



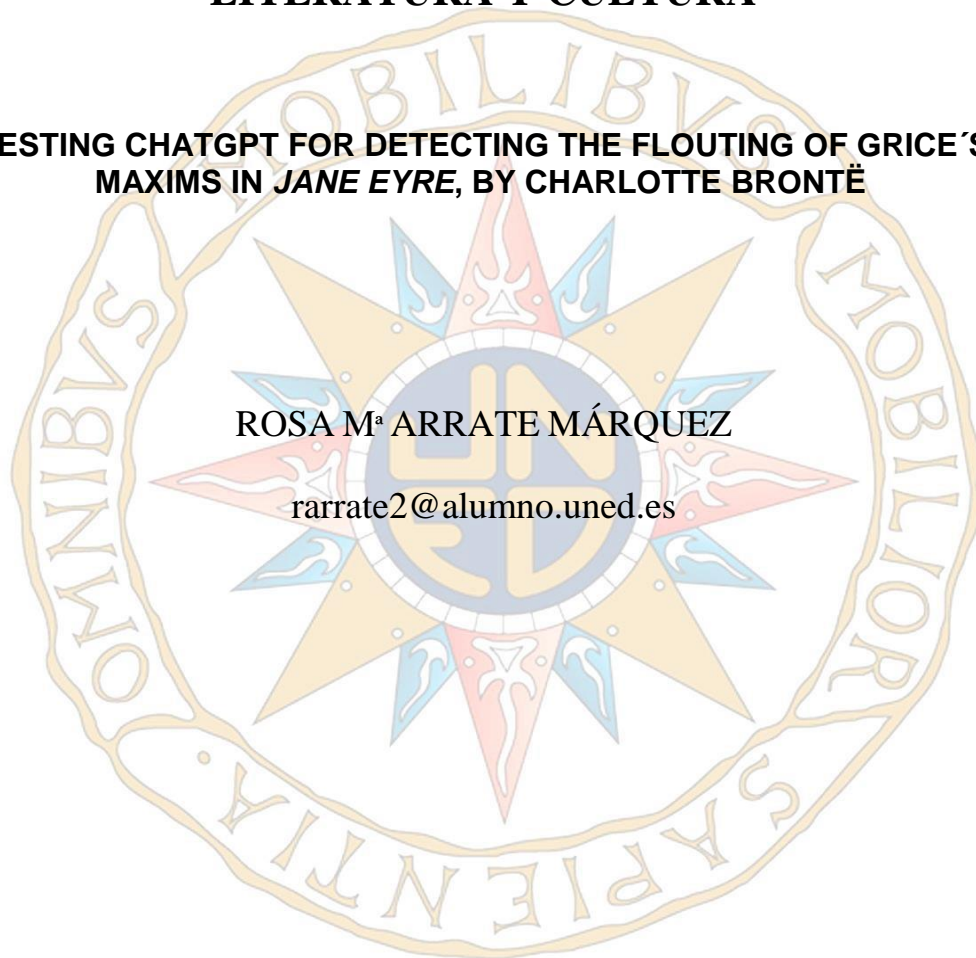
## **TRABAJO FIN DE GRADO**

### **GRADO EN ESTUDIOS INGLESES: LENGUA, LITERATURA Y CULTURA**

**TESTING CHATGPT FOR DETECTING THE FLOUTING OF GRICE'S  
MAXIMS IN *JANE EYRE*, BY CHARLOTTE BRONTË**

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A mis hijas y a Álvaro por su apoyo y sacrificio en estos años. Por su comprensión y por creer en mí.

A la UNED y sus profesores por cubrir mis expectativas con estos estudios.

A William Shakespeare. Su obra y su uso magistral del lenguaje me empujaron a estudiar este grado.

*"We know what we are but know not what we may be".*

*W. Shakespeare*

## **SUMMARY**

This work utilizes Artificial Intelligence as a tool to identify potential floutings of the Gricean Maxims within various excerpts from the novel 'Jane Eyre' by Charlotte Brönte, selected specifically for this analysis. The objective is to assess Chat GPT's capability to detect these floutings. Additionally, a tool developed by the Vicerrectorado de Innovación Educativa from the UNED is employed to detect irony

## **Keywords**

Artificial intelligence, Chat GPT, Gricean Maxims, Flouting, Irony

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# TESTING CHATGPT FOR DETECTING THE FLOUTING OF GRICE'S MAXIMS IN *JANE EYRE*, BY CHARLOTTE BRONTË

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 CONTEXT

ChatGPT has become ubiquitous in recent months, appearing on television, radio, in the press, in educational settings, and increasingly as a topic of conversation in online forums. It has both supporters and critics, as evidenced by the numerous articles available on the internet that examine the strengths and weaknesses of this Artificial Intelligence (IA) chatbot developed by OpenAI.

Only recently have there been academic approaches to understanding the impact of AI on various disciplines such as education, medicine, economics, and any field where natural language processing can aid research and development.

