# Approaching Characters through Conversation :An Application of Co-operative Principles to Tom Stoppard's Professional Foul

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#### **Abstract**

The present study demonstrates how pragmatic models can be used to analyze dramatic conversations. In analyzing a character's conversational behaviour, the researchers traceGrice's cooperative principles and its four attendants maximswhich serve as an objective constituent of this research to the conversations in Tom Stoppard's play *Professional Foul*. The researchers handle some excerpts of the play which form a continuous sequence of beginning, middle and end of events. The play is divided into three parts according to the progression of the plot and the development of the characters. The conversation of the major and minor characters is analyzed. The study centers on the ways in which Stoppard's characters obey Grice's cooperative principles and provide reasons for not doing so .The study arrives at some conclusions concerning the model presented in the work.

#### 1.Introduction

Conversation is defined as "an activity in which, for the most part, two or more people take turns at speaking"(Yule,2006:128). Itplays a vital role in human life .Through conversation we can establish and maintain social solidarity among participants in selected group Thornbury and Slade (2006:21). Conversation carried on successfully with cooperation. This phenomenon has been the focus of many linguists and Grice is one of those, who worked on establishing the base line of this trend. In his "Logic and conversation", which is included in "studies in the way of words" in 1989, Grice has introduced a schema of communication; in its basic axis' "Cooperation is the ruling element of human interaction" (Kecskes, 2009:106). According to Grice, cooperation in conversation is shaped by the "cooperative principles"(henceforth, CP) which runs as follows: "make your conversational contribution such as required, at the stage, at which it occurs by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged" (Grice, 1989:26). In the light of Gricean theory, there are four basic guidelines (rubrics), called the rubrics of conversation, Grice names respectively as quantity, quality, relevance and manner. These rubrics specify the efficient and effective use of language(Levinson, 1983:101). He assumes speakers in a conversational exchange following these rubrics to cooperate with each other to achieve a successful act communication .As in the following example.

MCKENDRICK: What was it?

ANDERSON: A thesis ...

MCKENDRICK: Where did you hide it?

ANDERSON: In your briefcase (**PF**,P: 93).

Mckendrick asks Anderson where he hides the thesis . Anderson replies " In your briefcase " ( P. 93 ) . In doing so , Andersonprovides the right amount of information (quantity) ,tells the truth( quality) ,offers the relevant answer to Mckendrick (relevance),andclearly utters his exchange(manner) . Accordingly, Anderson follows Grice's four maxims and the conversation flows successfully . These maxims are listed as follows:

### 1.Quantity

This maxim concerns the amount of information to be provided in any conversation. Information given should be neither more nor less than what is required. Grice 1989 clarifies that this maxim comprises two sub-maxims.

a-Make your contribution as informative as is required (for the current purpose of the exchange).

b-Do not make your contribution more informative than is required.

Grice maintains that,the first sub-maxim is most important ,because any talk exchange should be informative; otherwise ,the message would not be conveyed successfully to the addressee. On the other hand, the second sub-maxim is "disputable" in that it may be considered as a matter of waste of time more than a transgression of the (CP) ,or its effect is secured by the maxim of relation (Levinson,1983:106).

Moreover, when a speaker provides the hearer with too much information, conversation will be boring and disappointing in which talk exchange seems to collapse, as in tautologies, litotes (Grice, 1975:46).

The example is given to indicate the observance of the maxim of quantity. For example:

SACHA: You have his writing?

ANDERSON: His thesis? Yes. It is in here. (He indicates his briefcase.) (**PF**,80).

As regards to the above conversation, Anderson informs the son that he has his father's thesis. He seems to be cooperative with the son. "his thesis yes It is in here..." (p.80)Hence, he fulfills the maxims of quantity, in that, he provides the right amount of information to Anderson.

## 2. Quality

The maxim of quality, according to Grice, speakers offer a truthful contribution in conversation. Talk exchange should be genuine and sincere (Grice,1975:45) .Grice formulates this maxim as:

## "Do not say what you believe to be false"

## "Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence"

Both sub-maxims instruct the speaker not only to say the truth ,but also to avoid saying whatever they lack evidence for (Ariel,2008:6) .Thus, when the two sub-maxims under the maxim of quality are respected in conversation ,this maxim is fulfilled . The violation of this maxim occurs through telling a lie,metaphor,irony, and euphemism (Grice,1975:109) The following example indicates that the speakers

are observing the maxim.

BROADBENT: .... Are you over for the match?

ANDERSON: Yes. Well, partly. I 've got my ticket.

(Anderson takes out of his pocket...) ( **PF,P. 58**).

Anderson's conversation with Broadbent reveals that he is acting in accordance with the maxim of quality. His ulterior motive for coming to this country has been disclosed to the footballers by saying "yes ...I 've got a ticket "(p. 58). He provides the truthful information for the interactants.

However, we find in the discourse of Islam, lie is considered as possible means to protect people from anything that may put them in an in appropriate condition. As in the following example:

((أحب الله الكذب في الاصلاح و أبغض الصدق في الفساد)). 1 (As quoted in Al-Ámili, no date:252).

#### **3- Relation**

This maxim denotes that the interlocutors are expected to present something that is relevant to what has gone before(Cutting,2002:35). "It is concerned with the way utterances are linked to the rest of conversation" (AbduL wahid, 2000: 113). Grice gives only one sub-maxim under relevance "be relevant". In conversation, participants should give the relevant information to the topic of discussion, thus conversation will be successful.

Observing the maxim of relation is illustrated in the following example:

ANDERSON: .... Do you learn English at school?

SACHA: Yes. I am Learning English two years .with my father ... (PF, P. 80).

A Gricean linguistic perspective shows that Sacha Hollar's son fulfills the maxim of relevance. He provides a relevant information for Anderson's question. This is testimonied in the following ." yes .I am learning English..." (P. 80). He informs Anderson that he has learnt English at school with his father .

