Journal of Critical Applied Linguistics Studies

ORGINAL RESEARCH
E-ISSN: 2981-1678
Volume 1, Issue 1, pp. 161-182

Gonbad Kavous University

A Critical Analysis of Mirza Reza Kermani's Interrogation Through Grice's Conversational Maxims with the Assistance of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Linguistics Society of Iran

Ali Beikian

ABSTRACT

This study applies Grice's cooperative principle and its conversational maxims to analyze the interrogation transcript of Mirza Reza Kermani, a significant historical document. Leveraging Claude.ai., as an artificial intelligence assistant for a rigorous quantitative and qualitative assessment, the research examines 52 question-and-response pairs to evaluate the adherence to Grice's maxims: quality, quantity, relevance, and manner. The findings show high compliance with the maxims of quality (86.54%) and relevance (82.69%), but lower adherence to the maxims of quantity (73.07%) and manner (28.86%). The study provides a detailed categorization of instances of both adherence and violation, revealing strategic communication tactics by the suspect, including evasion and ambiguity, which often necessitated adaptive interrogation techniques. These insights emphasize the importance of tailored questioning strategies to address such evasive behaviors and highlight the need for a nuanced, analytical approach to interpreting responses. The integration of AI in this analysis enhances the objectivity and systematization of examining the complex dynamics in historical interrogation records, offering valuable implications for law enforcement and legal professionals.

Article History

Received:
2023-08-12
Revised:
2023-10-03
Accepted:
2023-11-25
Published:
2024-01-01

Key Words:
Conversational Maxims, Grice's Cooperative Principle, Interrogation Transcript, Mirza Reza Kermani, Claude.AI, Quantitative and Qualitative Assessment

1. Assistant Professor of Translation Studies, Faculty Member of the English Language Department, Chabahar Maritime University, Chabahar, Iran, *email: a_beikian@yahoo.co.uk*
ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7734-2370

Article Citation: Beikian, A. (2024). A critical analysis of Mirza Reza Kermani's interrogation through Grice's conversational maxims with the assistance of artificial intelligence (AI). *Journal of Critical Applied Linguistics Study*, *1*(1), 161-182.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

1. Introduction

Effective communication is essential in high-stakes scenarios such as legal interrogations. However, complex dynamics are often at play in such contexts, with strategic attempts to conceal, divert, or provide inadequate information (Aryanti, 2020). This poses significant challenges for legal and law enforcement professionals aiming to establish facts and truth. There is a need for a rigorous analytical approach to parse the intricacies of interrogatees' responses.

Grice's cooperative principle and associated conversational maxims provide a seminal framework for understanding intricacies in communication. The maxims cover quality, quantity, relevance, and manner (Grice, 1975 as cited in Hadi, 2013). However, in complex real-world interactions, violations and flouting of maxims frequently occur, often deliberately; and careful analysis of these dynamics provides insight into concealment, diversionary tactics, inadequacies, and implications (Ariza & Syarif, 2023). Legal interrogations involve particularly complex communicative dynamics necessitating such analysis (Ceballos & Sosas, 2018).

The purpose of this study is to critically analyze Mirza Reza Kermani's interrogation responses through the lens of Grice's conversational maxims. By evaluating maxims of quality, quantity, relevance, and manner, the aim is to gain deeper insight into the interrogatee's communicative approach, including subtle instances of flouting that may indicate concealment or diversion.

The interrogation of Mirza Reza Kermani holds great historical and political significance concerning the assassination of Nasir al-Din Shah Qajar in 1896. As the confessed assassin, Kermani was subjected to extensive questioning sessions by Amin al-Sultan and other officials to elucidate his motives and potential accomplices. However, the existing records of only two such sessions provide an incomplete picture. While Kermani cites personal vengeance as the primary motive, the timing, and precision of the attack suggest the involvement of influential forces providing information and encouragement. Later memoirs by Taj al-Saltaneh (the Shah's daughter) and the discovery of the Shah's private diaries further complicated the analysis of Kermani's confessed motives. The lack of transparency around additional interrogation details precludes a definitive understanding of the power dynamics, relationships, and context underlying an event that transformed Iran's course. Re-examination of Kermani's case in light of new evidence has led some scholars to doubt he single-handedly organized the assassination plot. Comprehensive scrutiny of the interrogation thus carries immense value but remains constrained by unavailable documentation of critical sessions, underscoring the magnitude of the knowledge gaps.

The findings from this analytical study will have important practical implications for law enforcement, legal professionals, and communication experts. By applying evidence-based insights around conversational intricacies in interrogations, stakeholders can enhance approaches to navigating

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

complex dynamics in sensitive situations. This contributes to strengthened professional practice in interrogation, investigation, and communication-centered fields.

2. Theoretical Framework: Grice's Cooperative Principle

Grice put forth the Cooperative Principle to explain effective communication between speakers and listeners during interactions. This principle comprises four key maxims—Quality, Quantity, Relevance, and Manner—that provide guidelines for meaningful, cooperative dialogue (Davies, 2007).

The Quality Maxim necessitates truthfulness and evidentiary support in communication. Grice emphasized this maxim's role in building trust and credibility during interactions. The analysis here involves assessing if the interrogatee's responses align with the Quality Maxim.

The Quantity Maxim requires the provision of optimal informational content—neither inadequate nor excessive. Flouting this maxim risks causing confusion or ambiguity. The analysis will evaluate if the interrogation responses conform to the Quantity Maxim.

The Manner Maxim necessitates a clear, concise, and orderly communicative approach. Ambiguity hinders shared meaning between parties. The analysis will assess if the interrogatee's responses demonstrate clarity, conciseness, and organization per this maxim.

The Relation Maxim mandates the relevance of informational content to the discussion topic. Grice highlighted relevance's role in coherent exchanges. The analysis will examine the alignment of responses' relevance to the interrogation questions. This framework integrates the Cooperative Principle maxims to analyze the interrogation responses. Evaluating observance and violations will facilitate a nuanced, practical understanding of these maxims' influence on real-world interrogation dynamics with professional applications.

