

MAXIMS AND LOCATIONS EXISTING: A STUDY OF URDU AND ENGLISH SHORT STORIES UNDER PRAGMATIC PERSPECTIVESZaib un Nisa*¹, Ayesha Rafique², Zara Saleem³**Original Article**

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Abstract

Short stories consisted on the simple plots and describe a single issue of life. Many of the short stories are analyzed in different domains but are of one language. Present study is conducted to analyze maxims and the conversational intentions of short stories of two different languages as English and Urdu. The study is intended to comparatively analyze an English short story Clay by James Joyce (1914) and Urdu story Saza by Humaira Waheed (2020). The study is qualitative which is intended to explore Grice's maxims (1975) and Yule's speech acts (1996). The findings of the study show that there is existence of maxims but mostly are flouted in Urdu short stories compared to English. Though the characters change their locations but at the end, they have to return back to their basic position. Knowledge of setting is utmost necessary to understand the maxims, locations and speech actions.

Key Terms: Grice's Maxims, Speech Acts, Locations, Short Stories, Language,

Introduction

Some very important and fascinating questions about the behavior of human beings are how they deal with language. When we talk about the language there are few things that play an important role in our everyday lives. It is actually through language that we convey our emotions and feelings and thoughts as well to others. Through language speakers not only convey their emotions but also show how they have to convey in other words through certain speech acts. Actually the language is the medium between self and society, between reader and writer. In this paper too certain speech acts have been analyzed in short stories of English and Urdu to show their effect on readers. The focus of this research is on the story of "James Joyce " Clay (1914) and the Urdu story Sazah by Humaira Waheed. "Clay" follows Dublin-based unmarried Catholic Maria. Maria is a kitchen maid at a Protestant laundry managed by "matron" that helps impoverished women. Maria was hired after references from Joe and Alphy Donnelly, two brothers whose family she worked for.

Maria is excited to visit Joe and his family after making tea for the laundry workers. Maria stops at the supermarket for a large plum cake and numerous penny cakes on her way there. Maria meets a charming drunk man on the tram. Maria forgets the plum cake when she departs the tram, confused by him. Joe Donnelly's family celebrates Hallow Eve, or Halloween, with Maria. Maria confronts Joe about his rift with his brother Alphy, but Joe is unaffected (we are not informed

of the reason for the rift). They then play a blindfolded game where players touch saucers with objects. Each object touched in the game portends the player's destiny. Maria touches something wet. The story does not use the word "clay," yet the title implies it. Clay denotes death in the game, but one daughter clearly fixed it so Maria will touch it (rather than the ring, which prognosticates marriage). Maria sings "I Dreamed that I Dwelt in Marble Halls" (also known as "The Gipsy Girl's Dream") to the family to end "Clay."

Saza (2020) is an Urdu story which is about Sufyan's cat living in Lahore but her mother hated the cat. So on the cat gave birth to two kittens and the old mother left the kittens deprived from the cat. This made the cat upset and she started searching for her kitten but was not found. Soon the curse arrived and the old mother suffered. Her one arm and leg suffered and were damaged. This made her think about her mistake of kittens. Sufyan found the kittens but one of them died. All told the grandmother that it was the Saza (punishment) by Almighty God to deprive the kittens from their mother. It is also said by Ramzan, M. et.al (2020 about speech act theory that "there might be specific intentions of the speakers in the news headlines".

The purpose of this article is to show how speech acts are performed in short stories in both English and Urdu. It shows how the writer has used these in writing their stories and what the effect of these acts on readers is. How they perceive meaning through these kinds of speech acts.

Statement of the Problem

Simple plot short stories are required to understand the nature of setting and intentions of the speakers. These intentions support understanding the core elements of the themes, morality and culture embedded in the stories.

Significance of the Study

Present study is significant to understand the core aspects of intentions, including positive, negative facers, maxims and the knowledge of settings. The study helps to understand the key elements of Grice's maxims to explore the knowledge and the intentions of the speakers inlaid in the simple plot short stories.

Objectives

- To analyze the English and Urdu short stories pragmatically.
- To manipulate the existing elements of pragmatics in English and Urdu short stories.

