

**AN ANALYSIS OF CONVERSATIONAL IMPLICATURE IN
COURT CASES FEATURED ON THE *COURTROOM
CONSEQUENCES* YOUTUBE CHANNEL**

THESIS

Presented to

Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S.)

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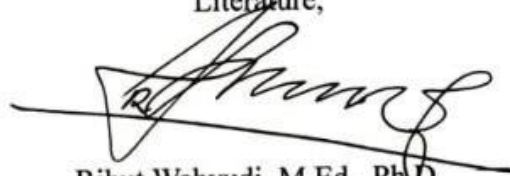
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MOTTO

“Be thankful and giving thanks is one of the keys to be happy.”

- Mark Lee -

DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

My Beloved Family they are

My late Father alm, S. Pariono

My Mother Nurbaiyah

My older sister Melinda Cahyawati

My brother-in-law Rahmad Darmawan

For their endless love, prayers and support.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah Rabbil ‘Alamin, I express my highest gratitude to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta’ala for the blessing, love, health, opportunity, and mercy in completing this undergraduate thesis. This undergraduate thesis entitled “An Analysis of Conversational Implicature in Court Cases Featured on the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube Channel” is submitted as the final requirement for accomplishing an undergraduate degree at the Department of English Literature Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Blessings and greetings are always delivered to the Prophet Muhammad PBUH, who has given Uswatun Hasanah to all of us in living this life according to His commands.

In this valuable chance, the researcher intended to express her gratitude and appreciation to all of people who have helped her in completing this thesis. I sincerely appreciate to:

1. My thesis advisor, Mr. Dr. Agwin Degaf, M.A. who has patiently and carefully guided me to accomplish this undergraduate thesis.
2. My Examiners Mr. Ribut Wahyudi, M.Ed., Ph.D. as Main Examiner and Mrs. Dr. Ika Farihah Hentihu, M.Pd. as second examiner who have given me some suggestion and reviewing this thesis.
3. My Academic Advisor, Mrs. Prof. Dr. Hj. Rohmani Nur Indah, M.Pd., for her guidance throughout my studies since day one.
4. My family, who have always loved and supported me mentally, spiritually, and financially.
5. All my friend of English Literature Department’ 18.

6. Two special groups of people have been the reason for me to continue completing this thesis. Especially, I would like to express my gratitude to the 9 most talented Peter Pans known as EXO, and the 25 cute, quirky, silly, and super talented individuals of NCT who have been a source of my happiness. Thank you for the music you create, sing, and deliver that has accompanied me in completing this thesis.
7. Last, I wanna thank to myself for doing all this hard work and never quitting.

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ABSTRACT

Sukowati, Isna Ella. (2025). *An Analysis of Conversational Implicature in Court Cases Featured on the Courtroom Consequences YouTube Channel*. Thesis. English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University Malang. Supervisor: Dr. Agwin Degaf, M.A.

Keywords: Conversational implicature, cooperative principle, Court cases, Courtroom

This study discusses the conversational implications that occur in the trial process in court where there are often misunderstandings from various parties, such as ordinary people who have different knowledge backgrounds, so they must know the implicit meaning to understand the context of speech in the trial. This study aims to analyze the implications of conversations in the interaction between judges and defendants shown in court case videos on the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel by referring to the theory developed by H.P. Grice (1975). This research method is in the form of descriptive qualitative. It is appropriate to analyze language use in natural contexts such as courtroom discourse. According to Creswell (1998), qualitative research emphasizes interpretive and naturalistic approaches to the topic matter. The research data was in the form of conversation transcripts from purposively selected videos, which were then analyzed to identify the types of implications—both general and specific—as well as the meanings conveyed through violations of cooperative principles, such as maximum quality, quantity, relevance, and methods. The results of this study show that of the 15 speeches analyzed, 13 speeches were categorized as general conversational implications and 2 speeches as specific conversational implications. It was also found that this type of general implication was more often used by defendants. The researchers suggest that future researchers interested in the same problem can explore other aspects of the implications in other respects.

تجريدي

سوكواتي ، إسنا إيلا. (2025). تحليل ضمنية المحادثة في قضايا المحاكم المعروضة على قناة عواقب قاعة المحكمة على YouTube. اطروحة. الأدب الإنجليزي ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية ، مولانا مالك إبراهيم جامعة الدولة الإسلامية مالانج. المشرف: د. أغوين ديجاف، ماجستير

الكلمات المفتاحية: ضمنية المحادثة، مبدأ التعاون، قضايا المحكمة، قاعة المحكمة

تناقش هذه الدراسة الآثار المترتبة على المحادثة التي تحدث في عملية المحاكمة في المحكمة حيث غالبا ما يكون هناك سوء فهم من أطراف مختلفة ، مثل الأشخاص العاديين الذين لديهم خلفيات معرفية مختلفة ، لذلك يجب أن يعرفوا المعنى الضمني لفهم سياق الكلام في المحاكمة. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى تحليل الآثار المترتبة على المحادثات في التفاعل بين القضاة والمدعى عليهم المعروضة في مقاطع الفيديو الخاصة بقضايا المحكمة على قناة *Courtroom Consequences* على YouTube من خلال الإشارة إلى النظرية التي طورها H.P. Grice (1975). طريقة البحث هذه في شكل وصفي نوعي. من المناسب تحليل استخدام اللغة في السياقات الطبيعية مثل خطاب قاعة المحكمة. وقال Creswell (1998) ، يؤكد البحث النوعي على الأساليب التفسيرية والطبيعية لموضوع الموضوع. كانت بيانات البحث في شكل نصوص محادثة من مقاطع فيديو مختارة بشكل هادف، والتي تم تحليلها بعد ذلك لتحديد أنواع الآثار - العامة والخاصة - بالإضافة إلى المعاني المنقولة من خلال انتهاكات المبادئ التعاونية، مثل الجودة القصوى والكمية والملاءمة والأساليب. تظهر نتائج هذه الدراسة أنه من بين 15 خطابا تم تحليلها ، تم تصنيف 13 خطابا على أنها آثار محادثة عامة و 2 خطابا كآثار محادثة محددة. ووجد أيضا أن هذا النوع من الدلالات العامة كان يستخدم في كثير من الأحيان من قبل المدعى عليهم. يقترح الباحثون أن الباحثين المستقبليين المهتمين بنفس المشكلة يمكنهم استكشاف جوانب أخرى من الآثار المترتبة في جوانب أخرى.

ABSTRAK

Sukowati, Isna Ella. (2025). *An Analysis of Conversational Implicature in Court Cases Featured on the Courtroom Consequences YouTube Channel*. Skripsi. Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: Dr. Agwin Degaf, M.A.

Kata Kunci: Implikatur percakapan, prinsip kerja sama, kasus pengadilan, ruang sidang

Penelitian ini membahas implikasi percakapan yang terjadi dalam proses persidangan di pengadilan dimana sering terjadi kesalahpahaman dari berbagai pihak, seperti orang awam yang memiliki latar belakang pengetahuan yang berbeda, sehingga harus mengetahui makna implisit untuk memahami konteks ucapan dalam persidangan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis implikasi percakapan dalam interaksi antara hakim dan terdakwa yang ditampilkan dalam video kasus pengadilan di *kanal YouTube Konsekuensi Ruang Sidang* dengan mengacu pada teori yang dikembangkan oleh H.P. Grice (1975). Metode penelitian ini berupa deskriptif kualitatif. Metode penelitian ini tepat untuk menganalisis penggunaan bahasa dalam konteks alami seperti wacana ruang sidang. Menurut Creswell (1998), penelitian kualitatif menekankan pendekatan interpretatif dan naturalistik terhadap topik tersebut. Data penelitian berupa transkrip percakapan dari video yang dipilih secara sengaja, yang kemudian dianalisis untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis implikasi—baik umum maupun spesifik—serta makna yang disampaikan melalui pelanggaran prinsip kerja sama, seperti kualitas maksimum, kuantitas, relevansi, dan metode. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa dari 15 pidato yang dianalisis, 13 pidato dikategorikan sebagai implikasi percakapan umum dan 2 pidato sebagai implikasi percakapan spesifik. Juga ditemukan bahwa jenis implikasi umum ini lebih sering digunakan oleh terdakwa. Para peneliti menyarankan bahwa peneliti masa depan yang tertarik pada masalah yang sama dapat mengeksplorasi aspek lain dari implikasi dalam hal lain.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter includes the background of the study, the research questions, the objective of the research and significance, the scope and limitations, and the definitions of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Language is an essential tool used in daily human interaction, serving to convey thoughts, emotions, and social behavior. It is inseparable from the functioning of society, particularly in formal settings such as the courtroom, where spoken and written language becomes the primary medium through which legal procedures are carried out. Yule (1989) further divides language functions into two categories: interactional, which supports social and emotional relationships, and transactional, which focuses on the delivery of knowledge and information. In courtroom contexts, both of these functions become essential as legal actors balance emotional appeals and factual assertions.

