A GRAMMATICAL AND LEXICAL COHESION ANALYSIS ON INFORMATIVE TEXTS ON ROLLING STONE MAGAZINE

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Abstract

This thesis deals with discourse analysis which concerns on the analysis of grammatical and lexical cohesion within a text. The text analyzed in this thesis is the articles of Rolling Stone Magazine. The articles entitled “As the World Burns” and “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” as the objects. The writer intends to find out what kinds of grammatical cohesive devices (reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction) and lexical cohesive devices (repetition, synonym, antonym, hyponym, meronym, and collocation) employed in the articles and their contribution in making the articles coherent and unified. The method applied in this writing is mixed method which means the data used are words and numbers. Data collection in this thesis is documentary study. This thesis is a descriptive study which elaborates grammatical cohesive devices and lexical cohesive devices and their contribution in the articles. For more elaborated theory for the comparative text is Saussurrian Syntagmatic and Paradigmatic Axes. In addition, the texture theory has been added to make clear the coherence of the article. The result of this thesis indicates that the cohesive devices help to find the main ideas in the article. Those main ideas make the articles coherent. In conclusion, the analysis of cohesive devices is used to know how coherence is achieved by employing cohesive devices in the articles.

Key words: Discourse Analysis, Grammatical and Lexical cohesive devices, Main Idea, Coherence, Syntagmatic and Paradigmatic Axes

Introduction

There is certain property of text in English that differentiates a text from disconnected sequence of sentence. The certain property is texture. Texture is entirely appropriateness to express the property of being a text, texture function as a unity with respect to its environment. Texture is provided by the cohesive relation that exists between two elements, which are the referring item and the item that it refers to (Halliday & Hasan, 1976:2).

Do these assignments soon and submit them to me.
From the example, the texture is provided by the relation of cohesive that exists between them and these assignments. Considering the explanation above, it is interesting to analyze the article of magazine through discourse study.

Discourse analysis involves the study of language in use. The assertion here is that the analysis of discourse involves the analysis of language in use. All linguists—from the phonetician, through the grammarians, to the discourse analyst—are concerned with identifying regularities and the patterns in language. However, in the case of the discourse analyst, the ultimate aim of this analytic work is both to show and to interpret the relationship between these regularities, the meanings and the purposes expressed through discourse.

A discourse is stretches of language perceived to be meaningful, unified and purposive (Cook, 1989:156). A discourse is meaningful if it is arranged in a correct way and perceived as being related in some way. It means discourse must build coherence. A text is characterized by coherence when clauses or sentences in the text hang together (Halliday & Hasan, 1985:48). Moreover, coherence is a sequence of sentences or utterances in the text that seem to hang together. In getting coherence, the sentences or clauses in the text should be arranged in logical way. Coherence can be used to distinguish whether a passage is a text or non-text. It has been mentioned that a text is characterized by coherence if clauses or sentences in the text hang together. In addition, when clauses hang together, they react to coherence: contextual properties and cohesion: internal properties (Eggins, 1994:87).

Coherence means relation, relatedness, connection, connectedness, link and chain (Roget’s Thesaurus). An important contribution to coherence comes from cohesion and coherence is a set of linguistic resources for linking one part of a text to another. Cohesion is a semantic relations between an element and some other elements in the text (Halliday & Hasan, 1976:8). Cohesion is a semantic relation, but text is a semantic unit. Cohesion in a text can be analyzed through the linguistics devices which are called the cohesive devices. Cohesion is represented in two modes such as grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion (Halliday & Hasan, 1976:6). Grammatical cohesion concerns with reference, situation, ellipsis, and conjunction (Halliday & Hasan, 1976:274). Lexical cohesion embraces two distinctions though related aspects which are referred to as reiteration and collocation (Halliday & Hasan, 1976:318).

A lexical cohesion is different from the grammatical cohesion. Lexical cohesion occurs when two words in a text are semantically related in some way—in other words, they are related in terms of their meaning not to grammatical one. Considering the fact, studying and analyzing text through discourse study is full of challenge but very interesting. Besides, analyzing text through discourse will give the readers a deeper understanding about text, particularly about the coherence and whether the text is making sense or not. It is because a sentence which is grammatically unexceptional sometimes does not make sense.

The applications of Grammatical Cohesion and Lexical Cohesion can be seen one of them is in the article of magazines. In this case, the magazine which is chosen as the object is Rolling Stone Magazine. Magazine is one of the reading materials that is easy to be read and understood. It is also easy to get. The readers will get pleasure to read magazine because they do not need much time and money to read it. The article of Rolling Stone Magazine presents many kinds of information, commentaries, experiences, sports news, hot news, and etc. Therefore, it is interesting to analyze the article, especially the application of the grammatical and lexical cohesion and to investigate whether the cohesive devices can make a text coherent and unified. The writer has chosen the articles entitled “As the World Burns” and “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” for the objects. Those articles, which are about the global issue of environment, present words and sentences that contain many Grammatical and Lexical Cohesion elements. Thus, this thesis is entitled “A Grammatical and Lexical Cohesion Analysis of Informative Texts entitled “As the World Burns” and “The Spill, The Scandal and The President”.