Research Questions

1. Which elements of pragmatics are found in Urdu and English short stories?
2. How are Urdu and English short stories different with respect to the maxims of speech and sense of description?

Literature Review

Trillo (1997) has written a pragmatic analysis of Joyce 's short story clay by applying the notion of implicature and Grice maxims that are maxim of quality ,quantity ,relevance and manner. The writer has written this article with the notion that those readers who have not any idea of literature before, they understand it through pragmatic analysis a kind of qualitative research The author has explained the importance if implicature that its role is to create a relationship between reader and author.in order to understand implicature one needs to understand the background of the

participants in linguistic exchange. At the very beginning the author wanted that reader should know the implicature that is used behind the who is she ? There are many possibilities the author said that there are many presuppositions regarding this that she can be matron. She can also be a serious nurse, middle aged married woman or a woman who looks after her children. Similarly the pronoun "her" can also have a presupposition that readers should take this "her" as a junior nurse teenage daughter .The article stated that apart from linguistic evidence there is also an implicature that reader should suppose that the beneficiary evidence of both actions is the same person "Maria". The article further states that how the maxim of relevance has been voided by Joyce in the novel with the sentence that the kitchen was span .From line ten to line fifteen there is a change in the narrative technique of the author. Further as the author did his analysis he stated that the earlier implicature that the reader had taken the place of action is town is true. The article states another crucial implicature regarding the relationship between children and herself. The supposition here is that perhaps the children are not of her own because else the word her children will be used. Maxim of quantity in the novel is also found when Joy says "Mama is mama but Maria is my proper mother". Throughout the novel the author has used implicate that he applied to a novel and it also states how important it is for the reader s as well to pay attention to the minute details as well.

Hum et al. (2019) researched on "Pragmatic Analysis of the Dialogues in Arthur Miller's Drama "The Crucible"". The survey found that The Crucible's tragic subject matter and realistic characterization have drawn a lot of interest since its release in 1953. There have been a lot of reviews of The Crucible, with many different perspectives. The dialogues in The Crucible are analyzed in the current study, which primarily uses pragmatic theories as its analytical framework. It seeks to understand how individuals make their utterances in order to accomplish their communication goals. Furthermore, it is anticipated that this research will provide some light on the pragmatic method of theater interpretation. 16 dialogue snippets are used in this study as the analysis's source of data. In order to analyze the data for this study, critical discourse analysis techniques, turn-control tactics, the cooperative principle, the politeness principle, and the speech acts theory were all used. The turn-control strategies could aid in our understanding of the participants' communicative techniques as well as how and why the character gives or claims a turn. The conversations that take place between the characters in a drama are crucial for carrying out specific speech acts. Understanding the characters' true motives may be possible through dialogue analysis. The current study has consequences for everyday communication, drama appreciation, and English teaching. Students can learn turn-control techniques to improve their communication skills. Students' knowledge of critical language may be enhanced by studying the theories and techniques of critical discourse analysis. By applying pragmatic theories to the appreciation of theater, we can learn more about the characters' true motivations and gain insight into the many language techniques the writer uses to tell the story, portray the characters, and convey his or her aims.

Al-Hindawi & Saffah (2019) made a research study on "Literary Pragmatics". The current study attempts to provide a comprehensive overview of the area known as literary pragmatics, which develops as a result of using various pragmatic techniques to the study and analysis of literary genres. It also makes an effort to investigate and shed some light on the connection between the two fields of pragmatics and literature in order to highlight their similarities. Given that they both concern language users and how meaning is communicated, there is a strong assumption that both share some characteristics. Despite being established primarily in regard to

spoken interactions, the different pragmatic techniques, including speech act theory, conversational implicature, politeness theory, and relevance theory, have been shown to offer significant insights to the analysis of literary works. Moreover, the development and justification of the pragmatic techniques itself have resulted from the analysis of literary works.

