

“The principle features of English Pragmatics in applied linguistics”

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ABSTRACT

Pragmatics is a major study of linguistics that defines the hidden meanings of a writer and speaker towards the conjoining effort of linguistic form. It is stated along with its user. Within pragmatics the importance is usually given to a contextual meaning, where every other meaning of given context is referred to speaker as well as writer that wishes to state something. Therefore, the field of Pragmatics helps to deal with speaker's intended meaning. It is the scope of pragmatics that shows some of linguistic relating terms. They are often stated as utterances, which are informative contribution through physical or real utterance of the meaning, uses of word, structure and setting of the conversations. The second is a speech act that focuses on what the writer and the speaker wants to say to someone. So in this way, the major purpose of pragmatics is engaged with addressor's intended words to communicate with the addressee.

INTRODUCTION

Communication is one of the simplest functions regarding a language which establishes when the people want to convey their meanings that are behind their intentions. Without a language, it is almost impossible to be connected with others and be the significant part of a conversation towards ordering to communicate referring to the particular situation. It is the study of pragmatics that is closely linked with field of semantics as these both are concerned towards meaning making and its elaboration. Semantics is the study of the literal meaning towards the speaker or a writer that establishes a relationship with linguistic form and is connected to the individual and the outer world things (Yule, 1996). Semantics make relationships to the verbal and the description that produce it in the form of speaking and writing (Yule, 1996). Whereas, the field of Pragmatics deals with study of form and its user, that uses the given forms into different orders for involving within conversational field. In pragmatics, the people are engaging themselves to understand the given intended meaning, along with their different goals, purpose and the action of the speaker. One of the major significance of the pragmatics, in this study is towards a speaker, who

wants to convey the contextual meaning towards the hearer according to provided situation.

Therefore, the study of Pragmatics is concerned mainly with meaning and its definition of role variation with different communicative tasks that are provided by speaker in a way to interpret by a reader or listener. The following study involves the interpretation of the people in general form about what they usually mean in a particular context and the way they influence within a given context. This all is possible with course of communication between utterer and its speaker. Consequently, it is said that pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning.

DEFINITIONS BY AUTHORS

Pragmatics deals not only with the meaning making of a given sentence; however, it goes necessarily with a relation to the hidden meaning of a speaker. It could be referred that the field of pragmatics investigates what is unsaid. It depends on the notion of the speaker that processes for intention that what s/he wants to say to the listener while dealing with different situations. It is through the pragmatics that defines

what a listener or a reader can analyze the intended meanings and so it allows them to investigate their purposes, within their assumptions inside to explore them in form of behavior in state to different actions of what they want to perform when they speak with front audience.

According to the Crystal (1987:62-5); Pragmatics deals with the factors that manages the language for what we want to choose within the pool of language that could satisfy whenever it is used within a social interaction and its effects on others. Therefore, the factors of pragmatics that effect on our selection of grammatical construction are as sound pattern, and the meaning which we are producing by presenting the vocabularies through the intended procedure as a way to communicate (Crystal, 1987:62-5). Therefore, the study of pragmatics is tending to relate it with the meaning of words that people used within their social situations and choice of the words in a context.

According to the Robin; the field of pragmatics is understood as meaning concerned phenomenon that involves around the different factors of speech situation, (1964:23).

Leech (1983:13-4), pointed that the pragmatics is a study of meaning and the way to relate that speech with any provided situations, along with an aspect to make a speech in a situation and further it paves a path to determine a core principle that whether it deals with semantic or the pragmatic phenomenon. The more important aspects of pragmatics have indicated that it is the study of meaning that is related towards speech making situation. Within pragmatics, the five vital aspects that are mainly focused have been mentioned below:

- a) Addressees or addressers (hearer and speaker)
- b) An utterance in context, Leech agreed to say the involvement of relevant utterance in social and physical setting, however, he did emphasizes more on the background knowledge that is related to the context.
- c) Leech defines the goals of an utterance as well as the meaning of intention towards uttering it.
- d) The utterance is a form of activity or an act, within pragmatics, the verbal utterance can also be performed like acts to parch needs of a particular situation.
- e) The utterance that is in a form of enclosed verbal acts does tends to identify for sentence or token tagging that in their real sense are not the sentences, but similarly can be the piece of language that classify as short and long single sentence.

