. This is the reason

Rosemary's real intention is not to give Miss Smith 'A Cup of Tea' but to show this beggar girl her wealth, her pretentious goodness, and to fulfil her adventure. Although Rosemary's action is good, her intention behind this is not to achieve virtue but just to show off at her kitty parties.

Lower Class Exploitation

This analysis gives a vivid reflection of the unequal distribution of resources in society. The lower class is exploited at the hands of the upper class. As Rosemary's attitude and communication towards Miss Smith represent that the upper class takes the necessities of life of the people belonging to the lower strata of society as a joke. They can spend a lot of money on buying antique pieces, but fold back their helping hands in case of poor people. As Rosemary gripped three notes in her hand to give to Miss Smith by keeping back two notes, and after giving her little money, let her go in that cold weather.

Female Insecurity: This artistic piece of work also shows a sense of insecurity that a female feels in the presence of other females. This is vivid as Philip Fell relates his conversation with Miss Smith that she seems attractive, do we dine with her tonight, he asks Rosemary. She feels insecure here and lets the poor girl go by giving some money.

Objectification: There is a reflection of women's objectification in this artistic piece of work. Through analysis, it is revealed that Rosemary's qualitative communication with Philip Fell. On his inquiry, she replies that she picked this poor girl from Curzon Street. This makes it clear that Miss Smith is just a pick-up thing or just an object for her, not a living human being.

Grim Realities of Life

'A Cup of Tea' is just not a simple title, a cup of tea for a poor girl, but it unfolds the grim and in-depth realities of such lower sections of society where people could not get even the necessities of life. They have to face many obstacles in their life to fulfil their basic need to survive. The attitude of the upper class towards the lower class is not serious. This is clear through the communication among these characters if women show a tender heart, though to show off, but Philip can't bear it at all.

Communication and Social Class Power: There is a clear representation of the authoritative communication triangle. Rosemary communicates authoritatively as her social strata demands with Miss Smith, but Philip shows his authority over Rosemary and a little bit over Miss Smith.

Implications

A researcher has analysed this story from the Paul Grice Cooperative Principle angle. This miniature research paper has dug out the obeyed maxims in communication by interlocutors.

This also explores the importance of following these maxims in conversation. This also represents the role of these maxims in unfolding the character of the speaker.

But this story can also be explored from the angle of politeness, speech acts, presuppositions and implicatures can also be searched out in this story.

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