

# Cohesive Ties and Meaning Comprehension

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## **Abstract**

*Cohesion is necessary in both spoken and written language. Speakers and writers use a variety of cohesive devices to link or clarify the relationships among ideas within a text or discourse. Cohesive devices are words used to show how the different parts of a text fit together to create cohesion. Cohesion is the grammatical and lexical linking within a text or sentence that holds a text together and gives it meaning. Hence, objective of this study is to reveal the significance of using such cohesive tools in grasping the meaning of a linguistic text through the analysis of the grammatical cohesive devices especially the personal references as cohesive ties in a short story written by a famous writer Ernest Hemingway entitled " Cat in the Rain" .The paper adopts a descriptive qualitative research method to identify the various personal references available in the above mentioned short story. The amount of occurrence and the category of anaphoric and cataphoric references are determined . This paper follows the model of cohesion set up by Halliday and Hasan in 1976 in Cohesion in English. The paper ends with some concluding remarks that are attained from the discussion of personal cohesive references in the selected text .*

**Keywords:** Cohesive Devices, Comprehension

## **I. Introduction**

A text, as a written or printed work, can be written for various purposes, in terms of content and not form. It may be written for education, entertainment , information, impression, etc. A text is not just a grammar unit, but a semantic language unit, i.e. a sense and not a form unit. Texture is that which unites the text and differentiates it from a non-text. It is therefore the consistency between units of a text. The word "text" is used in linguistics referring to "any text, spoken or written, of any length, which makes up a coherent whole. It could be a prose or verse, a dialog or a monologue (Halliday & Hasan 1976). It could be anything from a single proverb to a whole poem, from a momentary cry for help to a day-to-day committee debate." Fareed & Hasan (2017:6) give a clear description of the term "text," which refers to writers' preferences for certain linguistic patterns to convey ideas, thought and belief in a textual way (well form and interpretation) to the meaning and unity of the text. A text written or spoken is generally believed to have meaning only when the different elements are combined to form a unified whole.

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### **Cohesive Devices**

Gramley (1992:183) states that when some elements of the discourse are interpreted by others, they are. It occurs. Coherence is a grammar unit which refers to a defining characteristic of the word cohesiveness (Crystal; 2003:77). Cohesion means the ties and links which exist within the text according to Yule (1985:140). Cohesive ties give valuable information about how speakers and writers organize and structure their text as well as the constraints and conventions they follow in this process. Finally, Curse (2006:25) states that cohesion is a matter of form and concerns ways of linking one piece of language to another. A classification of the types of cohesive relations which can formally be established in a text is provided by Halliday & Hasan (1976). Consequently, two main classes of grammatical and lexical devices are the cohesive devices that bind a text together. Halliday & Hasan (1976) are reference, substitution, ellipse and conjunction of grammatical instruments. Thus, a cohesive subcategory of devices, namely personal references, is given great consideration in this study in Hemingway's "The Cat in the Rain."

### **Concept of Reference**

In linguistics 'reference' concept is central. In a broad sense, the reference is the relationship between a specific entity or abstract concept and the language object used to point out. In other words, the lexical point refers to something other than the language system. The term is often used for indicating in grammatical analysis, a relationship between the identity of grammar units, e.g. a pronoun refers to a substantive phrase Crystal (1980 : 391). Halliday & Hasan (1976:31) consider reference as a specific type of cohesion which is characterized by the specific characteristics of the information to be obtained. This information is seen as the benchmark meaning defining the identity of a particular class of things to which reference is made; And cohesion lies within the continuity of the reference in which a second discourse enters the same thing.

The explosive reference demands that the reader infer the interpreted reference between the reader and the author within the immediate environment, looking beyond the text. The use of the exophoric reference requires certain common knowledge between two speakers and between the reader and the writer. In the sentence, for example, this is a fantastic idea. The reader has to look outside of this situation to find its meaning. Halliday & Hasan considered the exophorical reference not to be coherent, because the texts do not combine the two elements. It is classified as anaphoric and cataphoric in two classes. "Anaphoric reference is where a word or sentence is a reminder that a word or phrase used in the previous text is used" according to Paltridge (2012:115). In this instance, Amy went to the party. With Sara, she had been sitting. She speaks of Amy, so she's a reference anaphoric. The cataphoric reference is another word or phrase mentioned in the text later on. For example, he is a cataphoric reference for Mike in the following sentence. Mike visited his parents as soon as he arrived. The use of the certain article and the substitution of an already mentioned noun by a synonym or hyponym can also express an anaphoric reference. I saw a man and a woman standing on the door, for instance. The guy wore a capsule and the woman wore a baseball bat. The second sentence of the words "The" and "(the)" qualify and specifies in the first sentence the nouns 'man' and 'woman.' There was plenty to eat, but I'm on a diet so I must stick to the salad. This statement reiterates that the two occurrences of "food" and "salad" have the same reference, that is, that these two lexical elements are connected with the "specific general."