Within these interactions, speakers often rely not only on what is explicitly stated but also on what is implied. Grice (1989) refers to this phenomenon as implicature, which occurs when the intended meaning differs from the literal expression. Listeners are required to interpret this implied meaning based on context and shared background knowledge. Yule (1996) places this within the study of pragmatics, which is concerned with

how meaning is constructed and interpreted through contextual clues. In courtroom discourse, such as in judge-defendant exchanges or attorney interrogations, pragmatic competence becomes crucial to interpreting underlying intentions and strategies.

Many previous studies have explored conversational implicature in various settings, such as films, political speeches, comedy, and podcasts. First, *Implicature Analysis in Pirates of Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales* Movie written by Gunarso (2022). The writer used qualitative method to collect the data which are analyzed by using Grice theory. This study identifies the implicature used by the 8 casts. From the data analysis, it was found that there are 30 implicatures, there are 27 conversational and 3 conventional implicature. This study found more data from conversational implicature because 27 conversations are depending on the context of the conversation or meant by the speaker's utterance that is not part of what is explicitly stated, while 3 conversations that used conjunction implicates of what is being said conventionally or someone's utterance that could change at another time.

The other previous study which talks about implicature in the perspective of pragmatics is *An Analysis of Conversational Implicature on Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle* Film written by Saniatang, Sili and Setyowati (2020). The research focuses on understanding character utterances from the utterances, scene and film script, also this research focused on understand the meaning. The research used Levinson's theory

about implicature and used qualitative method. The result shows that this study finds five main characters using implicature, 37 conversational implicatures, 34 particularized conversational implicature, and 3 generalized conversational implicature.

The next previous study about implicature is *The Conversation Implicature in President Joko Widodo Rhetorical and Diplomatic Speech* written by Asmara and Kusumaningrum (2021). This study employed qualitative research design with pragmatic analysis on language functions. This study employs a pragmatic analysis approach to identify the implicative meanings of his speech. The data were the videos and texts of the transcription of President Joko Widodo's speech at the APEC CEO Summit in Beijing on November 10, 2014 and the Asian-African Conference in Jakarta on April 22 2015. The data were analysed by using note-taking techniques comprising two stages, (1) classifying linguistic data that contains implicatures and (2) interpreting the meaning behind the implicature used, based on the context of the situation and the background of the relevant discourse. Based on the results, President Joko Widodo's speech was dominated by several implicatures including influencing, insinuating, convincing, threatening, complaining, clarifying, and governing.

The research about implicature also written by Lesmana (2022) titled, *Implicature Analysis of Abdur's Stand Up Comedy on Kompas TV*. The purpose of this study is to explore the types of implicature and the most

dominant type of implicature used. The researcher used a qualitative descriptive study with observation and note taking technique instrument were employed in this study. The result of the analysis showed that of the 11 data found, 4 data are conventional implicatures and 7 data are conversational implicatures. the number of occurrences of the most dominant type of implicature is conversational implicature (conventional implicature) with 7 data. This shows that the speech in Abdur's stand-up comedy contains many implications with the meaning of the word itself.

The next previous studies about expressive speech act entitled “Conversational Implicature in Undisputed Movie” thesis by Ferdiansa (2019). To accomplish this research, the researcher used the theory by Grice to classify the types of conversational implicature. The research focuses on discovering the types of conversational implicature and how the speaker violated the maxims when uttering the sentence. In conclusion, the researcher found some data of implicatures that used to make the utterances impolite. Furthermore, usage of the violated maxim in speech is to make utterances interesting and fun because it has its language style in conversation.

This research was done by Afrilesa et al. (2021), entitled An Analysis of Conversational Implicature in Deddy Corbuzier’s Podcast on YouTube. This previous research used a descriptive qualitative methodology, and the data came from the podcast talk with Deddy Corbuzier. The observational approach of downsizing and note-taking used to gather the data. The

purpose of the study was to identify the kind, significance, and use of conversational implicature. This led to the classification of six of the eleven utterances in the podcast as particularized conversational implicature, three as generalized conversational implicature, and two as scalar implicature. implicature was employed in these statements for four different purposes. Nine assertive, two directive, one declarative, and two expressive functions were present. In this audio, the assertive function is predominant due to the speakers' explanations.

Despite the growing body of literature, fewer studies have focused on conversational implicature within legal discourse, especially in publicly accessible courtroom interactions. Recent findings from legal and linguistic scholarship provide valuable insights. In this article entitled *Implicatures in Judicial Opinions* by Marat Shardingaliev (2019), a researcher will focus on implicatures in a particular type of legal discourse, namely judicial opinions, and will discuss to what extent we should also be skeptical of implicatures in this type of legal discourse. The aim of this research is to show that skepticism about the reliability of implicatures in judicial opinions seems rather unreasonable once we consider the evidence, i.e. examples of implicatures from judicial opinions. The researcher argues that the evidence provided by skeptics is not only scarce but also unconvincing and presents many implicatures from judicial opinions that are instead unreliable. The researcher concludes that the evidence-based approach makes skeptics'

views doubtful and suggests that communicative cooperation can also be assumed in judicial opinions.

The paper entitled *Legal Speech and Implicit Content in the Law* by Luke William Hunt (2016) examines the extent to which implied and explicit content is part of the law, and specifically whether Grice's concept of conversational implicature is relevant in determining the content of the law. Existing research has focused on how this question relates to the law. This paper extends the analysis to case law and departs from the literature on some key issues. The paper's argument is based on two points: (1) precedent-setting judicial opinions can consist of multiple conversations, some of which have contradictory implicatures, and (2) if precedent-setting judicial opinions consist of multiple conversations, some of which have contradictory implicatures, then no meaningful implicatures are part of the content of precedent-setting judicial opinions. The conclusion of this paper opens up the prospect of getting something in between conversational implicature and what is literally said, i.e. conversational implicature.

This paper studies the role of conversational implicature in 17th century courtroom discourse. The hypothesis of this paper is that the use of literal vs. non-literal language corresponds to the difference between the powerless interrogated person (defendant, witness) and the powerful interrogator (judge, lawyer). While the interrogated person must use literal language to comply with one of the Miranda warning rules ("Anything you say can be used against you"), interrogators often use various types of non-

literal language for rhetorical purposes. As such, the implicatures that can be drawn from their discourse are instances of irony and even allusion, such as metonymy or metaphor, illustrated by excerpts from three Early Modern English courtroom records. The trials of two representatives of the English nobility, *The Trial of Titus Oates* and *The Trial of Lady Alice Lisle* (both dated 1685) are contrasted with the unique case of the trial of a king, *The Trial of King Charles* (1649). The analysis reveals that although the hypothesis is corroborated by data from previous trials, in the trial of a king, several additional socio-historical variables must be considered.

Thus, Shardingaliev (2019) and Hunt (2016) argue that judicial opinions often rely on implicature to convey nuanced meanings beyond the literal words of the ruling. Such indirect expressions are presumed to be cooperative and context-sensitive, reflecting an intention to guide interpretation without explicitly stating all conclusions. Kryk-Kastovsky (2018) also notes the contrast between literal and non-literal language use in courtroom records, where interrogators use indirect strategies for rhetorical effect, while defendants tend to speak more literally to avoid misrepresentation.

Furthermore, research by Tunde Opeibi (2012) entitled *Language Countertrading in Courtroom Exchanges in Nigeria: A Discursive Study* focuses mainly on an aspect of courtroom discourse, a procedural questioning session which provides the basis for presenting the plaintiff's arguments and information through the plaintiff's counsel. The data used in

this work were drawn from a civil suit filed in a Lagos High Court by a complainant in connection with a dispute on a property in central Lagos. Using insights from discourse analysis and theoretical construct based on Genre Analysis as well as other relevant constructs, the study analyses discourse features and strategies deployed by active participants in the proceedings. The study finds that legal proceedings contextualized within a given L₂ sociolinguistic and lingual-legal jurisdiction helps to project some of the peculiar features of a non-native English in legal domains. Apart from identifying some peculiar discourse patterns that are institutional-based, courtroom proceedings in this legal culture demonstrates discourse strategies that conflate with similar features in other jurisdictions. The complex natures of legal texts that are highlighted merely corroborate previous works in this area. The study concludes by demonstrating how language is used to perform actions that are goal-directive in this domain using the Speech Act model.

The research written by Francesca Poggi (2016) entitled *Grice, the Law and the Linguistic Special Case Thesis* aims to investigate the application of Grice's theory of conversational implicature to legal statutes and other common heteronomous legal acts. The researcher surveys one of the most convincing arguments against the application of conversational maxims to the legal domain, namely the argument based on legislative intent. The researcher argues that this argument is not decisive, but, after all, conversational maxims do not apply to legislation: in fact, legal practice

does not include Grice's conversational maxims among its conventions. This inapplicability, which stems from the very nature of the principles of cooperation and its maxims, corresponds to another peculiarity of legal practice. The researchers claim that all these features explain why legislation and other common heteronomous legal acts are not special cases of ordinary conversation.

