The Concepts of Cohesion and Coherence: Their Function in Text Analysis

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this article is to examine how cohesion and coherence are defined in contemporary linguistics, explain their function in text analysis, as well as to explain their role in text analysis and connect them with words.

Keywords: Discourse, cohesion,coherence, text analysis, oral speech, written speech

INTRODUCTION

The study of English discourse in all of its guises, including casual conversation, academic discourse, commercial communication, administrative papers, media discourse, and fiction, is becoming more and more popular. Research into coherence and cohesion strategies in English discourse has become relevant to all facets of human communication because, regardless of varieties and genres, the requirement to produce well-organized, understandable, and coherent discourse is a critical component of socialization into any type of international discourse community.

In discourse the most important sides are inseparably related with cohesion and coherence. In the global linguistic community, there is a lot of discussion on the concepts of cohesion and coherence. The crucial elements of the texts in academic writing are cohesion and coherence, which refer to intra-text connectivity and the ideas' contextual suitability, in order to make them the

texts more understandable. In an effort to familiarize the readers with academic writing, this article introduces cohesion and coherence, which raise the bar for textuality in academic writing.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Several well-known researchers discovered various fields of cohesion and coherence. Such as : Halliday & Hasan (1976), De Beaugrande & Dressler (1981), Widdowson (1979), Hoey (1991), Stubbs (1983), Yule (1983), Makarov (1998), Mey (2001), Cutting (2002), Milevskaya (2003), Halperin (2004), Sh. Shakhabitdinova & Satimova (2021) and others.

Cohesion and coherence were conceptualized in this project as essential elements of illustrating how coherence appears in various spoken and written English discourse genres while applying theoretical insights to an investigation of spoken and written language.

The oldest investigation into coherence in English dates back to Jakobson, who examined parallelism and grammatical structure in literary texts with reference to poetry, according to Traugott and Pratt (Traugott & Pratt 1980: 21).

It was Halliday who first distinguished between lexical and grammatical cohesiveness in 1964. Hasan later conducted a thorough investigation into grammatical cohesiveness. Several more pertinent cohesion studies became available prior to the 1976 release of Halliday and Hasan's Cohesion in English (Halliday 1976: 2).

In one of these research, Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Svartvik (1972) described cohesion and looked at characteristics that help a sentence fit into its surrounding language. Their "A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language" later developed their idea (1985).

Gutwinski tried to establish coherence inside of his book which had been named "Cohesion in literary texts".Since then, some stylistics research projects have used its emphasis on the potential stylistic applications of coherent studies as a beginning point. However, the model of cohesion presented by Halliday and Hasan in Cohesion in English is currently the most well-known

and comprehensive one. Cohesion became a crucial notion in many domains thanks to this work, which has since sparked extensive discussion and application (Gutwinski 1976: 26).

After the publication of the influential work Cohesion in English by Halliday and Hasan, cohesion was recognized as a well-established category for text and discourse analysis. De Beaugrande and Dressler, who view cohesion and coherence as two of the fundamental characteristics of textuality, emphasize the significance of the connection between the two inside of their book that called *Introduction to the Linguistics* (Beaugrande & Dressler 1981: 1-2).

Although, the majority of researchers concur that cohesive relations within a text relations between lexical items and grammatical structures that overtly connect clauses "and; or" clause complexes have an impact on and signal the interpretative perception of a text's semantic unity and purposefulness, i.e., its coherence (e.g., Widdowson 1979, de Beaugrande & Dressler 1981, Halliday & Hasan 1976, 1989, Hoey 1991, 2001).

Despite the fact that Halliday & Hasan treat them as closely connected phenomena and believe that "variation in coherence is the result of variation in the cohesive harmony of a text," many linguists prefer to draw a clearer distinction between the two ideas (Halliday & Hasan 1989: 94).

For instance, Widdowson gave his points about cohesion and coherence in 1978 inside of book which published Oxford University Press. He identified coherence while cohesion is the obvious structural link between phrases as formal items, coherence is the connection between the communication acts that sentences are intended to carry out (Widdowson 1978: 36-37).

Stubbs described coherence as the connection between the communicative acts that sentences are meant to carry out, while cohesion is the overt structural link between phrases as formal things (Stubbs 1983: 77).

Similar to this, Mey asserts that "coherence has to do with the global meaning involved in what we seek to express through our speech activity, whereas cohesion has to do with the local links between syntactic items (reference, concord, and the like)" (Mey 154).