Let us explore what ChatGPT is. As previously mentioned, ChatGPT is an AI chatbot. The definition of AI is a subject of ongoing discussion, but it can be simplified. According to Joost N. Kok, Egbert J. W. Boers, Walter A. Kusters, and Peter van der Putten from the Leiden Institute of Advanced Computer Science at Leiden University in the Netherlands, as stated in the Encyclopaedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS), there are many definitions, but most can be classified into four categories:

1. systems that think like humans
2. systems that act like humans
3. systems that think rationally
4. systems that act rationally

In general, IBM's website defines AI as "a field that combines computer science and robust datasets to enable problem-solving."

<https://www.ibm.com/topics/artificial-intelligence>.

And the same page defines a chatbot as a "computer program that uses artificial intelligence (AI) and natural language processing (NLP) to understand customer questions and automate responses to them, simulating human conversation"

<https://www.ibm.com/topics/chatbots>

When visiting the ChatGPT web page, we can see the following introduction: 'We've trained a model called ChatGPT which interacts in a conversational way. The dialogue format makes it possible for ChatGPT to answer follow-up questions, admit its mistakes, challenge incorrect premises, and reject inappropriate requests. ChatGPT is a sibling model to InstructGPT, which is trained to follow an instruction in a prompt and provide a detailed response.' ChatGPT was developed by OpenAI, 'an AI research and deployment company. Our mission is to ensure that artificial general intelligence benefits all of humanity' (source: <https://openai.com/about> ). ChatGPT was launched in November 2022 and is based on the large language model GPT-4. The use of ChatGPT, in its basic form, is completely free”.

## **1.2 MOTIVATION**

The aim of this study is to explore the use of ChatGPT for detecting the floutings of Grice's Cooperative Principle Maxims in literary texts. Given the current boom in the field of computational linguistics, it is interesting to investigate whether ChatGPT is capable of detecting such floutings, considering the crucial role that Grice's Maxims play in linguistic and pragmatic studies.

## **1.3 OBJECTIVE**

In this study, the objective is to provide fragments of literary texts to ChatGPT in order to test if this AI chatbot is able to detect the flouting of Grice's Cooperative Principle Maxims on them.

## **1.4 HYPOTHESIS**

ChatGPT is unable to detect the flouting of the Gricean Maxims in a literary text.

## • 2.THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The well-known philosopher of language, Herbert Paul Grice (1913-1988) and his influential concepts of conversational implicature and Cooperative Principle will be an important part in this research.

### **Conversational implicature**

Implicature can be understood through an example provided by Grice in his work 'Logic and Conversation.' If A and B are discussing a mutual friend, C, who works at a bank, and A asks B how C is doing in his job, and B responds, 'Oh, quite well, I think; he likes his colleagues, and he hasn't been to prison yet,' it is evident that what B implies differs from the literal meaning of the words uttered. In this case, B's implication is that C has not done anything illegal. The speaker's intended meaning goes beyond what was explicitly stated.

As Grice says, "Our talk exchanges do not normally consist of a succession of disconnected remarks, and would not be rational if they did. They are characteristically, to some degree at least, cooperative efforts; and each participant recognizes in them, to some extent, a common purpose or set of purposes, or at least a mutually accepted direction".

Grice formulated a principle which participants will be expected to observe.

### **Cooperative Principle**

By virtue of this principle, participants will be expected to observe the following: "Make your conversational contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged". (Logic and conversation. H. Paul Grice 1975).

### **Grice's Maxims**

Grice distinguishes four categories or maxims that the speaker or writer is expected to follow, which are the following:

#### -Maxim of Quantity

- Make your contribution as informative as is required (for the current purposes of the exchange).
- Do not make your contribution more informative than is required.

### -Maxim of Quality

- Try to make your contribution one that is true.
  - Do not say what you believe to be false.
  - Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence.

### -Maxim of Relation

- Be relevant.

### -Maxim of Manner

- Be perspicuous.
  - Avoid obscurity of expression.
  - Avoid ambiguity.
  - Be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity).
  - Be orderly.

Grice pointed out that although people are normally expected to follow the above maxims, they often do not observe them and 'flout', violate, opt out, suspend or infringe one or more of these maxims and, the hearer or reader accepts that the speaker or writer tries to be cooperative and looks what she or he means in greater depth. Grice uses what he calls a conversational implicature to explain this. With implicature, Grice understands that what it is meant is different from what it is said or written and if someone participating in a communication does not observe the Cooperative principle or flouts one or more of the maxims, it is because she or he intends to do so and the receiver of this communication can deduce the real intended meaning in the particular context in which it is received. I will briefly explain the concepts of violating a maxim, opting out of a maxim and infringing a maxim, to contrast them to the concept of flouting a maxim, which is what I am going to focus my study on.

### *-VIOLATING A MAXIM*

Grice, in his *Logic and Conversation*, indicates that violating a maxim is the quiet and unostentatious non-observance of it, as for example, the case in which the speaker lies.



### *-OPTING OUT OF A MAXIM*

This is the case in which a speaker indicates s/he does not want to be cooperative as the maxim requires but does not want to show the non-cooperativeness.

