

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter is divided into two parts. The first one discusses a study done on "OTHELLO", through Discourse Analysis by Ruth Djatmiko. This is the study which gave the writer an idea to also analyse "KING LEAR" through Discourse Analysis. The second one discusses the theory used in this thesis.

2.1. A Discourse Analysis Study on Othello.

Ruth Djatmiko, a student of Petra University has written her thesis with the title of " A Discourse Analysis on Shakespeare's Othello using Grice's theory of Implicature". The study focuses on analysing the implicature derived from the characters's utterances. How the characters' utterances unostentatiously or ostentatiously violated one or more of the Grice's maxims, which then lead Othello astray.

Violating the maxim ostentatiously means violating the maxim in order to mean something other than what is literally said. And, violating the maxim unostentatiously means violating the maxim without any purpose of implicating anything and it is intended by the speaker to merely tell a lie.

In her analysis, she shows how the process of misleading Othello happens through this kind of violation. Further. in her conclusion, she mentions that Iago is

always violating the maxims unostentatiously to mislead Othello. whereas Othello and Desdemona, his wife, violating the maxims ostentatiously also to lead Othello astray, until at the end he kills Desdemona..

2.2. Related Theories in this Thesis.

This study is a Discourse Analysis on KING LEAR (KL), and the particular DA theory used, are Grice's theory of CP and Leech's theory of PP. The following section is the discussion on the DA theory in general, Grice's theory of Cooperative Principle (CP), and Leech's theory of Politeness Principle (PP) in particular.

2.2.1. DISCOURSE ANALYSIS (DA) THEORY.

The analysis of discourse, is necessarily the analysis of language in use and it is committed to an investigation of what language is use for (Brown and Yule ; 1983). Further, Brown and Yule stated that DA necessarily takes a pragmatic approach which is seen in the use of language in communication, particularly the relationship between the sentence and the context-situations in which they are used. This includes the study of how the interpretation and use of utterance depends on knowledge of the real world. It is characterised by the present of "rhetorical". The point about the term "rhetoric". in this context, is the focus it places on a goal-oriented^o speech situation, in which speaker uses language in order to produce a particular effect in the mind of the hearer (Leech :1983).

2.2.2. GRICE'S COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLE (CP).

Cooperative Principle : (PP), a principle of conversation in which we interpret language on the assumption that its sender is obeying the four maxims.

The maxims are :

- Maxim of Quality (be true) :

Do not say what you believe to be false. Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence.

- Maxim of Quantity (Be brief):

Make your contribution as informative as is required. Do not make your contribution more than is required.

- Maxim of Relevance (Be relevant):

Contributions should clearly relate to the purpose of exchange.

- Maxim of Manner (Be clear).

Using this assumption, combined with the general knowledge of the world, the receiver can reason from the literal, semantic meaning of what is said to the pragmatic meaning - and induce what the sender is intending to do with his words.

In the play analysed here, the writer assumes that there are a lot of times when KL has misunderstood Cordelia - his beloved daughter. KL cannot comprehend what Cordelia means by her utterances, in saying "nothing" to express her loves to him. This speech has made KL judges Cordelia as a liar, and it is so unbelievable that she says something that has disappointed and underestimated

him, as her father. As an example let us see a quotation from King Lear - Cordelia :I.i 83-93 :

Here, Cordelia is asked by KL, to express her love for him which may influence in getting her dower from him.

- (1) KL : What can you draw
a more opulent than your sisters ? Speak.
(2) COR : *Nothing*, my Lord.
(3) KL : Nothing will come nothing. Speak again.
(4) COR : *Unhappy that I am, I cannot heave My heart into my mouth. I love your majesty According to my bond , no more no less.*

When Cordelia is asked by KL to express her loves for him, she adheres to the quality maxim (be true) of CP showing her sincerity. By saying "*nothing*" in (2) to express her loves, KL feels offended. According to KL, Cordelia's answer is considered to be rude, since it is not enough to express her love for him. And after all, she is his dearest daughter, and how could she says "*nothing*" in expressing her love for him. Knowing that her father is rather disgusted by her simple and sincere answer, Cordelia tries to minimize the conflict that might happen. Cordelia, then adheres to the agreement maxim (minimize disagreement between self and other and maximize agreement between self and other) of PP in (4): "*Unhappy..... no less*". Here she express her regret to KL in order to stop his anger with her. To conclude, when Cordelia adheres to the quality maxim of CP, she is considered to be rude, since her utterance seems to underestimate her interlocutor. So, in order to avoid the conflict that

might happen, Cordelia turns to obey to the agreement maxim of PP.

2.2.4. LEECH'S POLITENESS PRINCIPLE (PP).

PP (POLITENESS PRINCIPLE) : a principle of communication to maintain social equilibrium and the friendly relation, which enable people to assume that their interlocutors are being cooperative in the first place. It consist of the maxims of:

- Tact : minimize cost to other and maximize benefit to other
- Generosity : minimize benefit to self and maximize cost to self.
- Approbation : minimize dispraise of other and maximize praise of other.
- Modesty : minimize praises of self and maximize dispraise of self.
- Agreement : minimize disagreement between self and other and maximize agreement between self and other.
- Sympathy : minimize antipathy between self and other and maximize sympathy between self and other.

The example of this PP can be seen in the quotation below:

King Lear - Goneril : I.i.48-61.

These conversations below happen when KL asks his daughters to make expression of their loves for him, for

he has an intention to share his kingdom among them, based on their loves. His first attention is focused on Goneril, the eldest one, to make her speech.

- (6) KL : Tell me, my daughters, Which of you shall we say doth .
love us most, That we our largest bounty may extend ;
Where nature doth with merit challenge. Goneril,
Our
eldest-born, speak first.
- (7) GON : Sir, I love you more than word can wield the matter;
dearer than eyesight, space, and liberty;
- (8) KL : Of all these bounds, even from this line to this shadowy forest, and with champains riched,
We make thee lady.

In this case, Goneril in (7) is succesful in gaining the king's desires, that is when KL says "*We make thee lady*". She obeys the approbation maxim of PP (minimize dispraise of other and maximize praise of other) to flatter KL with her flowery expression of love. The king is so flattered to hear Goneril's speech that he considers Goneril as his faithful and beloved daughter. Actually, in the course of the drama we find that Goneril's utterance has led the king to his misjudgement. Goneril flouts the quality maxim of CP (be true) for she is insincere with her utterances. She adheres to the approbation (maxim minimize dispraise of other and maximize praise of other) of PP, only to pleased her father, and to get her dower. Indeed, she must think to make her father satisfied, by practising the PP. And this kind of strategy is powerful to convince the king, to bless Goneril with his dower.