Method of Analysis

A method analysis is needed to determine the composition of the thesis. The method used in this thesis is mixed methods. Mixed methods research is a research design with philosophical assumptions as well as methods of inquiry. As a methodology, it involves philosophical assumptions that guide the direction of the collection and analysis of data and the mixture of qualitative and quantitative approaches in many phases in the research process. As a method, it focuses on collecting, analyzing, and mixing both quantitative and qualitative data in a single study or series of studies. Its central premise is that the use of quantitative and qualitative approaches in combination provides a better understanding of research problems than either approach alone (Creswell, 2003:5).

The data of this thesis are organized by a bibliographical study. “Bibliographical study is collected by abstracting the data, from each document, those elements that we consider important or relevant, by grouping together those findings or setting on them alongside others, which we believe to be related” (Blaxter, 1997:187). In this case, the writer collects the data by reading some books, taking some important documents by browsing. For example the article in Rolling Stone Magazine is taken from www.Rolling Stone Magazine.com. The data are collected by analyzing every sentence by using discourse analysis, which are grammatical and lexical cohesion analysis.

Result of Data Analysis

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The discussion in this thesis has described the analysis of “As the World Burns”, and “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” as texts through linguistic point of view. The analysis is based on traditional discourse analysis, both lexical and grammatical analysis and the Sausurrean syntagmatic and paradigmatic axes. It has been testified how the text Cohesion can be achieved by the occurrence of cohesive devices. It means cohesion happens at the level of the surface of the text. Cohesive devices are divided into two; grammatical cohesive devices which includes reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction and lexical cohesive devices which includes repetition, synonym, antonym, hyponym, co-hyponym, meronym, co-meronym, and collocation. Coherence can be achieved by repeating key noun, using pronoun, employing transition signal, and giving logical order. Coherence happens at the level of the meaning of the text. Hence, coherence is synonymous to main idea. It can be affirmed that the occurrence of cohesive devices makes a text coherent. Furthermore, the syntagmatic and paradigmatic axes make the coherence more apparent by showing the actual topic of both texts which later become a comparison on the substance.

Discussion

The writer analyzes two articles on Rolling Stone Magazine entitled As The World Burns and The Spill, The Scandal and The President by paragraphs. There are three paragraphs in the first text. To make clear and complete analysis, each word will be formed by four spaces in typing. In addition, the writer analyzes every line in paragraph and puts number in front of the line. The writer analyzes the text by giving a symbol on the items that are supposed to. Different grammatical and lexical cohesive devices illustrate different symbol.

The symbols of the grammatical cohesive devices are:
1. Reference is symbolized by \( \text{anaphoric, cataphoric, anaphoric, cataphoric} \)
2. Substitution is symbolized by \( \text{S:} \)
3. Ellipsis is symbolized by \( \text{C:} \)
4. Conjunction is symbolized by \( \text{C:} \)

A Key to Grammatical Cohesion
R:P Personal Reference E:V Verbal Ellipsis
R:D Demonstrative Reference E:C Clausal Ellipsis
R:C Comparative Reference C:Adv Additive Conjunction
S:N Nominal Substitution C:Adv Adversative Conjunction
S:V Verbal Substitution C:Tem Temporal Conjunction
S:C Clausal Substitution C:Cau Causal Conjunction
E:N Nominal Ellipsis C:Con Conditional Conjunction

The grammatical cohesive devices, which are found on the text, are listed on the table. Subsequently, the writer analyzes the contribution of grammatical cohesive devices in forming and visualizing coherence on the articles As The World Burns and The Spill, The Scandal and The President. According to Oshima and Hogue (in Nugroho, 2008:8), coherence is achieved by:
1. Repeating nouns
2. Using pronouns
3. Employing transitional signals
4. Applying logical order (order of time, order of division and order of importance).

Repeating key nouns, using pronouns employing transition signal and using substitution and ellipsis can be analyzed by using grammatical cohesive devices. As it knows that the presence of grammatical cohesive devices in a text does not guarantee that it is also coherent, so in achieving coherent text can be done by looking at the main ideas that unify the text and grammatical cohesive devices. Consequently, it is clear to say that the grammatical cohesive devices contribute in forming and visualizing coherence in text.

The values can be concluded that both syntagmatic and paradigmatic axes happen to share the same structure in which the diction of the particular lexical choices fall into the same genre and references. It seems that a syntagmatic analysis of scientific text is quite straightforward to show the repeated structure to stress particular point in the text. However the constituent of the text shares the same plausible paradigmatic possibility in which the substitution of the lexical devices appear as suitable devices.