### *-INFRINGING A MAXIM*

When the speaker does not have the full command of the language for different reasons (drunk, nervous etc.) and does not want to generate an implicature or deceive anyone.

### *-SUSPENDING A MAXIM*

When there is no expectation that a maxim will be followed. This does not generate an implicature.

### *-FLOUTING OF THE MAXIMS*

The flouting of the maxims is when one or more of these maxims are not observed and so the speakers decide to `flout` one or more of them intentionally but without forgetting that the person to whom the communication is intended, understands that the speaker is trying to be cooperative, by triggering a conversational implicature.

## **Flouting of the Quantity Maxim**

Implicature occurs when the speaker provides less information than is necessary, omitting details in an utterance that would make it clearer for the listener.

Example:

A: "What do you think about my dessert?"

B: "Your main dish was good."

In this case, B has flouted the maxim of quantity by referring only to the main dish instead of directly addressing the dessert. This might be an attempt by B to avoid offending A and not fully adhere to the maxim. As a result, A is left to infer B's possible intended meaning that the dessert was not so good.

## Flouting of the Quality maxim

When the maxim of Quality is not observed, it might result in irony, where the speaker intends to convey something different from what is explicitly stated. Grice, in 'Logic and Conversation,' provides examples that illustrate how this maxim can be flouted.

These changes aim to enhance the coherence and readability of your text.

- Irony

Irony is a discourse phenomenon, a strategy or discourse mechanism and as it is understood from Brown and Levinson's explanations in their book "Politeness: Some Universals In Language Usage (1987:221)", it consists in "saying the opposite of what the speaker means", although as Alba Juez (1994:10) points out, irony seems to be a much more complex phenomenon—that is principally used as a device for criticism, but there are some cases in which it can also convey praise.

The following is an example of irony in which A literally says that she thinks it is nice to have a relaxing drive, so there is a double irony here. The first one implying that it is not nice and the second one in which she implies that the drive is not relaxing at all, considering the context.

Example: A is fighting against stress and gets into a traffic jam and says,

"How nice to have a relaxing drive!"

- Metaphor

A figure of speech in which one thing is described in terms of another (Dictionary of literary terms & literary theory -Penguin reference library)

Example: Her smile was a splash of colour

- Meiosis

A figure of speech which contains an understatement for emphasis: often used ironically, and for dramatic effect, in the attainment of simplicity (Dictionary of literary terms & literary theory -Penguin reference library pg 428)

Example: In the midst of a massive snowstorm, someone might downplay the situation by saying, 'It's just two snowflakes and a little bit of wind,' in an attempt to minimize the intensity of the storm and reduce its perceived significance.

- Hyperbole

A figure of speech which contains an exaggeration for emphasis. (Dictionary of literary terms & literary theory -Penguin reference library page 346)

Example: I've been waiting for your call for ages!

It is clear that no one waits for ages but what this person wants to convey, is that s/he has waited for too long.

### **Flouting of the Relation Maxim**

When the maxim of Relation is flouted, it can happen if the speaker, for example, does not directly answer a question, providing an answer that is not relevant to the topic being discussed.

Example:

A: Would you like to come with me to the cinema tomorrow?

B: I have to visit my aunt in Segovia tomorrow.

The response B gives conversationally implicates that s/he has something else to do that is more important than going to the cinema and it is a way of indirectly saying no to A's proposal.

### **Flouting of the Manner maxim**

The flouting of the maxim of manner occurs if a statement is not straightforward or clear.

Example:

A: Where did you go last summer on holidays?

B: I went to a hot place, in another continent, by the seaside, where the food was nice, and the people were friendly.

B is implying that s/he went to a foreign country, which seems to be the typical holiday with beach destiny and there is a flouting of the maxim as there is not a direct answer as would be, providing the name of the country visited, which would have been more straightforward.

### **3- METHODOLOGY**

This study employs a descriptive qualitative method to collect data using the novel "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Brönte, published in 1847, as the primary source. The objective is to extract specific excerpts from the novel to examine the flouting of Grice's Maxims as outlined in Grice's "Logic and conversation" (H.P Grice, 1975), and the associated theory.

The initial step involves selecting relevant excerpts from the novel and assessing whether ChatGPT can detect instances of flouting the Maxims. Additionally, for testing irony, a tool developed by the Vicerrectorado de Innovación Educativa from the UNED will be employed to determine its effectiveness in identifying irony

within the chosen text. The selection of excerpts will be based on a thorough re-reading of the novel to identify instances where the Maxims are flouted.

Subsequently, the identified instances of flouting will be examined, and both ChatGPT and the tool from the University will be used to assess their ability to detect these instances. The findings will be compared, and explanations of the identified floutings will be provided both before and after utilizing the AI tools.

#### 4- EXCERPTS´ ANALYSIS

The first excerpt from the novel is a dialogue between Jane Eyre and Mrs. Reed, taken from the first page of the first chapter in which Bessie, the nurse responsible for caring for Jane and Mrs. Reed's children, suggests that Jane has done something inappropriate:

*“What does Bessie say I have done? ´ I asked  
´Jane, I don´t like cavillers or questioners. “*

ChatGPT will provide different answers depending on how the question is formulated. It is not possible to present both of these sentences in the format provided in the book: one above the other.

