



A Case study on dialogue translation in Indonesian version pride and prejudice: From perspective of conversational implicature

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Abstract

Aim: This paper seeks to address the literature gap by investigating how Pride and Prejudice translators dealt with issues of conversational implicature in the novel's dialogue.

Method: Conversations selected from Pride and Prejudice chapter 10 served as the data source. The sample size was 53 different quotes. We applied cooperative principles to the study of those statements. The research methods used in this paper combine a focus group discussion (FGD) and a comparative analysis (CA).

Findings: Thirty statements were found to violate cooperative principle maxims. Modulation translation was primarily used to render this speech sounds into another language. In addition to the modulation translation method, standard equivalent, amplification, reduction, and transposition translation approaches were also utilised.

Implications/Novel Contribution: If translators use this case study as a guide, they will better understand which translation strategies to employ. The case study could also be investigated from a sociolinguistic or second-language learning perspective.

Keywords: Pride and Prejudice, Dialogue Translation, Maxims, Conversational Implicature, Translation Techniques, Translation Quality

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INTRODUCTION

Grice's cooperative principle is central to Pragmatics, a branch of linguistics that provides important guidelines for oral and written communication in the real world. A set of conventions must be followed for a conversation to be successful. Violations of the cooperative principle are commonplace in everyday speech because speakers often disregard these rules and the maxims for various reasons, leading to conversational implicature.

Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* is a brilliant example of British realism, and it's also hilarious and full of comic and mocking tones. Jane Austen had a talent for describing conversations between characters, which she used to set the scene, paint a picture of the characters, emphasise the theme, and advance the plot. Comedy is primarily achieved through the characters' interactions, which are not only dramatic and faithful to the characters' emotions and conflicts but also the primary vehicle for conveying the humour. The novel's characters are brilliantly portrayed through a blend of narrative and dialogue, with each speaker adopting a unique tone and cadence that reflects who they are. Since this is the case, the novel's wonderful dialogues make for an interesting study area.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Most researchers are attracted to finding the phenomenon of violating the maxims in *Pride and Prejudice*, they collected the samples of each type of conversational implicature and explained the indeed meaning of the utterances (Destiwati, 2015; Fan, 2011; Hao, 2014; Himami, 2017; Kongmanus, 2016; Ma, 2016; Shen & Yin, 2015; Yang, 2011; Zhiyong, 2009; Zhou, 2007; Zhong & Xu, 2014). while some others analyzed the personality of the characters in this novel when the characters violated the maxims (Lawyer, 2017; Wang, 2009; Yu, 2013).

As to translation of conversational implicature, there were researchers who gave examples in their research

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and illustrated how translators do when they meet such conversational implicature (Peng, 2004; Zhong & Xu, 2014). Fan (2011) and Si (2016) both described the conversational implicature in the humorous dialogue within the source text and the target text. Hu (2014) and Xu (2017) generalized the translation strategies applied by the translators. Laharomi (2013) compared the translation strategies used in conversational implicature in two eras, namely before and after Iran Islamic Revolution. And he found that adequacy of translation in the case of implicature was preferred by the translators before Revolution, after Revolution the norm of implicature translation moved in the direction of acceptability. Al and Muna (2016) adopted two theoretical frameworks in his research. The first is the Skopos approach that concentrates on the purpose of the translation which in turn determines the methods and strategies of translation that are employed to form a functional translation of the target text. The second is Grice's Implicature that implicitly agrees on the "purpose or direction" of those conversations in which each participant (speaker and listener) cooperates to achieve the purpose of the conversation. The results showed that Grice's approach was more successful in translating the conversational implicatures within the framework of this study. And as to translation of conversational implicature in *Pride and Prejudice*, researchers pointed out that the translation methods and strategies that could be used in dealing with the translation of conversational implicature (Wei, 2018; Xu, 2017). However, none of the above mentioned the concrete translation techniques that are used in the conversational implicature, and how these translation techniques influenced the translation quality. Because misemploying the translation techniques can lower the translation quality. Therefore, I want to do a case study about this aspect to find what translators should do when they run into such problems. Before we enter the case study, we should know how the conversational implicature appear, there are some conceptions we should know.

Cooperative Principle

The cooperative principle was first proposed by the U.S. linguist and philosopher H.P. Grice in his William James lectures at Harvard University in 1967. *Logic and Conversation* points out that our conversation is subject to certain restricted conditions. Grice said, in order to achieve the specific destination, there is a tacit agreement between the speaker and hearer, an agreement that both sides are expected to observe. To accomplish the communication efficiently and successfully, people usually follow some certain principle in conversation. Grice named this principle as Cooperative Principle. This Cooperative Principle has been considered as one of the most important interpersonal principles for effective communication. If an utterance does not appear to conform to this model, we assume that an appropriate meaning is there to be inferred.