#### 4- Manner

The area of this excerpt is different from the previous ones (maxims). While the former maxims are related to" what is said ", this maxim explains "how what is said is to be said" (Grice,1975:46) .This maxim instructs partners to be clear , orderlyandavoid vague , obscure utterances in conversational exchanges (Ariel,2008:6) .

See Al-Ámili, Muhammad ,bin al-Hassan Al-Hur . (no date).(Wasail al-shia ). Ahlubayt:Satarra .

Under this maxim four sub- maxims come: The super maxim. Be perspicuous a-Avoid obscurity of expression b- Avoid ambiguity

c-Be brief (avoid un necessary prolixity)

d- Be orderly (Grice, 1989:29).

Meyer (2009:59) states that clarity of expression is highly valued in what we say and write. The following example indicates the observance of the manner maxim.

CHAIRMAN: Pardon me -professor- This is not your paper.

ANDERSON : That's true .
CHAIRMAN : But this is not it .

ANDERSON: No. I changed my mind (PF, P.87-8).

Anderson's new lecture calls for human rights, criticizing , with "a strident denunciation "(Barry,1999:2), the oppressive system of the Czech government. The chairman is annoyed for this ,asking Anderson why he changes his document. In his answers , Anderson is free from ambiguity , rather, he uses brief , and clear utterances , thereby , he adheres to the maxim of manner . This is clear in " ... That 's true ... No, I change my mind " (P.87).

## The Concept of Implicature

Speakers sometimes may juggle when handling the maxims; this does not mean that communication will not be successful ,rather violation any of the maxims triggers what Grice calls "implicature". Horn(2004:3) maintains that , "Implicature is a component of speaker meaning that constitutes anaspect of what is meantin a speaker's utterance without being part of what is said". Thus implicature studies the cases in which what a *speaker* means is different from what the sentence actually uttered (Thomas,1995:56).

## **Application**

Professional Foul: General overview.

" *Professional foul*" henceforth (*PF*) is a play written by Tom Stoppard about human suffering in a totalitarian government. It centres on Anderson, a professor of ethics, who is invited to Prague to give a philosophical paper. Yet, his ulterior motive is the chance to attain a world cup qualifying match between England and Czechoslovakia. Anderson does not deliver his ulterior motive to Mckendrick, another professor whom he meets on the flight (Bennison, 1998:68).

In the hotel ,Anderson encounters his former student Pavel Holler,who asks his professor to smuggle his thesis out of Czechoslovakia ,which shows that the ethics of individuals should be the basis of ethics of the state .Anderson refuses smuggling the thesis justifying this as bad manner, however , he agrees to take it and bring it back to Hollar's flat next day. Anderson attends part of the colloquium to return the document and attends the match .At the apartment, he finds that Hollar has been arrested the night before. The professor is detained for over an hour by the Czech police , and licensed to listen to the match from the radio. When Anderson is released, he changes the submitted paper into a" ringing declaration"(Barry,1999:2) of human rights, and attacks the oppressive system of the Czech government .Knowing that he will be searched at the airport ,Anderson hides the thesis in Mckendrick's luggage while he was unconscious the night before(Bennison,1998:69;Bull,2001:147).

### 3.1 Exposition

### Anderson's Trip

In the opening scene of the play ,Stoppard gives us some introductory information

about the characters ,to provide an expository situation .Two British scholars of philosophy, Anderson middle-aged or more and Mckendrick about forty years of age ,are on the plane to Czechoslovakia to attend a philosophical conference "Colloquium philosophical Prague 77" . (Stoppard,1977:43; TakkaÇ,2006:2-3) .

MCKENDRICK: (changing seats) Bill Mckendrick.

ANDERSON: How odd (PF,p.44).

Mckendrick introduces himself to Anderson, "Bill Mckendrick", Anderson fails to return Mckendrick's greeting, rather his respond "How odd"(p.44) reveals that he breaks the maxim of relevance. It is unmatched with Mckendrick's utterance. This indicates that he does not want to be engaged with Mckendrick and his topic (**PF**, **p**.44).

MCKENDRICK: "Ethical Fiction as Ethical Foundations"

ANDERSON: Yes. To tell you the truth I have an ulterior motive for coming to

Czechslovakia at this time .I'm being a tiny bit naughty (PF,P.47).

MCKENDRICK: And what?

ANDERSON: I don't think I'm going to tell you. ... .I should give you the

Opportunity of choosing to be one or not.

MCKENDRICK: Then why don't you give me the opportunity?

ANDERSON: I can't without telling you an impass.

Anderson's speech appears to be relative to Mckendrick's comment ,that is he adheres to the maxim of relevance .Yet ,he doesn't give a clear picture for Mckendrick's need; rather,his fragment is too long and vague as he doesn't explain his ulterior motive for coming to Czechoslovakia "yes...I'm being a tiny bit naughty ...I don't think I'm goingto tell you...I can't without..."(p.46-7).Due to this , he flouts the maxim of quantity and manner. (Cobely and Stoppard 1984:62) illustrate that the character's lecture will discuss the ethical issue,yet, his motivation is unethical,i.e.the soccer match between England and Czechoslovakia.He seems reluctant to speak,since he thinks that attending the match is unethical. Anderson utilizes vague utterances to keep his smug supremacy.

MCENDRICK: you have come across some of my articles?

ANDERSON: (Amazed and fascinated) you mean you write for-?

(He puts himself up and together .) Oh -your -er articles .

(Mckendrick... emerges with another girly magazine and hands it along ...).

In this fragment,we can notice thatthe protagonist shows his surprise as he hears Mckendrick writefor an erotic magazine. He feels anxious ,and embarrassed that he can't utter the word 'erotic' clearly and owing to this ,he flouts the maxim of manner. His extract contains hesitation and incomplete utterances. In their argument on "hesitation", Thornborrow and Wareing (1998:107) maintain that:

The writer will deliberately use forms such as hesitations and incomplete turn to convey something about the characters-that they are distracted for example or uncertain or shy, or confused or embarrassed Accordingly ,Stoppard makes use of such features to convey the traits of his character. Though his answer is abide by the maxim of relevance ,yet, he is not cooperative under the maxim of manner. This is

noted in "...I'm afraid as...oh-your-er ...erticles"(p .48-9) . The playwright still keeps on providing information about his characters. Anderson and Mckendrick, arrive atPrague hotel . Fortunately, Anderson sees the two English footballers ,Broadbent and Crisp.