If the question is: **Is there a flouting of a Gricean Maxim in the following? " What does Bessie say I have done? I asked. Jane I don't like cavillers or questioners"**, then the answer provided by ChatGPT is as follows:

*Yes, there is a potential flouting of the Gricean Maxim of Quantity in Jane's response. Instead of directly answering the question about what Bessie said, Jane's response is evasive and dismissive, suggesting that she doesn't want to provide more information than necessary. This violates the Maxim of Quantity, which suggests providing as much information as needed for the conversation to proceed effectively.*

In this answer, ChatGPT doesn´t detect the flouting of the maxim of relevance and is unable to understand that the person answering the question is not Jane but Mrs Reed.

But if the same question is repeated, then we have another completely different answer:

*Yes, there is a potential flouting of the Gricean Maxim of Relevance in Jane's response. Instead of directly addressing the question about what Bessie said, Jane's response seems unrelated to the inquiry. This violates the Maxim of Relevance, which suggests that contributions to a conversation should be pertinent to the current topic or context. Jane's response appears to deflect from the question rather than provide a relevant answer.*

So now it is not detecting what it detected the first time and still doesn't understand who the person answering the question is. The answer from ChatGPT, to this second question should have been different or complementary to the first one, but it doesn't seem to be.

So, I decided to ask the same question a third time and this was the answer:

*Yes, in this conversation, Jane's response flouts the Gricean Maxim of Quality. Instead of providing a truthful and accurate response to the question, Jane gives a vague and dismissive reply that doesn't directly address the inquiry about what Bessie said. This violates the Maxim of Quality, which requires one to make contributions that are true and supported by evidence. Jane's response could be seen as evasive or intentionally misleading.*

But if I formulate the question using an A and B dialogue type like this:

**Is there a flouting of a Gricean Maxim in the following? "A- what does Bessie say I have done? I asked. B-Jane I don't like cavillers or questioners"**

Then, the answer will be different:

*Yes, in this conversation, B flouts the Gricean Maxim of Relevance. Instead of directly addressing A's question about what Bessie said, B responds with a statement that appears to avoid the question entirely and doesn't contribute relevant information to the conversation. This violation of the Maxim of Relevance can lead to confusion or frustration for A, as B's response does not address the inquiry at hand.*

In this answer, at least recognizes ChatGPT that A and B are different persons although it only identifies the flouting of the Maxim of relevance.

And if I ask it to analyse the excerpt, then it answers the following (not mentioning any flouting, nor Grice's maxims):

*In this excerpt, we can see that Bessie is expressing reluctance or discomfort in responding to the question posed by the speaker ("I asked"). Bessie's response implies that she is hesitant to disclose what she believes the speaker has done because she does not appreciate individuals who nitpick or interrogate ("I don't like cavillers or questioners").*

*This implies that Bessie is avoiding direct confrontation or detailed explanation, possibly due to discomfort or a desire to avoid conflict. Additionally, Bessie's statement suggests that she prefers not to engage with people who challenge or question her assertions, indicating a potential aversion to confrontation or disagreement.*

Finally, I asked ChatGPT for an **analysis of the excerpt from a theoretical linguistic perspective** and the answer is:

- 1. Pragmatics: Bessie's response can be analysed in terms of its pragmatic implicature. By stating "Jane, I don't like cavillers or questioners," Bessie is not explicitly answering the question about what the speaker has done. However, the implicature is that she is indirectly refusing to answer or provide further information due to her aversion to cavillers or questioners. Pragmatics helps us understand the implied meaning beyond the literal interpretation of Bessie's words.*
- 2. Discourse Analysis: This excerpt can also be analysed in the context of the broader discourse between the speaker and Bessie. Bessie's response highlights power dynamics and social relationships within the conversation. Her reluctance to answer the question may indicate a hierarchical relationship where she feels entitled to avoid direct confrontation or interrogation from the speaker. Discourse analysis would examine how language is used to negotiate meaning and social roles within the interaction.*
- 3. Sociolinguistics: Bessie's response reflects social norms and values related to communication styles and politeness. Sociolinguistics considers how language use is shaped by social factors such as culture, power dynamics, and social identity. Bessie's reluctance to engage with the*

*speaker's question may be influenced by cultural norms regarding indirectness or avoidance of conflict. Additionally, her reference to "Jane" suggests familiarity or intimacy with the speaker, which could also affect her communicative strategies.*

And once again, it doesn't understand who the interlocutors in the dialogue are.

ChatGPT is struggling with understanding the context of the dialogue and is unable to identify the speakers involved.

Secondly, it is detecting the flouting of Grice maxims but only when the question is formulated a couple of times. So, minimum, the answer is incomplete. And when I formulated the question the third time, giving an A and B format, the Chat is giving an answer "thinking" that Bessie is one of the interlocutors, failing again in understanding the context, which may be reasonable as it doesn't have all the information.