3. Review of Literature

The application of Grice's cooperative principle and associated conversational maxims has been extensively explored across diverse contexts, providing valuable insights into the complex dynamics of human communication.

In the realm of advertising, Maryam and Mushtaq (2023) delved into Pakistani taglines, revealing a nuanced understanding of implicatures and strategic maxim flouting. Moving to religious discourse, Abdulla and Majeed (2019) analyzed Quranic conversations, quoting verses in Arabic and English to demonstrate the universality of Grice's model.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Several studies examined literary contexts, including Nur's (2018) analysis of "The Wild Duck" which revealed 51 maxim violations and the dominance of quantity maxim infractions. Diliana (2022) focused on Indonesian lecturers, identifying relevance maxim violations and assessing degrees of politeness, noting the role of cultural differences.

In commercial settings, Saleh et al. (2023) explored trader-buyer interactions, finding fulfillment of three out of four maxims, with strategic relevance maxim violations when goods were unavailable. Expanding to cinematic dialogue, Putri and Apsari (2020) identified violations across multiple maxims in the movie "Bad Genius," elucidating conversational implicatures.

Pedagogical applications featured in Khayati et al.'s (2019) research on English teacher-student interactions, found realization and flouting of all four maxims, offering implications for natural maxim incorporation. Sastrawan and Sajarwa (2021) emphasized cultural competence and maxim fulfillment in analyzing "The Verneuil" conversations.

Igwedibia (2017) provided a literary perspective by pragmatically exploring Audre Lorde's poetry using Gricean principles. Bajri and Al-Amshani (2019) studied "Anne of Green Gables," attributing protagonist detachment to persistent maxim flouting.

The realm of humor featured in Oksinia et al.'s (2021) examination of the sitcom "Miranda," classifying types of non-observance leading to verbal humor. Damanik and Hanidar (2021) analyzed gender differences in maxim flouting on "Broadchurch." Dynel's (2013) critical analysis underscored nuances between Grice's model and (im)politeness theories.

Liu (2018) illustrated Gricean principle applications in Chinese social media texts, suggesting cohesion and non-observance sustain conversations. Nugraha (2017) emphasized teaching pragmatics in EFL classrooms based on findings from "Meet the Parents." Across genres, Thakur (2017) demonstrated Grice's role in contextualizing interpretation by analyzing "A Suitable Boy."

Additional studies rounded out the realm of cinematic and literary analyses, including Averina (2023) on "Freedom Writers," Eman (2018) on Pakistani advertisements, and explorations of movies like "Grown Ups 2," "Post Grad," "Daddy Day Camp," and "Back to the Outback" (Helmi 2022; Makin 2015; Rokhmania 2012; Safitri & Ambalegin, 2022).

In educational contexts beyond EFL classrooms, Menjura (2018) advocated reflective approaches for understanding maxim flouting in interactions. Analyses of textbooks and children's literature revealed the need for improved pragmatics and applications of hedges respectively (Hou et al., 2022).

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Expanding beyond entertainment media and literature, applications in news and political discourse were noted. Kheirabadi and Aghagolzadeh (2012) proposed Gricean maxims as linguistic news selection criteria. Hassan (2022) uncovered political speeches deviating from maxims, elucidating political discourse pragmatics.

Several studies have utilized Grice's cooperative principle as an analytical framework in legal contexts. Ceballos and Sosas (2018) conducted a forensic linguistic analysis of Philippine court proceedings, discovering widespread violations of quantity, quality, relation, and manner maxims among witnesses, contributing to prolonged discussions. Abbaszadeh and Gorjian (2021) examined defense sessions with ISIS defendants, finding relevance maxim observance but frequent quantity maxim violations by defendants. Ariza and Syarif (2023) studied student fights utilizing cooperative principles to yield better information during investigations. Lubis et al. (2023) categorized questions and responses in a judge's courtroom based on Gricean maxims. These studies demonstrate the utility of analyzing legal discourse through the lens of cooperative principles.

Aryanti (2020) described police questions and suspect responses in drug crime interrogations in terms of pragmatics and preference formats, finding cooperative principle applications. Momeni and Azizi (2015) studied topic shifts and Gricean violations by suspects to prolong investigations and mislead interrogators. Siregar and Murni (2021) found suspects largely obeyed maxims due to police power but still violated them defensively. Kadhim and Chiad (2021) identified denial as the most used power strategy by suspects. Akinrinlola (2021) found suspects flout maxims to challenge police claims or exonerate themselves. These studies reveal how analysis of interviews via cooperative principles provides insight into power dynamics and suspect motivations.

Catoto (2022) distinguished appropriate and inappropriate questions alongside witness responses in court proceedings, noting some violations. Nasir et al. (2022) found frequent quantity and relevance violations during jury deliberations in "12 Angry Men," impacting communication and verdict. These studies demonstrate how Gricean analysis elucidates communication challenges in legal settings.

While analytical approaches have been previously applied in assessing legal interrogations, there remain critical gaps regarding the specific utilization of Grice's framework of conversational maxims. Most inquiry has involved broad analysis of questioning techniques, response strategies, and credibility assessment. However, a rigorously applied maxim-based analytical procedure focused directly on the intricacies of responses has been lacking yet can provide vital insights.

By scrutinizing the interrogation of Mirza Reza Kermani through these cooperative principles, this study will contribute additional insights into the intricate communication dynamics that characterize authentic interrogation scenarios. Evaluating the interrogatee's observance and violations

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

of the maxims can unveil deeper meanings and motives within his responses. Therefore, The key research questions that drive this study are:

1. How does Mirza Reza Kermani's response strategy align with Grice's maxims during key lines of questioning throughout the interrogation?
2. What implications do these patterns have for understanding communicative dynamics in authentic interrogation scenarios?
3. What practical implications arise from the study's findings regarding observance of or violation of Grice's maxims?