Grice's Cooperative Principle is one of the core ideas in pragmatics which is significant in guiding verbal communication in the living world. However, since the Cooperative Principle is followed reasonably instead of forcibly, the use of the principle does not mean that it will be followed by everybody all the time. Sometimes people violate the Cooperative Principle for a special purpose which will generate conversational implicature. In order to explain further Cooperative Principle, Grice borrows four categories from German philosopher Immanuel Kant: quality, quantity, relation and manner. Therefore, Cooperative Principle is specified from these four aspects: maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relevance, and maxim of manner. The details of these four maxims are listed below:

1. The Maxim of Quantity

- (1) Make your contribution as informative as is required (for the current purposes of the exchange).
- (2) Do not make your contribution more informative than is required.

2. The Maxim of Quality

- (1) Do not say what you believe to be false.
- (2) Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence.

3. The Maxim of relevance be relevant.

4. The Maxim of manner

- (1) Avoid obscurity of expression.
- (2) Avoid ambiguity.
- (3) Be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity).
- (4) Be orderly.

Conversational Implicature

A conversational implicature is something which is implied in conversation, that is, something which is left implicit in actual language use. Grice's Conversational Implicature Theory attempts to "explain how the hearer gets from what is said to what is meant, from the level of expressed meaning to the level of implied meaning" (Jane, 2016). Conversational implicature focuses its discussion on cooperative principle which is supposed to be the basis of any successful communication. Yet on many occasions, the speaker would not follow but violate the maxims of one reason or another. When this situation happens, the listener should realize the difference between what the speaker says and what does he mean, the particular meaning deduced will be the conversational implicature. Conversational implicatures are implicatures that arise during conversation, where the speaker voluntarily flouts, or violates, one of maxims in the maxims of conversation that create an implied meaning to the addressee. In this case, related to the four maxims of cooperative principle, conversational implicature can be classified into four types here: conversational implicature produced by violation of the quantity maxim, conversational implicature produced by violation of the quality maxim, conversational implicature produced by violation of the relevance maxim, conversational implicature produced by violation of the manner maxim.

CASE STUDY IN PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Procedure

In this study, I chose the dialogues in chapter ten of this novel as data. There are three scenes in this chapter: the first scene has four characters, Elizabeth, Darcy, Miss Bingley and Mr. Bingley, they had a heated debate; the second scene has two characters, Elizabeth, Darcy, Darcy wanted to invite Elizabeth to dance, but she rejected; the last scene has four characters, Miss Bingley, Darcy, Mrs. Hurst, Elizabeth, Mrs. Hurst and Elizabeth encountered Miss Bingley and Darcy chatting in the shrubbery.

This paper was applied (Spradely, 2006) ethnographic interactive stages of content analysis: componential analysis to analyze the data and list the source language and target language to classify whether the utterance generates conversational implicature and which of the type it is. Then estimating which translation technique was used in the Indonesian version. At last, according to FGD (a FGD is a structured discussion used to obtain in-depth information from a group of people about a particular topic. The purpose of a focus group is to collect information about people's opinions, beliefs, attitudes, perceptions, not to come to consensus or make a decision), raters will give the rates to the translation quality. The raters are two classmates of mine and I, we all study translation linguistics in Sebelas Maret University. The TQA in this study, there are two aspects which have to be considered. These TQA parameters had been proposed by Nababan and Nuraeni (2012). Here is a sample chart of the componential analysis.

Table 1: Sample of componential analysis

Source Language	Language	Target Language	Language	Flouting the Maxim				Translation Technique	Translation Quality	
				Quality	Quantity	Relevance	Manner		Accuracy	Acceptability
"How delighted Darcy be to receive such a letter!"	de-Miss will receive	"Miss Darcy karena akan menerima surat indah itu!"	Darcy senang akan menerima surat indah itu!"	-	-	-	-	Modulation	3	2
He made no answer.	no answer.	Mr. Darcy tidak menghiraukannya.	Darcy tidak menghiraukannya.	-	✓	-	-	Modulation	3	3

And then, I will interpret how the utterance violating the maxims below.

Analysis

In the first scene, Miss Bingley, Darcy, Elizabeth and Mr. Bingley were all in the drawing room.

"How delighted Miss Darcy will be to receive such a letter!" He made no answer. (1)

Darcy was writing a letter to his sister Miss Darcy, but Miss Bingley interrupted him. Here Darcy didn't say a word, but I think it can also be regarded as 'utterance' that said nothing. Thus the utterance here flouted the maxim of quantity.

"You write uncommonly fast." (2)

"You are mistaken. I write rather slowly."

