

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As human beings who live in certain society, we need others to interact. In order to have a good relationship, we need a kind of media or means to communicate. The means of communication we need is language. Language is very important in our life. We cannot make relation with others without language. Besides, we can express our thoughts and feelings. As stated by Edward Sapir, Language is purely human a noninstinctive methods of communicating ideas, emotion and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbol (1921:8).

We can use spoken or written language to communicate with others. Spoken language is language expressed by speech organs. Almost everyone uses spoken language to communicate with others. Spoken language is the easiest and the simplest way to communicate. While written language is language that expressed by letters. The writer must understand the grammatical of the sentence, chronological order and coherence in order not to make the reader confuse. Therefore, people choose spoken language than written language as the way to communicate. In this research, the researcher takes conversation in a play *The Boy Comes Home* by A.A Milne to be analysed.

What is in speaker or writer's mind is meaning, what is in listener or reader's mind is also meaning. What is not known or hidden behind one's mind is

also meaning. It means that in communication, we communicate meaning. Semantics is the study of the linguistic meaning of words, phrases, and sentences (Fromkin, 1985:164). So, the researcher takes semantics to understand the meaning of the violation of maxim.

The general study of how context influences the way we interpret sentence is called pragmatics. Pragmatics deals with meaning as a triadic relation. Thus meaning in pragmatics is defined relatively to a speaker or user of the language. In pragmatics we learn how language used in communication. Communication made by people can be misinterpreted if one of the communicators breaks the rule. For example, Mary asks; *Did you ring Master Philip?*, and Philip answer; *Yes; I want some breakfast please, Mary.* To make good communication and right interpretation, we must pay attention to the rule of communication. The rule of communication is called maxim.

The study of how we do thing with sentences is the study of speech acts. In studying speech acts, we do acutely aware of the importance of the context of the utterance. Speech act theory aims to tell us when it is that we ask questions but mean orders, or when we say one thing with special intonation and mean the opposite. Thus, at the dinner table, the question "*Can you pass the salt?*" Means the order *pass the salt!* It is not a request for information, and *yes* is an appropriate response.

The conversation in A. A Milne's *The Boy Comes Home* is one of the samples of how conversation is carried out in our lives. *The Boy Comes Home* is a legendary play appreciated by people to the present, observing cooperative

principles, particularly the violations to it will be worthwhile. It will show violations to cooperative principles, as it is suggested to be even more common phenomena than the adherence itself.

The researcher will try to show the assumption that in a conversation, the maxims are actually frequently violated. In this case, the data of study are taken from the conversation between characters in A.A Milne's *The Boy Comes Home*.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The major problem of this research is studying the violation of maxim in A.A Milne's *The Boy Comes Home*. This problem is then broken down into:

1. What are the maxims of conversation violated by the characters in the drama *The Boy Comes Home* by A.A Milne?
2. What are the purposes of the characters violating the maxim in the drama *The Boy Comes Home* by A.A Milne?

1.3 Objectives of the Problem

Based on the formulation on the problems above, the research is aimed at:

1. Describing the violation of maxim in the drama *The Boy Comes Home* by A.A Milne.
2. Describing the purposes of the characters violate some maxims in the drama *The Boy Comes Home* by A.A Milne.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

To get a detailed understanding on the topic of the discussion, the researcher limits the scope of the problem to discuss. In this research the researcher uses pragmatics as the approach in the analysis. There are some aspects of pragmatics, but the study will just focus on one aspects of pragmatics that is cooperative principle. The principle covers four maxims as found in the conversation.

The researcher will analyze how the maxims in the cooperative principles are violated, by regarding of any possible existing aspects (the social condition). The researcher will omit the explanation on background information of the characters, to really focus only to the identification of the violated maxims and also why the characters violate the maxim.

1.5 Benefit of the Research

By studying this research, the researcher hopes the readers will get more information about maxims, especially the violation of maxim. It is important for the students to understand well what maxim is and obey the maxim. Therefore, they will be able to make a good communication with others and able to send or receive the exact message to or from the other.

Besides, the researcher also expects that this research is beneficial for other researcher. The other researchers can be encouraged to make further research. The researcher expects that the reader will find many explanations and references about maxims.

1.6 Source of the Data

In a research, source of the data refers to the subject from which data are obtained. While data itself are the material of the research. From the data, the object of research can be explained. In this research, the researcher takes the data from one act play *The Boy Comes Home* by A.A Milne. It was English literature and published on 1953. This play was very famous and had been performed many times in New York. In this play, the researcher finds many violations of maxims. Those are the researcher's reason of choosing the source of the data.