

**AN ANALYSIS OF FLOUTING MAXIMS TO CREATE HUMOR IN STAND UP COMEDY  
BY RADITYA DIKA**

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**ABSTRACT**

The result of this research may give more understanding of the use of flouting maxims on the script of Stand up comedy. The speech act in the script of stand up comedy Raditya Dika part 1 on July 2012 tend to flout the maxim for some reasons and explain the kinds of maxims that are flouted in the script of stand up comedy and explain how the maxims are flouted to create humor. This study applies Grice's theory. This research is qualitative research. To collect the data the writer selected the utterances of raditya Dika which contain Flouting Maxims then classified the data based on the types of flouting maxims. The result of this study conclude that there are several types of flouting maxims, such as the flouting maxims of manner which are found in *the script of stand up comedy by Raditya Dika*, beside that there are several reasons that make Raditya Dika used flouting maxims

Keywords: Pragmatic, the Flouting Maxims, Stand up comedy by Raditya Dika

When some one has made the communication by using the humor inside, at the moment we do not realize that we have laugh at the jokes. We usually laugh after hearing a joke in statement, opinion, coment about something from our friends. One of TV program presenting jokes is Stand Up Comedy. Stand up comedy is a comic style in which a comedian performs in front of live audience, usually speaking directly to them. The performance is commonly known as a comic, stand-up comic, stand-up comedy or a simple stand up. In stand up comedy, the comedian usually tells about humorous stories, or short jokes which is usually called as "bits" and one line typecally called a monoloq, routine or act. In this research, the writer chooses the script of stand up comedy from Indonesia to analyze because the writer realizes that it is not easy to become comix or speaker in stand up comedy. The comix or speaker in stand up comedy does not only prepare the material to speak, but also serves the statement combined with the jokes. The way he makes the jokes should obey the rule of the theory of stand up comedy to get succesfull comedy, on the other hand he disobey the cooperative principle or he breaks the maxims. Stand-up comedy has been well-known and developed in America and Europe since years ago. But, the existence of stand-up comedy in Indonesia starts booming when Metro TV first presented it in television in the middle of September 2011. Nowadays, stand-up comedy show is very well-known by all ages in Indonesia, and mostly teenagers. There are many popular comics or comedians of Indonesia, they are Mongol, Soleh Solihun, Steny Agustaf, Abdel Achrian, Isman, IwelWel Raditya Dika, Ernest Prakasa, Pandji Pragiwaksono and Cak Lontong. The writer uses the script of stand up comedy by Raditya Dika because he is one of the best writer and comix in Indonesia. Raditya Dika was born in Jakarta, Desember 28th. He creates the book with the title "Manusia setengah salmon" in 2011, this is one of four books that he created from 2005 until 2011.

A comix as a same as an orator because he does not only speak to the audience on the stage but also has a purpose to send a message according to the humor, whether the humor is telling about the politic, social and economic, on other issues. As a monolog comedian, he tries to make his jokes as funniest as it hear, but it is not like a slaptic jokes that use a partner to be a victim to support a jokes just like one of comedian group Warkop DKI. A Comix has only use the language to communicate with the audience. The language that he uses is verbal and non verbal. Verbal language is used when he uses the communication with his speech or his statement to make it clear. Non verbal language is used when he uses communication with the gesture or expression. According to Bargon, Buller and Woodall (1989) in Yongmi Shi & Shifa, "Non verbal communication is the unspoken dialog which involves the message conveyed beyond the words". De paolo and Friedman (1998) also write that "

non verbal communication is dynamic, mostly face to face exchange of information through cues other than words “.

Language is a one of the tools to make communication. According to Sapir (1921: 7), “Language is a purely human and non instinctive method of communication ideas, emotions and desires by means of voluntary produced symbols“. It means, when people use the language, they have already made communication as the act of transferring information from one place to another. The desired outcome or goal of any communication process as if they can understand to each other. The language it self has a verbal and non verbal communication. By using the language, the communication will be clear and understood. When comix uses the language to communicate. Sometimes they dospontaneous jokes by his utterances without they realize or not, and the jokes it self could end with resolution, argument or missunderstanding by his utterances.