An article entitled *The Place for Conversational Implicature in Doctor-Patient Communication* written by Martina Blečić analyses the local nature of the use and the interpretation of conversational implicatures that is often omitted from the Gricean picture in which the speaker generally relies on the capacity of the hearer to work out the intended implicature. The researcher wants to propose the idea that there are contexts in which the speaker is not justified in doing so. One such context is related to doctor-patient communication. This kind of verbal interaction is pervaded by strong emotional responses that make the use and interpretation of common indirect communicational strategies a potential communicational and ethical problem.

In this paper entitled *The Non-saying of What Should Have Been Said* written by Colonna Dahlman (2021), it is argued that, whenever a speaker implicates a content by flouting one or several maxims, her implicature is not only carried by the act of saying what is said and the way of saying it, but also by the act of non-saying what should have been said according to what would have been normal to say in that particular context.

Implicatures that arise without maxim violation are only built on the saying of what is said, while those that arise in violative contexts are carried by the saying of what is said in combination with the non-saying of what should have been said. This observation seems to justify two claims: (i) that conversational implicatures have different epistemic requirements depending on whether they arise in violative or non-violative contexts; (ii) that implicatures arising in non-violative contexts are more strongly tied to their generating assertion than those arising with maxim violation.

Thus, Opeibi (2012) emphasizes that the complexity of legal language can create communication challenges for lay participants, who may struggle with interpreting implicatures shaped by legal norms and expectations. Poggi (2016) questions the reliability of implicatures in legal discourse but acknowledges that they remain a persistent element of legal reasoning. Additional perspectives from Blečić (2017) and Colonna Dahlman (2022) underscore how emotional context and speaker-hearer relationships shape the effectiveness of implicatures in institutional communication.

Given this background, the present study focuses on conversational implicatures in courtroom discourse, particularly those featured on the YouTube channel "Courtroom Consequences." The channel provides publicly available recordings of real court interactions, often involving defendants and judges. These courtroom exchanges reveal complex communication patterns, where meaning is often inferred through tone,

hesitation, avoidance, or indirect language. The analysis of these interactions can offer valuable understanding of how implicatures are used to maintain authority, navigate legal expectations, and manage interpersonal boundaries. This research contributes to the broader field of pragmatics and legal linguistics, highlighting the role of implied meaning in shaping legal understanding and courtroom outcomes.

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the following research questions are formulated:

1. What types of conversational implicature are used by the judges and the suspects in the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube videos, and which type occurs most frequently?
2. What are the implied meanings conveyed through the utterances of the judges and the suspects in the courtroom interactions?

C. Significance of the Study

This study offers both theoretical and practical contributions. Theoretically, it enhances understanding of conversational implicature as discussed in pragmatics, particularly how implied meanings are constructed and interpreted in legal settings. The findings are expected to enrich the academic discussion of implicature, especially in courtroom interactions where language is used with precision and subtlety. Practically, this research may benefit students of UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, particularly

those in the English Literature Department, as it provides insight into how language functions in formal and legal discourse. It also serves as a reference for those interested in the intersection of language and law, helping them understand how meaning is communicated beyond literal expressions in court cases.

D. Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on the analysis of conversational implicature within courtroom interactions featured on the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel. The scope of the research includes identifying the types of conversational implicature used by judges and suspects, as well as interpreting the implied meanings conveyed through their utterances. The analysis is limited to selected court case videos published on the *Courtroom Consequences* channel and centers on pragmatic theories, particularly Grice's theory of implicature. This study does not explore broader legal outcomes or judicial procedures beyond the linguistic aspects of the dialogue. The findings are expected to benefit students of English Literature at UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang and readers with an interest in pragmatics and legal discourse, and may serve as a reference for future research in related areas.

E. Key Terms

This section defines the essential terms used in this research to support readers' understanding of the topic:

1. Implicature: A meaning that is implied, suggested, or intended by the speaker, which differs from the literal interpretation of the spoken utterance.
2. Pragmatics: A branch of linguistics that studies how language is used in social interaction, focusing on the relationship between language, context, and meaning.
3. Conversational Implicature: A type of pragmatic meaning that arises when a speaker conveys a message indirectly, relying on the listener to infer the intended meaning based on context.
4. Generalized Conversational Implicature: A form of implicature that does not require specific contextual knowledge for interpretation and can be inferred from the utterance alone.
5. Particularized Conversational Implicature: A form of implicature that depends on specific contextual information shared between the speaker and listener to be correctly interpreted.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

A. Pragmatics

Some components of meaning are shaped not only by the literal definition of words but also by the communicative intent of the speaker and the context in which language is used. Effective communication requires understanding both the lexical meaning and the intended message of the speaker within a given situation. This includes recognizing implicit meaning that is not directly stated, yet essential for accurate interpretation. According to Yule (1996), pragmatics examines the relationship between linguistic forms and their users, focusing on what speakers mean rather than only what they say.

Pragmatics differs from syntax and semantics in its emphasis on context. For instance, analyzing Queen Victoria's famous utterance, "We are not amused," through the lens of syntax involves identifying grammatical structures such as the subject, verb, and complement. This level of analysis, however, ignores the speaker, listener, and circumstances of the utterance. Semantics, on the other hand, explains the literal meanings of the words in isolation—understanding "we" as a pronoun, "are" as a verb of state, and "amused" as synonymous with entertained or pleased. Neither syntactic nor semantic analysis fully captures the intended message in this statement.

Pragmatics and discourse analysis take a different approach by examining how language functions within a specific social, psychological, and historical context. In the case of Queen Victoria, understanding that she was grieving the death of Prince Albert and that the utterance was a response to a failed attempt at humor among her courtiers is crucial to interpreting the true message. This suggests that her statement was not merely informative but also served as a subtle assertion of authority and emotional boundaries. Pragmatics and discourse analysis both attend to context, speaker-hearer interaction, and how meaning is inferred rather than directly stated (Stilwell Peccei, 1999; Brown and Yule, 1983; Thomas, 1995).

As noted by Cook (1989), these two fields also examine discourse and text—how larger segments of spoken or written language become coherent and meaningful for users. While discourse analysis may describe this as coherence, pragmatics refers to it as relevance. Both recognize that meaning extends beyond words to include assumptions, shared knowledge, and communicative goals.

The study of pragmatics, therefore, centers on speaker intent, inferencing, and context. Wardhaugh (2015) emphasizes that pragmatics reveals how language is interpreted relative to situation-specific factors and how listeners use assumptions to derive meaning from prior discourse. Crystal in Mahmud (2017) further highlights that pragmatics is the study of the choices individuals make in social interaction and how those choices affect others. These perspectives place pragmatics at the heart of analyzing

spoken interactions, especially in high-stakes contexts such as courtroom exchanges.

Rather than isolating individual words or sentence structures, pragmatics focuses on utterances in their social environments. This makes it particularly useful for analyzing courtroom discourse where meaning is often conveyed indirectly, and where legal outcomes may hinge on the interpretation of what is implied rather than what is explicitly said. In legal settings, such as those observed in the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel, pragmatics offers essential tools for interpreting how judges and suspects communicate intent, authority, hesitation, and resistance through implicature and inferred meaning. Through this lens, the current research investigates how meaning is managed in courtroom dialogue using the framework of conversational implicature.

B. Implicature

In social interaction, whether in a formal or informal situation, people usually violate the cooperative principles to create other styles of expressing their ideas. However, they always do not obey the cooperative principle in conversation. There are times when the speaker says something but has a different meaning from the sentence. It is mentioned as an implicature. Grice (1989) revealed that implicature is a theory of how meaning may be implied rather than stated. The point of this is that the meaning in the implicature is not seen from the written meaning or the actual meaning, but the meaning from the perception of the listeners. According to

Johan's said (2019), implicature is the term for when a speaker intentionally breaks the maxims in everyday conversation for a specific cause, such as humour or sarcasm.

According to Grice (1989), implicature is divided into two, namely conventional implicature and non- conventional implicature.

1. Conversational Implicature

Conversational implicature is the first kind of implicature. A fundamental tenet of conversation is that both parties abide by the cooperative principle. This is known as conversational implicature. Conversely, conversational implicatures rely on the context and characteristics of the conversation rather than merely the accepted definitions of the terms employed, according to Grice (1975). In short, when communicating and hearing a speaker's statement which is not part of what is expressly conveyed, the other person can infer the speaker's underlying assumptions. Cancellable is one method of detecting conversational implicature in an utterance (Grice, 1975). When the speaker adds details to their speech, the implied meaning might be broken. This indicates that the implicature is cancelled when the speaker discloses information about the initial utterance after producing the implicature in the utterances.

As a result, Grice (1975) separated implicatures in conversations into two groups: particularized implicatures and generalized implicatures. The following is a description of each of these implicatures:

a. Particularized Conversational Implicature

According to Yule (1996), particularized conversational implicature occurs in highly specific circumstances when conclusions are presumed. One could contend that background knowledge and context are required in order to understand the speaker's purpose. In conclusion, the purpose was accomplished through discussion by making reference to or being conscious of the speaker-hearer dynamic, shared background knowledge, and the context of the discourse. These elements make it possible to deduce a speaker's aim from their speech or exchange of ideas. An illustration of particularized conversational implicature is the exchange that follows:

Peter: Hey, coming to Andy's birthday party tonight?

