ABSTRACT

In explanation of of meaning, Grice claims that people entering into conversation with each other agree to obey cooperative principle and its regulative conventions. He calls these conventions maxims. They are set as follows:

- 1. maxim of quantity : be brief
- 2. maxim of quality : be true
- 3. maxim of manner : be clear
- 4. maxim of relevance : be relevant

Using the theory of Grice's cooperative principles this thesis will analyze how the fictional conversations within Elizabeth Smith's *Slow Dancing* follow the Grice's maxim of quantity, quality, manner and relevance.

The writer chooses Elizabeth Smith's *Slow Dancing* as the source of the data since this novel carries the four floutings of those maxims. The writer will analyze what kind of maxims are broken and what the reasons of those floutings are. Also, the interpretation of what the characters mean by uttering the sentences which are different from what the sentences mean, will be detailed.

From the analysis, it is found that the violations of maxim from the most often to the least, respectively, are the violations of the maxim of quality, relevance, quantity and manner.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION