CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of the description of research background, statement of problem, research objectives, research significance, definitions of key terms, and organization of writing.

1.1 Background of Research

Humor performance is one of the entertainment facilities that is enjoyed and developed in all parts of the world. Many people enjoy humor and therefore humor is very close to people. This can be seen from the large number of comedy shows on TV, various comedy films in theatres, humorous video channels on YouTube, and unlimited humorous video statuses on Instagram and other social media. Not only those, there are also lots of humor corners in newspapers, humorous narrative fiction works such as novels, short stories, comics, humorous visual fiction works such as cartoons, audio humor fiction works such as radio plays and radio broadcasts, drama and more, even available on advertisements. Apart from that, humor is obviously often found in everyday conversation. Humor appears in ordinary conversations with friends, family, parents, coworkers, bosses, or anyone else. Humor makes interpersonal conversations more exciting. Everything that is flavored with humor will be pleasant. Humor is an interesting and desirable thing because it is able to bring happiness and pleasant feeling to people, change a person's mood, calm a sad heart and even build a path to a happy life (Hu, 2012). Humor is a form of entertainment that has a positive impact on people. Humor can make people feel better, thus understanding the humor must be done further.

In general, humor can be said as any form of stimulation that tends to spontaneously provoke laughter or smile. These stimuli can be in the form of actions, writings, speeches, and images that are deliberately created by someone who can create humor (Attardo, 1992). It is also mentioned by Koestler in Encyclopaedia Britannica (1974), that humor is described as all forms of human

behaviour, both verbal and nonverbal which can cause amusement on the part of hearers or viewers through hearing or sight. In those facts, it can be briefly stated that the language of humor is a stimulation that causes someone to laugh or smile in happiness. Smile and laughter are external manifestations of the results of humor performance.

Conceptually, humor is a form of communication. Raskin argues that humor is a non-bona fide form of communication while general or ordinary communication is a bona fide form of communication (Raskin, 1944). Raskin explains that a communication is said to be bona fide if the pragmatic aspects of language are well considered. Whereas, if a communication is through a deviation of pragmatic aspects it can be said that the communication is non-bona fide. This opinion is the same as Wijana's opinion which states that, linguistically, humor is basically a deviation of pragmatic aspects of language (Wijana, 2004). Furthermore, Apte (1986) argues that humor stems from sentence ideas deviations, sound system deviations, grammatical irregularities, disruption of relations between form and meaning, chaotic reinterpretation of familiar words or phrases and all language abuse. Based on the explanation above, humor is a form of deviation from the principles of communication. The deviation of the principle of communication to produce humor as stated by Raskin (1944), Wijana (2004), and Apte (1986) relates to violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions. Attardo (1992) explains that humor is a violation of Grice's Cooperative Principles. Hancher in Ferrar (1993) states that the violation of Searle's Felicity Conditions are also the creating element of humor.

Grice's cooperative principles are the theories proposed by Paul H. Grice. The theory explains that speaker and hearer in carrying out communication activities must be based on the principle of cooperation (Grice, 1975). Furthermore, Grice's cooperative principles define that good and effective conversations are conversations that hold commitment to truth, relevance to clarity, and provide the right amount of information as requested (Attardo, 1994). The theory consists of maxims namely maxim of quality, maxim of quantity, maxim of relation, and maxim of manner. So, every conversation is expected to fulfill the maxims

contained in the cooperative principles. Then, Searle's felicity conditions are theories developed by John Searle from Austin's felicity condition theory. By definition, Searle's felicity conditions are conditions when speech is expressed that meets the criteria for the appropriate speech conditions, namely, the appropriate context, conventional existence, authority, and sincerity of the speaker (Yule, 2014). Searle explains felicity conditions into four conditions, namely preparatory conditions, proposal content conditions, sincerity conditions and essential conditions (Ferrar, 1993). Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions give limits on what is acceptable or appropriate in speech. Those are the rules that state what is conversationally acceptable or appropriate.

Thus, humor has linguistic behavior that is contrary to what the two rules state. Humor gives rise to unexpected and unconventional things. Unpredictable linguistic behaviour is thus an important source of verbal humour. Furthermore, according to Hancher (in Ferrar, 1993), humor is triggered by a state of frustrated expectations. The violation of Grice's cooperative principles stems a humorous effect by giving excessive amounts of information, providing information that is incorrect or not based on facts or things that are less convincing, giving statements that are not appropriate or not relevant to the topic of conversation, and provide information in obscurity, ambiguity, redundancy, and disarray. The violation of Searle's felicity conditions stems a humorous effect by giving a speech that is out from the limited proposal, a speech does not observe with existing conventions, a delivered speech is less polite and playful, and a speech contains factors that can not support someone to carry out an intended action (Cutting, 2002).

The creation of humor can be done in several ways, namely through the use of words, the running of thought patterns, appearance, and physical actions (Berger, 1997). Berger (1997) names the humor categories in terms of language, logic, identity, and action. Berger classifies the forms of humor into 15 types, namely allusion, bombast, definition, exaggeration, facetiousness, infantilism, insult, irony, over-literalness, missunderstanding, even, repartee, ridicule, sarcasm, and satire. Humor caused by deviations in pragmatic aspects of language, namely Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions, includes in the type of

language. Language-based humor or also called verbal humor is a form of humor that results from the use of language. The use of verbal humor is often loaded and found in film content. Films often feature characters with conversations made in such a way that contain humor and invite the laughter of the audience.