By uncovering subtle forms of flouting and implications behind violations, guided by research questions targeted at practical recommendations, this study will make important contributions. The novelty lies in the granular maxim-centric analytical process and its real-world application. Outcomes stand to meaningfully inform professional practice among law enforcement, legal experts, and communication specialists when navigating complex interrogation dynamics marked by strategic communicative approaches. This maxim-based analytical enhancement will lead to more informed, evidence-backed approaches.

4. Research Findings

The research employed a mixed-methods design, combining quantitative and qualitative analyses, to objectively assess cooperation principle observance dynamics in Mirza Reza Kermani's historical Persian interrogation transcript. The primary data source was the publicly available interrogation transcript accessible at http://tarikhirani.ir/fa/news/8427. This corpus comprised the complete interrogation transcript, forming the basis for the study. The research utilized Claude.ai, an AI assistant developed by Anthropic, equipped with advanced natural language processing capabilities. Structured analytical questions were formulated to guide Claude.ai in independently assessing quantitative observance levels and categorizing qualitative examples related to cooperation principle observance. Data collection procedures involved examining 52 question and response pairs from the interrogation transcript to assess observance levels to Grice's four central maxims—quality, quantity, relevance, and manner. The qualitative analysis included selecting representative examples of observance and violation for each maxim, highlighting key strategic and rhetorical communication patterns. For quantitative analysis, percentages of observance for each maxim were calculated based on the 52 question and response pairs. The integration of Claude.ai's machine learning algorithms facilitated nuanced pattern recognition and rational inference generation. Claude.ai's insights were then integrated to provide data-driven corroboration, enhancing the overall analytic rigor. Regarding ethical considerations, informed consent procedures were not applicable due to the publicly available nature of the transcript.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

5. Results

In the pursuit of unraveling the intricate layers of communicative dynamics within authentic interrogation scenarios, this study delves into the response strategy employed by Mirza Reza Kermani, focusing particularly on its alignment with Grice's maxims during key lines of questioning throughout the interrogation. The investigation sought to discern patterns and nuances in Kermani's responses, shedding light on the implications these findings bear for our understanding of communication within the context of interrogations. As the analysis unfolded, the study aimed to draw connections between Kermani's strategies and Grice's maxims, examining both observance of and violation of these principles. This exploration extends beyond theoretical considerations, aiming to uncover practical implications that may arise from the observed patterns, thus contributing to a more comprehensive comprehension of effective communication strategies in the high-stakes realm of interrogations. The subsequent sections present detailed insights into the alignment, implications, and practical ramifications of Mirza Reza Kermani's response strategies concerning Grice's maxims, offering a nuanced perspective on the dynamics of communication within authentic interrogation scenarios.

Research Question 1: How does Mirza Reza Kermani's response strategy align with Grice's maxims during key lines of questioning throughout the interrogation?

Maxim of Quality

Out of the 52 questions and answers, there are approximately 45 examples (86.54%) of observance of the maxim of quality and 7 examples (13.46%) of violations.

A) Examples of Observance:

1. The interrogator asks direct questions and Mirza Reza provides straightforward factual answers about his travels, actions, meetings, etc. This shows an effort to be truthful.

2. Mirza Reza provides details about his conversations with people, even when they may implicate him or others. This demonstrates truthfulness.

3. Mirza Reza admits that his previous claims about warning the government were not true. This shows a commitment to correcting the facts.

4. Mirza Reza provides specifics about obtaining the gun and his evolving intentions with using it. This indicates truthfulness about incriminating details.

5. When challenged about inconsistencies, Mirza Reza often acknowledges the interrogator's point rather than arguing. This demonstrates some truthfulness.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

B) Examples of Violation:

1. Mirza Reza denies accusations without providing convincing counterfacts. This avoids directly addressing inconsistencies.

2. Mirza Reza speculates about others' intentions rather than sticking to facts within his knowledge. This deviates from purely factual responses.

3. Mirza Reza makes improbable claims about his prominence and influence with Jamal al-Din. This seems exaggerated.

4. Mirza Reza dismisses accusations against his co-conspirators to protect them. This deviates from providing full facts.

5. Mirza Reza justifies his actions in philosophical/ideological terms rather than factual details. This substitutes rationalization for truth.

Maxim of Quantity

Based on my analysis, out of the 52 questions and answers, there are approximately 38 examples (73.07%) of observance of the maxim of quantity and 14 examples (26.93%) of violations.

A) Examples of Observance:

1. Mirza Reza provides lengthy, detailed answers about his meetings, plans, motivations, etc. This provides the interrogator with a wealth of information.

2. Mirza Reza recounts specific conversations with various people, indicating a willingness to fully share what was discussed.

3. Mirza Reza answers questions directly about obtaining the gun, his evolving mindset, and details of the assassination event itself. This gives significant facts.

4. When pressed for more details, Mirza Reza often provides additional factual elaboration beyond his initial responses. This adheres to providing full relevant information.

5. Mirza Reza candidly admits uncertainties or limitations of his knowledge about ancillary events and people's fate after the fact. This shows some restraint to avoid speculation.

B) Examples of Violation:

1. Mirza Reza frequently responds very briefly that "no" he didn't do or know something without elaboration. This limits informative details.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

2. Mirza Reza dismisses certain accusatory questions as lies or nonsense without addressing the underlying issue they speak to. This avoids providing fuller relevant responses.

3. When philosophical/ideological rationales are provided, the factual detail underlying the interrogator's question is often not directly addressed. This substitutes rhetoric for substantive information.

4. Mirza Reza speculates about the intentions, thoughts, and credibility of various figures without qualifying based on factual knowledge. This deviates from only sharing factual knowledge.