When I ask Chat GPT to analyse the excerpt from a theoretical linguistic perspective, it can only give general observations like "may indicate a hierarchical..." and yes, there is a hierarchical relationship, or "may be influenced..." but any conclusion of this analysis will have to do with the error ChatGPT is committing from the very beginning as it is unable to understand who is it talking in the dialogue.

I have chosen the following extract from chapter 23 : Mr Rochester has just proposed marriage to Jane Eyre and she believes that the proposal is insincere.

*'...just as if both had passed through the grave and we stood at God's feet. Equal as we are!'  
'As we are! Repeated Mr Rochester- 'so,' he added, enclosing me in his arms...'  
'Yes, so sir,' I rejoined: 'and yet not so: for you are a married man-or as good as a married man, and wed to one inferior to you – to one with whom you have no sympathy- whom I do not believe you truly love; for I have seen and heard you sneer at her. I would scorn such a union: therefore I am better than you- let me go!'*

I ask ChatGPT : **"Is there a flouting of a Gricean Maxim in the following?"** And the answer given is:

*Yes, there is a flouting of the Gricean Maxims in the provided excerpt. Grice's Maxims refer to principles of effective communication, and one of these maxims is*



*the Maxim of Quantity, which suggests that one should provide just enough information for the conversation's purpose.*

*In the excerpt, Jane Eyre exceeds the expected quantity of information by providing more details than necessary. Instead of simply rejecting Mr. Rochester's proposal, she elaborates on her reasoning, expressing her thoughts about his marriage and her perception of his feelings towards his wife. This goes beyond what is required to convey her refusal of his proposal, thereby flouting the Maxim of Quantity.*

Understanding the context in which this extract is written, gives the advantage of recognizing the irony within it, as Jane states that Mr Rochester is a married man when she really doesn't want to convey this, but he is engaged, although Jane is unaware of it and mistakenly believes he is married to Miss Ingram. In this case there is a flouting of the maxim of quality. I also find a flouting of the maxim of manner as Jane's answer about them being equal is not clear, talking about Mr Rochester being married.

I agree with Chat GPT's analysis, as I believe it also involves a flouting of the Maxim of Quantity. Additionally, there is a flouting of the Maxim of Relation, as Jane's response shifts the topic from Mr. Rochester's statement about equality and the answer given by Jane is about him being married, not being relevant with what he was talking about and taking into account that with this extract, there are things that we can't know without all the information and context.

And I reformulate the same question as I did with the first excerpt and once again, Chat GPT gives a different answer:

*Yes, there is a flouting of the Gricean Maxims in the provided excerpt. Specifically, Jane Eyre's response involves flouting the Maxim of Relevance. This maxim suggests that contributions to a conversation should be pertinent and related to the topic at hand.*

*In Jane Eyre's response, while Mr. Rochester expresses his feelings of equality, she shifts the focus of the conversation to critique his marriage and express her rejection of his proposal. This move is not directly relevant to Mr. Rochester's statement about equality but instead introduces a new topic. Therefore, Jane Eyre flouts the Maxim of Relevance by not sticking to the subject at hand.*

I think that for once, the analysis is more accurate than previously.

Once again I ask Chat GPT for a **theoretical linguistic perspective analysis of the excerpt**, and here is the answer provided:

*From a theoretical linguistic perspective, the provided dialogue from "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Bronte showcases several elements worthy of analysis:*

**Pragmatics:** *The conversation between Jane Eyre and Mr. Rochester illustrates how the context, intentions, and implications of language use play a crucial role in communication. Mr. Rochester's declaration of equality ("Equal as we are!") can be interpreted as a declaration of emotional connection and partnership. However, Jane's response reveals her pragmatic understanding of the situation, where she challenges this declaration by pointing out the social and moral barriers to their equality.*

**Power dynamics:** *The exchange reflects the power dynamics between Jane and Mr. Rochester. Despite Mr. Rochester's assertion of equality, Jane's response challenges his authority by critiquing his marriage and asserting her own moral superiority. This highlights the intricate ways in which power is negotiated through language in social interactions.*

**Speech acts:** *Jane Eyre's response can be analyzed as a performative speech act, specifically a refusal. By rejecting Mr. Rochester's proposal and criticizing his marriage, Jane asserts her autonomy and refuses to conform to societal expectations. This illustrates how language is not only descriptive but also performative, shaping social reality through acts of speech.*

**Politeness theory:** *Jane's response can also be examined through the lens of politeness theory, which explores how language is used to maintain social harmony and manage face. While Jane's words may appear confrontational, her intention might be to protect her own dignity and assert her moral principles. Thus, her seemingly impolite language can be interpreted as a strategic attempt to maintain her own face while challenging Mr. Rochester's assumptions.*

*Overall, this excerpt showcases the richness of linguistic analysis in literature, providing insights into characters' motivations, social dynamics, and power structures through their use of language.*

I think that in this case, Chat GPT has proven to be a more useful tool than I had anticipated and that this analysis is quite clear and complete.