Al-Zubaidi & Al- Husseini (2021) researched on “A Pragmatic Study of Deception in Agatha Christie’s Novel ‘Murder is Easy’”. The information in this study was taken from an MA thesis titled “Textual Study of Deception in Agatha Christie’s Novel Murder is Simple.” Honest and dishonest contributions are both a part of discourse in language, which is a crucial tool for human communication. A dishonest donation will often reveal itself in deception. Deception is an intriguing topic to be researched independently because it is frequently employed. However, this idea is not frequently explored from a pragmatic standpoint, particularly in literary literature. The goal of the current study is to pragmatically investigate deceit in this genre of texts. In a nutshell, the goal of the current study is to determine what pragmatic qualities may be assigned to the misleading claims made in the chosen literary works. As a result, it seeks to pinpoint both the illocutionary causes that the characters use to justify their false statements as well as the maxims that they break. One approach to achieving this goal is to analyze the chosen data using an eclectic model based on Grice’s (1975) cooperative principles and Searle’s (1969) speech act theory. The results of this study demonstrate that, via their contributions, the characters transgress all of the Gricean maxims. It also concludes that several illocutionary factors are responsible for the false remarks. Because there are no felicitous conditions to achieve such acts in the literary texts, the investigation discovers that there are no declarative or commissure speech acts in the characters’ utterances.

The above writings give a short glimpse of pragmatic analysis done by some authors .The thing that urge us to write this article is to show that there is not any work done like this .All the previous works shows pragmatic analysis on stories written in the same language but the present study gives a glimpse of two stories written in different languages .Such Kind of work is not found. If there is any work like that they are not published.

Research Methodology

The current study has qualities in its method as Gay, et al. (2012) calls the qualitative way of analysis which is made on the text and the textual description is made as well. In this study the qualitative analysis is made in which the pragmatic analysis is made of the English Short story logo Clay by James Joyce and the Urdu Short Story Saza by Humaira Wahid . The pragmatic analysis of the selected texts of the selected short stories is being made under the perspectives of the Grice ‘s Maxims (1975) and the described utterances in the sentences of Yule (1996)which are three in its nature as declarative, interrogative and imperatives while Grice ‘s maxims are qualitative, quantitative, manner and relevance as well.

Following stories are analyzed in the pragmatic perspectives:

- Clay by James Joyce (1914)
- Saza by Humaira Waheed (2020)

Data Analysis

“She talked a little through her nose, always soothingly: “Yes, my dear,” and “No, my dear.””

The things being described in the text could be difficult for the new reader without the prior knowledge as well as with the keen observation and the pragmatic knowledge of the things but in the short stories, the mostly things are clear and are described in the precise way as well. The description in the sentences is of the declarative type as Yule (1996) describes that the sentences could be in the command way, declarative or interrogative. The description of Joyce is that her personality is being described in the narrative form rather than prescribing any ambiguity.

“One day the matron had said to her:
“Maria, you are a veritable peace-maker!””

The lines are about the description of the character, Maria, which is the dominant figure in the story. The prior knowledge in this regard is also necessary that there are quarrels in the society with respect to the feminist way; the feminist quarrels make the things more ambiguous as the things could not be stayed as the reference of the things and location where the entity existed as well. While the description of the sentence is in the imperative form for making a sense of the surety as well as the acknowledgement too. The sentence is also of high significance as it tries to illustrate the maxim of quality as well as the quantity making the concise discussion in a way that the command and the description in qualitative way if fulfilled.

“And Ginger Mooney was always saying what she wouldn't do to the dummy that had charge of the irons if it wasn't for Maria. Everyone was so fond of Maria.”

The description of the sentence show the maxim of relevance as the tribute is being paid by the describer to Maria as she is existing to make the peace in the society especially for the women while the narrative elaborates the aspects of declarative way of description in which the information are provided as well as the information are told too.

“The women would have their tea at six o'clock and she would be able to get away before seven. From Ballsbridge to the Pillar, twenty minutes; from the Pillar to Drumcondra, twenty minutes; and twenty minutes to buy the things.”

