

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **A. Literature Review**

##### **1. Pragmatics**

*Pragmatics* is a branch of linguistics concerned with the use of language in social contexts and how to produce and understand meanings through language. Pragmatics is defined as the study of language in context (Birner, 2012: 2). Hence, pragmatics is concerned with what a speaker means in a given context and how the context influences what is said. So, pragmatics deals with how a speaker uses language, what a speaker means and how a hearer interprets the words.

Yule (1996: 3) explains that pragmatics is the study of how listeners can make inferences about what is said in order to arrive at an interpretation of the speakers' intended meaning. People can know other people's intended meanings through pragmatics, their assumptions, their purposes, and the kinds of actions that they are performing when they speak. According to Yule, pragmatics is the study of the speaker's contextual meaning, how people can communicate more than what it is said and the study of the expression of connected discourse.

The scope of pragmatics is very wide. Pragmatics has some fields in its study, i.e. deixis, speech acts, conversational implicature, and cooperative principles. Birner (2012: 42) states that the term deixis is used to the phenomena of using a linguistic expression to point some contexts. In other words, deixis is used for referring something depends on speaker's context. While speech act as

another topic, is believed as a word that could performs an action (Yule, 1998: 48). The acts performed can be making statements, promise, request, or giving commands. Then, conversational implicature is something meant, implied, or suggested deeper from what is said (Yule, 1998: 35). It is mostly about a speaker's utterance that can be understood by interpreting the meaning based on the context. Then, Grice (1975) is the one who first coined Cooperative Principle. Yule adds that people involved in a conversation will cooperate with each other (1996:36- 37). Related to humor, there are several principles called maxims. Raskin (1985: 272-273) argues that a basic assumption of following remarks is that many humors involve breaking one or more of Grice's maxims which would be discussed later.

## **2. Cooperative Principles**

Grice states that when people communicate, they assume and they will be conversationally cooperative without realizing it. According to Grice, this cooperative conversation can be achieved in the forms of maxims which are same as rules. Grice adds that these set of assumptions can guide people to formulate the efficient and effective use of language in a conversation. The guidelines called maxims are formed in four basic maxims of conversation which together express a general Cooperative Principle.

Hence, to achieve effective communication, a speaker and hearer have to fulfill cooperative principles which consist of four maxims: quality, quantity, relation, and manner. In conducting the maxims, there will be two possibilities: by doing an observance of maxim and doing a non-observance of maxim.

### a) Observance of Maxim

Observance of maxim happens when a speaker has successfully fulfill maxim to achieve an effective conversation.

#### 1) Maxim of Quality

Maxim of quality requires a speaker to be sincere and not to say something he or she believes to be false or lack of evidence. An example:

A: What is the capital of Australia?

B: Canberra

In the interaction, speaker B observes maxim of quality because the speaker tells the truth that the capital of Australia is Canberra.

#### 2) Maxim of Quantity

Cutting (2002: 35) says that people who give too little information risk their hearer to be unable to identify what they are talking about because they are not explicit enough; those who give more information than the hearer needs risk boredom. Hence, maxim of quantity requires a speaker to give the right amount of information such as in the following example.

A: Hi, what would you like?

B: A glass of hot tea, thanks.

In the interaction, speaker B observes maxim of quantity because the speaker gives the right amount of information which is required.

#### 3) Maxim of Relation

Maxim of relation requires a speaker to say something relevant to the context and what has been said before. The example is in the sentence *Now I mentioned yesterday that we had promised to go watching movie with Anna.*

The speaker observes maxim of relation because he points to what has been said before by uttering *I mentioned yesterday*.

#### 4) Maxim of Manner

Maxim of manner requires a speaker to explain things orderly and clearly and avoid ambiguity as well as obscurity. It is illustrated in *I opened the door and take a big step forward*.

In the example, maxim of manner is observed because the speaker presents the events orderly.

### b) Non-observance of Maxims

When people do not follow the four maxims in communication, it is called non-observance of maxims. The speaker is actually free to choose whether s/he wants to follow the Cooperative Principle or not, depending on the purposes or reasons, according to Black (2006: 24). If the speaker uses at least one kind of these forms to break maxims, the language becomes indirect and sometimes humorous.

#### 1) Opting Out a Maxim

According to Cutting (2002: 41), when opting out the maxim, a speaker is unwilling to cooperate and chooses not to observe the maxim by stating an unwillingness to do so. An example of opting out is shown in *I'm afraid I cannot give you that information* (Cutting, 2002:41).

