



Grammatical Cohesion and Textuality: An Argumentative Discussion

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Abstrak

The article discusses the grammatical cohesion and textuality by relating preceding linguistic discussions with some use cases found in real life. The discussion involves Reference: anaphoric, cataphoric, and exophoric. Besides, this article also discusses ellipsis and substitution. As an addition. Conjunction is also discussed in this article. Grammatical cohesion impacts the texture of text. The textuality comes from the concept of grammatical cohesion that speaker and writer apply to express language. The discussion confirms that the correlation between grammatical cohesion and textuality. The reference, ellipsis and substitution and conjunction in grammatical cohesion indicates the texture of utterances in language.

Introduction

Language is a communication tool that has been widely studied by linguists in the world. The use of language over the world demands a language as an international language. English that has become international language attracts many linguists to have research inside its use in real life and teaching fields. The study of language results many fields of language itself by which it provides easiness and effectiveness to language teaching.

One of some language study fields developed by Zellig Haris in 1952 is Discourse Analysis. It is a study of the relationship between language and the contexts in which it is used (McCarthy 1991: 5). It explains interaction between speakers and interlocutors, writers and readers by which it results many criteria and features of interactions towards the meaning and intention. There are many terms of study of discourse analysis that shows feature of interaction towards meaning and intention. One of some aspects of discourse analysis study is grammatical cohesion and textuality.

Grammar Cohesion and Textuality

Grammatical cohesion and textuality concern on the correlation between sentence and utterance with the context cropped up from its interpretation. Cohesive correlations within a text are created in the interpretation of some element in the discourse is dependent on that of another (Brown & Yule 1983: 191). This grammatical correlation they classified into three types. They are reference, ellipsis/substitution, and conjunction.

Reference is a direction to which context a sentence explain the words. This term is divided into three kinds of reference by which they are anaphoric, exophoric, and cataphoric (McCarthy 1991: 35).

A. Anaphoric Reference

Anaphoric reference is a term by which it is recognized by confirming back in the text (McCharty 1991: 35). Anaphoric reference requires readers to look back to the previous sentence in order to get the direction of what is intended in the sentence. For example, pronouns (he, she, them) and demonstratives (this, that, those) can refer to something or someone mentioned in previous explanation.

To me, some corporations are just rotten. *They* make all this money tear up the land and produce junk and plastic. I think *they* should be out-lawed unless *they* start showing some concern for the land and the people. *They* don't show any now, as far as I can see.

(Jones & Farness 2002: 10)

The word "they" can be interpreted by looking back to the previous sentences that explains its mention. From the previous sentence the italic word "they" refers to some corporations that are rotten. The writer uses pronouns "they" to cut-short the writing so that it does not become monotone. Not every pronoun can be linked to previous sentences because sometimes English requires structure that needs pronoun to express something. The passage below will explain more of what is mentioned that not every pronoun can be linked to others part of text.

It rained day and night for two weeks. The basement flooded and everything was under water. *It* spoils all our calculations.

(McCharty 1991: 36)

The word "it" is not indicates something that abides in the passage above. It is a word that is required to express that the day is rainy. It is not the same with Indonesian that the speaker or writer may just mention "hujan" or "rainy" that has mentioned that the day is rainy. English requires pronoun it in particular pattern of sentence.

Anaphoric reference is a term that addresses the pronouns, articles or administratives by looking back to previous explanation. Meanwhile, there is a term of reference that addresses pronouns, articles, and administrative by looking forward to the next explanation. The term is a contrastive of anaphoric is cataphoric.

B. Cataphoric Reference

The second term of reference called cataphoric is the opposite of anaphoric reference and is comparatively straightforward (McCharty 1991: 42). Cataphoric reference delineates an item which addresses forward to another word or phrase used later in the text (Paltridge 2006: 132). Since this kind of reference is the reverse of anaphoric, it is not difficult to understand cataphoric due to previous explanation of anaphoric reference. To get more real understanding, look at the passage below.

She claims Leo Tolstoy as a distant cousin. Her grandfather was Alexei Tolstoy - the famous 'Red Count' who sided with Lenin's revolutionaries. Now, Tatyana Tolstaya has put pen to paper, in her case to demonstrate that someone from the family can write compactly. In her stories of ten to twelve typewritten pages somehow try to show the whole life of a person from birth to death,' she says.

(Newsweek, 21 September 1987: 12 in McCharty 1991: 41)

The passage above does not have explanation of the word she that suddenly written as the opening word for the passage. This kind of formation is called by cataphoric reference by which the reader can look for who actually she abiding in the passage by looking forward to the next sentences.

C. Exophoric Reference

Besides anaphoric and cataphoric, there is another reference that is not refers to the next sentences or previous sentences. This kind of reference is called by exophoric reference by which the reference of the item is looked outside the text to the situation for the identity mentioned for the item (Paltridge 2006: 132). Exophoric reference is also known as contextual reference where the intention can be considered by using knowledge towards the context of the text. This passage will explain how the exophoric reference looks like.

The government is now facing a big problem with the increasing fuel subsidy. In 2013, the fuel subsidy was almost Rp 194 trillion (US\$19.9 billion) or about 11.5 percent of the state budget.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2013/05/09/world-stocks-down-after-china-inflation-report.html> accessed on May, 10 2013 at 10.36.

