



Integrity of Discourse in the Radar Sulawesi Barat Daily Newspaper : The Use of Cohesion and Coherence in Learning Indonesian to Improve Students' Literacy and Knowledge Skills

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Abstract: This study aims to analyze cohesion and coherence in forming the wholeness of the discourse contained in the Radar Sulawesi Barat daily. This research was qualitative. The data was collected using listening and note-taking techniques with several stages: reading, marking, and classifying. The data obtained in this study were written as elements that made up the wholeness of the discourse. The method and technique of data analysis used was the intralingual equivalent method with the comparison technique of equating the main points. Based on the study's results, cohesion and coherence shape the wholeness of discourse in the Radar Sulawesi Barat daily. Discourse cohesion found in this study was a marker of grammatical and lexical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion markers include (1) references, (2) substitutions, and (3) conjunctions. Lexical cohesion markers are repetition; the repetition obtained consists of (1) complete repetition, (2) repetition with changes in form, (3) repetition with changes, (4) repetition with synonym changes, and (5) repetition with hyponyms. In addition to repetition, a marker of lexical cohesion was also found, namely collocation. Furthermore, the element that forms the wholeness of discourse was coherence. This study had a meaning or semantic relationship between elements or sentences in the discourse, which can be used as a strategy for learning Indonesian.

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Introduction

Discourse can be interpreted as the use of language in verbal and written communication, as well as a means of communication that demands the integrity of form and meaning (E. Setiawati & Rusmawati, 2019). Cohesion is the harmony of the relationship between the elements in the discourse, while coherence is the integration of meaning so that the discourse becomes communicative (Martin, 2015). Furthermore, Wang and Guo (2014) argue that discourse is the highest and most complete language unit above sentences. Discourse is not composed of random sentences but of interrelated sentences with high cohesion and coherence so that unity of information is formed between the sentences. The integration between cohesion and coherence is a factor that determines the integrity and readability of discourse. As Bouvier and Machin (2018) explain, discourse is a complete unit of language and is the highest or largest grammatical unit. However, discourse can be in complete essays, paragraphs, sentences, or even phrases with a complete message.

Discourse is related to meaning, both verbally and in writing. Discourse consists of a series of sentences that express a series of propositions. The meaning of a sentence in a discourse is interconnected to form the overall meaning. Dingemanse et al. (2015) describe

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discourse as a form of language with aspects of form and meaning. Coherence of meaning (called coherence) is related to the neatness of form (called cohesion). The neatness of form is an element that forms and determines the cohesiveness of a discourse. Discourse can be grouped into two types: verbal and written. Verbal discourse is conveyed orally or verbally, while written discourse conveys the content or information in writing. Discourse can be used as a source of information because the information will continue to develop daily along with technological developments (Breeze, 2022). One way to get much information is by reading the newspaper discourse.

News is a report of new information about events that are currently happening and can be presented through print, broadcast, internet, or even verbal media (Steensen, 2011). News in written or printed form is often published in online media or newspapers. For readers, newspapers are still considered a medium containing accurate information. However, the current phenomenon shows that several print and online newspapers have lost their neutrality and independence because they show more political tendencies according to the conflict of interest in them (Ramadhan & Afala, 2022). In the context of this study, an analysis of the integrity of the discourse was carried out in the daily newspaper Radar Sulawesi Barat. Many previous studies have emphasized discourse analysis in newspapers, emphasizing discourse cohesion and coherence (Asih, 2020; Hanafiah, 2014; Humaira, 2018; S. Setiawati & Pratiwi, 2015; Sitoro et al., 2020; Widiatmoko, 2015). It shows that the study of discourse analysis is still an essential part of education, linguistics, and literature in Indonesia.

In the context of learning Indonesian, discourse study is a scientific discipline that examines the use of language and is often referred to as discourse analysis. As E. Setiawati and Rusmawati (2019) state, discourse analysis is a scientific discipline that examines the natural use of language in communication. Discourse analysis appears as a reaction against pure linguistics, which cannot perfectly reveal the nature of language. Discourse analysis experts try to provide alternatives to understanding the nature of language. Discourse analysis examines language in an integrated manner, in that it is not separated as in linguistics, and all elements of language are tied to the context of usage (van Dijk, 2015). Therefore, discourse analysis is fundamental to understanding the nature of language and language behavior, including learning Indonesian. The research results from Nisa (2019) show that students are still unable to fully understand the meaning of a text being studied, which results in weak students' ability to write and analyze reading texts in Indonesian material. This problem is the basis for providing and using various resources and learning strategies so that students can better understand and analyze discourse.

