

# Investigating EFL Learners' Recognition of Conversational Implicature in Listening Test

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## Abstract

In arrange to progress the capacity of tuning in comprehension, it's essential for English learners to be presented with a few essential Pragmatics speculations. Grice's Conversational Implicature Hypothesis is one of the foremost imperative substance of Pragmatics. This study aims to analyse the short conversations in the listening comprehension of TOEFL test from the perspective of pragmatics. Hence, this study was done to identify EFL learners' capability in comprehending and producing implicature. Data were analysed using the theory of Conversational Maxims proposed by Grice (1975). The researcher applied a descriptive qualitative research method using survey and interviews method for data collection in EFL classroom. The participants of this research were three classes in Bali International Polytechnic consisting of 30 students. The data was collected through assigning a listening comprehension test and further interviews on Bali International Polytechnic students. The study found only few students who get the score above 80, lacking tuning in comprehension ought to mostly account for the blunders made in these questions, but through the examination, the most reason is the students' trouble in inducing the speaker's verifiable meaning. Most of the students found the difficulties in comprehending the implied meaning or conventional implicatures. There are five difficult aspects of understanding listening test namely conversational implicature knowledge, idiomatic expression, lack of vocabulary, need of concentration, and new accent. Encourage, the part of conversational impersonation in tuning in comprehension of the TOEFL test is exceptionally critical. Grice's conversational implicature can be adjusted to the instructing of tuning in by giving both speakers and understudies with a way of how specific articulation implications are passed on and decoded in particular settings of circumstance. In this way, the discoveries demonstrate that the English learners ought to ace the hypothesis of Grice's Conversational Implicature, learn how to induce implicature to direct their learning and lead in such hypotheses in tuning in comprehension.

**Keywords:** Conversational Implicature; Gricean Maxim; EFL Learners

## INTRODUCTION

English is more crucial for students to learn because it is a worldwide language that is spoken all over the world, which will help them compete on a global scale in a competitive age. To meet this difficulty, several Indonesian universities have made passing the TOEFL exam a prerequisite for earning a bachelor's degree. According to Harmer (2007), hearing is one of the three components of the TOEFL test that is hardest to complete because native speakers' terminology is so hard to understand. However, according to Saifuddin (2006), some universities use TOEFL scores 450 or 550, depending on the major of interest and institution policy for all aspiring undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students. Sugeng (2012) asserts that assessing English proficiency is a critical first step that ought to be carried out in all Indonesian universities. Because nearly all post-secondary educational institutions worldwide employ the TOEFL, a sort of standardized test designed to assess a person's proficiency in the English language, as a prerequisite for pursuing further education.

Even proficient English speakers may struggle to comprehend a sentence when presented with listening materials. Therefore, English listening comprehension encompasses more than just vocabulary and grammatical rules; it also involves the complete understanding and use of language. Even though English speakers have modified their educational strategies and listening resources in recent years to enhance their listening comprehension, many English speakers still struggle with poor listening skills. There are still a lot of issues with listening instruction. Thus, what are the most effective ways to enhance listening comprehension skills and thus develop language application? Geoffrey Leech (1983) contends that "without an understanding of pragmatics, we cannot really

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