5. Mirza Reza wavers when asked multiple follow-up questions about the same issue - either refusing to elaborate or providing a slightly different account. This obfuscates the complete facts he knows.

Maxim of Relevance

Based on my analysis, out of the 52 questions and answers, there are approximately 43 examples (82.69%) of observance of the maxim of relevance and 9 examples (17.31%) of violations.

A) Examples of observance:

1. Mirza Reza directly answers questions about his meetings, plans, and actions regarding the assassination. This provides highly relevant information to the interrogation.

2. When asked for specifics, Mirza Reza provides details about dates, locations, and people involved rather than vague responses. This adheres to relevance.

3. Mirza Reza recounts relevant conversations and statements that have implications for his motives and premeditation regarding his crime. This provides contextually relevant facts.

4. Mirza Reza responds directly about obtaining the gun, ammunition, and evolving mindset regarding using it. These are pertinent details.

5. When confronted with inconsistencies, Mirza Reza tends to provide an alternative relevant account of events rather than wholly avoid the issue. This adheres to relevant discipline.

B) Examples of violation:

1. Mirza Reza frequently launches into tangential philosophical perspectives to justify actions when more event details are sought. This substitutes rationale for relevance.

2. Mirza Reza speculates about the thoughts, intentions, and credibility of other figures in contexts where factual details are sought. This is not strictly relevant.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

3. Mirza Reza dismisses certain questions by attacking the interrogator or making improbable counter-claims rather than furnishing relevant facts. This deviates from information relevance.

4. Mirza Reza often faults other parties rather than furnish further self-relevant details when inconsistencies are raised. This aims to divert from relevance.

5. Mirza Reza cites risks of civil disorder when asked about the impacts of his actions. This obfuscates personal responsibility with tangential concerns.

Maxim of Manner

Out of the 52 questions and answers, there are approximately 15 examples (28.86%) of observance of the maxim of manner and 37 examples (71.14%) of violations.

A) Examples of observance:

1. Mirza Reza at times expresses uncertainty or lack of recollection of particular details. This indicates clarity where direct facts are unavailable.

2. Mirza Reza often provides direct, orderly temporal accounts of events or chronological descriptions of conversations. This is relatively straightforward and clear.

3. Mirza Reza repeatedly asks for others to conduct an impartial investigation to establish the facts. This demonstrates a willingness to clarify.

4. Mirza Reza occasionally acknowledges some errors in retrospect in his approach or expectations. This shows some self-critical orderliness regarding certain past actions.

5. Mirza Reza periodically addresses the improbability of certain accusations. This serves as logically ordered evidence for his perspective.

B) Examples of violation:

1. Mirza Reza launches into long, ideologically-driven perspectives that fail to directly address the specific questions asked. This is obfuscated via verbosity.

2. Mirza Reza often positions himself and Jamal al-Din as exceptionally principled and insightful people that others fail to understand. This exceptionalism undermines clarity in communication.

3. Mirza Reza attributes malicious or selfish intentions to those critical of his actions without evidence. This confuses speculation with orderly communication.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

4. When challenged on inconsistencies, Mirza Reza reverts to blaming other parties in emotional language rather than constructively addressing issues. This deviates from orderly clarity.

5. Mirza Reza's heavy use of honorifics, philosophizing, and ideological framing tends to add verbosity over economy and orderliness in communication dynamics. This manner frequently fails to maintain clarity.

In summary, Mirza Reza Kermani's response strategy during key lines of questioning in the interrogation reveals a nuanced alignment with Grice's maxims. In terms of the Maxim of Quality, he predominantly adheres to truthfulness by providing straightforward answers about his actions, travels, and conversations, even when potentially incriminating. However, violations arise when he denies accusations without providing counterfacts or makes exaggerated claims about his prominence. Regarding the Maxim of Quantity, Mirza Reza often adheres by offering lengthy and detailed responses, providing a wealth of information. Violations occur when he responds briefly, limiting informative details, or dismisses accusatory questions without addressing underlying issues. Concerning the Maxim of Relevance, he mostly adheres by directly answering questions about relevant events and details. Yet, violations emerge when Mirza Reza launches into tangential philosophical perspectives or speculates about the thoughts of others in contexts where factual details are sought. Finally, in terms of the Maxim of Manner, Mirza Reza exhibits observance by expressing uncertainty at times, providing direct and orderly accounts, and acknowledging errors. However, violations arise when he delves into long, ideologically driven perspectives or uses heavy rhetoric and honorifics, hindering clarity in communication. Overall, Mirza Reza's response strategy in the interrogation reflects a dynamic interplay between observance and violation of Grice's maxims, showcasing a complex approach to communication.

Research Question 2: What implications do these patterns have for understanding communicative dynamics in authentic interrogation scenarios?

The observed patterns in observance and violation of the maxim of quality within the interrogative exchanges between the interrogator and Mirza Reza yield important insights into the communicative dynamics of authentic interrogation scenarios. The prevalence of observance of the maxim of quality, exemplified by Mirza Reza's provision of straightforward and factual information in the majority of instances, suggests that interrogations can effectively extract truthful responses, particularly when dealing with basic factual inquiries. However, the identified violations from the maxim of quality highlight the nuanced nature of communicative dynamics during interrogations. Mirza Reza's tendency to deny accusations without presenting convincing counter facts, speculating about others' intentions, making improbable claims, dismissing accusations against co-conspirators, and justifying actions in philosophical terms rather than factual details reveals strategic maneuvering when faced with potentially threatening or incriminating aspects of the interrogation.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

The substantial observance of the Maxim of Quantity, where Mirza Reza frequently provides detailed and extensive information, suggests a cooperative disposition during the interrogation. This willingness to share information can be advantageous for the interrogator in gathering a wealth of facts about meetings, plans, motivations, specific conversations, and the details of the assassination event. However, violations of the maxim, such as brief responses, dismissals of accusatory questions, and speculative remarks, introduce challenges in obtaining complete and accurate information. Mirza Reza's occasional reluctance to elaborate or provide inconsistent accounts during follow-up questions indicates potential limitations in memory or a deliberate attempt to obfuscate certain details.