ANDERSON: That's Crisp.

MCKENDRICK: I 've never heard of him .what's his role there?

ANDERSON: He's what used to be called left wing. Broadbent in the center.

He's an opportunist more than anything.

(...) see you later (**PF**, P. 50).

Concerning the following extracts ,the participants are talking about the two footballers. Mckendrick asks Anderson whether he knows Crisp. They present a relative comments to each others. ,in doing so they observe the maxim of relevance. It must be confessed that ,Anderson's answer includes obscure utterances and ue to this ,he flouts the maxim of manner . This is depicted in the following ."...left wing...more than anything" (p,50).

## 3.2Raising of The Action.

### Anderson's Ethical Principles must be Respected.

Stoppard invites us to the focul situation which propels the plot and triggers the main conflict of the play . As Anderson enters his room ,the door is knocked; it is Pavel Hollar Anderson's former student . Hollar tries to persuade Anderson to smuggle the thesis out of the country to be published since he doesn't have the right to publish it in Czechoslovakia due to its content . According to Fleming(2001:130),Hollar embodies a Czech dissident who is treated severely in a totalitarian government .

HOLLAR: I am pavel Hollar.

ANDERSON: Ah, what you are doing now?

HOLLAR: I am a what do you say – a cleaner.

ANDERON: (with intelligent interest) A cleaner? What is that?

HOLLAR: (surprised) Cleaning. Washing. With a brush and a bucket .I am a cleaner at the bus station (PF, P:51).

ANDERSON: Are you married now or anything?

HOLLAR: I married .... we have a son who is sacha. ....

ANDERSON: I see (PF, p.52).

Those extracts exhibit illustrations about the dissident citizen. Hollar introduces himself to his former mentor professor Anderson ,andthe latter starts asking the student about his deeds and life.Hence, he breaks the maxim of quantity. This is manifested in the following "...How are you,what is it...Are you married ... (p.51). Hollar informs Anderson that he has taken his philosophical degree in sixty seven ,ten years ago, and now he is working as a cleaner, cleaning the lavatories and the floors where people walk. Likewise ,when Anderson asks him about his private life,Hollar asserts that he has married his fiancée Irma when he went to England, adding that she is a country girl and ,they have a son called sacha (<u>PF:52</u>).

Guided by Grice's schemata ,Hollar appears to go along with the maxim of relevance "be relevant";however, he fails to fulfill the quantity maxim. That is, he gives a repetitive information for the topic exchange. This is schematized in the

following "...a cleaner ...cleaner at the bus station ...the lavatories...I married she was almost my fiancée..." (p.52) . Although ,repetition is valued negatively, it has a variety of functions . Leech(1969:79) maintains that:

Although repetition sometimes indicates poverty of linguisticresource, it can, as we see, have its own kind of eloquence. By underlining rather than elaborating the message, it presents a simple emotion with force. It may suggest a suppressed intensity of feeling-an imprisoned feeling as it were, for which there is no out let but a repeated hammering at the confining walls of language.

HOLLAR: ... . I have something here .

(From the bag he takes out the sort of envelope ...) *You understand* ... ANDERSON : ... , what is it?

HOLLAR: My thesis is about correct behavior.

HOLLAR: Here you know, individual correctness is defined by what is correct for the state.

ANDERSON: A Yes, I know.

HOLLAR: I ask how collective right can have meaning ... . where it comes ...

ANDERSON: Yes.

HOLLAR: I reply, it comes from the individual. One man's dealings with another man.

ANDERSON: Yes  $(\underline{PF}, P. 54)$ .

**HOLLAR**: Bad manners?

ANDERSON: I know it sounds rather lame..... I said ... so ridiculous  $(\underline{PF}, P:54)$ .

From the above exchange, we see that the protagonist is going to engage into a trouble. When Hollar picks up the thesis from his bag and speaks quietly with his teacher, Anderson realizes that he will have a problem. The dissident requests Anderson to smuggle the thesis out of the country to be published, since he has no right to publish it in Czechoslovakia due to its content. Anderson refuses Hollar's request, justifying this as a bad manner. Anderson cannot return the hospitality of the of the state by unethical behavior. Owing to this, he shows his reluctance to be engaged in such practices (Jenkins,1989: 138; Fleming, 2001:130). In his refusal, Anderson uses hedges to mitigate the degree of directness, accordingly, the flouting of the maxim of the manner has occurred, and this mirrored his politeness. "...you know, really... I mean it would be bad...I know it sounds rather ..."(p. 54).

The conversation between the two characters tells that both of them adhere to the maxim of relevant "be relevant" along their extracts. Still Hollar keeps on providing too much and unclear information; therefore, he breaks the quantity and manner maxims. His attempts are to present the importance of his thesis. This is explained in his propositions "correct behavior ...individual correctness.... the individual ... you know... I don't think so..."(p53-4). (Malanikovà ,2011: 54)

Anderson's replies appear to be relevant to the fragment. In doing so, he abides by the maxim of relevance. Meanwhile, his abridgement of the utterances indicates his fear and discomfort to be involved in a such situation. This is expressed in the following "...oh yes ...yes I know ...yes ...yes " (p.54). Consequantly, his exchanges show the violation of the maxim of quantity.

HOLLAR: I have not made a copy. I have a bad feeling about carrying this home (...). ... I ask a favour. (smiles.) Ethical.

ANDERSON: (Quietly) what is it?

HOLLAR: let me leave this here and you can bring it to my apartment Tomorrow I have a safe place for it there. (...).