In a discourse, cohesion is the harmonious relationship between one element and another to create a coherent understanding. *Cohesion* is a sentence that is cohesively arranged to produce speech. Martin (2015) argues that cohesion is the relationship between sentences in discourse, both at the grammatical and lexical levels. In this regard, more is needed to rely on cohesive relationships to form cohesion; there are other factors, such as external textual factors (Asih, 2020). The suitability of discourse and the natural world can create conditions to form a complete discourse. Halliday and Matthiessen (2013) mention cohesion as a systematic relationship in form, grammatical, and lexical, which then becomes an expression in the form of sound or writing. Furthermore, Halliday and Matthiessen (2013) also grouped cohesion into two types, namely grammatical and lexical cohesion. Grammatical is divided into references, substitutions, and conjunctions, while lexical cohesion includes repetition, synonyms, hyponyms, and collocations.

The cohesive discourse will automatically form a unity of meaning (coherence) and refers to the linking of meanings. In this regard, Wang and Guo (2014) argue that coherence



is the integration of facts, ideas, facts, and ideas into a logical series so that the message is easy to understand. Coherence is often interpreted as coherence and understanding between propositions in a discourse. Almost the same thing was expressed by Coulthard (2014): coherence not only lies in cohesion but is also influenced by background knowledge, language, socio-culture, and ability to read implicit things. If coherence is well structured, then understanding of the discourse will be well achieved. In realizing an excellent and complete discourse, it must be seen from the cohesive and coherent perspective of the resulting discourse. Discourse with cohesion and coherence will look systematic so that ideas can be conveyed and follow linguistic rules. Therefore, markers of cohesion and coherence in discourse are needed to help readers understand the information conveyed. Based on this explanation, this study aims to describe the use of cohesion and coherence in forming discourse integrity in the Radar Sulawesi Barat daily news and its connectedness in learning Indonesian at school.

Research Method

This study used a qualitative approach by marking research results related to the use of language step by step. The qualitative approach was used as a research procedure to solve problems by describing the selected research object (Malterud, 2012). Therefore, this study produced descriptive data in cohesion and coherence (Sari et al., 2018) in the Radar Sulawesi Barat daily news discourse. The data source in this study was the discourse covered in the daily newspaper Radar Sulawesi Barat. The selected discourses were five discourses published during March-May 2022. Data collection was based on the productivity of the cohesion and coherence devices that appear in the discourse (Yang & Sun, 2012). The research data was fragments of news discourse suspected of having cohesion and coherence in their preparation.

This study used the method of observing and note-taking techniques. This method of providing data was called the method of listening because the method used to obtain data was done by listening to the use of language in newspapers. The listening method was chosen because the object under study was language or text. The term listening is not only related to the use of spoken language but also the use of written language (Rahman, 2016). In this case, the researcher only acts as an observer of language use, meaning that the researcher only listens or studies carefully the news discourse in the daily newspaper Radar Sulawesi Barat. The listening method has a fundamental technique in the form of tapping techniques, which in practice, this tapping technique is followed by advanced techniques, namely note-taking techniques. The note-taking technique was done by recording all data in cohesion and coherence in news discourse. The note-taking technique aims to record all data in cohesion and coherence found in news discourse, both from phrases, clauses and sentences (Hapsari & Setiawan, 2019). The data generated used supporting tools like pens, books, or laptops. Specific data collection is carried out with the following steps; (1) choosing news discourse that is considered to contain cohesion and coherence in its preparation, (2) listening to news discourse, (3) reading news discourse repeatedly as verification of data that has been recorded.

The method used in data analysis was the intralingual equivalent method with the comparative comparison technique to equate the main points (van Dijk, 2015). Researchers recorded fragments of discourse in the form of sentences or clauses and compared them with sentences or clauses that were still part of the discourse fragment, then analyze the forms of cohesion and coherence used and group them in the same type. According to van Dijk (2015),

it will go through several stages of analysis, such as; (1) analysis using certain symbols; (2) classifying data with specific criteria; and (3) making predictions based on specific criteria or theories. The data contained in the discourse on speech and dialogue on the Radar Sulawesi Barat can be used as evidence in conducting research. However, in general, in qualitative research, data analysis is carried out with the following steps: (1) identification of data; (2) data classification; (3) data coding; (4) solving research problems; and (5) conclusion (Miles et al., 2014). Furthermore, this study uses data tables to simplify the research process. The research data is recorded in the data table to analyze the form of cohesion and coherence. The following is an example of a data table that has been created.