According to Yule ( 2006 : 126 ),it is not something that exist in words or structure, but something that exist in people.From his statement, it shows that people “who make sense” of what they read and hear, and if they don’t understanding about what they read or hear it probably they get missunderstanding about what they read or hear. Almost all the utterance from comic of stand up comedy has something that is not make a sense related to the rule in cooperative principle, and the use of the language it self does not follow the rule of formal language in communication, but somehow the audience still keep laughing after that.The utterances are found breake the maxim.As a stated by Grice (1975: 45 ),there are four agreement that people should follow in order to make good communication, it relates with the truth,the briefness, the relevance and the clearness of what they say and these agreement called Cooperative principles.

Grice declares( 1975: 45), “Make your conversational contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged“ , it means when the communication happend between the speaker and the hearer, they should understand the communication to each other

Cooperative principles are the suggested principle that should be followed by the speaker to achieve a succesfull communication. Then there will be no misscommunication. Thus, if they can not fulfil the cooperative principles, then miscommunication will occur between the speaker and the hearer.

### Review of related literature

To know the theories of rhetoric it is really important for the comix because it is really important to know how to communicate with the audience. It is also used for, the comix as an orator, for his show to convince the audience about his performance. From this reason the writer also uses the theories of rhetoric as mentioned in Trenholm (2005 : 7), that there are five canon devided communication into five parts (Cicero, 106-43 BC ).**Invention**, The speaker must begin the speech by discovering what can be said about a given topic and by finding arguments that will allow others to understand it.**Style**,The speaker must select and arrange the wording of the message carefully. Using figurative language was though to be a way of increasing audience response.**Arrangement**,The speaker must arrange ideas for maximum impact classical theory divided a speech into several parts that correspondent roughly with today’s introduction, body and conclusion. **Memory**,The speaker must find a way to keep the message firmly in mind. Classical writers suggested several mnemonic devices to help orators memorize speeches.**Delivery**,The speaker must present the speech in a natural, varied and appropriate way. Voice should convey interest and emotion, and gestures should match the major ideas in the speech.

From the theory of the canon of rhetoric above, it can be concluded that in finding the arguments the speaker has to begin the topic by selecting and arranging the message carefully and the speaker has to keep the message firmly in mind and presents the speech in a natural way

Yule ( 1996 : 3 ) states that “ Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by speaker or writer and intepreted by listener or reader “. Yule also adds that “ this type of study necessarily involves the intepretation of what people mean in a particular context and how the context influences what is said”.It is also said that “ Pragmatics is the branch of linguistics which studies how speakers use language to achieve their goals and how hearers interpret the meaning the speaker wishes to convey” by Aitchisoninin Dornerus (2005 : 2 ). Based on the both

statements, it can be concluded that Pragmatics is the study about the meaning of communication between the speaker and the hearer and how they use the language to communicate each other. This approach also explores about how the utterance from the comix of stand up comedy can make listener inferences about what is said in order to arrive at an interpretation of the speaker intended meaning. In addition, Yule (1996 : 35) states that “when the listener hears the expression that something must be more than just what the words mean. It is an additional conveyed meaning called implicature”. From the statement it can be concluded that there are implicature inside when someone try to communicate each other by using the language not only in spoken but also unspoken. Regarding that, the implied meaning sometimes are hidden and without realizing it, the meaning inside and the conversation depend not only on the speaker, who is trying to deliver a message, but also on the hearer, who draws a conclusion from the implication of the utterance, depending on the context in which it occurs. **The Conversational Maxims** consist of **Maxim of Quantity**, means that participant’s contribution is informative as it required ( for the current purposes of the exchange ). The participant does not contribute more than required, **Maxim of Quality** indicates that participant’s do not say what they believe to be false and they may not say if they have lack adequate evidence, **Maxim of Relevance** is used when the participants just the convey in informative relevant, **Maxim of Manner** means that the participants have to be perspicuous and to avoid obscurity of expression and avoid ambiguity. The utterance of the participants produces are brief ( avoid unnecessary prolixity ) and orderly. When Flouting a Maxim, The speaker does not intend to mislead the hearer but wants the hearer to look for the conversational implicature, that is, the meaning of the utterance not directly stated in the words uttered, therefore, when the speaker intentionally fails to observe a maxim the purpose may be to effectively communicate a message “. **Speech act**, In attempting to express them self, people do not only produce utterances containing grammatical structures and words, they performs action via those utterances (Yule 1996 : 47), action performed via utterances called speech act. On any occasion, the action performed by producing an utterance with consist of three related acts. In this research the writer only describes about the locutionary act by the comix of stand up comedy, because it’s really important to know about how the locutionary act by the comix present his performance use his talent to communicate with the audience. According to Austin (1983 : 237) locutionary act is the utterance of a sentence with determinate sense and reference. Here, the locutionary act is the utterance from the comix itself and give effect to the audience and the effect is the laughing voice. When the comix tries to communicate with the audience, absolutely he uses a kind of humor to make his performance interesting, not only that, he also uses a kind of theories of humor to make the audience laugh. According to Monro (1988 ) humor is a term which may be used in both a wide and a narrow sense. In the wider sense, it is applied to all literature and to all informal speech or writing in which the object is to amuse, or rouse laughter in, the reader or hearer.