ANDERSON: But you weren't worried about bringing the thesis with you. ANDERSON: I see. yes, all right, Hollar. I'll bring it tomorrow (*PF*, *p.57*).

To Stoppard (1977:56) and Fleming (2001:132), Hollar's request puts Anderson in a predicament; he can't smuggle the thesis, since it is against his ethics. Under this circumstances, Hollar asks his professor a favour to take the thesis with him to his house, since he is watched by the police. Anderson agrees to take the thesis and returns it to Hollar's flat the following day.

In processing these exchanges, Hollar breaks the maxim of quantity "... I ask a favour ... I have a bad feeling...let me leave this ...."(p.57) Nevertheless, both Anderson and Hollar fulfill the maxim of relevance. Their comment stand relevantly to their interactaions.

The next morning ,Anderson dresses to go out, takes his bag and leaves the room. At the lift he meets the two footballers.

ANDERSON: Good morning. Good luck this afternoon.

BROADBENT: Right. Thanks. Are you over for the match?

ANDERSON: Yes. Well, partly. I 've got my ticket.

(Anderson takes out of his pocket...) ( <u>PF</u>,P. 58).

Anderson's conversation with Broadbent, reveals that he obeys the maxims of relevance and quality. His ulterior motive for coming to this country has been disclosed to the footballers by saying "yes ...I 've got a ticket "(p. 58). He provides the truthful information for the interactants .

Table (1 ) The Distribution of the Observing of Grice(CP) in  $\underline{PF}$  part one

Characters	Type of	No. of	Plot phase	Total	%
	Relevance	4	Exposition		
	Ouality	1	Raising of action		
Anderson	Relevance	13	Raising of the	18	
Mckendrick	Relevance	4	Exposition	4	
Hollar	Relevance	12	Raising of the	12	35.294
Total		34			41.463

In Table(1), the total occurrence of the observed maxims are (41.463%). Of these occurrence ,there are(52,941%)usedby Anderson , (11.764 %) utilized by Mckendrick . Hollar appears in the raising of the action, in this phase ,he does (35.29)

%) .The most prominent frequency is attributed to the relevance maxim. This means that it constitutes the whole part . This is attributed to the fact that the relevance maxim is very important in conversation that tells much about the event of the play .Also, it is found that the least frequency is attributed to the quality maxim ,with the percentage of (2.941%).Here Anderson provides the truthful information to the footballers. He feels good to talk about football .

Table (2) The distribution of the non- observance of Grice' (CP) in  $\underline{PF}$  part One .

Characters	Type of the non	No. of the	Plot phase	Total	%
	quantity	3			
	relevance	1	Exposition	12	30.769
Anderson	manner	8	P		
7 macroon	quantity	7	Raising of	11	28.205
	manner	4	action		
Mckendrick	-	-	-	-	-
	quantity	12			
Hollar	manner	4	Raising of	16	41.025
Total		39			43.333

According to the above table , the total occurrence of the violated maxims are (43.333%).Out of (43.333%) , there are (30.769%) yielded by Anderson at the beginning of the events. He violates the maximsfor the sake of politeness. When Anderson meets his student and requesting him to smuggle the thesis ,we find the number of the violations decreases with the percentage (28.205%).Anderson' speech appears less vague(manner maxim) ,he appears direct in his speech in this phase , since he fears not to be engaged in Hollar's problem. Hollar in his part does (41.025%) violations. (30.769%) for quantity , and (10.256%) for manner . Through such flouting ,Hollar presents the suffering of the Czech citizens .

#### Part two

#### 3.3 The Climax

## **Anderson and The unexpected situation**

The plot of the play reaches its climax .When Anderson arrives Hollar's flat . He finds out that Hollar has been arrested with the Czech police searching the flat . Anderson is prevented to leave out , he is detained in Hollar's flat against his will . The time for the football match is going to begin.

ANDERSON: I'm looking for Mr Hollar.

MAN 2: (In Czech) yes? Who are you?

ANDERSON: Actually Idon't.Does Mr Hollar live here ?Apartment Hollar ? (Mrs Hollar comes to the door . she is about the same age as Hollar.)

Mrs HOLLAR: (In Czech) Pavel is arrested.

ANDERSON: I am looking for Mr Hollar. I am a friend from England. His Professor. My name is Anderson.

MAN 3 : Shut up(PF,p. 64).

ANDERSON: Now Look here, I am the J. S. Mill professor of Ethics at the the university of Cambridge and I demand that I am allowed

ANDERSON: I can't stay.

Well,look,if you don't mind-I'm on my way -to-anengagement ...

The above conversation depicts the unexpected situation for Anderson . On arriving Hollr's flat , he finds the policemen(Man2,Man3,...) . Anderson asks whether Hollar lives here, but he is not answered by the police .Mrs Hollar informs him in Czech that her husband has arrested . Anderson introduces himself to the police ,saying that he is a friend of Hollar . He comes to see him and says hello. It is obvious that Anderson's exchanges are ignored by the police; thereby they violate the maxim of relevance (...who are you...Do you know him...shut up...."(p.64-5).

These conversations lead us to the fact that Anderson is detained in Hollar's flat and prevented to go out . He demands to leave or phone the British Ambassador . His utterance can be viewed as the violation of the maxim of quantity. Repeatedly , he introduces himself as a professor of philosophy "...His professor ... I am professor of Ethics... " (p.64-5),in doing so he flouts the quantity maxim. His conversation reveals that he feelsfear and unease, he can't stay any more in the flat since he has an appointment . However he doesn't deliver that clearly due to his confusion and discomfort of the situation . His speech contains unclear and incomplete utterances thereby, heflouts the maxim of manner . This is apparent in "... I am on my way to – an engagement ... " (p. 65) . Through such flouting , Stoppard reflects the reality of the topic and the authenticity of the work . "... it is difficult to say anything at all interesting without such lapses occurring " (Leech,1981:161). Pedantically, the playwright makes use of the features of "Normal non-fluency".

ANDERSON: I must pay him.

