

ABSTRACT

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This is a case study on conversations performed by several speakers who are fluent in English. The objective is to find out the function of implicatures in sustaining the conversations. There are ten fluent speakers who participated in the talk. The conversations were recorded and transcribed to be the data. The function and context of implicatures were identified in terms of concept of conversational implicatures: generalized and particularized (GCIs and PCIs). There are 152 implicatures identified and the dominant type is the PCI (53.28%). The implicatures are deduced from the meanings of the sentences or utterances including the unsaid utterances as the context. One typical example of the conversational implicature is that a speaker will finish the utterances of another speaker to show that the implicature is clear and definite. There are 7 main functions of the conversational implicatures, namely (1) enabling, (2) encouraging, (3) motivating, (4) leading, (5) letting, (6) making, (7) persuading another speaker to give new information, state the same thing, offer new way of interpretation, accept what is said, probe into the topic deeper, say more about the topic, and show his or her knowledge about the topic. It is suggested that more data be taken to discover more possible conversational implicatures. The findings are useful for those who teaching speaking skills and who want to improve their conversational skills.