#### **Method .**

The study of this research uses descriptive qualitative. The writer wants to describe about how the utterances expressed by Raditya Dika as a comix in the script of stand up comedy flouting the maxim inside the humor. **Data and the source of data**. The source of data of this research is scripts of Stand Up Comedy from Raditya Dika on July 13th 2011 part 1 video of stand up nite 1 by Raditya dika which taken from the internet. **Method of Data Collection** Searching and choosing the script of stand up comedy by raditya from internet, rereading the script of stand up comedy deeply, selecting the utterance that contain flouting maxim base on the topic, separating the data based on the four classified of flouting cooperative principles. **Technique of data analysis**, Analyzing data is carried out with the purposes of analyzing the collected data in order to clarify the theory applied as follows , explaining kinds of maxims are flouted in the script of stand up comedy, explaining how the maxims are flouted to create humor in stand up co

### **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

#### **Flouting Maxim of Manner**

Topic I statement 1

Pertama kali gua ngeliat SM\*SHada 7 orang laki-laki, **ya semi**.

*laki-laki ya. Iya semi laki-laki (at the first time i saw the smash there was seven men, yes semimen yes. yes semi men )*

The speech act of *Ya semi laki-laki, ya* (yes, semi men, yes) states that ‘semi’ means ‘half’ but it is usually applied towards a thing, it can be in sports, education etc, for examples semi final, semipermanent, semicolon etc. But it is never applied to human, that’s why it arouses laughter when it is applied to human, like the comix has stated. The word ‘semi’ itself in this speech is not clear because it refers to man not a thing or such. The unclearness of the word ‘semi’ flouts the principle of cooperative,

This is the first statement from the topic uttered by the comix as a speaker to make the audience laugh. The comic uses ambiguous language when he said “ yes semi men yes “.On the other hand it could have intended meaning beside the real meaning as a man. The comix probably thinks that the personil of the boys band don’t look like gentlemen and he may say something to humiliate the boys band, although he only gives a litle information to deliver message to the audience and also it is not clear but the audience still laugh at it. That’s why he flouts maxim of Manner.

#### 4.1.2 Flouting Maxim of Quality

Topic I statement 2

*Dia nyanyi-nyanyi kenapa hatiku cenat-cenut tiap ada kamu. **Elo jangan-jangan hepatitis. Gitu gua pikir.*** ( He was singing why my heart deep so fast every time you are here. **I wonder if you were hepatitis. That was i’m thingking**

*“Kenapa ginjalku berdarah, kenapa paru-paru ku basah?”*

***Gua gak tau. Gua gak tau kenapa (muka depresi).*** ( why do my liver were bleeding, why do my lung were wet. I don’t know. I don’t know why )

When the comix says “ elo jangan-jangan hepatitis, gitu gua pikir “, he flouts maxim of quality, because he tried to explain something about the boys band but the information still lack adequate of evidence. It seems that he though the boys band maybe have something disease when they sing the song, But when the comix gives a little argument about them, the audience still understood it. It is proven when the audience respond it by giving a laugh.

It seems that the comix wanted to make a jokes by rising the intonation and repeating the words which has the same meaning. He is doing the acts because he wanted to make different style in his one liner by using figurative language. In theory of Rhetoric, figurative language was though to be away of increasing audience respons. That is one of many ways the comix tried to create the humor, eventhough he had to flout the maxim of quality because his information had still lack of evidence

#### 4.1.3 Flouting Maxim of Quantity

Topic III statement 5

*Gua liat video klipnya, ceritanya gini. Susan ditanya baik-baik sama Lia Enes.( I looked the video, the stories just like this)( susan is esked by Ria enes )*

*Digendong gendong, ditet\*kin. Ditanya Lia Enes baik-baik, “Susan susan susan kalo gede mau jadi apa?”* ( carrying on by, breasting up by, has been asked by Lia enes “ susan susan susan... if you were get older what do you want to be ? )

