Humorous quoting is a type of reported speech that occurs when quotes are appropriated from funny movies or television shows within the media and used during everyday conversation. This study uses conversational analysis to discover the functions of humorous quoting in conversations between my friends and me. The key to comprehending the use of humorous quoting lies not only in understanding the context of the current conversation, but also the original context from which the quote was appropriated. Recognition of quotes and context produces a feeling of inclusion for members of a conversational group, while those unfamiliar with the context often feel excluded. Words or phrases within a conversation may trigger the utterance of a quote, which in turn, may occasion several other quotes from the same movie or character. Rapport is built among group members as quotes are recognized, shared, and laughed at.

Quotes that are commonly used within conversational groups can take on the function of a catchphrase. While the words and expression of the original character are used when these humorous quotes are appropriated, the quoting speaker can alter the meanings of these catchphrases. Recognizing a humorous quote may not be difficult due to accessibility to popular media from which they are appropriated, and their usage can be spread throughout different conversational groups. In order to use a quote, one should be familiar with the original context from which they are taking the quote, and an accurate repetition of the quote is also important.