The example above is uttered by a police officer who refuses to give the name of the victim until the relatives have been informed. It shows that the speaker is aware of the maxim, but s/he does not obey it for some reasons.

## 2) Violating a Maxim

Violating a maxim often deals with the intention to mislead. The example is shown below.

Husband	:	How much did that new dress cost, darling?	
Wife	:	Less than the last one	(Cutting, 2002:40)

In the example, the wife does not want to tell the real price of her dress. She instead covers it up by saying that the new dress is cheaper than the last one. Hence, violating a maxim is often done with the intention to mislead.

## 3) Infringing a Maxim

According to Cutting, infringing happens when a speaker could not use the language well enough or is incapable of speaking clearly. The example of infringing is *My job is a decision-making job. And as a result, I make a lot of decisions.*

In the example, the speaker infringes maxims by giving illogical statements. Hence, the speaker here might not master the language or not be able to speak clearly.

## 3. Flouting

This is the most interesting way of breaking a maxim. A speaker is aware of the Cooperative Principle and the maxims, but the maxims were broken. However, it is not that communication has broken down, but that the speaker has chosen an indirect way of achieving the flouting. According to Cutting (2002: 36), flouting happens when a speaker fails to observe a maxim in which s/he has intention. The speaker does not purpose to mislead the hearer but s/he believes

that the hearer knows what it means. When flouting is employed, it may be to effectively communicate a message.

#### a) Flouting of Quality Maxim

There are several ways to flout maxim of quality. First, the speakers could simply say something that obviously does not represent what they think. Second, they do it by exaggerating, maybe in the hyperbole forms. Third, they may flout the maxim of quality by using a metaphor. The other two ways of flouting the maxim of quality are through irony and banter. For example:

Lynn : Yes, I'm starving too  
 Martin : Hurry up girl  
 Lynn : Oh dear, stop eating rubbish. You won't eat any dinner  
 (Martin in Cutting, 2002: 37)

The speaker expresses how hungry she is by saying the utterance *I'm starving* and she exaggerates the answer in spite of giving the right contribution to the hearer.

#### b) Flouting of Quantity Maxim

The speaker who flouts quantity maxim is the one who gives too little or too much information. The example of flouting of quantity maxim is shown below.

A: How do I look?  
 B: Your shoes are nice  
 (Cutting, 2002:37)

Speaker B does not give a complete answer. Speaker A asks about the whole appearance. However, B only comments on speaker A's shoes. It can be assumed that the rest of the part is terrible. Hence, speaker B flouts quantity maxim by giving too little information.

### c) Flouting of Relation Maxim

The flouting of maxim relation happens when the speaker expects that the hearer will be able to imagine what they do not say. In flouting this maxim, it means that the speaker gives irrelevant information, for example:

A: So what do you think of Mark?

B: His flatmate's a wonderful cook.

(Cutting, 2002: 39)

In spite of saying directly that B was not very impressed with Mark, B says something irrelevant.

### d) Flouting of Manner Maxim

A speaker who flouts manner maxim, appears to be obscure (Cutting, 2002: 39). The example of flouting of manner maxim is shown below.

A: Where are you off to?

B: I was thinking of going out to get some of that *funny white stuff* for *somebody*.

A: OK, but don't be too long – dinner's nearly ready

(Cutting, 2002:39)

Speaker B flouts manner maxim by being obscure and B thinks that speaker A gets what speaker B means of *White funny stuff* (ice cream) and *somebody* (their kid).

Usually, people flout the maxims to express additional information. Therefore, when a speaker intentionally fails to follow the rules, the hearer can infer the meaning behind literal meaning. Therefore, theory of maxim flouting by Grice can be applied to know more about humor creation.

#### 4. Humor Using Medical Terms

Humor has the potential to relieve stress in patients and medical professionals. When doctors share humor with patients, they create lines of communication that encourage patients to discuss difficult issues. As the result, humor can put both parties at ease when more formal types of communication cannot. Medical professionals also use humor to deal with the tension that results from working in the modern medical environment. The other use of humor can be in the purpose of insulting, teasing, mocking, and other purposes which do not expect the laughter and positive responses.