Thomas: My brother is sick.

Peter must make certain assumptions based on Thomas's response in order to make it meaningful. It clarifies that Thomas will be caring for her sister that evening or it's just an excuse for him to skip the celebration. Peter will become perplexed by Thomas's response if he does not grasp its underlying significance. Thomas's reaction appears to defy the appropriate maxim in this instance.

b. Generalized Conversational Implicature

Grice (1975) asserts that treating generalized conversational implicature as conventional implicature is far too easy. This indicates that

universal conversational implicatures do not rely on unique settings to decipher the meaning of the speaker. According to Yule (1996), calculating the additional meaning that provided in the context doesn't require any specialized knowledge. As a result, the implicature loses its added meaning. Stated differently, the hearer infers the meaning of the discourse based only on the word structure. As a result, generalized conversational implicature interprets utterances without or very significantly depending on context.

Grice in Nana, Sukyadi and Sudarsono (2012) distinguishes generalized implicature into three types; Q-Implicature (based on the first sub maxim of Quantity—Make your contribution as informative as required for the purpose of communication), I-Implicature (based on the second sub maxim of quantity—do not make your contribution more informative than what is required), and M-Implicature (based on the third sub maxim of manner—avoid obscurity of expression and avoid proximity). Among the three types of implicatures, Q-implicature is highly noticed.

2. Conventional Implicature

Conventional implicature refers to implicature in which the word used has a conventional connotation. According to Yule (1996), conventional implicature is not related on the cooperative principles or the maxims. This is so that the speaker's meaning can be understood without reliance on unique situations when using conventional implicature. In this instance, traditional implicature is associated with particular phrases that,

when used, will transmit additional meanings. As a result, the particular terms allude to an English conjunction. The terms that are specific here are conjunctions. Conjunctions like but, although, so, additionally, and consequently are examples of several.

According to Davis (2007), "convention" refers to an arbitrary social habit or practice. Conventional meaning refers to words that users agree have arbitrary meanings. For example, consider the word "and" in the sentence: "Yesterday, Marry was happy and ready to work" (Yule, 1996). This utterance's suggested meaning is derived from the word "and". The word "and" is commonly agreed upon by English language users to signify "addition" or "plus". Thus, the underlying meaning of that sentence is that Marry was happy yesterday and is now ready to work.

2.1 Grice's Cooperative Principle

The participants apply the cooperation principle to have a cogent and unified conversation. One could argue that the cooperation principle functions as the communication norm. Grice's Cooperative Principle is indeed, not an attempt to legislate "what" and "how" human interaction should operate, but an attempt to elucidate "what" makes human interactions violate the basic principles of natural communication and "how" such violations produce meanings that can always be calculated or worked out.

According to Grice (1975), a cooperative interaction consists of a basic conversational principle and several maxims that speakers will usually follow. In this case, the cooperative principle is the overarching concept that Grice (1975) identified as necessary for providing conversational input. We can conclude that the speakers need to adhere to the maxims in order to establish cooperative contact based on the cooperative principle. Grice (1975) then described the four maxims, there are the maxim of quantity, the maxim of quality, the maxim of relevance, and the maxim of manner. There are requirements related to these four sub-principles that must be met.

a) Maxim of Quantity

In keeping with the maxim of quantity, the speaker must provide the necessary informative contributions. To put it briefly, people must provide "enough" information. The following are instances of statements that both adhere to and contradict the quantity maxim.

A: Where are you going?

B: I'm going to the library.

From the conversation above, it can be concluded that B's answer obeys the maxim of quantity. Person B does not give more information than is required. In short, the person B gives the answer without adding other unnecessary information.

A: Are you going to music festival tomorrow?

B: I have to do my thesis and help my mother.

It can be seen from the conversation above that B's answer violates the maxim of quantity. Grice (1975) stated that violating the maxims is when the speaker secretly breaks the maxim or intentionally lying. Here, B's answer gives more information than is required. Thus, person B's answer violates the maxim of quantity.

b) Maxim of Quality

Maxim of quality requires people to declare what is true, and not say what they cannot prove. It means that people need to make their contribution that is based on fact. Below are the examples of utterances that obey and break the maxim of quality.

A: What day you usually go to library?

B: I go to mosque everyday.

In this context, person B is Moslem. From the conversation above, it can be said that B's answer is true. In short, she or he says what she or he believe to be true.

A: Who is the president of Indonesia in 2014?

B: The president of Indonesia in 2014 is Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

From the conversation above, it can be said that B's answer is false based on the fact that the president of Indonesia in 2014 is Joko Widodo. It can be seen from the B's answer which gives

false information in order to do sarcasm or joke. According to Grice (1975), flouting the maxims happened when the speaker overtly breaking the maxims for some linguistic effect, such as: sarcasm, irony, entertainment, etc. As the conclusion, person B's answer flouting the maxim of quality.

c) Maxim of Relevance

Maxim of relevance requires people to make relevant contribution. To put it simply, we can say that it needs to be relevance with context or topic of the conversation. Below are the examples of utterances that obey and break the maxim of relevance.

A: Where is my handphone?

B: It is on the brown chair behind the cupboard.

From the conversation above, it can be said that B's answer is relates to the question. Therefore, B's answer obeys the maxim relevant.

A: Do you want to go the concert tonight?

B: My mother is sick.

It can be seen from the conversation above that B's answer is not relevance with the question and violating the maxim of relevant. Person A asked person B to go to the concert but B's answer violated the maxim of relevant because B answered with an excuse or implicitly said that she or he does not want to go.

d) Maxim of Manner

The last, maxim of manner, people are required to be brief, and be orderly. As a result, the maxim of manner needs to be clear and avoid ambiguity. Below are the examples of utterances that obey and break the maxim of manner.

A: Where are you this morning?

B: I am in a market to buy a vegetable.

From the conversation above, it can be said that B's answer is brief and orderly. Therefore, B's answer obeys the maxim manner.

A: Do you see my book?

B: No, but I saw you put it in your bag.

It can be seen from the conversation above that B's answer is not giving the exact answer. It might confused person A because person B's answer is ambiguous. Therefore, B's answer violating the maxim of manner.

C. Pragmatics in Legal and Courtroom Contexts

Pragmatics plays a central role in understanding legal discourse, particularly within courtroom settings where language is often used strategically to argue, persuade, and interpret meaning. Legal professionals, especially lawyers and judges, regularly employ pragmatic strategies during trials and cross-examinations. These strategies are designed to influence judicial outcomes through carefully constructed arguments and leading questions. Rodríguez and Álvarez (2020) point

out that such discursive patterns are often used to subtly shape how a judge perceives the facts of a case, particularly in intellectual property disputes. Similarly, Feteris (2016) highlights how the U.S. Supreme Court, in landmark cases such as *Holy Trinity*, has utilized prototypical argumentative structures that rely on pragmatic reasoning to justify decisions and address public critique.

In the realm of courtroom interpreting, the pragmatic function of language becomes even more complex. Interpreters must convey not only the literal content of speech but also the speaker's intent, emotional tone, and contextually bound implications. Liu and Wang (2023) emphasize the impact of intonation on how courtroom questions are interpreted across languages, illustrating how rising or falling intonations can significantly alter the perceived meaning of a question or response. Stern (2012) also outlines the difficulties court interpreters face, particularly in culturally asymmetrical situations where pragmatic equivalence is challenging to maintain. Notari (2020) suggests that training programs for interpreters should focus more intensively on pragmatic competence to prepare students for the nuanced demands of courtroom communication.

A number of studies have also explored the use of pragmatic markers in legal language. Claridge (2018), for instance, examines the word “now” as a marker that segments courtroom discourse, manages turn-taking, and signals shifts in argumentative phases. Such lexical choices are deliberate and serve to control the flow of courtroom interaction. In addition, speech acts and politeness strategies play a critical role in evaluating the impact of potentially harmful language, such as in hate speech trials. Carney (2014) demonstrates that analyzing speech acts and the

level of politeness provides insight into how offensive statements are framed and judged, offering a forensic linguistic method for understanding legal consequences.

Beyond individual lexical items, the broader structure of courtroom discourse is also shaped by pragmatic mechanisms like implicature, deixis, and presupposition. Tuzet (2021) explains that in the presentation and interpretation of evidence, speakers often rely on implied meanings and contextual assumptions that are not explicitly stated. The risk of misunderstanding or strategic misrepresentation increases when such pragmatic elements are not managed carefully. This is echoed in Visconti's (2018) analysis of legal texts, which asserts that legal interpretation often involves enriching semantic content with pragmatic information to arrive at more comprehensive legal judgments.

The importance of pragmatics in ensuring fairness within legal proceedings has also been recognized. Ervo (2016) notes that contemporary legal systems have moved toward a more participatory model in which parties are expected to engage actively and meaningfully during hearings. This shift demands clear, context-sensitive communication and emphasizes the role of pragmatics in constructing a just and transparent legal process. Such considerations are particularly relevant in public and media-accessible trials, such as those featured on the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel, where both judges and suspects engage in conversations filled with implied meanings, indirect speech, and situational cues.

