

The Power of the Unsaid: Pragmatics and Implicature in Meaning-Making

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Abstract : This paper explores the role of implicature in communication, focusing on how unspoken meanings are conveyed through context and inference. Rooted in pragmatic theory, the study investigates how implicature allows speakers to communicate indirectly, relying on shared knowledge and contextual cues. By analyzing real-world conversational examples, the paper highlights how implicature navigates ambiguity, reinforces social norms, and enhances communicative efficiency. The findings also address the challenges posed by implicature, such as the potential for miscommunication or varying interpretations. Ultimately, the study argues that understanding implicature is essential for comprehending how language functions beyond the surface level, enabling more effective communication and deeper social interaction.

Keywords : pragmatics, implicature, communication, meaning-making

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