The creation of humor is shared by all human being and influenced by culture. Humor requires the understanding of context to find it amusing like other forms of communication. The audience must have certain knowledge, understanding, and values. Different professions have different languages. Medical professionals use terms to describe the objects and situations encountered in their fields, for example, "herpes," "Adam's Apple," and "appendix". The words, or terms, which make up the language of medicine are referred to the terminology of medical field, or *medical terminology*. Medical terms are often considered as the language of medicine. There are many terms in this language that would likely never use in a daily basis unless the speaker is a healthcare professional speaking to another healthcare professional. The speaker has a purpose that may be to effectively communicate a message even it says in a humorous way. These are several medical terminologies which can be used to create humor as the humor using medical terms.



a. Disease

This type of medical terminology is related to disease and illness names.

For example:

A: I am very dizzy after dealing with a noisy patient.

B: Oh my God. I think you might have tumor.

Tumor in a medical term has the meaning as any type of swelling or enlargement of tissues; most often used to describe an abnormal growth of tissue, which can be cancerous or noncancerous. However, in creating humor it can be applied to mock in a daily conversation between doctors.

b. Medicine

This type of medical terminology is related to chemical things and medical stuffs which are used as medicine to cure disease and do medication process. The example is in the following.

A: What should I take to decrease my pain, doc?

B: Make sure you take this tablet twice in a day, boy.

A: This tablets? It looks like candies.

Tablet is a small solid piece of medicine. However, some people who do not know may take that as candies since the forms can be similar. Therefore, it can create a humor.

c. Hospital Position

This type of medical terminology is related to position and duty in the hospital as used in the example of conversation below.

A: Take my clothes and wash it, please.

B: Sorry. I am working as your nurse, not your servant.

The example above is a sarcastic humor happens in medical situation between a patient and a nurse. Nurse is a person whose job is to care for people who are ill or injured, especially in a hospital.

d. Anatomy

This type of medical terminology is related to human body from head to toe and even the inside part of the body. One of the examples is:

A: I can't say anything in front of him. I am so nervous till my cerebral cortex stop working.

B: Oh, C'mon.

The conversation between doctors above has the example of anatomy term that is cerebral cortex as the humor creation. It is the grey wrinkled outer layer of the cerebrum\_(front part of brain) responsible for language, thinking, creative skills, etc.

e. Medication Proses

This type of medical terminology is related to the activities in the hospital. The example in humor is:

A : Please keep my sister alive, doctor. Don't hurt him.

B : Shut up. Is it a vasecto-you, or a vasecto-me?

A : I'm just worried!

In the dialogue above, there is a humor making the word with different meaning that sounds the same as vasectomy, i.e. "*vasecto-me*". However, vasectomy in the medical term means the medical operation of cutting the tubes through which a man's sperm move, in order to make him unable to make a woman pregnant.

## **5. Types of Humor**

Nowadays, people encounter many forms of humor communicated by different means and for different purposes. These different forms of humor occur in every type of informal and formal interaction, including conversations between lovers, close friends, fellow students, co-workers, store clerks and customers, doctors and patients, teachers and students, and even complete strangers standing in line at a bank. Furthermore, Martin (2007:11) divides humor that occurs in everyday social interactions into three broad categories: (1) jokes, which are prepackaged humorous anecdotes that people remember and continue to one another; (2) spontaneous conversational humor, which is created intentionally by individuals during social interaction that can be in verbal or nonverbal forms; and (3) accidental or unintentional humor.

### **a. Jokes**

Martin (2007:12) explains that during the course of normal conversations, some people like to amuse others by telling jokes, which are short, amusing stories ending in a punch line. A joke is a context-free and self-contained unit of humor that carries within itself all the information needed for it to be understood and enjoyed. It can therefore be told in many different conversational contexts (Long and Graesser in Martin, 2007: 12). Moreover, Attardo (1994: 295) defines a canned joke as a joke which has been used before the time of utterance in a form similar to that used by the speaker, such as those which are found in books, collections of jokes, etc. Here is the example of a joke:

A man goes to a psychiatrist who gives him a battery of tests. Then he announces his findings.

Doctor : I'm sorry to have to tell you that you are hopelessly insane.

Client : Hell, I want a second opinion.

Doctor : Okay, you're ugly too.

(Long and Graesser in Martin, 2007:11)

The joke consists of a setup and a punch line. The setup, which includes sentences from the narration that there will be a story about a doctor and a patient until the sentence before the last, creates in the listener a particular set of expectations about how the situation should be interpreted. The punch line suddenly shifts the meaning in an unexpected and playful way, thus creating the perception of non-serious incongruity that is necessary for humor to occur. In this particular joke, the punch line plays on the meaning of the phrase second opinion, shifting the frame of reference from that of a serious, professional doctor-patient relationship to a nonsensical one in which one person is insulting another. The story is clearly playful and non-serious with the purpose to amuse others by telling jokes, which are short, amusing stories ending in a punch line, therefore it belongs to a joke.