In sum, the study of pragmatics in courtrooms encompasses various aspects, including legal argumentation, interpretation, speech acts, evidence presentation, and courtroom interaction. Each of these elements contributes to the construction

of meaning and influences how messages are understood and evaluated in legal settings. These insights provide a strong foundation for examining conversational implicature in courtroom interactions, particularly those disseminated through online platforms like *Courtroom Consequences*, where the nuances of legal discourse are made publicly visible and open to interpretation.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

A. Research Design

This research employed a descriptive qualitative method, which is suitable for analyzing language use in natural contexts such as courtroom discourse. Creswell (1998) states that qualitative research emphasizes interpretive and naturalistic approaches to its subject matter. It involves studying events or phenomena in their natural setting and making sense of them based on the meanings people bring to them. In this study, the natural setting is the courtroom interaction featured in videos uploaded to the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel.

Qualitative research allows for in-depth exploration of language phenomena by examining various types of data, including verbal interactions, transcripts, and documented speech. The primary focus of this research is on analyzing the conversational implicature used by both judges and suspects during legal proceedings as recorded in the selected courtroom videos. Through this method, the researcher aims to identify the types of implicatures used and interpret their implied meanings within the courtroom context.

B. Data and Data Sources

The data used in this research consisted of spoken utterances delivered by judges and suspects during courtroom proceedings. The primary data

source was a YouTube video from the *Courtroom Consequences* channel, published on May 7, 2024. This video features real-life courtroom interactions, which provide naturally occurring data for the analysis of language use in legal contexts. The study specifically focuses on identifying and interpreting conversational implicatures that emerge throughout the dialogue, aiming to uncover the implied meanings behind the speakers' utterances.

C. Data Collection

In qualitative research, data collection plays a central role in understanding naturally occurring language within specific contexts. As Miles and Saldana (2014) highlight, such data are typically gathered in natural settings and often require processing before they are suitable for analysis. Among the various qualitative data collection methods, this study adopted individual researcher documentation and media content analysis. These methods are appropriate for examining spoken language in audiovisual courtroom materials, such as those available on online platforms.

The data were drawn from a court case video uploaded to the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel. The researcher began the process through multiple viewings of the video to gain a full understanding of the courtroom interaction, particularly the exchanges between judges and suspects. Sentences and phrases that indicated conversational implicature were marked and transcribed into a written format for detailed analysis.

The utterances were then identified based on who delivered them—either the judge or the suspect—and were categorized accordingly. This careful selection and organization of data ensured that the material was relevant to the study of conversational implicature within the framework of Gricean pragmatics. The approach allowed for a focused examination of how implied meanings emerge in courtroom discourse and how language is used strategically in legal interactions.

D. Data Analysis

The data in this research were analyzed using a pragmatic approach, with particular reference to Grice's theory of conversational implicature. This method was chosen to interpret the implied meanings found in utterances produced by both judges and suspects in the courtroom interactions featured in the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel. The researcher began the process by watching the selected video and transcribing the spoken dialogue into written form, creating a subtitle-like script that could be reviewed more thoroughly.

Once the data had been transcribed, the next step involved a close reading of the utterances to identify instances that contained conversational implicature. Each utterance was carefully examined to determine whether it reflected an implied meaning that differed from the literal expression. Using Grice's framework, the researcher then classified the implicatures into two main types: generalized conversational implicature, which does not depend

heavily on contextual information, and particularized conversational implicature, which relies on specific situational context.

After the classification process, the utterances were analyzed in terms of their intended meaning and the effect they may have had within the courtroom exchange. This analysis enabled the researcher to identify which types of conversational implicature appeared most frequently, as well as to explore the inferred meanings behind the judges' and suspects' statements. The final stage involved describing the findings in a detailed and structured manner, linking the analysis to broader themes in courtroom discourse and pragmatic theory.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter provides finding and discussion. The findings are included in the analysis of the implicature type and the intended meaning. This analysis aims to answer the research question, and the discussion is to discuss the result of the data analysis in the findings.

A. Findings

In this chapter, the researchers analyzed data taken from one of the video uploaded in *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel. The researcher began the process by watching the selected video and transcribing the spoken dialogue into written form, creating a subtitle-like script that could be reviewed more thoroughly. The next step is involved a close reading of the utterances to identify instances that contained conversational implicature. Then, the researcher then classified the implicatures into two main types: generalized conversational implicature, which does not depend heavily on contextual information, and particularized conversational implicature, which relies on specific situational context. After the classification process, the utterances were analyzed in terms of their intended meaning and the effect they may have had within the courtroom exchange. The final stage involved describing the findings in a detailed and structured manner, linking the analysis to broader themes in courtroom discourse and pragmatic theory.

Datum 1

Redden: Based on my criminal history like I feel that like I shouldn't be like sent to prison for a second time.

Judge: Have you looked at your criminal history?

Redden: Yeah, I actually just looked at it.

Context

Deobra Redden is a defendant facing sentencing for attempted battery in a Nevada courtroom. During the proceedings, he expresses his opinion that he should not be sent to prison again. In response, Judge Mary Kay Holthus questions whether he has reviewed his criminal history, to which Redden replies that he has recently done so.

Analysis

This interaction reflects a pragmatic exchange between a defendant who presents a subjective stance and a judge who relies on factual legal grounds. Redden's initial utterance suggests a personal belief that his criminal past should not result in repeated incarceration. However, this belief lacks detailed justification or evidence, which opens space for implied meaning to emerge in the conversation.

The judge's question, "Have you looked at your criminal history?" does not merely request factual confirmation. Instead, it implicitly conveys

skepticism and implies that the criminal record in question contradicts Redden's claim. This unstated implication is understood through the context of courtroom discourse, where the speaker's authority, institutional setting, and shared knowledge between interlocutors contribute to the interpretation. The judge uses implicature as a rhetorical device to challenge the defendant's reasoning without directly confronting him.

Redden's response, "Yeah, I actually just looked at it," is concise and relevant, conforming to Grice's maxim of quantity. He provides only the necessary information, refraining from elaboration or justification, which may indicate his awareness of the unfavorable nature of his record. The utterance supports the occurrence of generalized conversational implicature because the implied meaning arises without requiring detailed or specific contextual knowledge. The audience can infer the judge's critical stance based on common expectations about legal accountability and institutional authority.

The interaction exemplifies how generalized implicature operates effectively within courtroom communication. The judge's use of implicature preserves formality and authority, while Redden's minimal response avoids direct engagement with the implied criticism. This shows how implicature can manage face-threatening acts within formal institutional discourse, allowing indirect expression of judgment while maintaining the decorum of legal proceedings.

Datum 2

Judge: Three felonies a gross nine misdemeanors multiple DVS. Got a lot going on sir.

Redden: Yeah! I just really like...

Judge: Battery on a protected person, robberies, attempt home invasion.

Redden: I feel like I shouldn't be sent to prison but if it's appropriate for you then you have to do what you have to do but I figured that I'm in better place in my life, I'm not doing drugs. I'm not you know I'm not out there committing crimes you know and I feel like I should be given a shot because I'm in better place than I was.

Context

In this exchange, Judge Holthus lists several offenses from Deobra Redden's criminal record, including felonies and misdemeanors. Redden, who struggles with mental health issues such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, attempts to respond by stating that he has changed and is now in a better phase of his life.

Analysis

This conversation shows how Redden tries to appeal for leniency by arguing that his current behavior no longer reflects his past actions. However, his initial response is vague and disorganized. He begins by

saying he just really likes something, without completing the sentence, which leads to confusion. His utterance includes repeated fillers and lacks clarity. This response violates the conversational principle that requires speakers to be clear and orderly, often referred to as the maxim of manner.

The implicature in this dialogue is that Redden is trying to suggest he deserves a second chance because he has reformed. He does not say this explicitly but implies it through his lengthy and emotional explanation. This kind of implied meaning fits the category of generalized conversational implicature because it can be understood by the hearer without needing a highly specific context.

Compared to the judge's speech, which is direct and follows the maxim of quantity by listing facts, Redden's speech style reflects emotional reasoning rather than logical structure. This difference illustrates how communication in a legal setting can become challenging when participants follow different styles of speaking. The institutional expectations for clarity and relevance often clash with personal expressions shaped by mental health conditions and emotional appeals. Thus, while the judge adheres to formal courtroom discourse, Redden's attempt to justify himself indirectly adds complexity to the interaction.

Datum 3

Judge: Alright, this is on for the continuation of Mr. Radden sentencing. For purposes of the other record, I want to make it clear that I'm not changing or modifying the sentence I was in the process of imposing last week before I was interrupted by defendant's actions.

Judge: Alright! That being said. In accordance with the laws of state of Nevada, this court does now sentence you in addition to the \$25 administrative assessment fee \$150 DNA fee, a \$3 DNA administrative assessment fee and \$250 injured at defense fee 19 to 48 months in the Nevada Department Corrections.

