6.1 Introduction

Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principles are the vital components of pragmatics. These are the strategies with the help of which the participants in the conversation use for initiating, establishing and sustaining relations. Generally, the conversations in the ordinary situations are governed by the Maxims of CP and PP. A writer while writing a novel cannot overlook these strategies while depicting his/her characters. Sometimes, a writer, through the linguistic behavior of the characters wants to project the image of the characters. Therefore, studying the novels of Mulk Raj Anand with the help of linguistic behavior of the characters is a rewarding experience for the researcher.

In the present research work, an attempt has been made to study meticulously the highly marked conversations of the characters in the selected novels of Mulk Raj Anand in the context of the observance and violation of the Maxims of Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle. For the comprehensive analysis, three
novels of Anand have been studied with the help of the fundamental principles in pragmatics. Mulk Raj Anand has exploited Indian English to recreate reality and to give authenticity to the characters and the events in his novels: Untouchable, Coolie and Two Leaves and A Bud. The use of the strategy of code mixing and code switching also has been effectively used by the novelist to reveal the Indian social, economic, and cultural background of the characters. He has made a linguistic experiment while writing his early novels. By observing or violating the Maxims of CP and PP, the characters of Mulk Raj Anand establish their interpersonal and social relations. Therefore, the study has been undertaken to discover the hidden agenda with the help of the vital tools in pragmatics especially Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle. These Principles and their Maxims are very much operative in the novels selected for the purpose of the study. The linguistic behavior of the characters is linked to their socio-economic status. Thus, the study of the Maxims of CP and PP paves the way to ascertain the roles given to them by the society in which they live.

6.2 Major Findings

Following are the major findings of the study:

1. The study shows that the main theories and principles of pragmatics are vital tools to interpret fictional discourse. Indian
novels in English, if studied with the help of recent theories in Pragmatics, the readers will be in a better position to understand the inner layers of the minds of the characters.

2. It is discovered that the application of CP and PP to the fictional discourse in general and the selected novels of Mulk Raj Anand in particular proved to be very useful. By understanding the nature of the linguistic behavior of Mulk Raj Anand’s characters, the readers can understand their temperament, their approach, their way of life and their plight.

3. It is observed that there is inherent relationship between language and society. Since Mulk Raj Anand’s characters come from the underprivileged sections of the society, their linguistic behaviour is worth studying through the medium of pragmatics in general and the principles of communication in particular.

4. The caste and the class of protagonists of Anand’s novels are revealed via the Maxims of Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle. For instance, Bakha, the protagonist of the novel Untouchable, is from the scavenger community. Munoo, the protagonist of the novel Coolie, belongs to the marginalized class and whose plight is reduced to non-entity. Gangu, the protagonist of the novel Two Leaves and a Bud, struggles to exist.

5. It is also noticed that Indian culture is revealed with the help of the language use. The use of language made by the characters is highly influenced by the expectations of the cultural norms. The characters of Anand such as Bakha, Munoo and Gangu make
use of observance of CP and PP to show their humility, honesty, truthfulness and obedience while conversing with their respective masters as a part of culture. It is noticed that Indian cultural context plays a significant role while studying the conversations of the protagonists of Mulk Raj Anand’s selected novels. The linguistic exchanges of the characters contain either observance or violation of CP and PP.

6. It is observed that the characters who are placed at the lower rung of the social hierarchical ladder are seen observing most of the maxims of CP and PP. For instance, Bakha, Munoo and Gangu generally do not violate the Maxims of CP and PP.

7. The study shows that the characters that belong to the upper class/caste violate some or the other maxims to achieve their communicative goal of humiliating the servants.

8. It is noticed that interpersonal relationship of the characters is established via the observance or violation of CP and PP. For instance, the coolies or the tea plantation workers address each other using the expression ‘brother’. On the contrary, the masters use derogatory and filthy language expressions while addressing their servants. For instance, Hutchinson, Lallaji, the landlord, Bibiji, Babuji, Reggie Hunt, Shashi Bhushan, etc, use the expressions such as ‘son of a bitch’, ‘swine’, ‘scoundrel’, ‘rascal’, ‘prostitute’, ‘illegally begotten’, etc, to dehumanize the servants.

9. The study shows that the social roles of the characters in the given context are better understood if the readers go beyond the
grammatical borders and get the extended meaning of the utterances of the characters. It is discovered that context of the utterances of the characters plays an important role in interpreting fictional discourse.

10. The study of the observance and violation of CP and PP indicates the nature of the society in which the characters move.

11. It is noticed that the women characters who are the Mistresses of the house abuse the servants profusely amounting to the violation of the Maxims of CP and PP.

12. The study shows that Mulk Raj Anand uses the language suitable to the characters in given situations. The characters become alive due to the linguistic experiment made by the novelist.

13. It is noticed that the use of Indian English helps to establish the authenticity of the characters. It facilitates the writer in creating the cultural and social atmosphere.

14. It is observed that in the novel *Untouchable*, caste plays a dominant role because there, are words and expressions galore in the novel, which are related to the caste i.e. Bhangi, sweeper, chandal, scavenger, outcaste, etc.

15. It is observed that in the novel *Coolie*, class plays a vital role, which is revealed through the language used by the characters in their conversations.

16. It is noticed that the characters in the novel *Two Leaves and A Bud* who come from the socially deprived class, observe the
Maxims of CP and PP due to the low economic status accorded to them.

17. The woman characters generally observe some or all the maxims of CP and PP to show respect to the older people whereas, in some cases they violate the Maxims to achieve their communicative goals.

18. The coolies and the working class people while talking with their colleagues use friendly expressions indicating close relations. For instance, in most of the castes they use the word ‘brother’ to show close proximity or affinity.

19. Most of the British characters violate the Maxims of CP and PP and represent the colonizers attitude. The missionaries are friendly and cooperative as their language behavior reflects this.

20. The women who belong to the upper classes use filthy language while conversing with the servants.

6.3 Pedagogical Implications

The Maxims are generally observed principles in conversation, which take place in the socio-cultural context. Since the context of the utterances of the characters play a pivotal role in understanding the nature of the relationship, the novels of Mulk Raj Anand are better understood with the help of the Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle. If the teacher, while teaching a novel, applies the principles of Cooperation and Politeness, the students will able
to understand and enjoy the novel in a much better way. If the students are exposed to the maxims of CP and PP, it will become easier for them to understand the interpersonal and social relationship of the characters. To establish the authenticity of the characters in a novel, these principles are handy for the students and the teachers.

6.4 Proven Hypothesis

The hypothesis is proved that the readers are able to identify and understand the class, caste, gender, age and social background of the characters in much better way with the help of some of the Maxims of Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle.

6.5 Scope for Further Study

Besides Cooperative Principle and Politeness Principle, there are some useful concepts and theories in the field of pragmatics which are the handy tools for the budding researchers such as Austin’s Theory of Speech Act and Searle’s Typology of Speech Act, Dell Hymes SPEAKING model, deixis, turn taking and discourse analysis. The researchers, who want to pursue research in the field of pragmatics, may apply these theories to other Indian novels in English and analyze the various dimensions of the language from
the perspective of pragmatics. One may carry out a research with reference to the face saving and face threatening strategies used by the characters in a drama or fiction. Thus, there is ample scope to study literature with the help of language use.