(Anderson takes out his wallet . Man3 takes it from him without snatching)MAN3 :(In Czech) The old boy 's got a ticket for the England match.No wonder

He's furious .( ...).Taxi ... .He go . Football no good .

ANDRESON: Serve me right.

MAN 5 : (In Czech) It's on the radio . Let him have it on .( Man 3 returns to The radio and turns it on. ...) .

MAN 6: ... Hollar is charged with currency offences... . a hard currency ... (the radio commentary has continued softly ...)(penalty) (...) For us...

ANDERSON: I can hear.

MAN 6 :(InEnglish) Broadbent-a bad tackle when Deml had a certain goal ... a what you call it – a necessary foul.

ANDERSON: A Professional Foul ( PF,P. 70-1).

The situation is aggravated when Anderson's wallet is taken by the police , and a football ticket seen inside . The police feels pity at Anderson and permits him to listen to the match on the radio . Commenting on the police extracts, Jenkins (1989: 138) and Takkac, (2006:9) denote that Hollar is accused for a serious misdeed against the state and the government doesn't have law about philosophy . As he utters these sentences , it is heard from the radio that there is a penalty for the Czech country , due to foul between the Czech and British teams . Anderson calls it "A Professional Foul ".This foul happens , when Deml , a Czech footballer falls down

due to a foul made by Broadbent to stop a sure goal. Such penalty gives the Czech team the chance to win the match.

In looking at" Gricean CP" we can see that both the police and Anderson provide a relevant comment to the topic exchange, whereby they observe the maxim of relevance. However, the police launches into a long speech and thereby ,he flouts the quantity maxim. A noteworthy example that proves this "... got a ticket...football ticket...currency offences...hard currency... (p. 69-70).

MAN6: yes.

(on the radio the goal is scored ...)

So you had a philosophical discussion with Hollar.

ANDERSON: I believe you implied that I was free to go (He stands up)I am quite ...I Only came to say hello, and meets pavels' wife ...

Man 6: (with surprise) So you come to Czechoslovakia to go to the football match, Professor?

ANDERSON: Certainly not. Well, the afternoon of the Colloquium ... I am speaking Tomorrow morning.

Anderson shows his discomfort and reluctance to cooperate with the police . He violates the maxims of relevance and quality , by not providing the truthful and the relevant information to the police . This is remarkable in the following "...you implied that I was free ... certainly not ...I am speaking tomorrow... " (p.71) . Anderson states that he comes to deliver a philosophical conference not to listen to the match (Bennison ,1998 : 79 ; Takkac ,2006 : 10 ) .

ANDERSON: Quite so. I promised to bring Pavel one or two of the colloquium Man 6:... Then you won't mind showing me.

(Anderson hesitates ...takes Mckendrick's and his own papers passes them over...) Ethical Fictions as Ethical Foundations...Philosophy and Catastrophetheory (Man 6 gives the papers back to Anderson).

MAN5: (In Czech) I found this, Chief, under The floorboards.

(...gives the parcel to man 6 unwraps it to reveal a bundle of American dollars).

Anderson informs the police that he has the wish to bring some of the philosophical papers to Holler, announcing that the latter has interests in philosophy. (Eldridge, 1990: 202; Takkac, 2006: 9). Giving the police the wrong papers and telling him that he comes to give Hollar some philosophical papers, Anderson commits a professional foul(Eldridge,1990: 202). According to Gricean's maxims, both participants adhere to the maxim of relevance. Nonetheless, Anderson violates the maxim of quality "Do not say what you believe to be false ". This is apparent in "... I promised to bring ....the colloquium papers ... No, I'm going back ... " (p. 72). Pertaining to Hayman (1979: 136) and Eldridge (1990: 202) works, Stoppard presents the oppressive system of the Czech government. When the police find nothing in Hollar's flat, they succeed in planting a package of dollars so as to assure his offence, this mirrored the brutal system in this society. Mrs Hollar bursts into crying, her son Sacha embraces and sooths her just as mother embraces her infant. With horror and neurosis, Anderson leaves the flat (*PF*, *p.* 73).

Table (3) the distribution of the observing of Grice (CP)
In PF Part two

Character	Type of	No.ofobserving	Plot phase	Total	%
Anderson	relevance	6	climax	6	54.545
Police	relevance	5	climax	5	45.454
Total		11			13.414%

As the Table (3) illustrates, the total occurrence of the observed maxims of Grice's (CP) is (13.414%). All these occurrences are devoted to the relevance maxim. (54.545%) used by Anderson and (45.454%) utilized by the police. This indicates the significance of this maxim of making conversations move smoothly, and has vital role to the development of the events.

Table (4)
The distribution of the violation of Grice's (CP) in PF part Two

Characters	Type of	No. of	Plot phase		
	quantity	2			
	quality	4			
Anderson	relevance	3	Climax	11	61.111
7 Miderson	manner	2	Сппих	1.1.	01.111
	quantity	4		7	
Police	relevance	3	Climax		38.888
Total		20%			

According to the records given from Table (4), the total occurrence of the violated maxims is (20%). Of these violationsthere are(61.111%) utilized by Anderson. The situation is dangerous ,Anderson is involved in a problem. He appears as a liar, shows his reluctance to speak about his ulterior motive for coming to Czechoslovakia to the police. Anderson's attempt is to retain his academic primacy. The police do (38.888%), violations. We see the police blatantly provide more information than what the situation requires; in so doing he wants to persuade Anderson that Hollar was arrested for a serious misdeed against the state.

#### **Part Three**

## Falling of The Action

## Anderson: Breaking off the Ethical Principles

Interestingly ,a series of events follow Anderson's struggle with the police, that offers a solution to the conflict presented in the play . It is now the protagonist will have the chance to solve the problem of the play . Together , Mcendrick's lecture of Catastrophe theory, and the meeting with Hollar's family paved the way for Anderson to solve the problem of the oppressed citizen.