Context

Deobra Redden was seen in court again with his hands shackled and wearing a spit mask for sentencing for the initial assault committed a few days earlier against the judge. Redden launched over the courtroom bench and headed straight for judge eventually deputies were able to restrain him. He faced 13 new charges for the attack on Judge including attempted murder battery and extortion by threat.

Analysis

Based on the sentence uttered by the judge in datum 3 regarding the continuation of the sentence imposed on Redden in accordance with Nevada state law before the judge was interrupted by Redden, the sentence can be categorized into generalized conversational implicature because the

sentence delivered can be easily understood by the audience and there is no meaning that requires a special context to be understood in it.

In addition, the sentence can also be categorized into the maxim of quality which prioritizes and ensures that the information conveyed is in accordance with reality or truth. The maxim of quality can be seen from the sentence delivered by the judge when explaining the sentence for Radden which is very much in accordance with Nevada state law, starting from the administrative assessment fee to the prison sentence he received. Besides that, the judge also emphasized that he did not change or modify the sentence he imposed on the defendant. The judge emphasized this to avoid any misunderstanding during the trial.

Datum 4

Judge: I've taken your statements in your petition as part of your testimony, but I need you to tell me briefly in your own words, what happened to cause you to ask for domestic violence order.

*Melissa: My personal life is none of your f*cking business. It has nothing to do with this.*

Context

Melissa Hardwick appeared in the Russell and Wayne County Family Court in Kentucky for a domestic violence hearing. Her ex-husband had filed a domestic violence protection order against her. While he was presenting his side of the story, the judge invited Melissa to briefly explain what prompted her to request a domestic violence order. Instead of answering the question directly, Melissa responded in a confrontational tone, refusing to discuss her personal life.

Analysis

In datum 4, the judge asked Melissa Hardwick to explain briefly, in her own words, what had led her to seek a domestic violence order. This request was meant to clarify the context of the case and complete the testimony already provided in the petition. However, instead of giving a cooperative and relevant answer, Melissa responded with hostility by saying that her personal life was none of the court's business and had nothing to do with the matter at hand. Her refusal to respond to the question clearly constitutes a violation of the maxim of manner. The maxim of manner requires speakers to avoid obscurity and ambiguity and to provide answers that are brief and orderly. In this case, Melissa's reply was emotionally charged, abrupt, and avoided the core of the judge's inquiry.

The implicature in this exchange emerges from the way Melissa deflects the judge's question. Although she does not directly refuse to provide an explanation, her strong and explicit dismissal indicates that she

has no intention of complying with the judge's request. The audience can easily infer from her tone and choice of words that she is unwilling to discuss the details of the incident. Since the meaning of her utterance can be interpreted without relying on any additional background knowledge, this exchange can be categorized as a generalized conversational implicature.

Datum 5

Judge: Ms. Hardwick you will be held in contempt of this court if you became disrupted.

Melissa: I don't care. I haven't done anything to this court, haven't done anything to him.

Context

The judge clearly warned Melissa that she would be held in contempt of court if she continued her disruptive behavior. However, Melissa remained defiant and expressed her indifference, insisting that she had not done anything wrong either to the court or to her ex-husband.

Analysis

In datum 5, the conversation continues from the previous exchange in datum 4. The judge informs Melissa that she will be held in contempt of

court if she persists in disrupting the proceedings. However, Melissa disregards the judge's warning and responds by saying that she does not care because, according to her, she has done nothing wrong. Her response reflects a violation of the maxim of manner, as it lacks clarity and fails to align with the expected cooperative tone in a courtroom setting.

Melissa's dismissive attitude and emotionally charged response also indicate a lack of respect for legal procedures. The judge's warning was a clear attempt to maintain order, yet Melissa's reply introduced ambiguity and resistance. This exchange can be categorized as a generalized conversational implicature because her message is conveyed without needing specific contextual background. The audience can infer her defiance from the tone and content of her speech, even though it was not explicitly stated.

Datum 6

Judge: Okay, she will be arrested for contempt of court. You will serve 10 days for contempt of court. Go now.

*Melissa: F*ck you. Wait and see.*

Context

Melissa's continued defiance led the judge to escalate the consequences. As a result, she was arrested for contempt of court and sentenced to 10 days in jail.

Analysis

Datum 6 is a continuation of the interaction in datum 5. In response to Melissa's indifference and disruptive behavior, the judge sentenced her to 10 days in jail for contempt of court and ordered her to leave. Melissa reacted angrily, using profanity and threatening language by saying, "Wait and see." This reply suggests hostility and an implied threat, possibly indicating her intention to retaliate in the future.

Melissa's utterance reflects a violation of the maxim of relevance, as her response was not connected to the judge's directive. Instead of responding appropriately or acknowledging the sentence, she escalated the conflict with personal hostility.

The implicature in this exchange can be classified as generalized conversational implicature. The meaning of both the judge's and Melissa's utterances can be easily understood without requiring additional background context. The audience can infer the emotional state and intent behind Melissa's response from the surface-level meaning and tone of her words.

Datum 7

Judge: A new judge will have to be appointed to represent because she will be charged criminally for the threats that were made in open court today.

Context

Melissa leap frogged towards the judge but court deputies stopped her just in time however that did not stop her verbal threats. Melissa faced additional criminal charges for her antics. Eventually Melissa was sentenced to 120 days in prison for her outburst.

Analysis

The judge's statement in datum 7 confirms that a new judge must be appointed because Melissa will be criminally prosecuted for the threats she made in open court today against the judge. Based on the sentence, it can be understood that Melissa will get a new punishment because of the threats she made today. Thus, the sentence spoken by the judge can be categorized into generalized conversational implicature, as the audience can understand it easily without needing a specific context.

The sentence spoken by the judge can also be classified into the maxim of quantity which requires speakers to provide sufficient and relevant information to the topic of conversation, because the sentence spoken does not provide excessive information. The judge only said that a new judge should be appointed to represent her.

Datum 8

Judge: I can't hear a word you're saying.

Webb: Yeah

Context

This exchange took place during a court hearing involving 30-year-old Bass Webb, who was facing attempted murder charges. CCTV footage showed Webb, a former inmate who had previously served three months on assault charges, intentionally hitting two prison workers with his car outside a Kentucky jail. One of the workers managed to dodge the vehicle. Webb was later arrested and brought before Judge Vanessa Dixon.

Analysis

In this conversation, the judge clearly indicated that she was unable to hear Webb's statement. However, Webb responded only with the word "yeah," which did not address the issue raised by the judge. His reply lacked relevance to the judge's concern and failed to move the interaction forward constructively. This indicates a violation of the maxim of relevance, as the response does not contribute meaningfully to the conversational goal.

The implicature in this exchange does not depend on specific background knowledge. The meaning of Webb's utterance is clear enough for the audience to interpret without needing additional context. Therefore, it can be classified as a generalized conversational implicature. The utterance, though minimal, reveals a lack of cooperation or seriousness from

the defendant, which the audience can infer based on the immediate courtroom interaction.

Datum 9

Judge: That'd be a, yes?

Webb: Yes

Context

Judge Vanessa Dixon repeated her question to Bass Webb in order to clarify his earlier response. The judge appeared uncertain about Webb's answer in the previous exchange and sought confirmation to ensure that the record accurately reflected his intended reply.

Analysis

In this exchange, the judge explicitly sought confirmation of Webb's previous response, which was vague and lacked clarity. Webb responded affirmatively with a clear and straightforward "yes." This response aligns with the maxim of quality because it is truthful, relevant, and directly answers the judge's inquiry without exaggeration or unnecessary elaboration.

The implicature in this interaction is generalized, as it does not rely on any specific or complex contextual background for interpretation. The

judge's question and the defendant's reply are easily understood by the audience, both within and outside the courtroom. The clarity of the exchange indicates a cooperative effort to ensure mutual understanding, which is essential in legal discourse. As such, this conversation exemplifies how generalized conversational implicature can function effectively within institutional communication.

Datum 10

Judge: There is no way I'm going to try this case or have further proceedings where I have to see you for one further second.

Judge: Charge him.

Judge: I'll accept the jury's recommendation at five years on count one and hands to 15 years pursuant the persistent felony offenders first degree.

Context

Judge Vanessa Dixon recused herself from the case after realizing she had prior connections with the two jail employees involved. However, the situation escalated when Bass Webb unexpectedly spat on Judge Dixon, an act that shocked the courtroom. In response, Judge Dixon brought Webb back, formally charged him, and removed him from the courtroom.

Analysis

In this exchange, Judge Dixon stated that she could no longer continue with Webb's case and announced the sentencing decision based on the jury's recommendation. The judge's speech adheres to the maxim of quality, as it is informative, truthful, and appropriate within the institutional context. She did not provide excessive information but communicated clearly the legal outcome based on the charges and the persistent felony offender status.

However, the utterances made by the judge contain legal terminology and references to judicial procedures that are not immediately accessible to the general public. Understanding the full meaning of her statement requires background knowledge of legal sentencing structures and the classification of felony offenders. Because the interpretation of the utterance depends on this specific legal context, it can be categorized as a particularized conversational implicature. The audience needs additional information to fully grasp the implications of the judge's decision.