#### **b. Spontaneous Conversational Humor**

Spontaneous conversational humor is more context-dependent than joke-telling, and is therefore often not as funny when recounted afterwards. Martin (2007: 12) states that canned jokes represent only a small proportion of the humor that people experience in everyday social interactions. Martin (2007: 12) explains that in such conversational humor, nonverbal cues indicating a humorous intent,

such as a twinkle in the eye or a particular tone of voice, so that the listener is often not entirely sure if the speaker is joking or being serious. He identifies 11 categories of spontaneous humor, based on the basis of intentions or uses of humor.

### 1) Irony

Irony is a factual or an embellished statement in which the opposite of what is stated is really meant (Rybacki, 1991: 314). A speaker expresses a statement in which the literal meaning is opposite to the intended meaning. For example:

Cam : You might need a belt.  
 Phil : Oh, I doubt it. I bet we wear the same size.  
 Cam : Do not do that.

*(Modern Family Season 4)*

Phil wants to comfort Cam by saying that they are the same size of trousers. The fact is they do not. Phil flouts maxim of quality because he responds to Cam's utterance with an irony, which is saying something that is completely the opposite from the real fact.

### 2) Satire

Satire is aggressive humor that pokes fun at social institutions or social policy. It emphasizes on the beliefs held by the culture and presents them for criticism (Rybacki, 1991: 320). The examples include humor that highlights race relations, sexual discrimination and non-specific examples of pop culture as stated below.

LUK : Well then how about a donation?  
 MIT : 20 bucks?  
 LUK : A hundred.  
 MIT : \$20?  
 LUK : Sure. What's it to you if some kid gets sick bathing in poo river,  
 Africa?

*(Modern Family Season 4)*

In the dialogue above, Luke flouts maxim of quantity since he gives too much information to Mitchell. He should end his utterance after he says “sure”, but he also adds his answer with satire.

### 3) Sarcasm

There is an extremely close connection between sarcasm and irony, but sarcasm is considered as simply the crudest and least interesting form of irony. People may be unintentionally ironic, but sarcasm requires intention and it is used as a form of verbal aggression (Hayman, 1998: 20). For example:

Alex : What did I do?  
 Sheldon : You don't know? Oh, you poor dear. Your ovaries are  
 squirting so much goofy juice into your brains you don't  
 even know which way is up.

*(The Big Bang Theory Season 6)*

Instead of telling her directly what is in his mind, Sheldon uses a very sarcastic comment saying that she is too stupid to realize that her behavior flirting Leonard is unacceptable. He compares her with her ovaries, part of organs in women's body, which is regarded as an inappropriate word to say. That is one of the example of sarcasm used to insult people.

### 4) Overstatement and Understatement

Overstatement is also known as hyperbole which is saying more than what is necessary (Cutting, 2002: 38). For example:

Greg : Your miracle product, your miracle detergent, that was supposed to get the stain out, just ate my shirt away, and I now want the money back for my five hundred dollar silk-shirt.

Sandra : Five hundred dollars? (laughing)

Greg : Okay, a hundred and fifty.

Sandra : Okay. (laughing)

(Norrick, 1993: 91)

In this example, Greg completely exaggerates the price of his shirt and Sandra reacts to this overstatement by repeating it and laughing to express her disbelief and surprise. Greg immediately interprets Sandra's laughter as an objection to his former overstatement and admits that he is exaggerating when he responds with “*Okay*” and corrects his previous statement by drastically lowering the price. Understatement is also called euphemism that means speaking with good words or in a pleasant manner.

#### 5) Self-deprecation

It has a humorous remark by targeting oneself as the object of humor. This may be done to demonstrate modesty, to put the listener at ease, or to ingratiate oneself with the listener. The examples of self-deprecation include highlighting the flaws on one's body, speaking of past failures, and acknowledging one's mistakes, such as *Oh God, the standing mic is even taller than me*.

This example shows that the speaker her/himself highlights the flaws of her/his own body because s/he feels that the microphone is higher or in another word it could be say that the speaker is short.

#### 6) Teasing

It is a humorous remark directed at the listener's personal appearance, habit, and characteristics. Unlike sarcasm, the intention is not to seriously insult or

offend (Long and Graesser in Martin, 2007: 13). The example is *Is that your hand writing? I thought it is an abstract art.*

The speaker is teasing a friend because of the bad or ugly hand writing. Rather than saying directly, the speaker tends to use the humor by comparison. The speaker says “abstract art” to insult with the meaning that the friend’s hand writing is hard to read just like an abstract art.

