Ten More Misconceptions about Implicature

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The Original Ten*
1. Sentences have implicatures. (11, 14, 19)**
2. Implicatures are inferences. (12, 14)
3. Implicatures can’t be entailments.
4. Gricean maxims apply only to implicatures. (16, 17)
5. For what is implicated to be figured out, what is said must be determined first. (12, 13)
6. All pragmatic implications are implicatures.
7. Implicatures are not part of the truth-conditional contents of utterances. (20)
8. If something is meant but unsaid, it must be implicated. (20)
9. Scalar “implicatures” are implicatures. (11)
10. Conventional “implicatures” are implicatures.

Ten More
11. Some implicatures are embedded. (1, 9)
12. Some implicatures are, contra Grice, “local” or “pre-propositional.” (2, 5)
13. Grice’s model of implicature inference can’t account for the “pragmatic processes” involved in identifying embedded and “pre-propositional” implicatures. (5)
14. Implicatures are generated by, or derived via, pragmatic processes. (1, 2)
15. What a speaker implicates is, given what he says, determined by the context of utterance.
16. Implicatures are generated by maxims of conversation. (4)
17. The Cooperative Principle enjoins conversational cooperation, and the conversational maxims provide standards of rational conversation. (4)
18. What is inferred when a speaker implicates something is the implicated proposition.
19. Generalized conversational implicatures give rise to an intermediate level of meaning (between sentence-type meaning and speaker meaning). (1)
20. Intuitive truth-conditional content comprises what is said, as opposed to what is implicated, and therefore includes what is “implicated.” (7, 8)

**The numbers in parentheses refer to related misconceptions on the other list.