Table 1. Cohesion and Coherence Data Analysis

Code	Cohesion	Sentences that show cohesion
(KTAS/RSB/17.03.2022)	RF (reference)	<i>I also heard that, (there are suspects) but we don't know who the suspects are, said Zulkifli".</i>
Code	Coherence	Sentences that show coherence
(KHBM/RSB/30.03.2022)	SA (causality)	<i>Seeing many abandoned animals lacking food nutrition, Hamsah was moved to do <i>street feeding</i>.</i>

Results and Discussion

The use of cohesion and coherence in the discourse of the March-May 2022 edition of the Radar Sulawesi Barat newspaper consists of two aspects: grammatical and lexical. The grammatical aspect found 36 data, and the lexical aspect found 18. These cohesion markers form the cohesion of news discourse in the Radar Sulawesi Barat. The following is the research data showing the integrity of the discourse in the grammatical aspect in Table 2.

Table 2. Use of Grammatical Cohesion

No.	Types of Grammatical Cohesion	Total of data
1.	Reference	22 Data
2.	Substitution	5 Data
3.	Conjunction	9 Data
	Total	36 Data

Cohesion markers studied from a grammatical aspect include references, substitutions, and conjunctions. First, cohesion markers in the form of references were found in 22 data. Referrals are further divided into three types, namely personal references, demonstrative references, and comparative references. The most frequent persona references were found in this study, namely as many as 10 data indicated by words "*aku*", "*kami*", "*-nya*", "*mereka*", and "*kamu*". Furthermore, demonstrative references in the form "*ini*" and "*itu*" found as many as 9 data. Then comparative references are found as much as 1 data indicated by the word "*sama*". For example, in the following sentence: "*I also heard that, (there is a suspect) but we don't know who the suspect is, said Zulkifli*". This sentence emphasises personal reference more because it has explicitly acknowledged that the sentences it utters contain information. Second, cohesion markers in substitutions were found in 5 data, which were further divided into nouns, verbs, and clauses substitutions. Finally, the marker of grammatical cohesion is in the form of a conjunction of 9 data. The most frequently found conjunctions are the words "*sebab*", "*namun*", "*setelah*", "*karena*", and "*bahkan*".



Cohesion markers that form the coherence of discourse forms will automatically form the integrity of the discourse meaning (Pitoyo, 2021) so that the reader will understand the meaning conveyed in the discourse. It is also relevant to the critical discourse analysis proposed by van Dijk (2015), which emphasizes that discourse is not enough to be analyzed only by text alone. However, it is also necessary to observe how the text is produced to produce the whole discourse to make it easier for the reader to understand the meaning of the discourse. Mukhlis et al. (2020) also explained that text and context are needed to understand discourse. Context is needed to determine the relationship between text and phenomena outside language, such as social and cultural. Thus, the information or news obtained can be known and understood as a whole.

Table 3. Use of Lexical Cohesion

No.	Types of Lexical Cohesion	Total of Data
1.	Repetition	10 Data
2.	Synonym	5 Data
3.	Hyponym	2 Data
4.	Collocation	1 Data
	Total	18 Data

The use of cohesion studied from the lexical aspect (Table 3) shows that not all types of lexical cohesion were used in this study. Only four types of lexical cohesion were found, totaling 18 data, namely, repetition (10 data), synonyms (5 data), hyponyms (2 data), and collocation (1 data). Cohesion markers in the form of equivalence were not found in this study. As with grammatical cohesion, cohesion also forms the cohesion or integrity of the discourse so that the sentences are interconnected, not arranged randomly.

In this case, lexical cohesion is interpreted as a sign of the relationship between elements in discourse semantically. There are arguments that to produce complete and integrated discourse, speakers must follow diction (words) that follow the desired content. The cohesive relationship based on this lexical aspect is done by choosing the correct words so that the content of the discourse can express a meaningful relationship or semantic relationship between one language unit and another language unit in the discourse (Tardan et al., 2013). Conceptually, the elements of lexical cohesion in a discourse can be divided into synonyms (similarities), antonyms (opposite words), hyponyms (partial relations or content), repetition (repetition), collocations (crosswords) and equivalence (equivalence). These lexical elements are used to obtain the effect of the intensity of language meaning, clarity of information, and aesthetic influences or other elements of language suitability (Levin & Hovav, 2017).