The film that contains humor is a comedy film. Providing comedy in film is essential to creating a film that entertains and attracts the attention of many people. Comedy can be a complementary ingredient for the success of a film. On May 18, 2018, the film *Deadpool 2* was released in the USA which is a super hero film wrapped in comedy. The film wins a fairly high score of 7.8 out of 10 from 397.684 raters (IMDb.com, Inc., 2019). This shows that the superhero comedy has a pretty good popularity. And also, there are considerable amounts of occurrences regarding verbal humor that are worth to investigate which means the film has good quality. The creation of humor in a film that is always interesting because it is one of the entertainment facilities that is consumed by many people. Furthermore, the present research is to explain about verbal humor caused by the violation of the Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions contained in the film Deadpool 2.

There are several other researchers who had already conducted research related to the present research. First, Amianna (2016) from Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta made an undergraduate thesis on the violation of Grice's Cooperative Principles as a support for disclosure of humor in the situation comedy *How I Met Your Mother* episodes 1 - 5. The research identifies the types of violations of conversational maxims in situation comedy *How I Met Your Mother* episodes 1 - 5 and analyses the way in which a humorous situation is created due to violations of conversational maxims carried out by the characters in the situation comedy. The results of his research show that, in the comedy situation *How I Met My Mother* episodes 1 – 5, the characters violate four conversational maxims, namely maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relations, and maxim of manner, and the methods used to creating a humorous situation in the form of creating confusing meanings or ideas in a conversation, making fun of other people's weaknesses for

showing hostility, and emitting emotions. The results obtain based on incongruity theory, superiority theory and release theory.

Second, Herawati (2015) from Yogyakarta State University made an undergraduate thesis on the phenomenon of language that can create humor in the film *The Dictator*. The research analyses the violations of the maxims of Grice's Cooperative Principles carried out by the character Aladeen, analysing the forms of humor that are created, and identifying their functions. The results of the study show that the character Aladeen violates all the maxims of Grice's Cooperative Principles, forms of humor that emerge namely jokes and spontaneous conversational humor. The spontaneous conversational humor consists of irony, sarcasm, overstatement and understatement, self-deprecation, teasing, clever replies to serious statements, double intenders, transformations of frozen expressions, and pun. The results obtain based on R.A. Martin and Kuiper's humor categories. The function of emerging humor plays a role as social management and defunctionalisation.

The next, Cendra (2016) from Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta made an undergraduate thesis on analysing verbal humor in BBC Radio Drama Series *Cabin Pressure: Abu Dhabi*. The research investigates the types of verbal humor contained in BBC Radio Drama Series Cabin Pressure: Abu Dhabi and analyses the verbal humor using theory of verbal humor called the General Theory of Verbal Humor (GTVH). The results of the research show that the types of humor that appear on BBC Radio Drama Series *Cabin Pressure: Abu Dhabi* in the form of satire, irony, wit, sarcasm, joke, pun, riddle, farce, and tall tale. Satire is a form of humor that most often appears following irony and the next wit in a row. Verbal humor was analysed by Knowledge Resources (KR) of GTVH namely Script Opposition (SO), Logic Mechanism (LM), Situation (S), Target (T), Narrative Strategy (NS), and Language (L).

And the last, Nandafitri (2012) from the University of Indonesia made an undergraduate thesis on pragmatic aspects of humor development on the TV program *Opera Van Java*. The research analyses aspects of pragmatics such as presupposition, implicature, speech act, possible world, and contexts, and identifies ways of conveying humor in TV program *Opera Van Java: Hantu Seribu Wajah*.

The results of the study show that the pragmatic aspects in the form of presuppositions, contexts outside the language, possible world, speech acts, violations of maxims, and conversational implicature have been well utilized as elements of humor development in the TV program. And the ways to convey humor in the TV program *Opera Van Java* are playing presuppositions, irrelevant answers, conversational implicature, convoluted statements, using regional languages, exploitation of the possible world, astonishing statements, playing with names, doing what they want, statements with the purpose of humiliating the other people, manipulating the truth, differences in speech and actions, playing the language, self-contempt, nonverbal actions, ridicule, seduction, offending personal life, playing with words, giving false information, mocking the other person, excessive statements, boasting, protesting the others, demeaning the others, insulting, misinformation, irrelevant song lyrics, playing emotions, debating, strange actions, self-defence, statements to embarrass the others, mocking each other, humiliating themselves, singing that aim to joke and excessive command.

