

Lexical Cohesion Found in Story *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe

Ni Putu Tika Asri Astuti.K^{1*}, Ni Made Suwari Antari², I Wayan Mulyawan³

^[123]English Department, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University

¹[putu.tika12@gmail.com] ²[moelya01@gmail.com] ³[suwari@fs.unud.ac.id]

***Corresponding Author**

Abstrak

Skripsi ini berjudul “Kohesi Leksikal yang Ditemukan di Cerita Pendek Berjudul “The Tell-Tale Heart” oleh Edgar Allan Poe. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk menganalisis tipe kohesi leksikal yang digunakan di dalam cerita dan menemukan kemunculan tipe kohesi leksikal yang digunakan di dalam cerita. Sumber data penelitian ini diambil dari cerita pendek yang berjudul “The Tell-Tale Heart” oleh Edgar Allan Poe. Data dianalisis menggunakan metoda kualitatif dan kualitatif berdasarkan teori cohesion oleh Halliday dan Hasan (1976) dan teori pendukung oleh Nunan (1993). Berdasarkan hasil analisis tersebut, dapat disimpulkan bahwa cerita pendek tersebut mengandung kohesi leksikal yang ditunjukkan dengan penggunaan reiterasi (repetition, synonymy atau near synonymy, superordinate) dan kolokasi (antonym dan unordered lexical set) di dalam teks. Diantara semua kohesi leksikal yang ditemukan di cerita tersebut, tipe kohesi leksikal yang paling banyak digunakan adalah reiteration.

Kata kunci: kohesi, lexical kohesi, reiteration dan collocation

1. Background of the Study

Language is an important aspect for communication in daily life. The process of communication could be spoken or written. A text is a unit of language in use. The word ‘text’ is used in linguistics to refer to any passage spoken or written of whatever length that does form of unified whole (Halliday and Hasan, 1976:1). The text is characterized by coherence as well as cohesion and these set of linguistic resources are found in every language for linking one part of the text to another. A text will convey its meaning related to its context and the interaction among participants. The meanings of the text have to be expressed, or coded, in words and structures.

Cohesion is one of the language aspects that distinctively gives us explanation how the sentences are related to each other. Cohesion in the text can be achieved through the grammatical and lexical relationship within a sentence. It holds a sentence together and gives it meaning. The concept of lexical cohesion as one of cohesive

devices should be fully mastered while interpreting the meaning of a lexeme in a text. It is to show how the sentences are related in form to make the text coherence.

Short story is one kind of writing language which is a short work of fiction. It is a story with a fully developed theme but significantly shorter and less elaborate than a novel. Analyzing the lexical cohesion in the short story is interesting since the difficulty in understanding the meaning of the word often happens. In order to determine the coherence or discourse structure and the larger meaning of a text in the short story, it is very important to understand the lexical cohesion used in the text. There is also specific information about the actual component present in the short stories to give a clear understanding of what actually to be conveyed to the reader. Therefore, this study focuses to analyze the lexical cohesion in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* through the use of cohesive device.

2. Problem of the Study

Based on the background stated above, the problems can be formulated as follows:

1. What types and uses of lexical cohesion are used in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe?
2. What lexical cohesion occurs in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe?

3. Aims of the Study

The aims of study are:

1. To find out the types and uses of lexical cohesion used in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe
2. To find out the occurrences of lexical cohesion in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe.

4. Research Method

4.1 Data Source

The data source was a short story entitled *The Tell-Tale Heart* written by Edgar Allan Poe. It is a story of a murder most heinous and a narrator who fights his insanity. The narrator in the story cannot stand the pale blue eye of the old man that lives with him. The story was taken from internet and consists of five pages with seventeen paragraphs. This story was chosen as the data source because it is one of Poe's most famous short stories and it has good descriptions to keep the reader interested and enjoying it.

4.2 Method and Technique of Collecting Data

The data in this study were collected using the library research method. The technique of collecting the data in this study was conducted in several steps. The first step was downloading the short story from <http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/poe/telltale.html>. Then, the short story was read carefully in order to get a good understanding of the story. The next step was found out and highlighted the words which were considered two categories of lexical cohesion, reiteration and collocation. Finally, identifying the data based on the category of lexical cohesion used.

3.3 Method and Technique of Analyzing Data

The data in this study were analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. There are some steps in analyzing the data in this study. The first step in analyzing quantitatively the data was identifying and categorizing the lexical cohesion based on the theory of cohesion that proposed by M.A.K Halliday and Ruqaiya Hasan in their book entitled *Cohesion in English (1976)* and supported theory by David Nunan (1993) in *Introducing Discourse Analysis*. Then finding out the occurrences of lexical cohesion in the short story and showing the analysis of data on the table.

5. Result and Discussion

This Chapter is concerned with the analysis of the data taken from the text of the short story entitled *The Tell-Tale Heart*. This text was analyzed through the analysis of the lexical cohesion.

