

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents the background of the research, the research problem, the objectives of the research, the significance of the research, the scope and limitations of the research, and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Research

Literary works are one of the media for communication. Through literary works, writers are able to share ideas, arguments, information, and knowledge with their readers. Many literary works have been written, spreading from countries around the world. Some literary works have already become remarkable works and have a good influence on people's lives. Some of them are able to change the world, and some of them should be burned down, seized, and abolished from this world.

One of the common literary works used to share the ideas of the writers with their readers is a novel. According to the Cambridge Dictionary, a novel is a long printed story about imaginary characters and events.¹ A novel is a long, complex, fictional narrative about human life experience with plot, characters, and settings. Conversation or dialogue

¹ "Novel," *Cambridge Dictionary*, October 2025, <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/novel>

among characters in a novel may occur as one way to deliver messages or information from the writer to the readers.

British Philosopher Paul Grice develops a framework theory about how to communicate properly in order to understand the message exchanged by the speaker and the listener or interlocutor. Grice's Cooperative Principles include maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relevance, and maxim of manner. Speakers may speak unclear ambiguously, or the information they give is potentially misunderstood by the listeners. Those are examples of the violation of Grice's principles, and they may also occur in the character's conversation in a novel.

Many studies have been conducted on literary works, exploring Grice's maxim theory. An examination of Grice's Maxim in the horror novel *Five Nights at Freddy's* by Scott Cawthon found that the most frequently used type of maxim is the maxim of quantity, followed by the maxim of quality.² Similar results were also shown on the maxim violation analysis in the novel *It Starts With Us*,³ and a pragmatic equivalence of violating maxims in the novel translation of *Divergent*.⁴ While in Violating Grice's maxims in *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief: A Discourse*

² Made Cahyana & Nur Ayomi, "An Examination of Grice's Maxims in the Horror Novel *Five Nights at Freddy's* by Scott Cawthon", *Journal on Language Teaching and Learning, Linguistics and Literature*, Vol. 13 No. 2, (2025): 4819-4830.

³ Tiara Cantikawati, Tatan Tawami, & Retno Purwanisari, "Maxim Violation in the Novel *It Starts With Us*", *International Conference on Business, Economics, Social Science, and Humanities* (2024), pp. 759-769.

⁴ Wuri Rahmawati, Dwi Haryanti, & Malikatul Laila, "A Pragmatic Equivalence of Violating Maxims in Novel Translation of *Divergent*", *Al-Lisan: Jurnal Bahasa*, Vol. 7 No. 2, (2022): 93-111.

Analysis of Deception revealed that characters frequently violate the maxim of manner.⁵

In the Indonesian context, a well-known novel written by a very famous writer, Pramoedya Ananta Toer, also has already been examined and explored on various focus. The novel was written far from the independence of Indonesia, which was first published in 1980. The novel was entitled *Bumi Manusia*, which is valued with many history and culture of Indonesia. *Bumi Manusia* is actually the representation of problems faced by Indonesia under the Dutch colonial rule. A few studies related to linguistics, exploring *Bumi Manusia*, such: Analysis of the Novel “*Bumi Manusia*” by Pramoedya Ananta Toer: Roland Barthes Semiotics Study, with the result that the novel contained denotation, connotation, and myth based on the concept of Roland Barthes.⁶ In the translation, an analysis on the novel “*Bumi Manusia*” and its translation “*This Earth of Mankind*” was examined with the focus on the paralinguistic and onomatopoeia translation and it was found that paralinguistic as well as onomatopoeic features are culturally bound, but for the translation equivalence the features cannot be fully maintained.⁷ Another analysis on the translation, an analysis of some

⁵ Ayunda Intan Puspita, Ni Ketut Sri Rahayuni, & I Gusti Ngurah Parthama, “Violating Grice's Maxims in 'Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief': A Discourse Analysis of Deception”, *INNOVATIVE: Journal Of Social Science Research*, Vol. 4 No. 4, (2024): 6113-6121.