ANDERSON: (To MCKENDRICK) was your paper well received? MCKENDRIC: No. They didn't get it. I could tell ... been some kindof

 $Communication\ failure\ .$ 

ANDERSON: The translation phones?

 $MCKENDRIC: No,\ no-they\ simply...\ never\ heard\ of\ catastrophe\ theory\ ,\ so$ 

theyweren't ready ... an audacious application of it(  $\underline{PF}$ , P.77 ).

In response to Anderson, who poses a question about Mckendrick's lecture, Mckendrick provides the relevant information to Anderson; thereby he fulfills the maxim of relevance. However, he launches too much information about the lack of the success of his lecture, commenting that the argument is not grasped by the audience, since, they have never heard about the catastrophe theory. Thus, hebreaks the maxim of quantity. "...no ... I could tell from the question ... No, no,-they simply didn't understand..." (p. 77).

MCKENDRICK : It's like a reverse gear-no-it's like a breaking point ... (...) Theythink that is what a principle means (**PF**, **P**.77-8).

ANDERSON : And isn't it?

MCKENDRICK: No. the two lines are on the same plane (...)... the principles reverse itself at the point ... would abandon it

Recalling the nature of these fragments, Mckendrick expresses that catastrophe theory is like a breaking point. "the jump from one state orpathway to another" (as quoted in Cobley and Stoppard, 1984: 57). Human behavior is reversed under certain time and place; it comes into the opposite line and confuses the ethical practices. In "Professional Foul" we find the protagonist unexpectedly break the bond of the ethical principles, which is something that no one would expect from a professor of ethics (Cobley and Stoppard, 1984: 59; Malanikova, 2011: 60).

Apparently, Mckendrick's extracts do not present clearly, rather they are teemed with obscure and repetitive utterances, thereby, he flouts the maxims of quantity and manner. A noteworthy example that proves this "...reverse gear... The mistake that people make ... into what we call the catastrophe curve ... only a lot of principled ... moral principle as your ...would a bandon ... " (pp. 77-8). In spite of this, Mckendrick gives a relative information to Anderson's remark; therefore, he complies with the maxim of relevance. "It is like a reverse gear ... No the two points ... " (pp. 77-8).

ANDERSON: .... Do you learn English at school?

SACHA: Yes. I am Learning English two years .with my father also.

ANDERSON: You are very good.

SACHA: Not good. You are the friend of my father. Thank you.

SACHA: Today. Pardon. ... 'Come here! come here!... . He is telling me only.

ANDERSON: I see . what did he tell you? (PF,P.80).

SACHA: He will go see his friend the English professor. He is taking the writing.

Taking place in the street ,Anderson meets Mrs Hollar and her son Sacha ten years of age (Whitaker, 1983: 144). Stoppard conveys the tyranny of the Czech government through Sacha, who gives the full picture of the arrest of his father. Anderson asks the son whether he learns English at school ,and how his father has been arrested. In his respond, Sacha expresses that he has learnt English at school with his father , adding

that his father takes thesis and goes to see his friends, however, he doesn't return since he has been arrested by the police for a trumped up crime. (*PF*,*P.80-1*).

A Gricean linguistic perspective shows that Sacha fulfills the maxims of relevance. Anderson and Sacha provide a relevant information for each other. This is testimonied in the following ."Do you learn English... yes .I am learning ...you are very good ...Not good...what did he tell you... He will go see ... " (pp.80-1) . However, what can be noticed is that Sacha infringes the maxim of quantity "Do not make your contribution more informative than is required "'avoid obscurity" . This is illustrated in the followings . "... two years with my father... you are a friend of my father ... ... come here! ... "(pp.80-1) .

SACHA: You have his writing?

ANDERSON: His thesis? Yes. It is in here. (He indicates his briefcase.)

SACHA: (In Czech) It's all right, he's still got it (PF, P.80.

As regards to these conversations, Anderson informs the son that he has his father's thesis. He seems to be cooperative with the son. "his thesis. yes It is in here...." (p.80-1). Hence, he fulfills the maxims of quantity, quality and relevance (PF, P. 81).

MCKENDRICK: (shouts) Anderson! You are the very man I want to see! We are having a philosophical discussion about the yob ethics...(PF, P.83).

ANDERSON: Mckendrick. don't you think, it's about time we retired?

MCKENDRIC: (ignoring him) Now, I've played soccer for years. Years and years. I played soccer from ... is as welcome as an honest one?

ANDERSON: Tomorrow is another day, Mckendrick.

MCKENDRIC: Tomorrow, in my experience, is usually the same day. Have ...

Anderson meets Mckendrick, throughout the whole exchanges, the latter seems to be uncooperative in his conversation. He launches into too long and obscure utterances, and due to this, he infringes the maxims of quantity and manner. This is planted in the following. "yobs of ethics ... played soccers...I have played soccer... years and years ... is usually the same ... " (pp.83-4-) .Also, we notice here the infringement of the relevance maxim " Now, I've playedsoccer ... in my experience ... " (P. 84). Mckendrick is criticizing the two footballers, Broadbent and Crisp, for committing a foul at the match, Anderson tries to stop him, but Mckendrick unconscious utterances culiminates because he was drunk(*PF*, *P*. 84).

#### 3.5 The Resolution

### Anderson's Professional Foul

After the arrest of Hollar and the threat to his son, Anderson changes his philosophical paper, and speaks about the same as in Hollar's thesis. "The conflict between the rights of individuals and the rights of the state". It is now, the falling action is brought into an end, and the problem of the play is solved. By attacking the unethical practices of the totalitarian government, the character commits a professional foul of his own (Malanikova, 2011:60).

ANDERSON: I propose in this paper to take up a problem which many have taken before me, namely the conflict between the rights of individuals and the rights of the community...(...). There is an obligation ...( PF,P. 87).

CHAIRMAN: Pardon me -professor- This is not your paper.

ANDERSON: That's true. CHAIRMAN: But this is not it.

ANDERSON: No. I changed my mind (PF, P.87-8).