I have then introduced the excerpt in the UNED irony detector:

<https://open.ieec.uned.es/edubots/detector-de-ironias-2/>

This is a tool from the UNED *Vicerrectorado de Innovación Educativa*, developed to detect irony in the texts provided, and the result is the following:

*This text contains irony, specifically in the form of verbal irony. Verbal irony is when the literal meaning of a statement is opposite to its intended meaning. We can see this in the character's words: "Equal as we are!" and "Yes, so sir, and yet not so." The speaker introduces the idea of equality between Mr. Rochester and herself but then immediately contradicts it, pointing out that their societal positions and emotional situations make them far from equals.*

*This is also reflected in the assertion that she is "better" than Mr. Rochester. The irony here is that, traditionally, Mr. Rochester would be seen as the superior due to his gender and marital status. However, she implies that her moral superiority, based on her refusal to be part of a loveless and disrespectful union, actually places her above him in value. This is an excellent example of irony because it subverts the reader's expectations based on societal norms and the initial statement of equality. The derisive tone is evident when she says, "whom I do not believe you truly love; for I have seen and heard you sneer at her" which also contributes to the irony in the text. It is expected that a man in love would not mock his partner, yet here, the character is implying that Mr. Rochester has done just that.*

*As a whole, this passage utilizes irony to communicate the disparity in societal norms and the speaker's personal convictions about morality and respect in relationships.*

This analysis, takes me to ask about the irony found in the extract, to Chat GPT and here is its answer:

*Yes, there is irony in the text. The irony lies in the fact that Mr. Rochester declares equality between himself and Jane Eyre, implying a deep emotional connection, while Jane uses this moment to highlight the significant social and moral disparity between them due to Mr. Rochester's marriage or engagement to Miss Ingram. Jane's assertion that Mr. Rochester is "a married man-or as good as a married man" contradicts the notion of equality he just proclaimed. Furthermore, Jane's declaration that she is "better than" Mr. Rochester due to her refusal to enter into a morally questionable union adds another layer of irony, as it suggests a reversal of power dynamics despite Mr. Rochester's social status and wealth.*

Both tools reveal that there is a flouting of the maxim of Quality as they detect there is irony.

I am going to begin with the analysis of this last issue I asked to both tools about irony.

The first thing that I notice is the ability of Chat GPT to learn from any source received. It has incorporated Miss Ingram to its analysis when I haven't introduced it in any way except asking before for a possible grammatical error in a sentence in which she was mentioned This gives me an idea of how anyone can manipulate the answers given by the chat and how little liable it is. But it is able to detect irony although not the one that can only be inferred if the context is known.

In the case of the link used from the University, firstly, it has helped me understand the concept of verbal irony providing not only a definition but also examples from the extract. Furthermore, it is able to detect irony in the extract that goes beyond what I had in mind (which is the ironic situation of Jane believing Mr Rochester is a married man when he definitively is, although she is unaware). So, it is a very powerful tool capable of conducting a thorough analysis of the given extract. However, it is important to note that the tool may not identify the irony of the situation as it lacks the contextual information provided by the novel.

The tool from the university is much more developed than Chat GPT and I find it much more helpful in detecting irony.

In the following excerpt from chapter 37. Jane goes to Ferndean to meet Mr Rochester in the manor house owned by him, after learning that Thornfield Hall has burnt down and that her love is blind. This chapter anticipates the romantic end of the novel. They have lots of things to talk about, such as where Jane and with whom Jane has been since she fled from Thornfield.

*Who have you been with, Jane? You shall not get it out of me tonight, sir; you must wait till tomorrow; to leave my tale half told, will, you know, be a sort of security that I shall appear at your breakfast-table to finish it. By the by, I must mind not to rise on your hearth with only a glass of water then: I must bring you an egg at least, to say nothing of fried ham.*

As I have done with the other two excerpts, I asked Chat GPT if it finds any flouting of the Gricean Maxims in it and the answer is:

*Yes, there is a flouting of the Gricean Maxim of Quantity in the provided excerpt. According to Grice's Cooperative Principle, speakers are expected to provide just enough information to fulfil the communicative purpose without being overly informative or insufficient. In the excerpt, the speaker intentionally withholds information from Jane, stating "You shall not get it out of me tonight, sir; you must wait till tomorrow." This flouts the maxim of quantity by providing less information than expected or needed to answer Jane's question fully. Instead of directly answering, the speaker teases Jane by suggesting that the story will be continued later.*

I then reformulated the same question as previously in the other two examples and again, I have a different answer:

*Yes, there is a flouting of the Gricean Maxim of Relevance in the provided excerpt. The question asked by Jane ("Who have you been with, Jane?") expects a relevant response regarding the individuals Jane has been with. However, instead of addressing Jane's question directly, the speaker goes on a tangent about their own plans for the next day, mentioning bringing eggs and fried ham to Jane's breakfast*

*table. This diversion from the topic at hand violates the maxim of relevance because it does not directly address Jane's question and instead introduces unrelated information.*

But this time, I decided to repeat the same question-for the third time, word by word. The tool found that this extract also flouts the Maxim of Quality. Upon reading the excerpt, I detected there was irony within it. I attempted the University's link again. When I confirmed the irony present, I wanted to see if Chat GPT detected the flouting of the Maxim of Quality, which it did. This was done in order to compare the answers of both tools.