⁶ Noor Hanifah, “Analisis Novel “*Bumi Manusia*” Karya Pramoedya Ananta Toer: Kajian Semiotika Roland Barthes (Analysis of the Novel “*Bumi Manusia*” by Pramoedya Ananta Toer: Roland Barthes Semiotics Study),” *Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra dan Pembelajarannya (JBSP)*, Vol. 12 No. 2, (2022): 326-341.

⁷ Erna Wiles, “Translating Paralinguistic and Onomatopoeia: An Analysis on the Novel “*Bumi Manusia*” by Pramoedya Ananta Toer and its Translation “*This Earth of Mankind*” by Max

problems in using formal equivalence as strategy in translating “Bumi Manusia” novel into English, showed a result that some problems occurred in the form of un-natural expressions in the target language (TL), loss of meaning, and even miss-translation.⁸ In relation to cultural value, a critical sociolinguistics and postcolonial analysis conducted, exploring multilingualism and cultural resistance in *Bumi Manusia*, and the result shows that the multilingual used in the novel is interpreted as a form of subversive storytelling that challenges the dominance of colonial language while asserting the significance of native cultural perspective.⁹

In long time ago, written work is one of the media used for delivering propaganda by Indonesians in order to fight against colonialism. It is efficient for delivering messages in the form of a story. The writers are able to share their ideas, criticisms, and other thoughts freely on their works. The characters' conversation in a novel might consist of the writer's messages, even though it is not explicitly implied. As well as in the *Bumi Manusia*, since it was published during the ‘unsafe’ period during the colonialization, some of the dialogues among the characters might violate some of Grice's cooperative principles, since the conversation of the characters might not be fully delivered explicitly. Some of the dialogues were constructed to build

Lane,” *International Journal of English Linguistics, Literature, and Education (IJELLE)*, Vol. 3 No. 1, (2021): 13-25.

⁸ Rebecca Urip, “Translating “Bumi Manusia” Novel into English: Some Problems in Using Formal Equivalence as a Strategy”, *TransCan Proceedings*, No. 2, (2012): 39-46.

⁹ Ni Ketut Dewi Yulianti, et al., “Multilingualism and Cultural Resistance in Bumi Manusia: A Critical Sociolinguistic and Postcolonial Analysis,” *Proceedings Bali Bhuwana Waskita: Global Art and Creativity Conference*, Vol. 5 (2025): 70-84.

the characters to deliver the writer's message. Dialogues may consist untruthful, irrelevant, insufficient, or unclear information.

Bumi Manusia remained one of the timeless literary works in Indonesia also worldwide. Its existence and popularity have remained unchanged since it was first published. It has already been translated into many languages, including English. The English version was translated by Maxwell Ronald Lane and published by Penguin Books (Penguin Publishing Group) and William Morrow, with the title *This Earth of Mankind*. These novels can be used to introduce the Indonesian culture and history to the global world. The conversation and the speaking style among the characters might be different since the cultural background. With many characters portrayed by Pramoedya Ananta Toer, with diverse social, cultural, and ideological backgrounds, the interaction among the characters may not always fully observe the Grice's maxim. Conversations that occur in the conversation among the characters, *This Earth of Mankind* have the potential to be used as a source for studying pragmatics, including Grice's maxim.

In 2022, a study on the Exploration of the Cooperative Principle in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's Novel *Bumi Manusia* with Grice's Maxim Principle found that the maxim of manner was mostly flouted by the characters.¹⁰ The previous study, the non-observance of maxim, which is

¹⁰ M. Rawi Bintoro, M. Manugeran, & Devi Pratiwy, "Cooperative Principle in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's Novel *Bumi Manusia*," *Journal of Language*, Vol. 4 No. 2, (2022): 244-250.

flouting has already examined. Unlike flouting, which is when a speaker intentionally breaks a maxim in order to generate implicature, this study offer other the non-observance maxim, the violation, which is when speaker fail to observe a maxim without trying to make an implicature.