Investigating Gricean (CP) reveals that the maxims of quantity and manner are failed to be observed by Anderson. He gives too much and obscure contribution for the topic exchange . This is exemplified in the following " ... I will be making a distinction between rights... these rights are fictions ... ... a pseudo-right.. " (P. 87). It is clear, as mentioned in this extract, the new lecture attacks the state , consequently , it annoyed the chairman . It is not the same document that is supposed to deliver at the colloquium . Thelecturer is interrupted by the chairman . Through his conversation with Anderson , the chairman speaks relatively and clearly . In so doing , he observes the relevance and the manner maxims . This is planted in " ... this is not your paper ... this is not it ... " ( P. 87 ) . In his answers , Anderson is free from vagueness and verbosity , rather, he provides the sufficient , relevant and clear utterances , thereby , he adheres to the maxims of quantity, relevance and manner . This is clear in " ... That 's true ... No, I change my mind " (P.87 ) .

CHAIRMAN: (In Czech) Don't panic! There appears to be a fire. Please leave the hall in an orderly manner. (In English) Fire please leave... (The philosophers get into their feet and start heading for exit. Anderson calmly gathers his papers up and leaves the stage **PF**, **P. 90-1**)

The chairman demands Anderson not to give the paper claiming that ,the interpreters do not have copies to understand it .Anderson's lavished attacks the government , leads the chairman to commit a professional foul , by sounding a fire alarm, he interrupts our protagonist , making the audience leave quickly . " ... There appears to be fire ... " ( p. 91 ) . Examining his fragment from the Gricean perspective shows that the chairman violates the maxim of quality . " Do not say what you believe to be false " . Hence , he lies for the topic exchange .

MCKENDRICK: Did you have anything?

ANDERSON: I did in away. MCKENDRICK: What was it?

ANDERSON: A thesis. Apparently rather slanderous from the state's point of view.

MCKENDRICK: Where did you hide it?

ANDERSON: In your briefcase.

ANDERSON: Last night. I'm afraid I reversed a principle. (Mckendrick opens

his briefcase and finds Hollar's envelope. Anderson takes it from him ...)

ANDERSON: ... . But they were very unlikely to search you .

(The plane picks up speed on the runaway, towards take-off PF, P. 93)

Now, it is the time to wake up the resolution of the events. It seems that Stoppard's ending of the play is the same as where it begins with. Anderson and Mckendrick are on the airplane. Anderson demonstrates that the police search him since he is carrying a thesis which is considered as unethical from the state's view. It is obvious that Mckendrick and Anderson's speeches are relevant to each other ,i.e they are abide by the maxim of relevance. This is apparent in ".. Did you have anything...I did in a way... what was it ... A thesis... Where did you hide ...In your briefcase...Last night ...But they were unlikely... " ( P.93). Nevertheless, Anderson's speech is not clear. As a consequence ,flouting of the maxim of the manner has taken place. " avoid obscurity " . A note worthy example that proves this " ... have something ... in a way ... rather slanderous ... " ( P. 93).

Stoppard in the final scene solves the most important problem arisen in the play . Mckendrick asks Anderson where he hides the thesis . Anderson replies " In your briefcase " ( P. 93 ) . In so doing , he answers clearly (manner) , truthfully ( quality ) , gives the right amount of information (quantity ) and directly addresses Mckendrick's need in asking the question (relation) . Smuggling the thesis in Mckendrick's luggage without taking his permission puts his friend in a great danger and annoyed him. Anderson justifies that, the search of Mckendrick's bag is cursory done . Throughout his career, Anderson commits the most professional of all fouls . He has lapsed from his ethical principle to help his oppressive friend who is treated severely in his country (Bull , 2001 : 147).

Table (5)
The distribution of the observing of Grice's (CP) In PF Part (3)

Character	Type of	No. of	Plot phase	Total	%
	quality	1			
Anderson	relevance	6	Falling of	7	18.918
	quantity	2			
	quality	1	Resolution		
	relevance	7		12	29.729
	manner	2		12	27.727
Mckendrick		4	Falling of	4	
	relevance	3	Resolution	3	
Sacha	relevance	7	Falling of	7	
	Relevance	2		2	5.405
Chairman	manner	2	resolution	2	5.405
Total		37			45.121%

The distribution of the observing of Grice's (CP) in part (3) shows that the total occurrence is (45.121%), distributed among characters that appear in the falling of the action and the resolution of the plot phase of the play. Of these observingsthere are(18.918%) manipulated by Anderson in the falling of the action and (29.729%) in the resolution of the events. As we notice, the protagonist maximizes the number of the observing of the maxims. He realizes that there is no need to be a reticent person and behave ethically. Mckendrick yields(10.810 %), in the falling of the action, and

(8.108 %) in the resolution of the play .Sacha does (18.918 %) . Chairman utilizes (10.8%). The relevance maxim has the highest frequency comparable with the other two maxims (quality and manner). This indicates that the relevance maxim is very important in communicating the events of the play. Stoppard at the end of the event provides the reader with a clear picture about his characters . It is a moment of solving the problem presented earlier. Anderson finds himself in a situation to present the real attitudes towards the addressee.