THE SCOPE OF PRAGMATICS IN LINGUISTICS

Pragmatics deals with meaning and it involves the fundamental approach to view meaning and its relationship with reality. As it is for the related theories of meaning that view the language itself as systematic to designate many specific things and its symbols. The truth about semantics, which focuses on the meaning of the sentence and its purpose, is to analyze different meaning forms to formal way and it also deals with the surface meaning. However it lacks the contextual definition. In simple terms, the field of semantics deals with the overall structure of sentences and it determines the

lexical condition of the content that formulates information of meaning from the other sources to supply it (Chapman 2000). A Language can even deal with many other instruments, the instrument that is of thought as well as the instrument of social action (Capone, 2005).

Therefore, within the scope of pragmatics, the major terms that can be described are as follows:

The Utterance is described as the physical and clear unit of meaning that gives information in the contribution through;

- a) Words that are used,
- b) Structure of the sentence,
- c) Setting of the conversation within location where it is used,
- d) Senses of the start in a particular context,
- e) To use the gesture in order to convey the meaning.

One of the most important things that are from these sources is taken as context utterance and it is provided with background knowledge to convey a message of information towards the other parts of conversation, like of any written text.

SPEECH ACTS

The use and the view of social interactionist about any language can be stated as; linguistic phenomenon that is used within terms of speech acts. Speech acts that deals with the social action, whenever the speaker has to say something to someone. In case of writer, who writes something for someone in order to convey the meaning to its hearer, within a specific place and specific time. Speech acts can even underline to this assumption that it surely engages to the speaker with the hearer in the form of communication, that speaker wants to convey something to the hearer. A speech act is a spoken utterance that mainly focuses to deal with some actual situation to the communication. The idea of the speech acts was first introduced by the British philosopher John Langshaw Austin in (1911-1960) who worked in Oxford and defined his idea within the series of his delivered lectures that were even published before his death in 1962. The name is, "How to do things with words". Austin represents the language of philosophy towards maintaining one of the main functions of language in order to carry the significant actions that are concerned socially. It is the concern of the speech acts that guides the use of language. Speech acts are the certain verbs that are used within sentences in towards classifying it accordingly. Austin defines his idea accordingly in order to introduce the differences between two major verbs as "Perfomative and constative". The formal use of the verbs as 'Constative' and describe it, in the form of reality, e.g. 'Rain' to use it in a sentence 'Through the week rained heavily'. Some sentences have a value of truth but they evaluated in the form of true and false. Whereas, on the other hand 'Performative verbs are different in use, they are like the instruments to achieve the goals of interaction between two or more speakers. The most appropriate example is of verb; 'promise' which deals with linguistic act in a pure manner. The use of promise within a sentence, for example; ' I promise I will help you

with your assignment or work, in the sentence the sincere intention showing by the speaker is expressed by him to do in the future.

Types of Speech acts:

When anyone engages in a speech, they carry out three types of acts. These all types of utterances can be further classified as the speech acts:

- 1) **Locutionary Acts:** This type of speech act usually deals with the speaker when a certain reference and sense is expressed by him. In this specific conversation, the grammatical principle is also concerned with the speaker. A locutionary act tends to perform by the speaker as series of message is linked that gives the expression usually those dealing with the value of truth.
Example: Earth is round.
Birds fly in the sky.
- 2) **An Illocutionary Act:** Here the speaker uses some per-formative verb to express the intentions within the sentence.
Example: I baptize his ship.
- 3) **Perlocutionary Acts:** This type of act deals with the effect of an action that is from linguistic point of view. However, the Perlocutionary acts are quite visible effects on the speaker, when s/he conveys the meaning to the hearer. Examples are as insulting someone, convincing, surprising and persuading.

Conversational Implication in field of Pragmatics

One of the renowned English philosophers, Grice (1988-93) has emphasized his concern more on the work of normal behavior recorded of human beings within their conversation. His notion was to introduce the 'conversational implicatures' within which the implications to the speaker have been presumed during their conversations. According to Grice, in a sequence to reduce the intended meaning there must be certain maxims in conversation. There are four major maxims recognized by Grice within their conversation.

Four maxims of conversation are given below

- a) **Quality:** Quality is, "what speakers say it must be assumed true".
- b) **Quantity:** Quantity is, what speakers must be informative, but not to go too much.
- c) **Relevance:** The speaker must be relevant to the purpose of exchange.
- d) **Manner:** The speaker must be perspicuous and avoid ambiguity.