***Susan diem, matanya kosong. Diem (ekspresi diem)*** ( **Susan keep silent, her eyes is empty** )

*“Kalo gede mau jadi apa?”* ( when you get grow, what do you want to be ? )

*Susan diem. Suaranya parau.* ( Susan keep silent. Her voice is not clear )

***“Aku kepengen jadi dokter, biar bisa nyuntik orang lewat. Enjuss enjuss enjuss”*** ( **i want to be a doctor so that i can bring injecton to people who passing by. Enjus enjus enjus** )

*Psikopat nih orang!*( This people were Psikopat ! )  
*Kebayang Susan beneran jadi dokter, ngumpet di semak-semak. Bawa suntikan.* ( imagine susan were become a docter, she hide in the underwood, bring the injection )  
**“Mana orang lewat” “Enjuss.enjuss.enjuss”**( “ Where is the people?” “ enjus enjus enjus “ )

When the comix says “*Susan diem, matanya kosong. Diem (ekspresi diem)*( Susan keep silent, her eyes is empty ) ”, at the same time he was trying to immitate the expression of susan face, of course he tried to express the face just like a doll, and the doll doesn't have any face to express the face as good as human. The comix flouted maxims of quantity because he gives less than required information. He didn't say anything besides showing his silent face as his expression to make the audience laugh. In the event, he only gave his silent expression face and then the audience got laugh after that. It's means the comix tries to kill the audience by giving a comedy performance that generates extremely enthusiastic respons from the audience, eventhough he made an obscurity with his utternce but the audience still enjoy it. When he said “*“Aku kepengen jadi dokter, biar bisa nyuntik orang lewat. Enjuss enjuss enjuss”*( i want to be a doctor so that i can bring injection for peoples who passing by Enjus enjus enjus ). Here, he only gave a few statement about what will susan done if she become a doctor without mentioned about who susan is.

#### 4.1.4 Flouting Maxim of Relavance

Topic I statement 2

*Dia nyanyi-nyanyi kenapa hatiku cenat-cenut tiap ada kamu.***Elo jangan-jangan hepatitis. Gitu gua pikir.**( He was singing why my heart deep so fast every time you are here. **I wonder if you were hepatitis. That was i'm thingking**

*“Kenapa ginjalku berdarah, kenapa paru-paru ku basah?”*

**Gua gak tau.Gua gak tau kenapa (muka depresi).**( why do my liver were bleeding, why do my lung were wet. I don't know. I don't know why )*Dia nyanyi-nyanyi kenapa hatiku cenat-cenut tiap ada kamua*

The utterance of *Dia nyanyi-nyanyi kenapa hatiku cenat cenut tiap ada kamu* are the representation from the real lyric of smash album, the comix tries to substitute the lyric with the utterance of “*Kenapa ginjalku berdarah, kenapa paru-paru ku basah?*”

Here, the comix flouts maxim of relevance, because he said something with the utterance of *Dia nyanyi-nyanyi kenapa hatiku cenat-cenut tiap ada kamu* which has no connection with the utterance of “*Kenapa ginjalku berdarah, kenapa paru-paru ku basah?*”. What is not relevant between one another is because he adds his statement with the utterance of *Gua gak tau. Gua gak tau kenapa (muka depresi)* which are the impact of previous utterance, He tried to give critic to the song by giving his expression of upset while he stated that he doesn't know about why they sing the lyric .

## CONCLUSION

After analyzing along the data, the writer comes with the conclusion of the study. In this research, the writer found some of speech act which flouted the maxim of the cooperative principle. The speech act in the script of stand up comedy Raditya Dika part 1 on July 2012 tend to flout the maxim for some reasons. In the script , there are 14 total of incidents of flouting maxim and the most flouted maxim is maxim of Manner. There are 7 statement or 50 % that flout the maxim of Manner. It means that the speect act inside the script tend to hide something or obscure about something.

In the opinion, to be a comix or speaker in stand up comedy is not easy because they have to prepare all the material with explore the idea. Beside the ability to create the material, the speaker should match the ideas with the jokes because he will stand alone on the stage and entertain the audience with the jokes without help from anyone . The ability to speak as an orator should cover with his performance on the stage because he is not only speak but also delivere some message to the audience. The comix should combine the material with the humor according to some theory in stand up comedy. On the other hand it will probably flout the cooperative principle.

The writer realizes that the flouting of maxim in the script of stand up comedy are done for some reasons. However the comix want to make some variation by the jokes. On the other hand it seem the comix tend to tell something ambiguous to make his jokes go smoothly.

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