This study offers both theoretical insights, particularly into pragmatics and translation studies, ensuring that information in literary work is effectively communicated to global readers. Analysis of Grice's maxim violations on the English version of *Bumi Manusia, This Earth of Mankind*, can serve as practical teaching materials for study in pragmatics, translation, and discourse analysis, which may help students and teachers understand how language functions as a tool for effective communication through English. Grice's framework is used for analyzing the novel since the framework is able to uncover the hidden meanings and reveal the personalities, motivations, and relationships of the characters, which can be used to unfold the writer's intention, or the messages that the writer wants to deliver to the readers. In the relation to education, analyzing the violation that might occur in the novel's dialogues might give a deeper understanding on how develop a good conversation in such a form of literary work, novel or narrative text.

B. Research Questions

In line with the previously mentioned, the researcher aimed to investigate the following research question (RQ):

RQ 1: What types and how frequently are Grice's maxim violations found in the dialogues of Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *This Earth of Mankind*?

C. Research Objectives

Based on the problem stated in the research question, the research objective (RO) is presented below:

RO 1: To identify and determine the types and frequency of Grice's maxim violations found in *This Earth of Mankind*.

D. Significance of the Study

The researcher expects that this research will make a valuable contribution to:

1. The Readers

The result of this study provides an analysis of Grice's maxim violation in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *This Earth of Mankind*, which might be helpful for a deeper understanding of the novel's messages.

2. The Students

The result of this study provides practical materials on literary work study related to pragmatics that might be helpful for students to understand the practical usage of pragmatics and Grice's maxim violation in communication.

3. Future Researcher

The results of this study can be used as a source to explore other literary works related to Grice's maxim violation. It can also be used as a tool for further examination of similar topics.

E. Scope And Limitations Of The Research

The scope of this research is an analysis of Grice's maxim violations in literary work. The researcher only focuses on the analysis of Grice's maxim violation in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's novel *This Earth of Mankind*; thus, the findings may only be relevant to specific topics.

The reason why the researcher selecting the novel the English version of *Bumi Manusia*, which is *This Earth of Mankind*, is because *Bumi Manusia* is one of best literary work in Indonesia that already translated into 40 languages in other countries, which also have the same popularity as in Indonesia, and it is still discussed by many people around the world which have similar interest on historical literature, since the novel has full of historical and cultural value.

F. Definition Of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about the meaning, the researcher provides the key terms of the title as follows:

1. Maxim

Maxim is a rule to control conversation that regulates how speakers contribute to meaningful and cooperative communication.

2. Maxim Violation

Maxim violations are violations that occur when a speaker does not execute or obey the four sub-maxims of the Gricean maxims.

3. This Earth of Mankind

An English version of Pramoedya Ananta Toer's *Bumi Manusia* novel.

G. Thesis Structure

This research consists few systematical stages or structure, which is chapter 1 the introduction which will present the background of the research, explain the reasons and the significance to conducting this research, including the identification of the problem, the limitation of the study, the formulation of the research questions, and the research objectives, it is also provide few key terms related to the study in order to avoid ambiguity, and the thesis structure to give picture how this work will flow.

Followed by chapter 2, this chapter will present theories and concepts that serve as the foundation of the research. It explains about communication, the concept of maxim in general, the Grice's maxim framework, the maxim violations, and also the novel that will be examined, which is *This Earth of Mankind*. It also reviews previous studies to show the relevance and the position of the present study among the existing research.

Chapter 3, the research methodology, it describes the research design and the method used in the study. It explains the descriptive quantitative design, with the explanation of the data collection, the techniques, and the data analysis and interpretation. It also elaborates the procedures to verify the data to ensure the validity and reliability of the findings.

In chapter 4, the findings of the research will be presented and analyzed. It includes the identification and classification of Grice's maxim violations found in *This Earth of Mankind*.

Chapter 5, the results will be interpreted and discussed in relation to the theoretical framework and previous studies to provide deeper insights into the pragmatic aspects of the novels.

The last chapter, chapter 6, will contain a summary of the main findings and draw a conclusion based on the analysis and the discussion. It highlights the key results of the study regarding the maxim violations in the novel *This Earth of Mankind*. In addition, it provides suggestions for future researchers and educators who are interested in conducting similar studies in the field of pragmatics.