

1 Exercise

1. In each pair of utterances below, the second utterance carries a standard kind of implicature. For each example, identify the implicature(s) and the main Maxim involved.

- (1) A: Do your children eat greens?
 B: Well, David eats spinach.
 Implicature: 'My other children don't eat greens' (Quantity)
 Also probably: 'Spinach is the only kind of greens David eats' (Quantity)
- (2) A: Did you fix the blind?
 B: I tried to.
 Implicature: 'No, I didn't fix the blind' (Quantity)
- (3) A: Do you love me?
 B: I'm very fond of you.
 Implicature: 'No, I don't love you' (Quantity)
- (4) A: Did you stack the dishes and load the washing machine?
 B: I've stacked the dishes.
 Implicature: 'I didn't load the washing machine' (Quantity)
- (5) A: Let's try that new French restaurant.
 B: I'm on a low-fat diet.
 Implicature: 'No let's not try it' (Relation)

2. What are the presuppositions, if any, of the following sentences?

- (a) Mandy didn't finish her dinner.
 Presupps: (i) There's someone named Mandy; (ii) There was a dinner; (iii) Mandy was eating her dinner

- (b) Clive enjoyed the party immensely.
 Presupps: (i) There's someone named Clive; (ii) There was a party; (iii) Clive experienced this party in some way
- (c) Edward realized that he knew Sally.
 Presupps: (i) There's someone named Edward; (ii) There's someone named Sally; (iii) Edward knew Sally
- (d) Latoya was delighted that she got her license.
 Presupps: (i) There's someone named Latoya; (ii) Latoya got her license
- (e) Jones commended Louis for publishing the pamphlet.
 Presupps: (i) There's someone named Jones; (ii) There's someone named Louis; (iii) There is a particular pamphlet; (iv) Louis published the pamphlet
- (f) Jones accused Louis of publishing the pamphlet.
 Presupps: (i) There's someone named Jones; (ii) There's someone named Louis; (iii) There is a particular pamphlet
- (g) Many people who have been kidnapped by aliens have published their experiences.
 Presupps (I think): (i) There are people who have been kidnapped by aliens; (ii) These people have had experiences (with something)