#### 7) Replies to Rhetorical Questions

Rhetorical questions are not asked with the expectation of a reply. Giving an answer to the speaker means that s/he violates a conversational expectation and surprises the person who posed the question. This can therefore be perceived as funny, and the intention is usually to simply entertain a conversational partner. For example:

- A : Can you close the window?  
B : I am sure you need to get up and move around more often.

A’s question is a rhetorical question that does not need an answer. B should directly close the door without making any answer to the question, but B chooses to answer the question implying that B is also lazy to close the window.

#### 8) Clever Replies to Serious Statements

This means clever or unusual replies to a statement or a question that is meant to be serious. The statement is deliberately misconstrued so that the speaker replies to a meaning other than the intended one. For example:

- A : Did you go to the party last night?  
B : Oh yeah! I went there with Anna.  
A : You went to the party with Anna without me?  
B : She has a new boyfriend!



B says something that is totally irrelevant to the context at that moment. By using this strategy, B intends to divert A's attention from the previous context.

#### 9) Double Entendres

It is a statement or word that is deliberately misperceived or misconstrued so as to evoke a dual meaning. When used intentionally, double entendres can be fun and entertaining because the idea is to get a laugh both from people who know and who do not get the second meaning.

A : How do you make a dog drink?

B : Easy, put it in the liquidiser.

(Ross, 1998: 10)

In the example above, "a dog drink" can have two meanings; drink for a dog and make the dog to drink.

#### 10) Transformations of Frozen Expression

Transformations of frozen expression happens when the speaker transforming well-known words, clichés, or proverbs into a statement, i.e., a complaint of a bald man: *Hair today, gone tomorrow*.

This example is a proverb that is used by the speaker to insult the listener related to his/her bald head.

#### 11) Pun

A pun is humorous use of a word that evokes a second meaning. It is usually based on a homophone, a word with a different meaning that sounds the same.

Claire : Is there anything else you need for your procedure?

Phil : Um, I think I'm supposed to have ice cream.

Claire : Hmm. Actually, I don't.

Phil : I'm sorry. Is it a vasecto-you, or a vasecto-me?

*(Modern Family Season 1)*

In the dialogue above, Claire asks Phil whether all the procedures for Phil's vasectomy later that day are already complete. Phil wants to have an ice cream before doing the operation, but Claire refuses it. Then Phil gives a pun by making the word with different meaning that sounds the same as vasectomy, i.e. "vasecto-me".

### **c. Unintentional Humor**

Unintentional humor or called as accidental humor is a humor which plays with the word especially the homophone and the non-verbal humor which accidentally happens to provoke laughter. Martin (2007: 14) says that there are two types of unintentional humor; accidental physical humor and accidental linguistic humor.

Accidental physical humor includes minor mishaps and pratfalls such as the person slipping on a banana peel or spilling a drink on one's shirt. These sorts of events are funny when they occur in a surprising and incongruous manner and when the person experiencing them is not seriously hurt or embarrassed. Accidental linguistic humor arises from misspellings, mispronunciations, errors in logic, and the kinds of speaker confusions called Freudian slips, malapropisms, and spoonerisms. Spoonerism is a mistake made when speaking in which the first sounds of two words are exchanged with each other to produce an unintended and usually funny meaning, the example is *The Reverend William Spooner used to*

*produce spoonerisms such as 'a scoop of boy trouts', instead of what he had meant to say - 'a troop of boy scouts' (Cambridge Dictionary 3<sup>rd</sup> edition).*

Freudian slip is something which is said by accident that is different from what is intended to say, however it seems to show the true thoughts (Cambridge Dictionary 3<sup>rd</sup> edition). The example is: *"A woman who refused to attend a party with her husband because she loathed the hostess finally consented because it involved his business. She promised her husband she would act pleasant and agreeable. True to her word, she behaved charmingly to her hostess all evening. When they left, she shook hands with her hostess and said warmly, "It was so nice for us to come."*

## **6. Functions of Humor**

Humor not only has entertainment functions, but also many social functions. The important functions of humor in conversation are the effects that the speaker may achieve directly by using humorous segments or texts in the discourse (Attardo, 1994: 322). According to Attardo in his book *Linguistic Theories of Humor* (1994: 323-329), the functions of humor on the communicative process can be grouped into four classes.