The things described in the sentences are of the high value as the hedges seems in the sentence but the schedule of Maria is described so the prior knowledge in this regard is of importance that the describing way of the sentences as well as the percolations is also described that the entity is existing in the place while the information regarding the maxim of relevance and the manner is also shown in the text as the text is being illustrated in the concise description making the sense of the location of the entity where the entity is used to be stayed.

“She would be there before eight. She took out her purse with the silver clasps and read again the words A Present from Belfast.”

The description of the entity is in the imperative way even the sentence is in a declarative way too. The things are described in the sentence as the entity is being asked to perform the certain type of

action being described in the illocutionary way. The phrase being used in the sentence is also of high prestige making the sense of the things under the perceptive which needs the prior knowledge and the reference for making the discussion clear. The knowledge of the hedge which is nominated as she is going to receive a gift from someone as the entity is being addressed too.

“Mamma is mamma but Maria is my proper mother.”

Maxim of manners is described in the sentence making the entity being relent as it is making the entity be more concerned of the things as mentioned while the entity also describes the wishes of some addresser in the sentence making clear the entity role in the sentence. The sentence is of high commanding and there is no flouting of any maxim in the sentence as well.

“There was one thing she didn't like and that was the tracts on the walks; but the matron was such a nice person to deal with, so genteel.”

The pragmatic destitution in the sentences mentions that the maxims of the relevancy and quality are there. But the description of an entity is based on the liking. No flouting of the maxims seems there in the sentences while the quality based description in the sentence is also. The role of the entity is shown based on the manners as the manners of the society are being made in the text to make the clarity of the existence of the entity.

“It was hard to know what to buy and all she could think of was cake.”

The location needs to be judged as the female is there in the market where the action of the shopping is going to be taken place making the entity as the more relevance with the aim but the aim and the maxim of relevance is there flouted as the desires are being upraised but the only things with Maria is concerned to avail the cake. Two different and opposing statements are described which show that maxim of the relevance of eyes flouted in the early part of the sentence.

“Everybody said: “O, here's Maria!” when she came to Joe's house.”

The desires of the persons are shown in the sentences making the entity presence as the desire that the entity would be at the appropriate place as well. This sense of making things more clear is that the entity being described is the aim and the aim more appropriately is the presence of the entity as it would be at the appropriate place too. The entity is making the sense in a way that the sentence is being described imperatively as well.

“Then she asked all the children if any of them had eaten it -- by mistake, of course -- but the children all said no and looked as if they did not like to eat cakes if they were to be accused of stealing.”

The hedges in the sentence need to be more appropriate as these are required to have the prior knowledge and the things more appropriate. The wish of the entity is clear that making the children in the control environment while the things described in the texts are of manners too.

“I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls
With vassals and serfs at my side,

And of all who assembled within those walls
That I was the hope and the pride.”

The imperative concern as well as the declarative description is there in the sentence making the clarity of the words that the entity is wishing to be relevant as well making the things more appropriate and the concern is that the wishes to have to other location keeping that more appropriate as well.

ایک دن سفیان کہیں سے ایک بہت پیاری بلی لے آیا اُس کی دادو نے بہت شور مچایا لیکن سفیان نے اُن کی ایک نہ سنی اور بلی کو اپنے گھر میں رکھ لیا۔

The description in the sentence is of the entity and the tool is being given that the cat is kept as the tool of distraction. The flouting of the maxim of manners is there which is kept as the reason for cultural representation making the manners as that the bringing of new entity is kept as the flouting of manners as well. The flouting of the maxim of relevance is that noise is the way through which manners are going to be flouted as well.

اماں بہت صفائی پسند اور سخت مزاج خاتون تھیں اور وہ بلی کو گھر سے نکالنے کی فکر میں رہتی تھیں چونکہ وہ اپنے پوتے سے بہت پیار کرتی تھی اس وجہ سے اُسے برداشت کر رہی تھیں۔

The description in the sentence is of high prestige as the entity is making the existence of another entity be not relevant. The location of the entity is known to be pretty but the flouting of the maxims of the relevancy is there that the love is becoming the tool that is causing the maxim of manners as the worry exists in the mind of an entity that how to make the tool be as side.