In particular, the present research is going to identify violations of the Grice Cooperative Principles which is the same thing as the purpose of the four researches above. Furthermore, there are things that distinguish between this research and the four researches above i.e. this research specifically uses formation of verbal humor based on Asa Arthur Berger's humor typologies and humor analysis based on the combination of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions. In this research, comedy film containing verbal humor becomes the material to be peeled. Specifically, the comedy film that will be discussed in depth is the film Deadpool 2. Therefore, this research is entitled *The Violation of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions as Elements of Creating Verbal Humor in the Film Deadpool 2*.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the explanation above, humor creation has a relationship with violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions. Grice's cooperative principles and Searle's felicity conditions are rules that state

things that are acceptable and appropriate in lingual activity. However, in the discourse of humor that is non-bona fide communication, the rules are not followed properly. The form of the violation in time produces unexpected and unconventional lingual behavior. That is the source of the creation of the language of humor. Furthermore, this phenomenon is found in the dialogues of Deadpool 2 film characters. The film Deadpool 2 is an action comedy film and contains many elements of humor, mainly verbal humor. Based on these statements, the problems in this research can be formulated as follows.

1. What violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles are expressed by the film characters of Deadpool 2 in their dialogues?
2. What violations of Searle's Felicity Condition are expressed by the film characters of Deadpool 2 in their dialogues?
3. How do the violations of Grice's Cooperative Principle and Searle's Felicity Conditions form the verbal humor in the film Deadpool 2?

1.3 Research Objectives

Dealing with the formulation of the problems above, the objectives of the current research are as follows.

1. To identify the violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles found in the film Deadpool 2.
2. To identify the violations of Searle's Felicity Conditions found in the film Deadpool 2.
3. To examine the violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions in forming the element of verbal humor in the film Deadpool 2.

1.4 Research Significance

a. Theoratically, this research is hoped to be useful for linguistic studies, especially in the field of pragmatics. This research provides an explanation of the violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions as elements of creating verbal humor. The Grice's cooperative principles and

Searle's felicity conditions are specifically expected to be developed in the study of humorous utterances found in comedy-genre films.

b. Practically, this research is expected to be able of increasing interest and helping several future researchers in conducting pragmatic research on the language of humor using the combination of theories of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions. In addition, the present research is also expected to additionally build the understanding of the formation of humorous language for people in general so that they are expected to expand their understanding and build good appreciation skills on verbal humor.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

Pragmatics is a study that examines how the speaker regulates what they want to convey to hearer by paying attention to the background of the occurrence of speech (Yule, 2014)

The Grice's cooperative principles is a theory proposed by Paul H. Grice which explains four maxims, namely Maxim of Quality, Maxim of Quantity, Maxim of Relation, and Maxim of Manner.

The Searle's felicity conditions is a theory pioneered by J. L. Austin and continued its development by John Searle namely a condition when the speech expressed meets the criteria for the appropriate speech conditions, namely, the appropriate context, conventional existence, authority, and sincerity of the speaker.

The violation of Grice's cooperative principles is the non-observance of speakers with the maxims of Grice's Cooperative Principles in delivering their speeches. Speakers tend to give excessive amounts of information or little amount of information to hearers. Speakers provide information that is incorrect or not based on facts or things that are less convincing. Speakers give statements that are not appropriate or not relevant to the topic of conversation intended by

speakers. In addition, speakers provide information in obscurity, ambiguity, redundancy, and disarray.

The violation of Searle's felicity conditions is the non-observance of speakers with the Searle's Felicity Conditions in delivering their speeches. It means that the speech is out from the limited proposal given by the speaker. The speech does not observe with existing conventions. The delivered speeches is less polite and playful. The speaker does not intend to make a speech and its intentions try to make the hearer carrying out the intended action (Cutting, 2002).

Verbal Humor is a form of humor that results from the use of language (Berger, 1997).

Asa Arthur Berger's verbal humor typologies is the types of humor that consist of allusion, bombast, definition, exaggeration, facetiousness, infantilism, insult, irony, literalness, misunderstanding, puns, repartee, ridicule, sarcasm, and satire (Berger, 1997).

1.6 Organization of Writing

The systematic presentation of research results needs to be elaborated to facilitate understanding of the results of the research. The organization of writing of this research is divided into five chapters namely, Chapter I Introduction, Chapter II Theoretical Framework, Chapter III Methodology, Chapter IV Findings and Discussions Research, and Chapter V Conclusions and Suggestions. The following is the elaboration of the parts of the composition of this research writing:

| **Chapter I Introduction** | Contains an explanation of the background of the conduct of the study, the issues that are the focus of research, the objectives of the research, the significance of research, definition of key terms, and organization of writing. |

Chapter II **Theoretical** **Framework**	Contains explanations on pragmatic theory, Grice's Cooperative Principles, Searle's Felicity Conditions, and humor, as well as exposure to the violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles and Searle's Felicity Conditions with the creation of humor.
Chapter III **Methodology**	Contains explanation about qualitative research methods, sample of data, source of data, technique of collecting data, and the technique of analysing data.
Chapter IV **Research Findings** **and Discussions**	Contains data presentation and data description, namely about humor caused by violations of Grice's Cooperative Principles, humor caused by Searle's Felicity Conditions, and verbal humor classification based on Asa Arthur Berger's verbal humor typologies.
Chapter V **Conclusions and** **Suggestions**	Contains conclusions from the results of the research presented in Chapter IV and suggestions regarding research that should be carried out by future researchers.