The observed patterns regarding the Maxim of Relevance provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of interrogation techniques and the challenges encountered in extracting relevant information from suspects. The high rate of observance of the Maxim of Relevance (82.69%) suggests that, in general, interrogation relevance discipline can be effective, particularly when dealing with a cooperative suspect like Mirza Reza. When directly addressing questions about his meetings, plans, and actions, and providing specific details, Mirza Reza contributes highly relevant information to the interrogation process. However, the identified violations (17.31%) highlight potential hurdles in maintaining relevance when faced with inconsistencies or challenging moments. Mirza Reza's tendency to resort to tangential philosophical perspectives, speculations about others' thoughts, dismissive tactics, faulting other parties, and introducing unrelated concerns such as civil disorder indicates that suspects may employ various strategies to avoid providing directly relevant details when confronted with challenging queries. The implications suggest that interrogators need to be adept at recognizing and redirecting violations from the Maxim of Relevance. Mastering the skill of steering suspects back to pertinent information becomes crucial, especially during moments of inconsistency or when suspects attempt to justify actions through non-relevant reasoning.

The observed instances of observance of the Maxim of Manner, comprising approximately 28.86% of the interactions, suggest that Mirza Reza employs strategies that contribute to orderly and clear communication. Expressing uncertainty when facts are unavailable, providing chronological accounts, seeking impartial investigations, acknowledging errors, and addressing the improbability of accusations are all indicative of a communicative approach aligned with the maxim. On the other hand, the substantial violations from the Maxim of Manner, constituting 71.14% of the examples, reveal patterns that hinder transparent communication. Mirza Reza's tendency to present long, ideologically-driven perspectives, positioning himself as exceptionally principled, attributing malicious intentions without evidence, resorting to emotional blame, and using honorifics and ideological framing excessively contribute to a lack of clarity and orderliness in communication.

In conclusion, the meticulous analysis of the interrogative exchanges between the interrogator and Mirza Reza yields crucial insights into the dynamics of authentic interrogation scenarios. Mirza

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Reza's consistent observance of the maxim of quality and quantity unveils a cooperative disposition, enabling the effective extraction of truthful information in response to basic factual inquiries. However, violations from these maxims underscore the nuanced nature of interrogative dynamics, revealing strategic maneuvering and challenges in obtaining complete and accurate information. The observed patterns regarding the maxim of relevance highlight the effectiveness of the interrogation relevance discipline, with Mirza Reza contributing highly relevant information while also employing strategic diversions. Additionally, Mirza Reza's communication style, characterized by both observance of and violations from the maxim of manner, emphasizes the importance of recognizing and navigating violations for clearer and more orderly communication. In essence, these findings underscore the intricate nature of interrogative interactions, emphasizing the need for interrogators to adeptly manage violations from communication maxims to enhance the overall effectiveness of interrogation techniques.

Research Question 3: What practical implications arise from the study's findings regarding observance of or violation of Grice's maxims?

The study's findings regarding the observance of or violation of Grice's maxims in the context of interrogative exchanges with Mirza Reza have several practical implications.

Firstly, the high observance of the Maxim of Quality in providing straightforward and factual information during interrogations suggests that, in general, interrogations can effectively extract truthful responses, especially when dealing with basic factual inquiries. This implies that interrogators can rely on the maxim of quality to obtain reliable information during the initial stages of an interrogation. However, the identified violations from this maxim reveal the need for interrogators to be aware of nuanced communicative dynamics, particularly when suspects strategically maneuver to deny accusations without presenting convincing counterfacts or engaging in philosophical justifications. Recognizing these violations becomes crucial for ensuring a thorough and accurate extraction of information.

Secondly, the substantial observance of the Maxim of Quantity, where Mirza Reza frequently provides detailed and extensive information, highlights the cooperative disposition during the interrogation. This willingness to share information can be advantageous for gathering a wealth of facts. However, violations of this maxim, such as brief responses or dismissals of accusatory questions, introduce challenges in obtaining complete and accurate information. Interrogators should be cognizant of these challenges and develop strategies to encourage suspects to provide more detailed and relevant information when violations occur.

Thirdly, the observed patterns regarding the Maxim of Relevance indicate that interrogation relevance discipline can be effective, particularly with cooperative suspects like Mirza Reza.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

However, violations of relevance suggest potential hurdles in maintaining focus, especially during moments of inconsistency or when suspects attempt to justify actions through non-relevant reasoning. Interrogators need to be adept at recognizing and redirecting violations from the Maxim of Relevance to ensure that the information obtained remains pertinent to the investigation.

Lastly, the findings related to the Maxim of Manner suggest that Mirza Reza employs strategies contributing to orderly and clear communication in approximately 28.86% of interactions. However, the substantial violations reveal patterns hindering transparent communication. Interrogators should be aware of these hindrances, such as long ideologically-driven perspectives or emotional blame, and work towards encouraging a more ordered and clear communication style during interrogations.

In summary, the study's findings underscore the importance of interrogators being attuned to violations from Grice's maxims to navigate the complex communicative dynamics of interrogations effectively. Recognizing these violations and employing appropriate strategies can enhance the extraction of relevant and accurate information during interrogative exchanges.

6. Discussion

Examining the implications of Mirza Reza Kermani's interrogation through the prism of Grice's cooperative principle and conversational maxims not only sheds light on the intricacies of communicative dynamics within high-stakes interrogations but also offers valuable insights for professional practice among law enforcement, legal experts, and communication specialists.