In addition to this, Grice has focused on to keeping the speaker's cooperative principle. These maxims within conversations are the unspoken agreements. These agreements are said so because of these maxims that one can easily interpret what the speaker wants to say in different situations. The maxims that have been introduced by Grice, are those that can be deliberately effected, whenever one is speaking

in a sarcastic or an ironical mood. It is indeed a way to lie something. In the course of development of conversational implicatures, Grice have mentioned the terms of relevance theory. One of the linguists, Deirdre Wilson and Dan Sperber have more concerned it with the idea of relevance to the structure in a conversation that maintains the contribution of relevant process towards matching a context on the assumptions of the addressee.

POLITENESS

Politeness is a general aspect of the social behavior to a speaker towards deferent wishes of the addressee in different concerns. The linguistic expression of politeness can be investigated by the English linguists, Levinson and Penelope Brown in year (1979). In this they have introduced some of prominent strategies used to line the differences of maximizing in exchanges, e.g. using formal way in terms of address or indirect speech acts. The aim of these strategies is a way for fulfilling required particular goals. Therefore it is a set order to face an addressee. One of the major terms of these strategies is a *face* that shows the self-image of speaker in a public and it can be divided into two major types.

- a. Positive face
- b. Negative face

Positive Face and Negative Face

Positive face shows the wishes of the individual and it can be appreciated as well as respected by others. A Negative face shows the wish that is not restricted in set of choices to speaker about social behavior. Therefore, Politeness is showing as the face of other. The act of Face saving is connected with a social behavior that represents of being different to others. It shows the importance of inner wish and fear. On the other hand, a face threatening act can be an influence onto actions of others, it may consider as an insult of someone. The linguistic strategies of minimizing are many to threat in negative face. The example that is to disturb someone or to apologize in positive face for maximizing a point towards common interest in something and likewise suggestion made to an addressee.

Deixis

Language is the way to refer and point to highlight main concerns of daily life. The word *deixis* have been derived from a Greek origin, which means 'display' and 'reference'. *Deixis* can also be read as (deiksqs/or daiksqs). One can find various guesses to occur for this word. One of the major terms to discourse has been introduced. It was a pronominal reference, in which pronoun referring to a noun to serve its function. This form can also perform a vital role within field of pragmatics and the other two areas of Deixis that is showing in a vital role to language. One of it is the temporal sphere of language; it shows expressions within language to describe the time or points for expressing on time. Like for example, *later, tomorrow, now, before* and *today*. In language, there are the tenses. Like in the English language, there are three

tenses. Namely, present past and the future. The future perfect tense can also fulfill required functions with time. The second area of Deixis is named as spatial. The spatial works to describe a set of choices from adverbs and prepositions like as, *down, over, up, under, underneath, across*, etc. The English language has two main ways for pointing as well as demonstrating the pronouns. They are as;

- One is the object that is close to speaker;
- Second is the object that is away from present speaker. In English language, it is referred with *that/this*, etc.

CONCLUSION

In a nutshell, it is well assumed that the above brief studies of English pragmatics have not only concerned their scope towards specific purposes; however it can be connected with other aspects of human practical wishes to convey their thoughts. The study is narrowly linked to arrange a model for one to speak and write in order to fulfill required criteria towards conveying message within prioritized situation base. The above discussed definitions as well as scope of Pragmatics within major scientific field of linguistics can be concluded with a fact that the study of pragmatics helps future researchers to govern in their studies about factors of speaker's choice. Furthermore, these will also provide knowledge of language in a provided social interaction that affects choice of personal race in thoughts within words that is conveyed to others. According to David Crystal, it is the pragmatics that allows us to go and further investigates about provided meanings by going beyond to an apparent set of words, without any ambiguity. It can also be understood,

as David Crystal says that "Baby Sale lots of bargain". Within pragmatics the idea of contextual knowledge is exactly shared with the speaker or writer of the text. Whereas, the meaning that is shown in context is not the exact to define semantic aspects of the words uttered. Therefore, the model of David Crystal can be taken as a theoretical framework in understanding pragmatics within applied linguistics. However, it can be stated that pragmatic is different study from semantics because it deals with meaning beyond the words, whereas semantics deals with the overlook of word as a figurative meaning.

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