 $Table \ (\ 6\ )$  The distribution of the violation of Grice' ( CP ) in  $\underline{PF}$  Part (3)

Character	Type of	No.of	Plot phase	Total	%
	quantity	3	Resolution	6	18.181
Anderson	manner	3			
	quantity	11			
Mckendrick	manner	7	Falling of	22	66.666
	relevance	4	action		
Sacha	quantity	4	Falling of	4	12.121
Chairman	quality	1	Resolution	1	3.030
Total	33			36.666%	

As Table(6) displays, the frequency ofoccurrence of the violated maxims is (36.666%). These violations do not appear equally in the development of the plot phase because the character are strongly affected by the event of the play. There are (18.181%) utilized by the protagonist in the resolution of the event. He does so to stress the harsh treatment of the totalitarian government, since it was the chance to give more clarification about his oppressed friend. Mckendrick breaks the (CP) (66.666%), such violation is due to his being drunk Sacha infringes Grice's principles (12.121%), since he is a child and not qualified enough to participate in social acts. Chairman violates the maxim of quality (3.030%), in the resolution of the play, when he blatantly lies to hide the truth that put the state into trouble and to move the attention of the audience to something else

Table (7) The distribution of the observance of (CP)

Throughout the play

Maxims	Part 1	Part 2	Part 3	Total	%
quantity	-	_	2	2	2.439
quality	1	-	2	3	3.658
relevance	33	11	29	73	89.024
manner	-	-	4	4	
Total	34	11	37	82	-

The data of this table illustrates that the total occurrence of the observed maxims throughout the play is (82) distributed among characters that appear in the play . Part one manifests (41.463%, part two displays 13.414%, and part three gets45.121%). Also the analysis reveals that the most prominent frequency is attributed to the relevance maxim with the percentage (89.024%). This reflects the significance of this maxim of keeping the conversation flows smoothly in the interaction. In addition, the statistics findings exhibit that manner maxim collects only (4.878%), quality receives (3.658%), and the small occurrence goes to the quantity maxim with the percentage

(2.439%). They are found to present certain ideas and clarify the theme of the plot. It is apparent that these observings are utilized by Stoppard's protagonist (Anderson). Stoppard presents him as a dominant character who controls the whole play .Anderson's speech is genuine ,free from redundancy and ambiguity. This development in his behaviour is attributed to the context of the situation in which he is engaged in. When the context is of preferred mood conversation flows in a cooperative way .

Table (8)
The distribution of the violation of (CP) throughout the play

Maxims	Part	Part 2	Part 3	Total	%
quantity	22	6	18	46	51.111
quality	-	4	1	5	5.555
relevance	1	6	4	11	12.222
manner	16	2	10	28	31.111
Total	39	18	33	90	-

Based on Grice's schemata ,the distribution of the violation of (CP) throughout the play indicates that the total occurrence of the violated maxims is (90). Part one divulges (43.333%), part two gets (20%) and part three shows (36.666%). Furthermore, the investigation yields that, the maxims of quantity and manner are frequently flouted by the characters in **PF**. The flouting of quantity maxim handles (51.111 %), and the flouting of manner exhibits (31.111%). Characters flout these maxims to stress the importance of the situation, criticize the interlocutors . Also, flouting of these maxims occurs when person suffers from cognitive limitations. We see ambiguous utterances become less clear in the second part(climax) . i.e. characters' conversation become clear. This indicates that , when the events full of conflict, conversation is rather flat or clear, and there is no need to use hedges, indirectness to lessen the degree of the situation. In addition the table reveals that the quality has the least frequency with the percentage (5.555%). Characters lie to each other, either to hide the truth that put them into trouble, as in the case of Anderson, or to save the situation that lead to the loss of their identity as in the case of the chairman. The relevance maxim gets(12.222%) this reflects the fact that, the characters show their reluctance to indulge in conversation. They present irrelevant subjects to context of conversation to avoid topics that put them in unpleasant situations or avoid embarrassment.

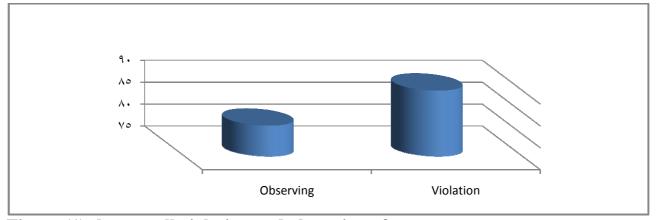


Figure (1) the overall violation and observing of

#### Conversational maxims throughout the play

As we have found out ,Grice's cooperative principles are mostly flouted by the characters in their conversation throughout the play . It is apparent that the violated maxims handle (90) ,while the observed one are (82) .This indicates that participants do not usually follow the rules of conversation in their interaction; rather, they tend to disobey them.Also, the findings illustrates that the violation of these maxims is attributed to the context of the situation and the relationship between participants. Through such flouting , characters show politeness , present the suffering of the dissidents in their countries and avoiding tension among others .

#### **Results and Conclusion**

From the analysis presented earlier, it is apparent that no matter, Grice's cooperative principles are required in making conversation runs smoothly sometimes and for certain situation we tend to disobey them. Through the analysis, we can see that Stoppard's characters are mostly break the maxims of conversation, in that they use vague language that mask the situation ,and provide more information than is required to disclose an emotional overtones to a description as in Anderson's new lecture about the oppressive government.

The research also has shown that, the application of cooperative principles yields insight in discovering the extra meaning of the character's conversation which is mostly presented by too much and ambiguous utterances. With the help of (CP) we can discover character's personality and traits. In addition the study reveals psychological state of the person has a role of getting effective conversation. When individual is in rage or drunkenness, cooperation is wiped out .Accordingly, cooperative principles supply us with useful parameters into character's behaviour and emotion towards each other and within the situation in which they are engaged. Thus the results have achieved the objective offered before, that Grice's model help in maintaining an interpretation to literary text.

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#### الخلاصة

تبحث هذه الدراسة في محاولة تطبيق المبادئ التداولية في المحادثة للعالم اللغوي (كرايس) وهي مبدأ (الكيف النوع العلاقة والأسلوب) ، ومدى ملأمتها للتحليل النص المسرحي وفهمه والوصول الى الشخصيات في مسرحية توم ستوبارد. Professional Foul يسعى هذا البحث للكشف عن مدى التقيد بهذه المبادئ و أيجاد الأسباب التي تؤدي الى مخالفتها.

كما ويقدم البحث تحليلا عمليا مفصلا لثلاثة اجزاء من حوارات مختلفة من النص الأدبي المشار اليه . وتنتهي الدراسة بالتوصل الى صحة الفرضية ،بأن تطبيق نظرية كرايس يساعد على تحليل النص الأدبى و فهمه والوصول الى التفسير الأدبى .