

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides an overview of this study. It describes some important aspects of this study, including background of the study, research question, the objectives of the study, the significances of the study, scope and limitations of this research.

1.1. Background of the Study

Language is inseparable from people's daily lives because language has an essential role in establishing communication. It is necessary to communicate with each other both in oral and written. According to Bagus et al. (2022:1), language helps people to express their intentions more easily and without any hesitation that others will be unable to understand their utterances. Essentially, communication is a social process. It means that humans cannot live properly without using a language. Humans communicated their expressions, information, and news and conveyed their ideas and feelings to other people through their language (Srichuay and Wilawan, 2016: 2). Spoken language is the language that is used more often and easily for communication. It is because the spoken language is easier to convey purpose and messages in communication. In contrast, written language must organize the language properly so that the readers more easily understand the message. In general, essential communication is not based on words or isolated sentences; we usually communicate in a discourse. In learning languages, learning discourse is the largest unit of language used in communication.

Discourse is the largest part of language which consists of sentences or clauses that can be conveyed both in oral and written form (Andre et al., 2022: 2). According to Ralph (2006: 171), discourse is a unit of language above and beyond a mere accumulation of words, morphemes, sounds, clauses, and sentences like how people use of language in text and context. The study of discourse is known as Discourse Analysis. Discourse analysis is a research method for studying and analyzing the use of language in texts. Brown and Yule (1983: 1) assumed the definition of discourse analysis is carried out to investigate what language was used for. It means that Discourse Analysis concerns the language used for

communication and how verbal messages are interpreted. The concern of discourse analysis is any written form or spoken language, such as speech and conversation or newspaper and book. The study of how sentences come together to make text is known as Discourse Analysis. Cohesion and coherence are two terms that are very fundamental in Discourse Analysis which studies the relation between a text within the other texts (Prayudha, 2016: 31). A reasonable discourse is inseparable from the elements of cohesion and coherence.

Cohesion and coherence mean that all parts of sentences are connected logically and linguistically to form a whole text. The term ‘coherence’ is regarded as the link in the text that connects ideas and make the flow of thoughts meaningful and clear for readers (Castro, 2004: 2). In short, coherence results from the meaningful interaction between the text and the reader. In composing a good paragraph, coherence is one part that should be there inside it. Coherence means that all of the sentences are connected in a paragraph.

Halliday and Hasan (1976: 4) stated that cohesion is a semantic one; it refers to the relationships of meaning that exist within a text and defines it as a text. According to Erwadi (2017: 2), cohesion presents experience and logical meanings with the structure of a text. The use of cohesion is essential to form a whole discourse, but more is needed if it uses such a marker. Based on Halliday and Hasan’s book 1976, there are two types of cohesion, first is grammatical cohesion and the second is lexical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion is based on structural contents and it has four types; reference, ellipsis, substitution, and conjunction. While, lexical cohesion is based on lexical content and background knowledge and it has two types; reiteration and collocation. In this present study, the researcher only focuses on lexical cohesion analysis.

In language learning, lexical cohesion has an important role including learning English. It is because lexical cohesion comprises several key aspects in language learning, such as synonyms, antonyms, meronyms, hyponyms, and collocations, which are mostly used to develop ideas in orally and in writing. Lexical cohesion is used to describe the development of ideas by using language. According to Halliday and Hasan (1976: 299), lexical cohesion has two functions: first, to

connect word or phrase in a text, then it can be separated again to indicate a repetition, synonym, hyponym, metonym, and antonym; second, it aims to show the co-occurrence of words that are related in within the same environment. Moreover, lexical cohesion is one of a language's significant elements and can be found in spoken (speech, dialogue, etc.) or written text (thesis, novel, journal, article, etc.).

In the present study, the researcher used three short stories in *Arab Women Writers: An Anthology of Short Stories* as a data source. There are three short stories that researcher choose to be analyse; *The Parting Gift* by Umayma al-Khamis (Saudi Arabia), *My Wedding Night* by Alifa Rifaat (Egypt), and *The Future* by Daisy al-Amir (Iraq). This short story collection book was first published in 2005. Consisting of sixty short stories by forty women writers from across the Arab world, this collection opens several windows onto Arab culture and society and offers keen insights into what Arab women feel and think.

The researcher wants to examine the book from a linguistic perspective, particularly from a Discourse Analysis perspective. There are two factors that make the researcher interested in using the *book Arab Women Writers* and choose three short stories as the data source. First, generally these short stories contain a moral message. Besides getting knowledge about cohesion and coherence, readers can also take some moral messages from short stories that can be used as life lessons. Second, cohesion and coherence is important in these short stories because the researcher found many types of lexical cohesion in the text that creating this interesting story in order to be coherent.

The present study focuses on the lexical cohesion of Halliday and Hasan's theory and Oshima and Hogue's theory, which is applied to discover lexical cohesion and coherence in three short stories in *Arab Women Writers*. Thus, by using lexical cohesion to discuss data, the reader can better understand the short story collection book contents because it provides knowledge about the relationship in each vocabulary with the sentence. Halliday and Hasan (1976: 274) assert that lexical cohesion is the cohesive effect achieved by the selection of vocabulary. In

addition, Flowerdew and Mahlberger (2009: 129) interpreted lexical cohesion as the meaning in the text and how lexical items relate to each other.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background and the focus of this study explained above, the researcher wants to specify the main problem in the question below:

1. What are the types of lexical cohesion applied in *Arab Women Writers short story*?
2. What are the ways employed in building coherence in *Arab Women Writers short story*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Relating to the background of the study and according to the statement of research question formulation to analyze this research, the researcher decides an objective of the study as follows:

1. To identify the types of lexical cohesion applied in *Arab Women Writers short story*.
2. To explain the ways employed in building coherence in *Arab Women Writes short story*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This research attempts to analyze lexical cohesion in five short stories in *Arab Women Writers: An Anthology of Short Stories*. This research is expected to provide information for language users in learning and applying good lexical cohesion in a text. The significance of this study can be seen from two aspects:

1. Theoretically, this research is expected to offer a new contribution to the linguistics study, especially research on cohesion. Hopefully, this study will be helpful as a reference or comparison for the next studies. As such, it provides the following researchers with ideas for improving their cohesion studies.
2. Practically, this research also can give a lot of benefits to students of the English Department, and it can be a helpful contribution for other

researchers who are interested in conducting further studies related to lexical cohesion.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is cohesion theory by Halliday and Hasan (1976) and also used Oshima and Hogue (2006) about coherence. There are two kinds of cohesion based on Halliday and Hasan (1976); grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion. In this research, the researcher limits the data only on lexical cohesion found in three short stories in *Arab Women Writers: An Anthology of Short Stories*. From sixty short stories, the researcher only chooses three of them to be discussed in this research. There are three short stories that researcher choose to be analyze: *The Parting Gift* by Umayma al-Khamis (Saudi Arabia, *My Wedding Night* by Alifa Rifaat (Egypt), and *The Future* by Daisy al-Amir (Iraq).