"How many letters you must have occasion to write in the course of the year! Letters of business too! How odious I should think them!" (3)

"It is fortunate, then, that they fall to my lot instead of to yours."

"Pray tell your sister that I long to see her." (4)

"I have already told her so once, by your desire."

"I am afraid you do not like your pen. Let me mend it for you. I mend pens remarkably well." (5)

"Thank you – but I always mend my own."

"How can you contrive to write so even?" (6)

He was silent. (7)

"Tell your sister I am delighted to hear of her improvement on the harp, and pray let her know that I am quite in raptures with her beautiful little design for a table, and I think it infinitely superior to Miss Grantley's." (8)

"Will you give me leave to defer your raptures till I write again? – At present I have not room to do them justice." (9)

"Oh! it is of no consequence. I shall see her in January. But do you always write such charming long letters to her, Mr. Darcy?" (10)

"They are generally long; but whether always charming, it is not for me to determine." (11)

"It is a rule with me, that a person who can write a long letter, with ease, cannot write ill." (12)

Though Darcy said nothing, but Miss Bingley didn't give up chatting with him, she asked another question in utterance (2). This time Darcy answered, but Miss Bingley didn't stop asking, she started new topics at utterances (3), (4), (5) and (6), these also flouted the maxim of relevance. But at utterance (7), Darcy was silent again, this flouted the maxim of quality. However, Miss Bingley continued another topic at utterance (8), Darcy answered her, but he flouted the maxim of quantity, on one hand he rejected Miss Bingley, on the other hand he had to giving the reason based on politeness. Miss Bingley flouted the maxim of relevance at the utterance (10) again. Darcy answered, but he doesn't think his letters are charming, so he interpreted, flouting the maxim of quantity (utterance 11). Obviously, Miss Bingley didn't catch the point of Darcy, she still praised his letters, so she flouted the maxim of relevance (utterance 12).

And then, between Darcy, Elizabeth and Mr. Bingley there were an interesting but heated debate. Because the utterances are too long, so I elect some of them here.

"You expect me to account for opinions which you chose to call mine, but which I have never acknowledged. Allowing the case, however, to stand according to your representation, you must remember, Miss Bennet, that the friend who is supposed to desire his return to the house, and the delay of his plan, has merely desired it, asked it without offering one argument in favour of its propriety."

"To yield readily – easily – to the persuasion of a friend is no merit with you." (13)

"To yield without conviction is no compliment to the understanding of either." (14)

"You appear to me, Mr. Darcy, to allow nothing for the influence of friendship and affection. A regard for the requester would often make one readily yield to a request without waiting for arguments to reason one into it. I am not particularly speaking of such a case as you have supposed about Mr. Bingley. We may as well wait, perhaps, till the circumstance occurs, before we discuss the discretion of his behaviour thereupon. But in general and ordinary cases between friend and friend, where one of them is desired by the other to change a resolution of no very great

moment, should you think ill of that person for complying with the desire, without waiting to be argued into it?" (15)

"Will it not be advisable, before we proceed on this subject, to arrange with rather more precision the degree of importance which is to appertain to this request, as well as the degree of intimacy subsisting between the parties?" (16)

"By all means," cried Bingley; "Let us hear all the particulars, not forgetting their comparative height and size; for that will have more weight in the argument, Miss Bennet, than you may be aware of. I assure you that if Darcy were not such a great tall fellow, in comparison with myself, I should not pay him half so much deference. I declare I do not know a more awful object than Darcy, on particular occasions, and in particular places; at his own house especially, and of a Sunday evening when he has nothing to do." (17)

Utterance (13) by Elizabeth flouted the maxim of relevance, she wanted to embarrass Darcy. But Darcy ignored her saying, he interpreted his opinion, flouting the maxim of relevance (utterance 14). Elizabeth displeased about the argument of Darcy, she debated, flouting the maxim of quantity (utterance 15). Darcy thought Elizabeth digressed, he wanted to let her back to the right way, he flouted the maxim of relevance at utterance (16). At that time, Mr. Bingley interrupted them, he said something bad about Darcy, flouting the maxim of relevance.

At the second scene, Darcy wanted to invite Elizabeth to dance.

"Do not you feel a great inclination, Miss Bennet, to seize such an opportunity of dancing a reel?"

She smiled, but made no answer. (18)

He repeated the question, with some surprise at her silence. "Oh!" said she, "I heard you before; but I could not immediately determine what to say in reply. You wanted me, I know, to say "Yes," that you might have the pleasure of despising my taste; but I always delight in overthrowing that kind of schemes, and cheating a person of their premeditated contempt. I have therefore made up my mind to tell you that I do not want to dance a reel at all – and now despise me if you dare." (20)

"Indeed I do not dare."