### **a. Social Management**

The social management function of humor covers all the cases in which humor is used as a tool to facilitate in-group interaction and strengthen in-group bonding or out-group rejection. For example:

Phil : I deserve that. I was an idiot for doubting you. Please, honey,  
forgive me.  
Cla : How could I not, when you give me this bouquet of crumpled  
flowers?

*(The Modern Family Season 4)*

This dialogue happens when Phil apologized to Claire and gives the bouquet. In this utterance, Claire flouts maxim of quality since she gives a sarcastic response to Phil. She makes a sarcasm to embarrass Phil who apologizes and gives a bouquet of crumpled flowers. This is why the function is categorized as social management. Embarrassing somebody's behavior by using humor belongs to social control function.

Social management function is divided more in eight sub-types. The first is social control as a social corrective to embarrass or intimidate the members of the group. Then, social norms conveyance is to attract attention on taboos, unacceptable behavior. Ingratiation is the third as a medium to search attention and encourage liking, then discourse management is the use of humor for initiation, termination, passing, exchange of control, topic shift, and checking. Next, common ground establishment that uses the hearer's reaction to humor to establish his/her attention, understanding, and degree of involvement. Cleverness is the function which defines that humor requires extra processing, thus producing and understanding it connote cleverness. Then, social play may function to strengthen social bonds and foster group cohesiveness. The last is repair seeing unpleasant situations that may be defused by humorous comments, connoting positive attitude, in-group bonding, and levity.

### **b. Decommitment**

Kane et al (in Attardo 1994: 325) define decommitment as denying any harmful intention of a speaker action. The basis of the decommitment function is that humorous communication is retractable, i.e., the speaker may back off from his/her utterance without loss of face (Brown and Levinson in Attardo, 1994: 325). Decommitment tactics include probing and salvaging. The example is by saying *I did not mean it seriously*. This sentence shows that the speaker directly says that it is just a joke. It can be an excuse because of the mistake or misunderstanding.

The first decommitment tactic is probing. It is a function of humor in which a speaker could get information by making a humorous utterance. The other one is salvaging which is a function of humor in which the speaker wants to make a bad situation better by indicating that the proposed or past action is not serious, but it is instead meant as a joke.

### **c. Mediation**

Humor is used either to carry out potentially embarrassing or aggressive interactions. In short, humor is seen as a mediating device. Therefore, the speaker does not have to face the consequences of his/her assertions since joking is an accepted mode of communication. Mulkay (1994: 327) stresses the fact that humorous discourse carries less responsibility for the speaker, in the sense that its eventual serious content can always be denied.

Jay : Ay, no, no. No fighting in front of the baby. We just made a deal.  
 Gloria : Yeah, but that's not fair because I am always in front of the baby!  
 Jay : Gloria, you're as close to perfect as woman gets. Nothing wrong  
 with one tiny, little flaw. Yours is when you start to sing, it sounds  
 like something got stuck in the vacuum cleaner.

*(Modern Family Season 4)*

Jay flouts maxim of quality since he makes a hyperbole statement by saying that Gloria's voice sounds like something got stuck in the vacuum cleaner. He uses humor to criticize her voice. It makes him creating spontaneous conversational humor that has mediation function. It is because Jay carries out potentially embarrassing or aggressive interactions to Gloria in order to make her stop singing.

#### **d. Defunctionalization**

Humor, especially nonsense humor or puns, can in some cases be seen as a defunctionalization of language (Guiraud in Attardo, 1994: 328). Defunctionalized language is language that is not used for transmission of information, but for playful purposes. The speakers are aware of the fun possibilities of language, thus they may choose to take it for entertainment purposes.

Cla : Phil!  
 Phil : There's no Phil here! These jeans just slipped on me so perfectly,  
 my name must be pantsarella. Boom!

*(Modern Family Season 4)*

Phil says that his name must be "pantsarella" not Phil. Pantsarella is the name of comfortable pants without zipper that usually wear by people when they relax at home or by pregnant woman. Phil's pun is categorized as defunctionalization since Phil uses language for playful purpose. He is aware of

the fun possibilities of language and chooses to take advantage of these possibilities for entertainment purposes.

## **7. *Grey's Anatomy Season 2***

*Grey's Anatomy* is an American medical drama television series that premiered on American Broadcasting Company (ABC). The title is a play on *Gray's Anatomy*, a human anatomy textbook by Henry Gray. The show's premise is originated with Shonda Rhimes as an executive producer. After the first season becomes successful, *Grey's Anatomy* continues on the second season and currently on 13<sup>th</sup> season.