*Yes, there is a flouting of the Gricean Maxim of Quality in the provided excerpt. The speaker makes a promise to Jane ("You shall not get it out of me tonight, sir; you must wait till tomorrow") and assures her that leaving the tale half-told will serve as a security measure for their presence at her breakfast table the next day. However, the speaker then goes on to express their intentions regarding the breakfast menu, saying, "By the by, I must mind not to rise on your hearth with only a glass of water then: I must bring you an egg at least, to say nothing of fried ham." This additional information about the breakfast menu is unrelated to the promise made to Jane and doesn't contribute to the understanding of who Jane has been with, hence flouting the Maxim of Quality.*

The interesting analysis of the University's tool is the following:

*The text does demonstrate irony in various instances. It revolves around the semantic oppositions of true/false and positive/negative.*

*The first instance of irony can be noted in the sentence, "You shall not get it out of me tonight, sir; you must wait till tomorrow." The speaker (presumably Jane) is insinuating that the person she is addressing (the sir) is eager or curious to know who she has been with, though this might not necessarily be the case. This is ironic because while Jane is withholding information as if it is highly desired, the 'sir' might not actually be as invested in knowing as Jane imagines him to be.*

*The second instance of irony is in the clause, "to leave my tale half told will, you know, be a sort of security that I shall appear at your breakfast- table to finish it." Here, Jane suggests that her unfinished story serves as a guarantee of her presence*

*at breakfast. This is ironic because the anticipation of the rest of the story, which may not be of any real interest, is being presented as something of great importance.*

*Lastly, the statement, "By the by, I must mind not to rise on your hearth with only a glass of water then: I must bring you an egg at least, to say nothing of fried ham" is also ironic. Jane is expressing a mock concern for the quality of her contribution to the breakfast, which further underscores the irony of the entire situation; there's a sense of exaggerated importance placed on mundane details.*

*The overall irony in the text can be seen in the way that Jane overplays the significance and interest in her story and her role in the breakfast, which is used as a strategy to build rapport and maintain engagement with the person she is addressing.*

Chat GPT was able to identify three different floutings of the Maxims and I believe they are accurate. However, the tool does not initially provide a complete answer from the beginning and although it detects the maxim of quality, it doesn't mention irony, which would complete its answer. Additionally, it overlooked the maxim of Manner, which I also think is flouted, as I think Jane is not being direct and could have responded more directly to Mr. Rochester's inquiry

Once again, the University irony detector is offering a very complete analysis of the irony found in the text and once again it is helping to understand where and why can it be found, which makes it a very didactic tool. It seems to be able to help in analysing the excerpt and find more irony than what can be seen at first sight. But the irony found is situational and not verbal irony, which is not the type of irony I am analyzing, so the tool is not working well in this case and I also disagree with the answer given by this tool in that I think, Mr Rochester was eager to know all about Jane's past life since she left him. But this can only be understood, if the novel is fully read.

I asked for a theoretical linguistic perspective analysis as I did with the other two excerpts and I had this answer:

From a theoretical linguistic perspective, the dialogue provided exhibits several linguistic features worth analyzing:

**Interrogative structure:** The utterance "Who have you been with, Jane?" represents an interrogative sentence. It inquires about Jane's recent companionship, reflecting syntactic questioning.

**Declarative response:** The response "You shall not get it out of me tonight, sir; you must wait till tomorrow..." follows the interrogative. Although it's not a direct answer, it functions as a declarative response, indicating Jane's refusal to disclose the information immediately.

**Modal Auxiliary verbs:** Modal verbs such as "shall" and "must" are employed throughout the dialogue ("You shall not get it out of me tonight," "you must wait till tomorrow"). These modals convey obligation, prohibition, and prediction, contributing to the speaker's intentions and attitudes.

**Politeness Strategies:** Jane's refusal is softened with politeness strategies ("sir"), indicating respect despite her unwillingness to comply with Mr. Rochester's request. Additionally, the phrase "to leave my tale half told, will, you know, be a sort of security..." serves as a rationalization, implying consideration for Mr. Rochester's anticipation.

**Pragmatic implications:** Mr. Rochester's subsequent remarks about bringing food ("By the by, I must mind not to rise on your hearth with only a glass of water then: I must bring you an egg at least, to say nothing of fried ham") provide pragmatic implications. This suggests a shift in the conversation's focus from Jane's companionship to matters of hospitality and comfort, illustrating contextual relevance and speaker intentionality.

**Stylistic devices:** The use of metaphorical language ("to leave my tale half told") adds a stylistic dimension to the dialogue, enhancing its literary quality and contributing to character development.

Overall, this analysis demonstrates how linguistic elements such as syntactic structure, modality, politeness strategies, pragmatics, and stylistic devices work together to convey meaning, develop characters, and advance the narrative in the provided dialogue.