Elizabeth made no answer to invitation of Darcy, flouting the maxim of quantity (utterance 18). Darcy repeated again, she answered, but she gave a lot of explanation why she didn't answer the first time, flouting the maxim of quantity (utterance 20)

At the third scene, at first Miss Bingley and Darcy chatted in the shrubbery, then Mrs. Hurst and Elizabeth encountered them.

"Have you any thing else to propose for my domestic felicity?" "Oh! yes. – Do let the portraits of your uncle and aunt Philips be placed in the gallery at Pemberley. Put them next to your great uncle, the judge. They are in the same profession, you know; only in different lines. As for your Elizabeth's picture, you must not attempt to have it taken, for what painter could do justice to those beautiful eyes?" (22)

"It would not be easy, indeed, to catch their expression, but their colour and shape, and the eye-lashes, so remarkably fine, might be copied."

"I did not know that you intended to walk," said Miss Bingley, in some confusion, lest they had been overheard. "You used us abominably ill," answered Mrs. Hurst, "in running away without telling us that you were coming out." (23)

Mr. Darcy felt their rudeness and immediately said, – "This walk is not wide enough for our party. We had better go into the avenue." (24)

But Elizabeth, who had not the least inclination to remain with them, laughingly answered, "No, no; stay where you are. – You are charmingly group'd, and appear to uncommon advantage. The picturesque would be spoilt by admitting a fourth. Good bye." (25)

Miss Bingley didn't really think Elizabeth's eyes are beautiful, flouting the maxim of quality (utterance 22). Mrs Hurst ignored interpretation of Miss Bingley, she complained about them, flouting the maxim of relevance (utterance 23). Darcy gave advice going into avenue, flouting the maxim of relevance. Elizabeth rejected to accompany them, and gave explanation, flouting the maxim of quantity (25).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the whole conversational discourse, there are 53 utterances altogether, among which 34 utterances have conversational implicature. Because there have some utterances not only be used one translation technique, so there are 17 utterances (45%) which are used modulation translation technique, 10 utterances (26%) which are used established equivalent translation technique, 2 utterances (5%) which are used amplification translation technique, 7 utterances (19%) which are used reduction translation technique, and 2 (5%) utterances which are used Transposition translation technique. The translation quality of each translation technique can be seen below.

Table 2: Distribution of translation quality of each translation technique

	Modulation		Established		Amplification		Reduction		Transposition	
	Accu- racy	Accept	Accu- racy	Accept	Accu- racy	Accept	Accu- racy	Accept	Accu- racy	Accept
Amount	17	17	10	10	2	2	7	7	2	2
Score	2.6	2.2	2.6	2.3	2.5	2	2.3	2	3	3

From the table above, we can find that the modulation translation technique is dominant among of all, the second is established equivalent translation technique, reduction rank the third, amplification and transposition follow behind of them. The accuracy of transposition, modulation, and established equivalent is high enough, so when these translation techniques are used, the conversational implicature could be properly translated. However, the accuracy of reduction translation technique is the lowest of all, which means that the deleted information makes the accuracy decline, translators should use this translation technique cautiously. In addition, we also find that accuracy of translation quality is commonly higher than the acceptability of translation quality, which means that when translators doing translation, they attach more attention to accuracy rather than acceptability. But this situation will make the readers feel puzzled when they read the novel. However, the accuracy is high enough, which shows that translators can generally catch the meaning of conversational implicature of the source language when doing translation. From the discussion above, we know that translators pay more attention to the accuracy of translation but not acceptability in translation of conversational implicature, this situation will lead to high scores in accuracy rather than acceptability, which makes the translation looks good enough but cannot please the target readers. Then translations had better seldom use the deletion technique since its low accuracy and low acceptability scores, or when translator use, they should confirm whether the meaning of the conversational implicature is properly transferred to the target language and whether the translation can be accepted by the target readers.

CONCLUSION, RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

This paper used a case study about dialogue translation in Indonesian version *Pride and Prejudice* to aim to find out when conversational implicature occurred, which translation technique was preferred applying in the conversational implicature, the results showed that deletion technique could decrease the accuracy of translation more than the other techniques, and the acceptability of the conversational implicature translation is lower than accuracy. In this way, translators should take care about using deletion technique and also take into account the acceptability when translating conversational implicature. Translation analyzed by the perspective of conversational implicature can be considerably helpful to translators. They can easily find out insufficient for the translation and make improvements. However, data analyzed in this paper is only from one chapter, and the paper only focuses on factor that can influence translation quality, that is translation technique. Future research is to be performed not only from the perspective of Pragmatics but also the perspective of SFL or Sociolinguistics, and the data can be selected from more chapters and find out more factors that can influence the translation quality in the novel *Pride and Prejudice*.

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