The second season is commenced airing on September 25, 2005 and concluded on May 15, 2006. It is set in the fictional Seattle Hospital, located in the city of Seattle. Whereas, the first season puts the emphasis mainly on the unexpected impact the surgical field has on the main characters, the second season provides a detailed perspective on the personal background of each character, focusing on the consequences that their decisions have on their careers. New story lines are introduced, including the love triangle between Meredith Grey, Derek Shepherd, and Addison, the main actors of the season. Also heavily developed is the story line involving Izzie Stevens' relationship with patient Denny Duquette, which results in critical acclaim and positive fan response.

The show ends its second season with 21.07 million total viewers and a 6.9 ratings share in the 18–49 demographic. It becomes the highest-rated season of the series and also gets the fifth rank in the 2005-2006 television season. Moreover, according to Nielsen Ratings, the first four seasons of *Grey's Anatomy*

are ranked in the top ten among all viewers, then it reaches its peak in the second season attracting an average of 19.44 million viewers per episode.

The second season of *Grey's Anatomy* contains 27 episodes which becomes the longest season since the other episodes just consists of 24 on average. However, there will be just first 5 episodes from all of the episodes in Season 2 that used as the object of the research since those episodes are considered enough to get the findings.

## **8. Previous Studies**

Many researchers have discussed studies on humor using pragmatic approach. Some previous studies give contribution along the process of observing and leads the researcher to find the relevant theories.

The first research is Septi D. Anggraeni who conducts a thesis entitled *A Pragmatic Analysis of Humor in Modern Family Season 4* analyzing the maxims that are flouted, the forms of humor, and the functions of humor. The researcher employs Martin's theory of humor types and Attardo's function theory in his book *Linguistic Theories Humor*. The first finding is that the first most-often appearing phenomenon is maxim of quality flouting. It is because there are several ways to flout maxim of quality such as irony, sarcasm, and overstatement. Then, there are only two forms of humor that are created by maxim flouting, i.e. joke and spontaneous conversational humor. Meanwhile, unintentional humor is not found in the sitcom. Spontaneous conversational humor becomes the first rank because it is considered to be the common humor that people use in a daily basis. The last is that the researcher found all of four functions of humor.



The second research is Risti Utami Dewi entitled *A Pragmatic Analysis of Maxim Flouting and Rhetorical Devices to Create Humor in Modern Family Season 1*. She identified the kinds of maxim flouting and rhetorical devices used to create humor. To achieve the objectives, the analysis consists of two viewpoints: pragmatics and rhetorics. Related to the types of maxim flouting, the findings is that the characters tend to flout quality maxim. Then, related to the types of rhetorical devices, the characters flout the maxims by using 12 types of rhetorical devices. The first rank is they flout the maxim mainly by using the form of exaggeration and the last is using pun. However, there are 3 types of rhetorical devices which are not used. Those are misunderstanding, infantilism, and over-literality.

There are several differences between this research and those previous researches. The objectives of finding types and function of humor are same because this research also applies the theory from Martin in finding the types of humor and Attardo's theory about the function of humor. However, those two researches are focused on how the four basic maxims are flouted to create humor. This research deals with humor specifically in medical terms since the object is medical drama. The humor taken from the dialogue are not all the humors appeared in the drama but just the humor using medical terms. This research also explains the usage of medical terminology to create humor and its meaning since humor using medical terms is quite difficult to be understood by common people.

## B. Conceptual Framework

Humor cannot be separated from communication. Therefore, humor becomes an important topic in linguistic study, especially pragmatics. Although there are still several approaches could be applied to analyze humor, i.e. sociolinguistics, discourse analysis and stylistics. Pragmatically, humor is created by the use of Grice's cooperative principle. Usually, people should observe maxims to conduct right information in communication, however breaking any of four basic maxims sometimes is needed to get something interesting for example to make humorous utterances.

Then, humor as the flouting of maxims here is specified in medical conversation which is considered as humor using medical terms since it uses medical word or terminology to create humor. A famous medical drama in America entitled *Grey's Anatomy* applies various medical terms to communicate and also performs a various kind of humor.

This research draws attention in how the medical terms are used to create humor followed by the types and also the function of humor. Since the humor using medical terms is rarely used, it is difficult to be understood by common people. This is the reason why this topic is interesting to be observed. The kind of medical terms used in humor are analyzed in detail as the characteristic of humor in medical drama. The researcher applies Martin's theory of humor forms to identify the types of humor. There are three basic forms of humor including jokes, spontaneous conversational humor that consists of eleven sub-types, and unintentional humor.