Datum 11

Judge: We the jury find as follows as to count one of the charge the defendant is guilty of first-degree murder of Robin Cornell.

Judge: We the jury find as follows as to count two of the charge the defendant is guilty of first-degree murder of Lisa story.

Context

Joseph Zieler, a suspect in a double murder case in Cape Coral, Florida, stood trial for crimes committed in May 1990. At that time, eleven-year-old Robin Cornell and her babysitter, Lisa Story, were found assaulted and murdered in their home. The case remained unsolved for over two decades until Zieler was arrested in 2016 for an unrelated shooting involving his son. His DNA was collected and later matched with evidence from the 1990 crime scene. Based on this match and subsequent trial proceedings, the jury delivered a verdict finding him guilty of the murders.

Analysis

In this courtroom exchange, the judge read the jury's official verdict, declaring Joseph Zieler guilty of first-degree murder in the cases of both Robin Cornell and Lisa Story. The statements from the judge are examples of adherence to the maxim of quantity. They provide the essential legal outcome without unnecessary elaboration or omission, thereby fulfilling the need for clarity and precision in a courtroom setting.

However, while the language used is institutionally appropriate, it contains legal terminology that may not be fully understood by general audiences without legal background. Terms such as "first degree murder"

carry specific legal definitions that differ across jurisdictions and require contextual knowledge to interpret properly. Additionally, although Robin Cornell is mentioned in the public narrative of the case, there is limited explanation provided in the courtroom footage or transcript regarding Lisa Story, her role, or the details of the offense against her.

As a result, the judge's utterances in this datum can be classified as particularized conversational implicature. Their full meaning depends on the specific legal and case-related context, which is not readily accessible to all viewers. The understanding of the implicature relies on background information that is not directly stated in the courtroom exchange but assumed to be known by participants within the judicial process.

Datum 12

Judge: Records review of other capital cases has led the court to conclude that the death penalty would be a proportionate sense in this case. Therefore, the court concludes that under the laws of the State of Florida, the defendant has forfeited his right to live.

Context

After the conclusion of the trial proceedings, the court was prepared to deliver the final sentence for Joseph Zieler. Having been found guilty of

first-degree murder, Zieler was sentenced to death. The judge formally justified this decision by referencing the proportionality of the sentence in relation to similar capital cases under Florida state law.

Analysis

In this exchange, the judge draws on precedent and legal proportionality to justify the imposition of the death penalty. The statement adheres to the maxim of quantity, as it provides a sufficient explanation of the basis for the sentencing decision without excessive elaboration. The information is delivered formally and succinctly, maintaining the clarity and objectivity expected in legal communication.

The judge's declaration that the defendant has "forfeited his right to live" is a strong and symbolic statement. It conveys the imposition of the death penalty without directly using the phrase "death sentence" at the outset. The meaning, however, is immediately clear to the audience, as the language employed invokes the gravity and finality of the ruling. The clarity and accessibility of this phrase make the utterance an example of generalized conversational implicature. The listener does not require specific legal knowledge or contextual background beyond the courtroom setting to understand that the defendant is being sentenced to death.

Judge: Accordingly, it is ordered and adjudged that the defendant Joseph Adam Zieler is hereby sentenced to death for the murder of Robin Cornell and the murder of Lisa Story.

Context

This utterance follows the judge's prior explanation of the court's rationale for sentencing. It formally announces the final verdict: the death penalty for Joseph Zieler, found guilty of the 1990 murders of Robin Cornell and Lisa Story. The sentence is delivered during the final stage of the courtroom proceedings.

Analysis

This statement serves as the official pronouncement of the defendant's sentence. The judge clearly and formally reiterates the decision, leaving no ambiguity about the outcome. The utterance fulfills the maxim of quantity, as it provides the essential information required in a sentencing announcement. The judge includes the defendant's full name and specifies the crimes for which the death sentence is imposed. The repetition of this information reinforces the finality and gravity of the court's decision.

From a pragmatic perspective, the utterance also qualifies as a generalized conversational implicature. The phrase "sentenced to death" is direct and requires no additional contextual knowledge to be understood. The audience, including laypersons, can easily interpret the meaning without relying on legal jargon or implicit background information. The

clarity of the statement ensures that its purpose is fulfilled both in legal procedure and in public communication.

By reiterating the sentence with formal language, the judge upholds courtroom decorum and underscores the seriousness of the crimes. This final declaration marks the closure of the legal process in this case and confirms the consequences for the defendant in a manner that is comprehensible and authoritative.

Datum 14

Teel: I'd like to say, where the fuck they got that photo of me with my short hair. Because that was on Facebook and I don't have a Facebook.

Context

The defendant, Christopher Teel, appeared in court for a competency hearing following his arrest for first-degree sexual assault and unlawful imprisonment. The case involved an incident in which Teel attacked a woman in a restroom at a Volkswagen dealership. He was restrained in court due to previous aggressive behavior. During the hearing, Teel unexpectedly shifted focus and expressed frustration about a photograph of him with short hair, questioning its origin and claiming he had no Facebook account.

Analysis

In this conversation, Teel shifts the focus away from the serious nature of the courtroom proceedings and expresses frustration about a photograph that he believes was used without his consent. His utterance can

be categorized under the maxim of quantity because he provides information that is relevant to his concern, though unrelated to the case itself, and does so without exaggeration.

The implication in his statement comes from an incompatibility between the gravity of the situation and the triviality of his complaint. The audience can easily understand his disruption without any specific background knowledge, so the utterance qualifies as generalized conversational implicature. His concern about the photo does not require any special context to be understood; the implied meaning is clear from the content and tone of his statement.

The defendant's focus may seem inappropriate in a legal setting; however, the speech itself illustrates how participants in courtroom discourse can deviate from institutional expectations and introduce personal grievances. Teal's response, though emotionally charged, reflects a desire to assert control or question the system, even in a setting where his agency is limited.

Datum 15

Teal: It's a legitimate question. Like do they have access to Google?

Context

Teal appeared in court the officers ensured he wouldn't be punching anyone teal was seen heavily strapped to a chair. however, he still had one complaint Teal's biggest concern was how his hair looked in his mug shot.

Analysis

Teel's questioning in datum 15 was a continuation of datum 14. In datum 14, Teel wondered where they got a picture of her with short hair while she never felt like uploading it to social media, especially Facebook. After that, he continued his words by emphasizing that his statement was a legitimate statement. Then he asked if they had access to Google so that they could get a photo that he never uploaded. Based on this explanation, the question sentence asked by Teel is included in generalized conversational implicature. This is because the questions spoken do not depend on specific context or specific knowledge, but rather on a general understanding of language. In addition, the question asked by Teel can be classified into the maxim of relevance because the speaker's question is still related to the context of the conversation in the trial.

B. Discussions

This study examined the application of Grice's theory of conversational implicature, published in 1975, within courtroom interactions, particularly as represented in the Courtroom Consequences YouTube videos. The analysis demonstrated that both generalized and particularized conversational implicatures were employed by judges and suspects. Among the fifteen utterances analyzed, thirteen were categorized as generalized conversational implicatures, while only two were identified as particularized. This distribution indicates that generalized implicature was more frequently utilized in courtroom communication. Furthermore,

the cooperative maxims proposed by Grice, which include the maxims of quantity, quality, relevance, and manner, were all observed within the data. The maxim of quantity appeared in six instances, followed by the maxims of manner, quality, and relevance, each occurring three times.

The predominance of generalized conversational implicature can be understood in relation to the communicative purpose of the videos. Since the content is designed to educate and inform a general audience, the conversations are structured to minimize dependence on specific contextual knowledge. This allows the legal process to be more accessible to viewers who may be unfamiliar with courtroom procedures. This finding contrasts with previous studies that indicate a preference for particularized implicature in contexts that involve shared background knowledge or subtle persuasive strategies, as often seen in entertainment or political discourse.

Compared to earlier studies, this research presents a distinctive contribution by focusing on implicature within legal discourse. Gunarso (2022), for example, analyzed implicature in a cinematic context and found a predominance of context-dependent conversational implicatures. Similarly, Saniatang et al. (2020) reported that particularized implicatures were more frequent in *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*, demonstrating how filmic communication relies heavily on shared background knowledge. Lesmana's (2022) study on comedy also highlighted the use of implicature for humorous and indirect effects. In contrast, the legal setting analyzed in

the current research favored generalized implicature, supporting the communicative goal of transparency and accessibility.

Likewise, Asmara and Kusumaningrum (2021) observed rhetorical uses of implicature in political speeches, where implicatures functioned to persuade, insinuate, or govern. This again contrasts with the legal setting, where communicative goals are more restrained and focused on neutrality and clarity. Ferdiansa (2019) and Afrilesa et al. (2021) found that implicature often serves expressive or stylistic functions in fictional or semi-formal contexts such as movies and podcasts, with speakers intentionally flouting maxims to generate effects such as humor or persuasion.