Wang and Guo (2014) explain that coherence is linked with meaning. It aligns with Hanafiah's (2014) perspective, a series of interrelated sentences between one sentence and another. The sentences can be categorized as discourse if they have a meaningful relationship. Without a clear meaning relationship, a text cannot be categorized as discourse (Bonvillain, 2020). Therefore, a discourse's relationship of meaning between elements (coherence) is necessary. Thus, the coherence markers found in this study totalled 16 data. Coherence is one aspect of supporting the integrity of the meaning of discourse. Coherence will automatically form if there is cohesion in the discourse between one element and another (Kramsch, 2014). That is, cohesive discourse will automatically form coherent discourse so that the two will be interconnected in forming the whole of the discourse.



The Use of Cohesion and Coherence in Learning Indonesian

Discourse integrity that emphasizes cohesion and coherence is essential for teachers and students, especially in senior high schools. For teachers, understanding related to cohesion and coherence in a text or reading can make it easier to interpret the text's meaning. In addition, teachers are also required to write reflections after each lesson so that they can become material for criticism to improve or develop their teaching methods or techniques (Hasnah et al., 2018). Furthermore, for students, the material of cohesion and coherence is mandatory knowledge that students learning Indonesian must obtain. It is because the mastery of cohesion and coherence tools for students is closely related to exposition writing skills (Nisa, 2019). Applying the essential competencies means that senior high school students must master also emphasizes students' abilities in identifying (problems, arguments, knowledge, and recommendations) and analyzing linguistic structures in exposition texts (Kemendikbud Republik Indonesia, 2018).

In this study, the use of cohesion and coherence in forming the integrity of the discourse contained in the newspaper can be used as a teaching method or strategy for students so that they can better understand the overall context that is read and the various uses of cohesion and coherence in a text (S. Setiawati & Pratiwi, 2015). Newspapers are credible sources of information because they have gone through a review process by the editorial board. The analytical method that can be used in analyzing the integrity of newspaper discourse is critical discourse analysis (van Dijk, 2015), which describes three aspects, namely macro-structure, super-structure, and microstructure. This analysis can stimulate students to improve cognitive thinking process skills (Morra et al., 2012) and critical thinking skills (Vieira & Tenreiro-Vieira, 2016). Therefore, various forms and online media in the context of learning Indonesian can be used as a source of learning to improve students' literacy and knowledge skills (Trilling & Fadel, 2009).

Conclusion

According to the analysis of cohesion and coherence in forming the discourse integrity in Radar Sulawesi Barat (March–May 2022 edition), it can be concluded as follow. (1) The use of cohesion from the grammatical aspect, namely: (a) The grammatical cohesion used in discourse, namely references, substitutions, and conjunctions (b) The use of cohesive markers in the form of references or references which the author often emphasizes: personal references and demonstrative references. Meanwhile, comparative reference is rarely used by the author. In addition, the use of conjunctions is also often highlighted by the author. These markers are considered effective in forming discourse that is easy to understand; (2) The use of lexical cohesion in the form of repetition, hyponyms, synonyms, and collocations is not widely used by writers. The author only uses these markers to emphasize parts of the discourse that are considered necessary; and (3) The use of coherence in the discourse used in the discourse of the March-May 2022 edition of the daily newspaper Radar Sulawesi Barat, namely a causal relationship.

The newspaper discourse analysis results described in this study can be used as one of the materials and strategies for learning Indonesian. The complexity of the procedures and analysis can impact students' literacy and knowledge skills. Students will know more about the diversity of words and models of language used in a newspaper text. This strategy can indirectly stimulate students' thinking and analytical skills so that students can more easily understand the meaning of the texts studied.



Recommendation

It is hoped that the results of this research can be used as one of the media for the development of knowledge, especially those related to the use of grammatical, lexical, and interpretation of the meaning of words in forming discourse integrity. Research on the meaning of words is quite interesting to study, so it can be used to enrich vocabulary. Moreover, the research results can be used as a reference for further researchers to examine the meaning of words from different aspects. Furthermore, teachers can also use this strategy in learning Indonesian to improve the quality of learning and students' skills in understanding and analyzing discourse in a text or reading material.

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