The alignment with Maryam and Mushtaq's (2023) emphasis on recognizing nuanced communicative dynamics resonates in the consistent observance of the Maxim of Quality and Quantity. The study showcases a commendable parallel with the exploration of Pakistani taglines, underlining the paramount importance of truthfulness in communication. This consistency implies that, even in the heightened tension of an interrogation, effective extraction of truthful responses is achievable, particularly in response to basic factual inquiries. However, violations observed in Mirza Reza's strategic incorporation of philosophical perspectives signal a departure from conventional humor-driven diversions identified by Yamalita et al. (2021). This nuanced shift is justifiable in light of the gravity and seriousness inherent in an interrogation setting.

Moving to the Maxim of Quantity, the study aligns with Saleh et al.'s (2023) findings in trader-buyer interactions, showcasing cooperative disposition through detailed responses. However, discrepancies arise in comparison to studies on advertising contexts (Maryam and Mushtaq, 2023; Putri and Apsari, 2020), highlighting strategic violations involving dismissals or brief responses. The rationale here may stem from a calculated defensive stance, strategically withholding information due to the severity and potential consequences associated with the interrogation.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

The Maxim of Relevance reveals a resonance with Sastrawan and Sajarwa's (2021) emphasis on cultural competence, depicting the provision of relevant information. Violations involving philosophical perspectives and dismissive tactics, however, differ from humor-driven non-observance found in Yamalita et al.'s (2021) study. Here, the contextual seriousness of an interrogation necessitates strategic diversions through philosophical perspectives rather than humor. This highlights the adaptability of communicative strategies based on the specific demands of the context.

Analyzing the Maxim of Manner unravels observance in expressing uncertainty and acknowledging errors, mirroring Dynel's (2013) analysis. However, violations involving ideologically-driven perspectives, identified in the study, contrast with Damanik and Hanidar's (2021) study on gender differences in maxim flouting. The serious nature of an interrogation may rationalize this inconsistency, as the strategic employment of ideological framing and rhetoric serves to deflect attention or maintain a certain narrative.

Considering these implications, the study aligns with Maryam and Mushtaq's (2023) emphasis on recognizing nuanced communicative dynamics for practical implications. The consistent observance of quality and quantity maxims suggests the effective extraction of truthful responses, echoing previous findings in advertising contexts. However, violations underscore the challenging nature of obtaining complete and accurate information during interrogations, emphasizing the need for interrogators to navigate these nuances for more informed approaches.

In conclusion, the study contributes a nuanced understanding of communicative dynamics in authentic interrogations. The comparison with previous studies underscores both consistencies and divergences, unveiling the intricate nature of communication strategies employed during high-stakes interrogations. The possible rationales for inconsistencies highlight the contextual nuances of an interrogation setting, where strategic choices may diverge based on the serious and authoritative nature of the communication dynamics. These insights offer practical implications for professionals navigating complex interrogative scenarios, emphasizing the need for adaptability and strategic awareness in extracting information during intense questioning.

7. Conclusion

In conclusion, the meticulous analysis of Mirza Reza Kermani's interrogation through the lens of Grice's cooperative principle and conversational maxims provides a nuanced understanding of communicative dynamics within the realm of high-stakes interrogations. The study revealed both alignments with and violations of established principles, underscoring the complex interplay between truthfulness, relevance, quantity, and manner in the responses of the interrogatee. These findings contribute valuable insights to the understanding of authentic interrogation scenarios, emphasizing the

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

need for interrogators to navigate nuanced communicative strategies to extract accurate and relevant information.

The implications of this study extend to various professional domains, including law enforcement, legal practice, and communication specialists. The consistent observance of the Maxim of Quality and Quantity suggests that interrogations can effectively extract truthful and detailed responses, particularly in response to basic factual inquiries. However, the observed violations underscore the challenging nature of obtaining complete and accurate information during interrogations. Professionals in these fields should be aware of the nuanced communicative dynamics and strategically adapt their approaches to ensure a more informed and evidence-backed interrogation process.

While the study provides valuable insights, certain limitations should be acknowledged. The focus on a single interrogation limits the generalizability of findings to other contexts. The study's reliance on a textual analysis of the interrogation transcript may also miss non-verbal cues and contextual nuances that play a crucial role in communication. Additionally, the study does not delve into the perspectives and experiences of the interrogator, which could provide a more comprehensive understanding of the overall dynamics.

Future research in this area could benefit from a broader scope, encompassing a diverse set of interrogations across different contexts and involving various interrogators and suspects. Incorporating non-verbal communication cues, such as body language and facial expressions, could enhance the depth of analysis. Exploring the impact of cultural differences on communicative dynamics during interrogations could further contribute to our understanding. Additionally, conducting interviews with both interrogators and suspects to gather their perspectives and insights would provide a more holistic view of the interrogation process.

Declaration

I declare that this manuscript is original and has not been submitted to any other journal for publication.

Transparency Statements

I affirm that the data supporting the findings of this study are available within the article. Any additional data can be obtained from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my gratitude to all individuals helped me to do the project.

Declaration of Interest

I report no conflict of interest.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Funding

I do not have any financial or non-financial competing interests.

Ethical Consideration

This manuscript adheres to the ethical guidelines provided by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) for ensuring integrity and transparency in the research publication process.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

References

Abbaszadeh, F., & Gorjian, B. (2021). Analyzing court discourse based on Gricean cooperative principles: a case of forensic linguistics. *Language and Linguistics*, *17*(33), 155-175.

Abdulla, I. A., & Majeed, S. H. (2019). A pragmatic analysis of some Quranic verses in light of Grice's cooperative principle. *Journal of University of Human Development*, *5*(3), 127-133.

Akinrinlola, T. (2021). A discursive import of suspects' affirmative responses in police-suspect interaction in Ibadan, Nigeria. *Linguistik Online*, *106*(1), 3-18.

Ariza, R., & Syarif, H. (2023, July). An analysis of the speech of students' fights at school: a forensic linguistic study at SMA Negeri 2 Batang Anai. In *Conference on English Language Teaching* (pp. 673-682).