ایک بلی کو تو برداشت کیا تھا اب یہ دو اور مصیبتیں بھی نازل ہو گئیں اب تو میں انہیں ایک دن کے لئے بھی گھر میں برداشت نہیں کروں گی۔

The origin and the source were defined in the texts as the entity is called the reason for sorrow. The manner maxim is being flouted as the being is treated as the source of tension too. The maxim of relevance is there to be flouted that the things in the story are of high concern in the minds of the location.

اماں کو یہ اندازہ نہیں ہو سکا کہ بلی سخت بیمار ہے اور وہ مار کھا رہی ہے لیکن بھاگنے کی کوشش نہیں کر رہی اور نہ ہی اپنے بچوں کی طرف بھاگ رہی ہے۔

The text is about flouting the maxims of manners as the manners are going to be diverted from the situation making the tool and the source is going to the survival. The Grice's Maxim of the manners is flouted because the entity which is GrandMa, doesn't like the existence of the tool as causing the environment to be more crucial as well. The maxim of politeness and manners is being flouted while the tool is being asked to change the location.

بلی کو بچوں کی بہت یا دستائی تو وہ زور زور سے میاؤں میاؤں کرنے لگی۔ اماں نے ایک بار پھر ٹنڈا اٹھایا اور بلی کو مارنا شروع کر دیا سفیان نے جب یہ دیکھا تو اس سے برداشت نہیں ہوا اُس نے دادی کے ہاتھ سے ٹنڈا چھین لیا اور کہنے لگا

The selected text tells about the entities which are going to be forced to change their location. The instrument through which the behavior of the entity is there is also being flouted. The maxim of

manners is being flouted in a way that that the being is treated with the instrument so that it would change its location.

دفعہ ہو جاؤ اور جا کر اپنے کمرے میں سو جاؤ۔ سفیان نے بلی کو اٹھایا اور اپنے کمرے میں چلا گیا۔

The entity is being blamed and the maxim of quality as well as manner is being flouted as the command is being given, as it is called as imperative, to change the location of the source so that peace must be brought. The entity in this way is having the maxim of manners as if the command is being received and not flouting of the manners is shown as well.

سفیان بلی کے بجے کو گھر لے آیا جیسے ہی بلی نے اپنے بجے کو دیکھا تو زور زور سے میاؤں میاؤں کرنے لگی اور اپنے بجے کو چومنے لگی اور اپنی محبت کا اظہار کرنے لگی۔ اماں نے دل سے توبہ کر لی تھی کہ اللہ میاں مجھے معاف کر دے تو میں کبھی کسی کے بچوں کو اس کی ماں سے جدا نہیں کروں گی۔

The text of the short story described that the maxim of politeness and the maxim of manners is being described timely and the entities are feeling adjusted in their location so that the source of the contention would also be placed in its way. Things are needed to be groomed as the maxim of politeness and the locations of the entities are normal now. No source is being misplaced while the tools are abandoned to make the proper place of the entities.

Conclusion

After the thorough discussion and the analysis of the texts of both types of the stories under the Grice's Maxims and the Yule (1996)'s types of description which are declarative, interrogative and the imperative is being made. The analysis is contrastive in its nature in many aspects as in the English stories, the maxims are keenly observed and seems very little flouted while in the Urdu stories the cultural representation are described which make the entities more issuing as the maxims as well as the location of the entities is being misplaced. The maxims used in English short stories are of high concern where the things are described in the linear way of description. But to understand those stories, prior knowledge of the settings is too necessary while to understand the Urdu short stories, there is only need to understand the culture rather than the settings of the story.

Findings

- There is flouting of maxims in a huge way in Urdu short stories.
- English short stories have the least flouting of maxims.
- Many of the stories have tragic endings and can be best understood through having the knowledge of maxims.
- Entities have changed their locations and they have to return to their location at the end.

Recommendations

- There is a need for prior knowledge of setting when someone tries to study the English short stories where the story is being taken place.
- There is a need for cultural knowledge when someone tries to study the short stories of Urdu when he is a new reader.
- Short stories can be studied better when there is grip on the knowledge of maxims and the way of utterances.

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