In addition, Sh. Shakhabitdinova and D. Satimova mentioned that we can consider positive and negative aspects of both spoken and written languages. Spoken language is a very large topic to discuss, and little is known in rigid statistical terms about the prevalence of different types of speech in people's daily lives. If we randomly list several different types of speech and consider how many days or weak time we spend on each of them, we can only roughly guess at some frequency ratings, in addition to saying that random conversation is almost certainly the most common. The rest will depend on our daily activities and the kind of contact we maintain with other people. In consequence, cohesion and coherence play fundamental   role in writing and spoken language (Satimova & Shakhabitdinova 2021: 30-31).

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

The words cohesion and coherence have to do with how language is understood in discourse analysis. In the perception of messages and in the negotiating of meaning in the discourse, cohesion and coherence play a key role. Coherent textual elements and seamless connections are essential for effective academic writing. The sentences that follow seek to explain cohesion and coherence and how they play a part in conveying the text's meanings.

Cohesion is the relationship of meaning between one or more items in the text or speech, much like other semantic relations like synonymy, antonymy, and polysemy. Cohesion refers to the relationships of meaning that exist within the text, and is expressed through the stratal arrangement of the text, according to Halliday and Hasan. It happens when one interpretation of one textual element depends on another (Halliday & Hasan 1976: 4).

Cohesion, according to Brown & Yule, is the thread that binds and links the text together. A sort of intra-sentence relation between an item and either the preceding or subsequent item in a sentence is a component of a language's system. It is a component of a language's structure; it is a specific intra-sentence relationship between an item and either the item or items that come before or after it in the text. In the exchange of

information, It is a component of a language's structure; it is a specific intra-sentence relationship between an item and either the item or items that come before or after it in the text. Cohesion reveals how the writer organizes the ideas they wish to get across (Brown & Yule 1983: 66).

According to Halliday and Hasan, the text's cohesion is reflected in part by its grammar and in part by its vocabulary. Grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion are the two possible types of cohesion. The cohesive connection that is communicated by a language's grammatical system, including conjunctions, ellipses, references, and substitution, is known as grammatical cohesion.

The instances that illustrate the coherent tie in each are given below, using italics :

(1) What a gorgeous flower vase! What is the price? [reference]
(2) Will you be at the celebration? If so, how do these goals fare? [substitution]
(3) If necessary, we can purchase those apples. (buy those apples). [ellipsis]
(4) He succeeded on the test. He did not, however, receivea plus. [conjunction]

On the other side, lexical coherence is "the cohesive effect achieved by the use of vocabulary." Reiteration (using the same or semantically related vocabulary, such as repetition, synonym, superordinate, or general word) and collocation are two ways that lexical cohesiveness can be achieved (co-occurrence of lexical items). The examples below with a cohesive tie are in italics (Halliday & Hasan 1976: 274).

- Reiteration: I've got a puppy. The pup is dark in color. [Repetition]
- I'm the proud owner of a puppy. It is a black puppy. [Synonym]
- My dog is a puppy. The creature is black. [Superordinate]
- My dog is a puppy. The pup is a black dog. [Broad term]
- Collocation: The boys won the game using their hammer-nail relation.

A text is created using both the contextual occurrence of the phrases and the structured string of words. Generally speaking, coherence refers to how the text's utterances seem in relation to one another. To be more precise, the context of the text plays a role in understanding its message or meaning. "Coherence is the hanging together of the text with regard to its environment of situation or culture," says Taboada (2004: 158).

According to Brown & Yule, "coherence is everything coming together well, and it is something that exists in people rather than in words or structures" (Brown & Yule 1983: 126).

Coherence, is the outcome of how the audience interprets the text's meaning and depends on that relationship. Because of this, a text's coherence can only be understood if the reader has the underlying information necessary to understand how the messages in a discourse are connected (Tanskanen 2006: 4).

The texts below demonstrate both coherent and incoherent writing:

(I)   A text that makes sense: Do you have the car with you?
B: I did bring it yesterday, yes.
(II)   A poorly coherent text Where did you go the previous week?
B: That makes sense. It's painted by my brother. (Tanskanen 2006: 5)

Coherence is the appropriateness of the contextual occurrence of the text so as to make the sense of the message transmitted, and cohesion is the intra-text connectivity of the elements, as we have stated. While in coherence, the elements of knowledge or sense seem to establish conceptual connectedness, in cohesion, the surface elements appear to be related.

According to certain scholars, such as Morgan and Sellner and Carrell cohesiveness is insufficient to connect a text or make it seem like a cohesive whole. Because of Brown and Yule provides the following example to illustrate how a cohesive text with numerous links and ties may make it challenging for the reader to understand the meaning (Brown & Yule 1983: 126).

