

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

As human beings, we need a language to live. Through language we will be able to convey intentions and goals to others. We cannot live without language, whether we use oral language or sign language, or even something else. According to the KBBI, what is meant by language is the symbol system of sound that is arbitrary, which is used by members of a community to work together, interact, and identify themselves. Language as the most important part of the process of effective communication has become a magnet for researchers from various disciplines to study the language further. Various theories were developed as a way to understand language and its application in communication. Language theory in communication generally focuses on the way humans speak, language and its relation to thought processes, words and meanings, language characteristics, discourse, and others. In language, certainly there will still be rules in linguistics that be called pragmatics.

Pragmatics is the study of practical aspects of human actions and thought. Yule (1996) states that “Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) interpreted by a listener (or reader)”. In a case, in a classroom there is a student who comes late while the lesson has started. The teacher says “What time is it?” it means that the teacher not asks about the time but prefers to tease that student why she or he comes late. It also means when the teacher says that sentence, between the teacher and the student, relate to

the context of the situation since both the teacher and the student understand the actual meaning. Pragmatics is a study of a language that associated with the context of its use. If the context is known, the meaning of the language can be understood. The limitation of pragmatics are rules for the language in the matter of forms and meaning associated with the intent of context, speaker, and circumstances.

In this study, the researcher analyzes a work using one of the pragmatic studies. The discussion about the cooperative principle and Grice's maxims theory in a novel has indeed been done a lot by previous researchers. Many researchers conducted the study because the material was fairly simple when compared with other pragmatic material and discussions. Just reading a novel, looking for evidence of a conversation to analyze, is indeed quite simple. So do not be surprised if many researchers use this theory for their research.

Pragmatics also related to the study about meaning that be communicated by a speaker (or writer) and be interpreted by a listener (or reader). Also, the interpretation cannot be separated from the context of the communication and how the context influences what is said. This requires a consideration of how speakers organize what they want to say depending on whom they are talking to, where, and under what circumstances. On the other hand, this approach also needs to explore how the listeners interpret the meaning that the speaker wants. This kind of study deals with what is not spoken that is recognized as part of what is communicated. (Yule, 1996).

Communication requires people to cooperate. The fact of conversation comes alive only in accepting each other and a pragmatic context is determined. Cooperation itself has been appointed to the cooperative principle that consist of four maxims such as; maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relation, and the last is maxim of manner, it is according to American philosopher H. Paul Grice (1975, 1989) (Mey, 2004). In short, to make conversation run well some rules must be obeyed by the speaker (Kushartani, 2009). Maxim of quantity is about the quantity of information. Here, people are required to speak informatively, make their contribution as informative as is required (for the current purposes of the exchange), and do not make your contribution more informative than is required. Maxim of quality is about the quality of information. Different from the maxim of quantity, this maxim people are required to tell the truth, do not say what you believe to be false. Maxim of relation is a maxim that asks people to be relevant. It means that when you join a conversation you cannot just begin to talk about whatever you like. You must connect what you want to say or make it relevant to what is already being talked about. Then, maxim of manner. This maxim puts what you say in the clearest, briefest, and most orderly manner.

An English language Philosophe, Paul Grice, argues that when people are talking, they aimed to be cooperative. It means that when people are talking, they intend to make a conversational contribution such as is required. Grice also said that when we communicate without we are realizing it can emerge an assumption, that we and the people we are talking to will be conversationally cooperative. We

are going to achieve the goal of the conversation together if we are being cooperative. This collaborative conversation works even when we are not socially cooperative. For example when we argue with other people angrily, but we can still cooperate to achieve the goal of the conversation. According to Grice this conversational cooperative is manifested in a number of conversational maxims, as he calls them, which we feel need to be obeyed. These maxims look at first glance like rules, but they seem to break down more often than grammar or phonology.

The cooperative principle above will be applied in order to analyze a novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett entitled *The Secret Garden*. *The Secret Garden* tells the story of Mary Lennox, a girl that was born and lived in India. Mary is a girl who is sickly and has a bad attitude so there are no people who want to be her friend. Until one day, she has to move from India to England, to her uncle's house, because her parents died because of the cholera virus that emerges in India. Because of her bad attitude that always keeps silent and does not want to interact to other people, Mary has a difficult time in her new house. She feels bored, isolated, and feels like there are no people that care about her. Additionally, Mary thinks that she lives in a strange house. She often hears a crying sound in the corridor and also finds a garden that locked for ten years, but when she asks about it, nobody answers her question and always changes the topic of conversation. Until one day, when she played around the house she finds a way to the secret garden and finds the key to unlock the door, then she meets a boy named Dickon that can 'speak' to animals, and she finally finds out the crying-sound was came

from a boy, her nephew. Mary and Dickon are collaboration to revive the garden and make it beautiful. The activity in the garden, taking care of the garden, slowly changes Mary's characteristic becomes a beautiful girl, has a good attitude and loved by many people. Mary feels happy because of the secret garden.

Why the researcher wants to use this novel for the subject of the study because it is not found the study about the novel by previous researchers using this theory. Therefore, it is also expected to provide novelty for this research.

1.2. Research Questions

Based on the background of the study, this study will try to analyze the following questions:

- 1) What are the types of maxims that appear and show the un-synchronization in the novel *The Secret Garden*?
- 2) How can the maxims affect the reader and what is the impact for the reader while reading the novel *The Secret Garden*?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions, the objectives of this study are:

- 1) To analyze the types of maxims that appear and show the un-synchronization in the novel *The Secret Garden*.
- 2) To describe the way the maxims can affect the reader and what impact for the reader while reading the novel *The Secret Garden*.

1.4. The Significance of the Study

Through this research, it is expected to provide useful benefits for readers in theoretical contexts. In this case, later the results of the analysis of the researcher will be able to provide an overview of the theories relating to the cooperative principle and maxim, also, this study is expected to add useful insights in the linguistics field. So after they read this study, they will understand that in conducting conversations with other people, in fact, they cannot be separated from the maxim violations. In addition, the researcher also wants to give information that there are several examples of the maxim that are often violated by humans in communication.