Three references are made by Halliday & Hasan (1976): personal, demonstrative and comparative. The paper focuses on the personal reference of the individual category, i.e. the use of function in the speech situation. The personal category consists of three categories of individual pronouns, possessive and possessive pronouns. The personal system items are all items of reference; They make reference to something by specifying its position in a language situation (Ibid.: 43 – 4). The personal reference items are as follows:

Subjective / Objective pronouns / Possessive adjectives / Possessive pronouns

I / my / me / mine / we / our / us / ours as the First Person

You / your / you / yours as The Second Person

He / him / his / his / she / her / her / hers / it / it / its / its / they / them / their / theirs as the Third Person

## II. Methodology

The study's research design is qualitative in description. On the basis of the theory presented above, the short story of Hemingway "Cat in the Rain" analyzed the cohesive references especially cataphoric and anaphoric. Documentation gained the analyzed data in this study by analyzing the short story references. Procedure of the data analysis is to identify the type of each individual reference, calculate the number of occurrence and to which referent each reference relates. The following is the script of " **Cat in the Rain**: see Appendix A

Again, the term endophoric relationship is called the interpretation of a reference in the limits of a text. This relationship forms coherent links in the text. Endophorical relations are two kinds: anaphora and cataphora (Halliday & Hasan, 1976: 17). Anaphora is the presumption of what was previously done, whether or not in the preceding sentence. It is a form of assumption which refers to an earlier item. On the other hand, cataphora refers to the presumption in the opposite direction, following the presumptive element. The anaphorical and cataphoric references also employ the personal reference or pronominal reference, the demonstrative reference, and the comparative reference (Halliday & Hasan, 1976: 37).

### Anaphoric references in the text

The personal anaphoric references in the text account 100 references. They are :

"Only two Americans stopped at the hotel. **They** didn't recognize any of the persons **they** passed through stairs on **their** way and from their rooms. **Their** rooms were on the third floor looking to the sea. **They** also looked to a public garden and the ancient monument. The public garden contained large palms and green benches".

The personal pronouns "they, they" and their "possessive adjectives" refer to the "two Americans" noun phrase. The non-human pronoun "They" refers back to the phrase of the noun "their room."

"There was always an artist with **his** easel at the good weather".

" his" refers to an artist .

" Italians came from a far distance to see the monument of war. **It** was m manufactured of glistened and bronze in the rain".

" it" refers to the monument.

“Outside left under **their** balcony a cat was sitting.”

"their" refers to The American wife her husband.

“The cat tried to make **herself** so compacted.”

"herself" refers to cat.

“I am going do **it**,’ husband offered from his bed.”

"it" refers to bringing the kitty. " her" refers to his wife.

“No, I’ll get **it**.”

" it" refers to the kitty.

““Don’t be wet,’ **he** said.”

" he" refers to the husband.

“The wife descended and the owner of the hotel stood and bowed down to **her**. as **she** passed out the office. **His** desk was of the office. **He** was old tall man”.

" her and she" refer to the wife. " His and He" refer to the owner of the hotel.

““Il piove,(1)’the the wife said. **She** liked hotel-keeper”.

"she" refers to the wife.

“**He** was standing behind **his** desk in the end of dim room. The wife liked **him**.”

"He, his, him" refer to The owner of the hotel.

“**She** preferred the serious way **he** didn’t any complaints. **She** liked **his** dignity. **She** preferred the way **he** offered to serve **her**. **She** preferred the way **he** felt about being a hotel-keeper. **She** preferred his big hands and old, heavy face.”

"she, she, she, her, she, she" refer back to wife. "he, his, he, he, his" refer to hotel owner.

“like **him she** opened the door then looked out.”

"him" refers to the hotel owner. "she" refers to the wife.