In contrast to these entertainment-oriented studies, the findings of the current research align more closely with studies that investigate implicature in institutional or educational settings. For instance, Oktaviabri and Degaf (2023) investigated the application of cooperative principles in EFL classroom interactions and found that participants predominantly adhered to Gricean maxims to sustain effective communication. Their study revealed that relevance, manner, and quality were the most commonly observed maxims, which resonates with the present findings where these same maxims frequently appeared. However, while their study emphasizes cooperation within a classroom context, the current research explores how similar cooperative efforts are adapted in courtroom discourse, where power asymmetries and legal expectations shape the delivery and interpretation of implicature.

The current study also complements findings by Rahayu et al., (2024), who analyzed direct and indirect communication in the cinematic narrative *Heidi*. Their research revealed how characters, particularly the protagonist, used a range of speech act forms, including direct nonliteral and indirect nonliteral types. The predominance of directive acts in their data reflects the characters' intent to influence behavior within personal and moral interactions. While their focus was on speech acts rather than implicature, both studies emphasize the role of context and speaker intention in meaning-making. Unlike the emotional and interpersonal tone of *Heidi*, courtroom interactions require a more formal and generalized register, which may explain the stronger presence of generalized implicature in the current findings.

The contrast with earlier legal-focused studies further underscores the unique nature of courtroom discourse. For example, Shardingaliev (2019) challenges skepticism toward implicature in judicial texts, providing examples where such expressions enhance communicative effectiveness. Hunt (2016) investigates whether conversational implicature contributes meaningfully to legal interpretation, particularly in precedent-setting opinions, and raises concerns about the reliability of such indirect meanings. Meanwhile, Kryk-Kastovsky (2018) analyzes historical trials and concludes that interrogators frequently used nonliteral language while defendants were more literal to avoid legal risks, a dynamic echoed in the present data.

In addition, Opeibi (2012) highlights how sociolinguistic factors shape implicature in Nigerian courtrooms, especially where English functions as a second language. Poggi (2016) questions the application of Gricean principles to legislative language, suggesting that legal discourse operates under different interpretive conventions. Blečić (2017) and Colonna Dahlman (2021) both emphasize how institutional and emotional contexts affect implicature production and comprehension, further reinforcing the idea that legal settings require a distinct pragmatic lens.

In conclusion, the findings of this study depart from earlier research in revealing that generalized rather than particularized implicature dominates courtroom communication. This reflects an institutional priority for clarity, public accessibility, and reduced interpretive ambiguity. While Grice's theory (1975) continues to offer foundational insights into how implicit meaning functions in discourse, it is limited when applied to real-life legal contexts shaped by formality, emotional tension, and sociocultural expectations. As a result, deeper insights may be gained through integrative approaches that consider speaker roles, audience knowledge, institutional norms, and the wider pragmatic environment in which the discourse unfolds.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter presents the conclusion of the research and provides suggestions for future studies. The conclusion is drawn based on the findings and discussion from the previous chapter, particularly in relation to the research questions. The suggestions offered are intended to guide further research that addresses similar or related issues, particularly in the field of pragmatics and legal discourse.

A. Conclusion

This study analyzed conversational implicature in one of the videos uploaded by the *Courtroom Consequences* YouTube channel. The focus of the research was to identify the types of conversational implicature used and to determine which type occurred most frequently in courtroom interactions. Based on the analysis, it was found that both types of conversational implicature, namely generalized and particularized, were present in the data. Out of fifteen utterances analyzed, thirteen were categorized as generalized conversational implicature and two as particularized conversational implicature. It was also observed that the generalized type was more frequently used by the defendants.

The researcher further explained the contribution of each type. Generalized conversational implicature tends to make courtroom communication more accessible to a general audience, as it does not

require specific contextual knowledge to understand the speaker's intended meaning. On the other hand, particularized conversational implicature may be more useful within the courtroom setting itself, as it allows for more context-specific communication that can support or challenge evidence during legal proceedings.

B. Suggestion

This study was limited in scope due to the relatively small number of utterances analyzed, consisting of only fifteen examples drawn from a single source. As a result, the findings may not comprehensively reflect the complexity and diversity of courtroom interactions across different legal contexts. In addition, the analysis was based solely on Grice's theory of conversational implicature, published in 1975, without the inclusion of alternative theoretical perspectives that might account for broader social, psychological, or cultural aspects of legal communication. The study also did not address nonverbal communication, which often plays a crucial role in interpreting implied meanings during courtroom exchanges.

For future researchers interested in this area, it is advisable to utilize a more extensive and varied dataset, such as multiple courtroom video recordings or transcripts from different legal systems and jurisdictions. This would enable a more comprehensive and representative analysis of implicature in legal discourse. Future studies may also consider integrating Grice's theory with other pragmatic or discourse-oriented approaches, such

as Pragma Crafting Theory or Critical Discourse Analysis, in order to capture the multidimensional nature of communication within legal settings.

Moreover, future investigations should explore the influence of nonverbal elements, including tone of voice, gestures, facial expressions, and pauses, in shaping conversational implicature. These features, although not examined in the present study, are essential components of meaning construction in courtroom communication. Adopting interdisciplinary approaches that connect pragmatics with legal studies, psychology, or media analysis may also offer deeper insights into the contextual operation of courtroom language.

The Courtroom Consequences YouTube channel continues to serve as a valuable and accessible source of data for both scholarly research and public understanding of legal discourse. Its content may be beneficial not only for linguists and discourse analysts but also for educators, legal practitioners, and those interested in courtroom communication and legal literacy. It is hoped that the present study contributes to the growing field of legal pragmatics and provides a useful foundation for more in-depth research in the future.

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CURRICULUM VITAE



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APPENDIX

| Datum | Speaker | Utterances | Types of conversational implicature | | Conversational implicature | | | |
|-------|--------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|----|---|---|
| | | | | | Cooperative principle | | | |
| | | | GCI | PCI | Q | QL | R | M |
| 1. | Redden | Based on my criminal history like I feel that like I shouldn't be like sent to prison for a second time. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 1. | Judge | have you looked at your criminal history? | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 1. | Redden (defendant) | Yeah, I actually just looked at it. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 2. | Judge | Three felonies a gross nine misdemeanors multiple DVS. Got a lot going on sir. Battery on a protected person, robberies, attempt home invasion. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 2. | Redden (defendant) | I feel like I shouldn't be sent to prison but if it's appropriate for you then you have to do what you have to do but I figured that I'm in better place in my life, I'm not doing | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|-------|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | drugs. I'm not you know I'm not out there committing crimes you know and I feel like I should be given a shot because I'm in better place than I was. | | | | | | |
| 3. | Judge | Alright, this is on for the continuation of Mr. Radden sentencing. For purposes of the other record, I want to make it clear that I'm not changing or modifying the sentence I was in the process of imposing last week before I was interrupted by defendant's actions. | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |
| 3. | Judge | Alright! That being said. In accordance with the laws of state of Nevada, this court does now sentence you in addition to the \$25 administrative assessment fee \$150 DNA fee, a \$3 DNA administrative assessment fee and | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|---------------------|--|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| | | \$250 injured at defense fee 19 to 48 months in the Nevada Department Corrections. | | | | | | |
| 4. | Judge | I've taken your statements in your petition as part of your testimony, but I need you to tell me briefly in your own words, what happened to cause you to ask for domestic violence order. | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |
| 4. | Melissa (defendant) | My personal life is none of your fucking business. It has nothing to do with this. | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |
| 5. | Judge | Ms. Hardwick you will be held in contempt of this court if you became disrupted. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 5. | Melissa (defendant) | I don't care. I haven't done anything to this court, haven't done anything to him. | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |
| 6. | judge | okay, she will be arrested for contempt of court. You will serve 10 days for contempt of court. Go now. | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 6. | Melissa | F*ck you. Wait and see. | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 7. | Judge | A new judge will have to be appointed to represent because she will be charged criminally for the threats that were made in open court today. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 8. | Judge | I can't hear a word you're saying. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 8. | Webb (defendant) | Yeah | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |
| 9. | Judge | That'd be a yes? | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |
| 9. | Webb (defendant) | Yes | ✓ | | | ✓ | | |
| 10. | Judge | There is no way I'm going to try this case or have further proceedings where I have to see you for one further second. Charge him. I'll accept the jury's recommendation at five years on count one and hands to 15 years pursuant the persistent felony offenders first degree. | | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| 11. | Judge | We the jury find as follows as to count one | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-------|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | of the charge the defendant is guilty of first-degree murder of Robin Cornell. | | | | | | |
| 11. | Judge | We the jury find as follows as to count two of the charge the defendant is guilty of first-degree murder of Lisa story. | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| 12. | Judge | Records review of other capital cases has led the court to conclude that the death penalty would be a proportionate sense in this case. Therefore, the court concludes that under the laws of the State of Florida, the defendant has forfeited his right to live. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 13. | Judge | Accordingly, it is ordered and adjudged that the defendant Joseph Adam Zieler is hereby sentenced to death for the murder of Robin Cornell and the murder of Lisa Story. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| 14. | Teel (defendant) | I'd like to say, where they got that photo of me with my short hair. Because that was on Facebook and I don't have a Facebook. | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| 15 | Teel (defendant) | It's a legitimate question. Like do they have access to Google? | ✓ | | | | ✓ | |