In summary, the consistently foregrounded meaning of axes shown as the sentence "President Obama would then arrive in Copenhagen for the international climate summit" share the same syntagmatic axe with the "Congress would pass a landmark bill committing the U.S. to deep cuts in carbon emissions" in terms of tense pattern. Moreover the paradigmatic axes show that the noun as subject could be best replaced with the Congress, World leaders, without making the whole semantic sense far different from the actual meaning because they emerge to speak the same meaning.

Patterning of all representative lines converge the analyzed axes. It means that consistency of major axes helps building main idea of the text. In the axes, the consistency of major axes refers to the emphasis which later becomes extension and enhancement for the relational process. It does not to mention the tense and the number of appearance in both lexical and grammatical cohesion. Then, the consistency of major axes makes the stressing visible and apparent to the readers. This consistent major meaning emerges as the topic sentence. In summary, the consistent major meaning of the last clause complex is called the theme meaning.

Hasan (1985: 97) states that theme is the deepest level of meaning in verbal art; it is what a text is about when dissociated from particularities of that text. In its nature, the theme of verbal art is very close to generalizations which can be viewed as a hypothesis about some aspect of the social life of man. Moreover, Hasan (1985: 54) adds that the deepest level of meaning is a meaning that arises from saying one thing and meaning another. In this text, the repetition and the lexical occurrence in the text show that the sentence speaks about America’s effort along with the whole
world nation to react against the global warming. In conclusion the text, "As the World Burns", finds a complex structure both in lexical and grammatical cohesion yet to be proven by the syntagmatic and paradigmatic axes.

Next, There is the text “The Spill, The Scandal and The President”. On the syntagmatic axis, words in “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” are linked, or chained, together according to grammatical rules, but the chosen words to link together on the paradigmatic axis are chosen free. While paradigm is a set of linguistic or other units that can be substituted for each other in the same position within a sequence or structure. A paradigm in this sense may be constituted by all words sharing the same grammatical function, since the substitution of one for another does not disturb the syntax of a sentence. Linguistics often refers to the paradigmatic dimension of language as the ‘vertical axis’ of selection.

The two systems that produce meaning in language are paradigmatic and syntagmatic axes. Syntagmatic relations define combinatory possibilities; the relations between elements that might combine in a sequence. The above text are the chunk of “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” which are mostly the representative data to speak about the essence of the article. This theory approves a linguistic term designating any combination of unit which are arranged in a significant sequence. A sentence is a syntagm of words. Language is said to have two distinct dimensions: the syntagmatic or ‘horizontal’ axis of combination in which sequences of words are formed by combining them in a recognized order. The syntagmatic dimension is therefore the ‘linear’ aspect of language.

For example, in a sentence “this was not merely an ecological disaster,” “this” is chosen from among a number of words such as “assault,” and “attack” that could have filled the same slot based on the paradigmatic system, that is, the ‘vertical axis’ of selection.” Also, “ecological” is chosen instead of “environmental” or “disaster,” instead of “catastrophe,” and “tragedy”

Also, both the sentences “We’re talking 100,000 barrels a day” and “The enemy is coming ashore” consist of the same units, “subject,” “to be,” “progressive,” and “object.” However, the meanings of these two sentences are different because the units that compose the sentences are arranged differently based on the syntagmatic system, that is, “the ‘horizontal’ axis of combination.”

As the discussion is unfold, any expression that conveys a message is structured along these two systems, the paradigmatic and syntagmatic. These two systems are commonly illustrated in every text because the author wants to vary the language. However they speak the same language and substance about. The government experiences oil issues due to an assault.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is found that in terms of grammatical cohesive devices the article “As the World Burns” contains of 21 personal references, 24 demonstrative references, 6 comparative references, 15 additive conjunctions, 1 adversative conjunctions, 3 temporal conjunctions, 3 nominal ellipsis and 1 verbal ellipsis.

While, “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” contains of 63 personal references, 108 demonstrative references, 6 comparative references, 13 additive conjunctions, 2 adversative conjunctions, 4 conditional conjunctions, 1 temporal conjunctions, 1 causal conjunctions, 4 clausal ellipsis, and 8 nominal ellipsis.

Along with the previous analysis the syntagmatic and paradigmatic in “As the World Burns” show that the sentence “President Obama would then arrive in Copenhagen for the international climate summit” share the same syntagmatic axe with the “Congress would pass a landmark bill committing the U.S. to deep cuts in carbon emissions” in terms of tense pattern. Moreover the paradigmatic axes show that the noun as subject could best replaced with the Congress, World leaders, without making the whole semantic sense far different from the actual meaning because they emerge to speak the same meaning. In this text, the repetition and the lexical occurrence in the text show that the sentence speaks about America’s effort along with the whole world nation to react against the global warming.

In contrast, the text “The Spill, The Scandal and The President” which one of the sentences speaks “this was not merely an ecological disaster,” “this” is chosen from among a number of words such as “assault,” and “attack” that could have filled the same slot based on the paradigmatic system, that is, “the ‘vertical axis’ of selection.” Also, “ecological” is chosen instead of “environmental” or “disaster,” instead of “catastrophe,” and “tragedy”

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