“May be she would go along under the attics. Because **she** stood in the doorway the umbrella opened behind **her**. It was the maid, who looked to **their** room.”

"she" refers to the cat. "she, her" refer to the wife. "their" refers to the husband and the wife.

“You must not become wet,’ **she** smiled, and was speaking Italian. Of course, hotel-keeper sent **her**.”

"she" refers to the maid. "her" refers to the wife.

“The maid having umbrella over **her**, **she** walked through the gravel road until **she** was under the window.”

"her, she, she" refer to the wife.

"**She** was disappointed. The maid looked for **her**."

"she, her" refer to the wife.

"Yes," **she** said, 'under table.' Then, 'Oh, I needed **it** very much."

"she" refers to the girl. "it" refers to the cat.

"When **she** spoke in English the face of the maid tightened."

"she" refers to the girl.

"Come, Signora," **she** said. 'We must go back inside. You will get wet.'

"she" refers to the maid.

"**They** came back through the gravel way and crossed the door."

"they" refers to the girl and the maid.

"As the American girl left the office, padrone bowed from **his** desk."

"his" refers to the padrone.

"The Padrone got **her** feel to be small and at the same time be important. **She** had a temporary feeling of being important. **She** went upstairs. **She** opened the room door."

"her, she, she and she" refer to the girl.

"Did you bring the cat?" **he** asked, putting down the book."

"he" refers to George "husband".

"**It** was gone."

"it" refers to the cat.

"Wonder where **it** went," **he** said, resting **his** eyes from the book."

"it" refers to the cat. "he, his" refer to George.

"**She** sat down on bed."

"she" refers to the girl "George's wife".

"I wanted **it** very much," **she** said. 'I don't know why I needed **it** very much."

"it, it" refer to the cat. "she" refers to the wife.

"**She** went over and sat down with her hands glass before the mirror of the dressing table First of all, on one side and then on the other, **she** studied **her** profile. **She** then studied back of **her** head and **her** neck"

"she, she, her, she, her, her" refer to the wife.

**"she** asked, looking at the profile again."

"she, " refer to the wife.

"George looked and saw back of **her** neck, trimmed close like a boy's."

"her" refers to the wife.

"I like **it** the way **it** is."

"it ,it" refer to the hair style .

"“I get very tired of it,’ **she** said. “

" she" refers to the wife.

"George changed **his** position in bed. **He** didn't look away from **her** since **she** began to speak.

'You look pretty' **he** said."

"his, he, he" refer to George.

"her, she" refer to the wife.

**"She** put the mirror down on dresser and went to the window and looked out.

"she" refers to the wife.

"I want to get **my** hair back tight and smooth,' **she** said. 'I want to get the kitty to sit on **my** lap when I stroke **her**.'"

"my, she, my, I " refer to the wife.

"her" refers to the kitty.

"And I want to eat on a table with **my** own silver. And I want **it** to be spring . I want to brush **my** hair "

"my, my" refer to the wife.

"it" refers to the hair.

"“Oh, shut up and bring anything to read,' George said. **He** was reading again."

"he" refers to George.

**"His** wife was looking out from window."

"his" refers to George.

" I want a cat,' **she** said, 'I want a cat."

"she" refers to the wife.

**"He** was reading the book. **His** wife looked out from window and the light had come on in square".

"he, his" refer to George.

"Avanti,' George said. **He** looked up from **his** book."

"he, his" refer to George.

### **Cataphoric references in the text**

The personal cataphoric references in the text account 4 references. They are :

**It** wasn't any fun to be a poor kitty out in rain.'

"it" refers to fun.

" Do you think **it** wouldn't be a good idea ... .?"

" it" refers to the idea.

"I became very tired of **it**,' she said. 'I became very tired of looking like a boy."

"it" refers to looking like a boy.

« Si, Si- Signora- brutto tempo(2). **It** is bad weather."

"it" refers to weather.

### **III. Concluding Remarks**

The act of building a whole unit refers to cohesion. You may use different link materials to create this entire unit. Linking the unity materials to the bricks and cement forming the building can be likened. Bricks and cement can be assembled to make a structure of any kind. However, they form a building only when they are properly put together. Similarly, if a text has cohesive links, it will however only be consistent when the coherent links are properly used to create meaning and enhance a text 's ability to be interpreted and understood successfully.

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