Aryanti, M. L. (2020). The analysis of questions and answers and cooperative principle in police interview. *PalArch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt/Egyptology*, *17*(10), 3318-3333.

Averina, F. E. (2023). A pragmatic analysis of flouting maxims in classroom verbal interaction as seen in Freedom Writers Movie. *Surakarta English and Literature Journal*, *6*(1), 16-30.

Bajri, I. A., & Al-Amshani, B. (2019). Discourse analysis of Lucy Montgomery's Anne of Green Gables: An Application of Grice's Theory.

Beckman, K., Bennett, S., & Lockyer, L. (2014). Understanding students' use and value of technology for learning. *Learning, Media and Technology, 39*(3), 346–367. https://doi.org/10.1080/17439884.2013.878353

Beckman, K., Apps, T., Bennett, S., & Lockyer, L. (2018). Conceptualising technology practice in education using Bourdieu's sociology." *Learning, Media and Technology*. https://doi.org/10.1080/17439884.2018.1462205

Brown, H. D. (2001). *Teaching by principles: An interactive approach to language pedagogy*. San Francisco State University.

Catoto, J. (2022). On courtroom questioning: A forensic linguistic analysis. *Available at SSRN 4137842*.

Ceballos, C. T., & Sosas, R. V. (2018). On court proceedings: A forensic linguistic analysis on maxim violation. *Journal of Nusantara Studies (JONUS)*, *3*(2), 17-31.

Cranmer, S. (2006). Children and young people's uses of the Internet for homework. *Learning, Media and Technology*, *31*(3), 301–315.

Damanik, A. Y., & Hanidar, S. (2021). The flouting of conversational maxims by male and female characters in the British TV series Broadchurch. *Lexicon*, *8*(2), 96-104.

Davis, N. L., Gough, M., & Taylor, L. L. (2019). Online teaching: advantages, obstacles and tools for getting it right. *Journal of Teaching in Travel & Tourism, 19*(3), 256–263. https://doi.org/10.1080/15313220.2019.1612313

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Davies, B. L. (2007). Grice's cooperative principle: meaning and rationality. *Journal of pragmatics*, *39*(12), 2308-2331.

Diliana, E. (2022). Conversational analysis of Grice's maxim theories on cooperative principles in Bahasa Indonesia lecturers. *ARZUSIN*, *2*(5), 492-504.

Dynel, M. (2013). Being cooperatively (im) polite: Grice's model in the context of (im) politeness theories. *Research trends in intercultural pragmatics*, *16*, 55-83.

Eman, A. K. (2018). The study of Grice principle in Pakistani advertisements. *International Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Translation*, *1*(3), 43-50.

Freire, P. (1970). *Pedagogy of the oppressed*. Continuum.

Giroux, H. A. (2011). *On critical pedagogy*. Continuum.

Glaser, B. G., & Strauss, A. L. (1967). *The discovery of grounded theory: Strategies for qualitative research*. Aldine Publishing Company

Hadi, A. (2013). A critical appraisal of Grice's cooperative principle. *Open journal of modern linguistics*, *3*(1), 69-72.

Hassan, J. S. D. (2022). A pragmatic study of non-observance maxims in selected political speeches. *Journal of Language Studies*, *5*(2), 38-48.

Hassan, M, M. S. (2020, July 18). Online teaching: Challenges and opportunities. *The Daily Sun*, Retrieved from https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/494265/Online-Teaching:-Challenges-and-Opportunities

Helmi, M. (2022). A study on flouting and hedging maxims used by the main characters on "Daddy Day Camp". *Linguistic, English Education and Art (LEEA) Journal*, *6*(1), 64-83.

Hou, C., He, B., Zhang, Z., & Yang, Q. (2022). Inferring conversational implicature: Managing implicit and explicit information in the translation of English children's literature. *International Journal of Education and Humanities*, *5*(2), 296-303.

Hollingworth, S., Mansaray, A., Allen, K., & Rose, A. (2011). Parents' perspectives on technology and children's learning in the home: Social class and the role of the habitus. *Journal of Computer Assisted Learning, 27*(4), 347–360. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2729.2011.00431.x

Igwedibia, A. (2018). Grice's conversational implicature: A pragmatics analysis of selected poems of Audre Lorde. *International Journal of Applied Linguistics and English Literature*, *7*(1), 120-129.

Kadhim, W. H., & Chiad, M. O. (2021). Suspect power in selected American police interviews: A socio-pragmatic analysis. *Turkish Online Journal of Qualitative Inquiry*, *12*(7).

Khayati, I., Mujiyanto, J., & Warsono, W. (2019). The realization of Grice's maxims in English teacher's interaction with male and female students. *English Education Journal*, *9*(3), 391-398.

Kheirabadi, R., & Aghagolzadeh, F. (2012). Grice's cooperative maxims as linguistic criteria for news selectivity. *Theory and Practice in Language Studies*, *2*(3), 547.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Liu, B. (2018). *Cooperative principle and cohesion in Chinese social media texts: The case of Weibo discussion on women's role* (Doctoral dissertation, Macquarie University Sydney, Australia).

Lubis, Y. B. S., Sinar, T. S., & Lubis, M. (2023). Question and response types in the courtroom: A forensic linguistics analysis. *LingPoet: Journal of Linguistics and Literary Research*, *4*(2), 127-138.

Makin, Z. F. (2015). *The analysis of conversational implicature and its violation maxims in the movie Grown Ups 2 2013* (Doctoral dissertation, UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta).

Maryam, F., & Mushtaq, F. (2023). Analysis of Pakistani advertisements under Grice's cooperative principles. *Pakistan Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, *11*(2), 1444-1455.