Readers who do not contextually understand the passage above may ask which government is mentioned in the text. The answer for this question can be found contextually that the government mentioned is the government of Indonesia due to the text comes from Indonesian newspaper.

D. Ellipsis and Substitution

The grammatical cohesion and textuality in McCharty's book do not only mention the reference. Ellipsis and substitution are also considered as a part of grammatical cohesion and textuality discussion. Ellipsis is the omission of grammatical elements entailed in sentence (McCharty 1991: 43). The omission can occur due to not every utterance needs a complete explanation because the reader or listener can suppose the meaning by looking at the context of the utterance.

- (1) The children will carry the small boxes, the adults the large ones.
- (2) The children the small boxes, the adults will carry the large ones.

(McCharty1991: 36)

In sentence (1), the second clause is not using the auxiliary and verb. Meanwhile, it can be predicted that the adults mentioned will carry the large small boxes. This assumption can be got by looking back to the context of the utterance in previous clause even though the second clause has omission of essential elements of sentence. This kind of sentence is known as anaphoric ellipsis. On the other hand, the sentence (2) shows that the complete clause is the second clause so that we cannot derive the meaning of the first clause before looking for the end of utterances. The meaning comes clearly from the second clause because it consists of complete elements of sentence. This kind of ellipsis is known as cataphoric ellipsis.

In more general explanation, Paltridge gives different example of ellipsis.

- Announcer : Gary, what did you want to say to Allison tonight?
Caller : [I want to say] that I'm very sorry for the fight we had the other night.
Announcer : What was that over?
Caller : [It was over] something rather silly actually

Announcer : They usually are, aren't they?
Caller : Yeah [they usually are silly] and [I want to say] that I love her very much and [I want to say] we'll have to stick it through, you know?

(Paltridge 2006: 142)

Ellipsis can be the omission of noun or verb or even phrase that is no more necessary shows in utterance (Paltridge 2006:142). The example of ellipsis above consists of many of omissions occur in real life communication by which people do not realize that they speak by omitting some elements of sentence that is actually essential.

Indeed, ellipsis can omit some words or phrase, what is called substitution is different style of co-reference. It looks out to where an utterance is replaced (Halliday & Hasan in Brown & Yule 1983: 201). Substitution is a little bit similar to reference, that is why it is called co-reference. It can be seen by looking at this utterance. The readers can look at the context of sentence and utterance to look for what is mentioned by speaker or writer. Paltridge gives example that clearly differ substitution with anaphoric reference.

A : Has he had dinner yet?
B : He must have done. There's no food in the fridge.

A : That's great to hear you're still happy
B : Oh yes very much so.

(Paltridge 2006: 141)

Substitution in the first conversation can be seen by the word *done*. It replaces dinner as an answer for its question. Moreover, the underline word so in the second conversation replaces clause uttered by A. it can be assumed that substitution is replacement of noun, verb, phrase and even clause.

E. Conjunction

Another discussion of grammatical cohesion and textuality is conjunction. Conjunction also contributes to the textuality by which it can join phrases and clauses or section of a text in such way that they express the 'logical-semantic' relationship between them (Paltridge 2006: 139).

He was insensitive to the group's needs. Consequently there was a lot of bad feeling. (single word conjunction)

He was insensitive to the group's needs. As a consequence there was a lot of bad feeling. (adverbial phrase as conjunction)

As a consequence of his insensitivity to the group's needs, there was a lot of bad feeling. (adverbial phrase plus nominalisation)

The bad feeling was a consequence of his insensitivity to the group's needs. (lexical item within the predicate of the clause)

(McCarthy 1991: 47)

The utterances above stand with different pattern due to the conjunction. How the conjunction is used can change the pattern of utterances. This is how the conjunction

contribute to the texture of text in which speaker and listener choose how they express their utterance whether it is by putting conjunction firstly or in the middle of utterance. Martin and Rose delineate the function and give classification of conjunction clearly. Here are functions and types of conjunction.

Addition	developing	additive	<i>further, furthermore, moreover, in addition, as well, besides, additionally</i>
		alternative	<i>alternatively</i>
	staging	framing sidetracking	<i>now, well, alright, okay anyway, anyhow, incidentally, by the way,</i>
Comparison	similar	compare rework	<i>similarly, again that is, i.e., for example, for instance, e.g. in general, in particular, in short</i>
		adjust	<i>in fact, indeed, at least</i>
	different	contrast retract	<i>rather, by contrast on the other hand, conversely</i>
Time	successive	ordering terminating	<i>first, secondly, third, next, previously finally, lastly</i>
	simultaneous	adjacent interrupted	<i>at the same time still</i>
Consequence	concluding	conclude justify	<i>thus, hence, accordingly, in conclusion, consequently after all</i>
	countering	dismiss concede unexpected	<i>anyway, anyhow, in any case, at any rate admittedly, of course, needless to say nevertheless, nonetheless, still</i>

Conjunctions are classified into four groups. They are addition, comparison, time and consequence. The conjunction chosen by speaker and writer indicates style and texture of utterance.

Conclusion

Grammatical cohesion impacts the texture of text. The textuality comes from the concept of grammatical cohesion that speaker and writer apply to express language. The discussion above has proven the correlation between grammatical cohesion and textuality. The reference, ellipsis and substitution and conjunction in grammatical cohesion indicates the texture of utterances in language.

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