In contrast to the theoretical linguistic analysis provided in the previous excerpt, I find this analysis quite complete in contrast with the answer that Chat GPT gives



when I ask about the flouting of the maxims. Not only because of the analysis itself but also because I thought that one of the reasons for not including all the floutings in the first answer, could be space constraints. But I see that it is not the case as the answer given about the theoretical linguistic analysis is extensive. I really don't know why Chat GPT doesn't provide a full answer and why must I ask three times and maybe more to receive a complete answer. So I decided to ask Chat GPT about this with the following question:

**When I asked you about if you could detect the flouting of a Gricean Maxim, you gave me an answer. If I asked you the same question word by word, 2 times more, you gave me a different answer. What is the reason for this?**

*As an AI language model, I don't have memory of past interactions with users. Each interaction with me is treated independently, and I don't retain information from one interaction to the next. Therefore, if you ask the same question multiple times or in different ways, you might receive different responses based on the specific input you provide each time. Additionally, my responses are generated based on patterns in the data on which I was trained, so variations in the wording or context of your questions can also lead to differences in my responses.*

As I thought the answer didn't really clarify me why I received three answers for the same question, I reformulated my question:

**But the questions I introduce are the same word by word. Why then do you provide different answers?**

If the questions are truly identical in wording each time, and you receive different responses from me, it could be due to the inherent variability in the way I generate responses. As an AI model, I generate responses based on patterns learned from the data I was trained on. However, even with the same input, there may be slight variations in the responses I produce due to the probabilistic nature of the model and the diversity of examples seen during training. Additionally, subtle differences in context or timing can also influence the output. While I strive to provide consistent and accurate responses, there may still be some variability in the answers I generate.

With this answer I understand that AI, in this case Chat GPT, is closely related to statistics and probabilities. Its training with the data received which , at this early stage of development I, is still not sufficient to provide a truly complete and accurate answer.

## • 5 – CONCLUSIONS

When I decided to proceed with this work, Chat GPT was a very recently developed tool. I remember it interested me from the very beginning although, like everybody else, I had doubts about its usefulness.

It became clear to me that AI could be something that has the potential to change many things, starting with education and its methods of teaching and learning.

At that time, I had begun to read about IA and knew people who used it in their businesses, including someone who had won a price for the use of AI in his start up in UK. However, I was skeptical because it was something completely new, and there were multiple sources warning about the potential dangers of AI dominating our lives. Despite this, I decided to investigate if it could truly be something helpful. I had only used Chat GPT in a very simple manner, such as a translation tool or for analyzing a poem. The results of these searches were sometimes good but other times they were terrible: either the translation was very poor or the analysis was based on a poem that had nothing to do with my query. As I approach the end of my studies, I reflect on the challenging journey of choosing the subject for this work. Initially I embarked on something entirely different but later opted for this topic, believing it offered novelty and potential utility. I envisioned that demonstrating the usefulness of Chat GPT and AI, could introduce a new dimension to daily university activities, diverging from the common perception of their misuse for plagiarism through copy- and – paste practices.

So it was the time to decide how to use AI, and I found it interesting to investigate whether there were flouting of the Gricean Maxims in certain excerpts taken from a novel that had a profound impact on me in my youth, which I had reread numerous times, including during my time at University. I chose to use Chat

GPT as it was the most commonly known free tool and I was offered the option to try the university's tool used during the work.

I remember here what my starting hypothesis was:

**“ChatGPT is unable to detect the flouting of the Gricean Maxims in a literary text”.**

When I began the work, given my past experience with Chat GPT, I believed it would be unable to detect flouting of the Maxims. In view of the results of this work, this hypothesis cannot be fully accepted, or at least, only partially so. Chat GPT is capable of detecting floutings in the excerpts, but sometimes it only do so partially, as it is unable to provide a complete answer, requiring multiple queries of the same question. Additionally, It is unable to detect certain floutings of the maxims, due to its lack of full context, namely, the entire novel, and it sometimes misunderstands the characters involved in a dialogue. I have provided the reason for this given by Chat GPT.

As for the University's tool, I believe it has provided me with the opportunity not only to detect irony (Maxim of Quality) in the two provided excerpts which I was unable to discern on my own, but It has proven to be a very valuable tool that aids in learning. The tool offers definitions and provides examples from the excerpts to facilitate understanding of these definitions. I am confident that it can be highly beneficial for any student who utilizes it.

As the use of AI is relatively recent in all fields, I believe that there is a very exciting future ahead in which many of the tools used for research in education, will be incredibly helpful. Chat GPT is a free tool but it offers a Premium version with additional features uses, and there are other tools such as Click up, Perplexity, Writesonic etc., which might offer interesting results when used.

I am certain that if this work were done a year from now, the results would be different. Each passing day, the AI learns form the new data introduced, thus improving the accuracy and quality of its results. I am pleased to utilize it not only for this work but also for future endeavours. Witnessing the revolution that AI represents fills me with happiness, and I am confident that it will prove to be

an incredibly useful tool for any students seeking to learn and will provide an advantage for teachers as well.

- **6 – REFERENCES**

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