Marasi, S., Jones, B., & Parker, J. M. (2020). Faculty satisfaction with online teaching: a comprehensive study with American faculty. *Studies in Higher Education*. https://doi.org/10.1080/03075079.2020.1767050

Menjura, W. A. M. (2017). What happens in the language classroom in regard to communication? An analysis of the Cooperative Principle. *Enletawa Journal*, *10*(2), 63-78.

Merriam, S. B. (2009). *Qualitative research: A guide to design and implementation.* Jossey-Bass.

Ministry of Education, Bangladesh. (2019). *Masterplan for ICT in education in Bangladesh 2012-20121: Progress review report 2019.* Dhaka.

Momeni, N., & Azizi, S. (2015). Role of topic shift and violence of Grice principles in interrogation: forensic linguistics. *ZABANPAZHUHI (Journal of Language Research)*, *7*(16), 159-179.

Moorhouse, B. L. (2020). Adaptations to a face-to-face initial teacher education course 'forced' online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. *Journal of Education for Teaching*. https://doi.org/10.1080/02607476.2020.1755205

Morgan, H. (2020). Best practices for implementing remote learning during a pandemic. *The Clearing House: A Journal of Educational Strategies, Issues and Ideas, 93*(3), 135-141. https://doi.org/10.1080/00098655.2020.1751480

Mortuza, S. (2020). "Emergency preparedness in the education sector." *The Daily Star*, Retrieved from https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/blowin-the-wind/news/emergency-preparedness-the-education-sector-1883503

Murphy, M. P. A. (2020). COVID-19 and emergency eLearning: Consequences of the securitization of higher education for post-pandemic pedagogy. *Contemporary Security Policy*. https://doi.org/10.1080/13523260.2020.1761749

Nasir, M. H., Batool, A., & Mirza, E. (2022). Forensic discourse analysis of legal and courtroom interaction: A Study of 12 Angry Men. *CITY UNIVERSITY RESEARCH JOURNAL OF LITERATURE AND LINGUISTICS*, *5*(1).

Ni, A., Y. (2013). Comparing the effectiveness of classroom and online learning: Teaching research methods." *Journal of Public Affairs Education, 19(2)*, 199–215. https://doi.org/10.1080/15236803.2013.12001730

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

North, S., Snyder, I., & Bulfin, S. (2008). Digital tastes: Social class and young people's technology use. *Information, Communication & Society, 11*(7), 895–911. https://doi.org/10.1080/13691180802109006

Nugraha, S. I. (2017). The flouting of cooperative principle maxims: Implications for the teaching of pragmatics in EFL classroom. *Indonesian EFL Journal*, *3*(2), 231-240.

Nur, M. U. (2018). Violation of Grice's cooperative principle in the dialogue of "The Wild Duck" By Henrik Ibsen. *Journal of Research on Applied Linguistics, Language, and Language Teaching*, *1*(2), 163.

Oksinia, B. Y., Jayantini, I. G. A. S. R., & Sulatra, I. K. (2021). Verbal humor created by non-observance of cooperative principle in Miranda. *Language Literacy: Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Language Teaching*, *5*(1), 80-89.

Overstreet, M. (2020). Strategies for building community among learners in online courses. *College Teaching.* https://doi.org/10.1080/87567555.2019.1707756

Putri, D. A., & Apsari, Y. (2020). The violation of Grice's maxim in "Bad Genius" movie. *PROJECT (Professional Journal of English Education)*, *3*(6), 743-750.

Robinson, L. (2009). A taste for the necessary: A Bourdieuian approach to digital inequality. *Information, Communication & Society, 12*(4), 488–507. https://doi.org/10.1080/13691180902857678

Rokhmania, N. (2012). Descriptive analysis on flouting and hedging of conversational maxims in the "post-grad" movie. *Register Journal*, *5*(2), 123-142.

Safitri, E., & Ambalegin, A. (2022). An analysis of cooperative principle in Back to the Outback Movie: Pragmatic Approach. *IDEAS: Journal on English Language Teaching and Learning, Linguistics and Literature*, *10*(2), 1496-1504.

Saleh, F., Yulfiana, R., Waru, D. S. U., Yusuf, R., & Nasrullah, I. (2023). Principles analysis of grice's cooperation in events speech in traditional markets: A pragmatic study. *La Ogi: English Language Journal*, *9*(2), 131-140.

Sastrawan, I. G. A., & Sajarwa, S. (2021). Cooperative principle appliance on the daily conversation of the Verneuil. *HUMANIS Journal of Arts and Humanities*, *26*(3), 34-43.

Selwyn, N. (2004). Reconsidering political and popular understandings of the digital divide. *New Media & Society*, *6*(3), 341–362. https://doi.org/10.1177/1461444804042519

Singh Thakur, V. (2017). Cooperative principle and inferential chains of interpretation: A socio-pragmatic approach to language and literature teaching. *AWEJ for Translation & Literary Studies volume*, *1*.

Siregar, A. F., & Murni, S. M. (2021, November). Conversational maxims of operation targets in police investigative interviews. In *6th Annual International Seminar on Transformative Education and Educational Leadership (AISTEEL 2021)* (pp. 165-172). Atlantis Press.

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]

Wadud, P. (2020). COVID-19, the right to education and Bangladesh. *EJIL:Talk! Blog of the European Journal of International Law*, Retrieved from https://www.ejiltalk.org/covid-19-the-right-to-education-and-bangladesh/

Williamson, B., Eynon, R., & Potter, J. (2020). Pandemic politics, pedagogies and practices: digital technologies and distance education during the coronavirus emergency. *Learning, Media and Technology, 45*(2), 107–114. https://doi.org/10.1080/17439884.2020.1761641

Wolfe, K., A., & Uribe, S., N. (2020). What we wish we would have known: Tips for online instructors. *College Teaching.* https://doi.org/10.1080/87567555.2020.1711701

[Downloaded from cals.gonbad.ac.ir on 2026-11-22]

[DOI: 10.22034/jcals.1.1.161]