My dad bought a convertible Lincoln. The police vehicle was a red one. She doesn't look well in that color. Three letters make up the word "she"

Contrarily, coherence plays a crucial function in fostering harmony inside or between the text's propositional parts. No matter how many coherent relationships there are between a group of utterances, a text cannot exist without coherence. Widdowson provides the example below to demonstrate a text that is completely coherent but lacks cohesive ties as mentioned Brown & Yule (1978: 127):

A: That object is a phone.
B: I'm bathing.

Even if the significance of cohesion as opposed to coherence may have been questioned, several academics including Hasan (1984); Tanskanen (2006); and Hover (1997) believe that cohesion's contribution to unity cannot be disputed. According to Tanskanen, it may be unusual to locate a coherent text in real language data that has no cohesive relationships, even though coherence without cohesion may be feasible. As Hasan adamantly states as stated in Tanskanen, "The perceived coherence depends upon the interaction of cohesive devices called cohesive harmony; the denser the cohesive harmony of a text, the more coherent it will be considered." Cohesive links play an important function in texts because they set up readers to recognize coherence and, ultimately, to understand the content. According to Tanskanen, cohesion and coherence are separate concepts that interact to produce better understandable texts (Tanskanen 2006: 26)

In accordance, Shakhabitdinova & Satimova clarified we might think about the advantages and disadvantages of spoken and written languages. The predominance of various types of speech in people's daily lives is a subject that merits a great deal of discussion, but little is known in strictly statistical terms. We can only make educated guesses about some frequency ratings if we randomly choose a number of different speech kinds and take into account how many days or weak hours we spend on each one. We can also state that random talk is almost definitely the most prevalent. The remaining factors will be determined by our daily routines and the type of relationships we have with others (Satimova & Shakhabitdinova 2021: 30).

1. Hold the steam head's wand firmly while slowly moving it up and down, then across the surface of the clothing, until the creases are completely gone.
2. The Water Refill Indicator Light will turn on when there is no more water in the tank.
3. Turn the Power Button to the OFF position and disconnect the Garment Steamer once you are done using it. (Satimova & Shakhabitdinova 2021: 32)

The examples below demonstrate how we can support our claim above: Spectrums of discourse spoken language (oral instruction) written communication (written instruction). Cohesion and coherence: The concepts appear to be coherent, although in some areas unnecessary details are given and repetition is seen. Devices for cohesion are used (Satimova & Shakhabitdinova 2021: 31).

Finally, because "the contrast between cohesion and coherence is fundamental to many current understandings of discourse," the link between cohesion and coherence is likely the topic that has generated the most controversy over the past three decades (Ding 2000: 211).

A text is coherent in two different ways, according to Halliday & Hasan, "it is coherent with respect to the context of circumstance, and therefore consistent in register; and it is coherent with respect to itself, and therefore cohesive" (Halliday & Hasan 1976: 23).

Varied scholars have different perspectives on the connection between cohesion and coherence, and the ongoing discussion over this connection has led to more confusion than agreement in the fields of cohesion studies and coherence studies. There are, roughly speaking, three main perspectives on the relationships between cohesion and coherence. According to the first interpretation, cohesiveness does not always translate into coherence (e.g. Enkvist 1978; Brown & Yule 1983). According to the second interpretation, coherent texts are not required to be cohesive (e.g. Widdowson 1978). To achieve coherence, cohesiveness is a necessary but not sufficient criterion, according to the majority of systemic functional linguists. Simply put, there is still a lack of agreement among academics.

CONCLUSION

At the summing up, the article is devoted to differentiate cohesion and coherence. Without any doubt, we may say that they provide crucial sources both oral and written speech. Based on the knowledge that discourse interpretation is influenced by sociocultural, pragmatic, and situational factors and that the interpretation of meaning is continually and interactively negotiated by discourse participants, it is assumed that the analysis of cohesion and coherence presented in this volume will always be conditional and indeterminate. This article provides new insights into the role of cohesion and coherence in discourse creation and interpretation and suggests new directions for further research through its in-depth analysis of many characteristics of cohesion and coherence in a variety of spoken and written discourse formats. Cohesion and coherence play a vital role in a text's ability to have concepts contextually adjusted and connected in a logical order, which aids readers in deriving meaning from the text.

By the way, in academic writing, cohesion and coherence both help to keep the paragraphs cohesive. The more important factor for making sentences coherent is their contextual appropriateness.

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