

Cohesive Devices

- Human beings use language to communicate with each other and to represent their ideas or thoughts,
- Communication can be in the form of written as well as spoken discourse (stretch of lang).
- To do all this they use one or more word or/and more than one sentence.
- The wide range of sentences can be used as a unified whole or separate unrelated sentences.
- In this way they produce long texts.

Meaning

- Cohesive device is a device which holds different parts of a thing together.
- In terms of communication, cohesive devices are typically single words or phrases that hold and hang different parts of the text.
- These are basically tools of cohesion
- **Function:** The major function of cohesion is text formation.
- Helps in achieving unity of text as a semantic whole.

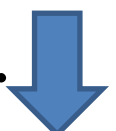


unified whole of linguistic items.

Cont....

- A text must be meaningful. A text that is not cohesive is never meaningful.
- They show the logical relationship between sentences and paragraphs.
- They help expand the context, such as;
 - whether information is completely new,
 - related to information in other sentences,
 - or is a reference to "old" information from a previous sentence.
- improves reading and comprehension skills.

Cont...

- **Importance**: Without them the semantic system cannot be effectively activated at all. 
how meaning in language is created by the use and inter-relationship of words, phrases, and sentences
- Links together structurally unrelated elements through the dependence of one on the other for its interpretation.
- e.g. Aslam (proper noun) is an intelligent boy.
He (pronoun) always stand first in class.
He is holding two sentences together.

Cont...

- Mary will jump if **she** is fit.
- The company will change **its** policy.
- Ayesha wants to know if **her** proposal was accepted.

Cohesive devices may take a number of forms
e.g. pronouns, nouns, conjunctions etc.

Examples

- Numerous words are considered cohesive devices in the English language. For example; however, in conclusion, basically, at last, eventually, after all, rarely, normally, at first, often, further, and firstly.

Each of the above examples can be used to start a sentence to link together the sentences or story.

Types of cohesive devices

- Sentences that are presented as a whole are linked and related to each other by means of specific cohesive devices, i.e.
- Reference,
- Substitution,
- Ellipsis,
- Conjunctions,
- Lexical items

Reference

- Reference is used to describe the different ways in which entities- things, people, events- are referred to within texts
- Linguistic features e.g. pronouns are used to refer to the already mentioned entities.
- Certain terms in any language cannot be interpreted semantically rather they make reference to something else within the text for their interpretation.

Cont...

- e.g. **Saira** went to the **market** in rain. **She** stepped in puddle and never went **there** again.
- She and there show that the information about them is retrieved elsewhere within the text. This type of cohesion is called reference.
- **Types:**
 - **Personal ref**; e.g. I, me, mine, mine, his, her, they, them, he, she, you, we, us etc.

Cont...

- **Demonstrative ref**; (This/these, that/those, here/there)

It is a form of pointing the referent on the basis of proximity (near, far)

e.g. Leave that there and come here.

I like these books but I don't like those.

- **Comparative ref**; Here things compared show likeness or unlikeness.

e.g. It is the same pen I bought yesterday.

Cont...

It is different pen from the one I bought yesterday. (general)

There are twice as many books there as the last time.

Take some more tea (particular comparison)

Substitution

- It is replacement of one linguistic item by another i.e. replacement of one word/phrase with another word/phrase.
- Used to avoid repetition of a particular item.
- Something you use instead of the thing you would normally use.

e.g. The glass broke. I must get another.

You know she already know this. I think everybody does.

Cont...

A: I will have two eggs on the bread.

B: I will have the same.

I don't know the meaning of those words, and I don't believe you do either.

Is this mango ripe?

It seems so

Ellipsis

- It is the deletion or omission of a linguistic item.
- It can be interpreted as that form of substitution in which an item is replaced by nothing.
- An occasion when words are deliberately left out of a sentence, though the meaning can still be understood.

Cont...

- Leaving out of words or sentences as they are necessary because they have already been referred or mentioned.

e.g. A: Where are you going?

B: To town instead of I am going to town.

A: Have you been swimming?

B: yes

Conjunction

- A word which joins words and sentences such as but, when, and, so, or, unless etc.
- **Categories:**
 - Additive (substance added to another)
 - Adversative (contrary to expectations)
 - Causal (relations expressed by so, hence, therefore, thus)
 - Temporal (relation expressed by “then”)

Lexical cohesion

- Lexical cohesion is established through vocabulary.
- While reference, ellipsis and conjunction tend to link clauses which are near each other in the text, lexical cohesion tends to link much larger parts of the text
- Lexical cohesion is created by Reiteration and Collocation

Cont...

- **Reiteration**; involves
 - the repetition of the same word
 - a synonym or near-synonym
 - a general word

e.g. There is a boy climbing that tree

- The boy is going to fall.....
- The lad is going to fall.....
- The idiot is going to fall.....

Cont...

- **Collocation**; is the way in which particular words tend to occur or belong together.