Humor also gives impact for both the speaker and hearer because while performing humor, the speaker always has purposes. The theory of social goals of humor by Attardo is employed here to observe the function of humor said by a speaker. It is grouped into four classes. Those are social management, decommitment, mediation, and defunctionalization. The diagram of the research formulation is presented in the analytical construct on the following page.

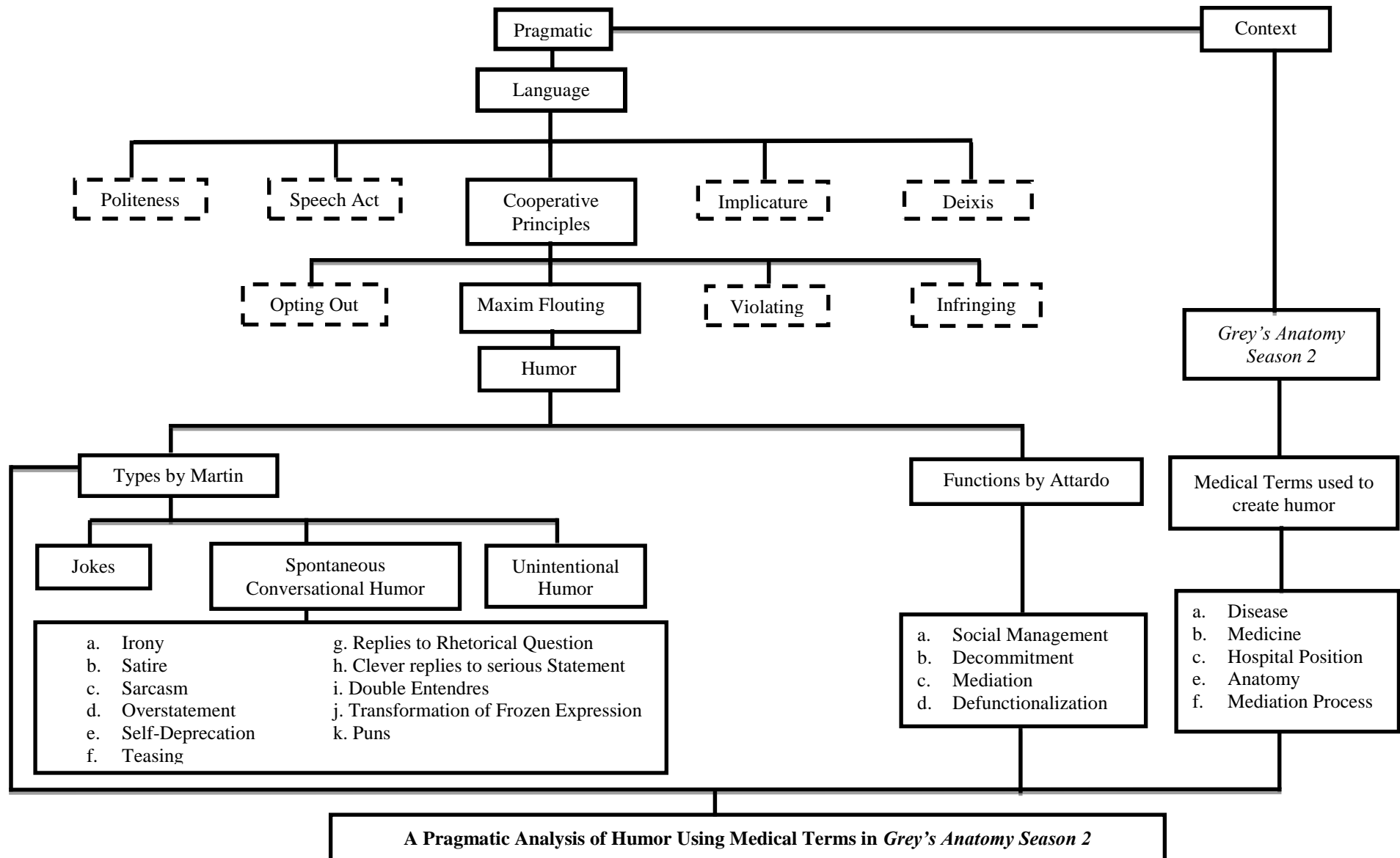


Figure 1. Analytical Construct