5.1. Reiteration

1. Repetition

a. Repetition of Pronoun *he*

Data example:

*And every morning, when the day broke, I went boldly into the chamber, and spoke courageously to him, calling him by name in a hearty tone, and inquiring how **he** has passed the night. So you see **he** would have been a very profound old man, indeed, to suspect that every night, just at twelve, I looked in upon him while **he** slept. (Paragraph 2)*

The word *he* is repeated eleven times in the text; three times in paragraph 2, four times in paragraph 3, and four times in paragraph 4. The pronoun *he* refers to the old man in the story as shown in the table below:

Type of Repetition	Place Occurrence	Time Occurrence
Pronoun <i>he</i>	2 nd paragraph	3 times
	4 th paragraph	4 times

b. Repetition of the Noun *sense*

Data example:

*The disease had sharpened my **senses** --not destroyed --not dulled them. Above all was the **sense** of hearing acute. (Paragraph 1)*

The word *senses* is plural while the word *sense* is singular. This repetition occurs two times in paragraph 1. The word *sense* means a normal state of mind; the ability to think clearly as shown in the table below:

Type of Repetition	Place Occurrence	Time Occurrence
Noun <i>sense</i>	1 st paragraph	2 times

c. Repetition of the Verb *heard*

Data example:

*I **heard** all things in the heaven and in the earth. I **heard** many things in hell.* (Paragraph 1)

The word *heard* is categorized as verb that means to be aware of sounds with your ears. This word is repeated two times in paragraph 1 as presented in the table below:

Type of Repetition	Place Occurrence	Time Occurrence
Verb <i>heard</i>	1 st paragraph	2 times

2. Synonymy or Near Synonymy

- (a) It was open --wide, wide open --and I grew furious as I **gazed** upon it.
- (b) I **saw** it with perfect distinctness --all a dull blue, with a hideous veil over it that chilled the very marrow in my bones; but I could see nothing else of the old man's face or person: for I had directed the ray as if by instinct, precisely upon the damned spot.

The word *gazed* is the synonym of the word *saw* in paragraph 9. Both of these words are classified as verb. The word *gazed* means to look steadily at somebody/something for a long time, either because you are very interested or surprised, or because you are thinking of somebody else. The word *saw* means to become aware of somebody/something by using your eyes. The word *gazed* and *saw* have similar meaning that explains about looking something by using eyes.

3. Superordinate

The data:

*TRUE! --nervous --very, very dreadfully nervous I had been and am; but why will you say that I am **mad**? The **disease** had sharpened my senses --not destroyed --not dulled them.*

There is a relation between the words *mad* with the word *disease* in paragraph 1 as a superordinate. The word *disease* is a superordinate and the word *mad* is subordinate.

5.2. Collocation

1. Antonym

(a) And every night, about midnight, I turned the latch of his door and **opened** it --oh so gently!

(b) I put in a dark lantern, all **closed**, closed, that no light shone out, and then I thrust in my head.

In paragraph 3, the word *opened* and *closed* are collocation in term of antonym. The words *opened* and *closed* have opposite meaning in which *opened* means not closed allowing things or people to go through while *closed* means to put something into a position so that it covers an opening; to get into this position.

2. Unordered Lexical Sets

1. (a) I cut off **the head** and **the arms** and **the legs**.

In paragraph 11, the word *the body*, *the head*, *the arms*, and *the legs* are collocational in term of unordered lexical sets. These words belong to part-to-whole relation which is the relation between one lexical item, as a part of a thing, which occurs mutually with another. The position of those words was as object in the same category and mutually related. These words show the occurrence of part-to-whole relation created by the items *the body*, *the head*, *the arms*, and *the legs*. The items *the head*, *the arms*, and *the legs* refer to the item *body*, since all of those items are part of the body or they are inclusive to the body.

5.3 The Occurrences of Lexical Cohesion in the short story.

Based on the analysis of the types of lexical cohesion in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart*, it can be noted that the occurrences of lexical cohesion in the short story mostly frequently used by the writer are reiteration. The domination of reiteration in the story is presented by repetition in the short story.

The lexical cohesion was employed 212 times in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart*. From all types of lexical cohesion, the type of lexical cohesion that are mostly used in the short story is repetition. The repetition used in the text occurs 181 times.

The repetition is presented by 137 repetitions of pronoun, 32 repetitions of noun and 12 repetitions of verb. The repetition of pronoun is dominated by the word *I* that is repeated 106 times in the whole text. The repetition of noun is dominated by the word *eye* that is repeated seven times in the text. The repetition of verb is dominated by the word *had* that is repeated three times in the text.

The other types of reiteration that occur in the short story are synonymy or near synonymy, superordinate, and general word. The short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* uses synonymy or near synonym by 15 times. The superordinate occurs 6 times in the short story. Besides, the story uses collocation as a part of lexical cohesion. The types of collocation are antonym occurring 7 times and unordered lexical set occurring 3 times in the short story.

6. Conclusion

Based on the discussions from the previous chapters, it can be concluded that the lexical cohesion presented in the short story are reiteration and collocation. The reiteration is divided into repetition, synonymy or near synonymy, and superordinate. The collocations found in the story are antonym and unordered lexical set. The short story contains 210 lexical cohesions that consist of 200 reiterations and 10 collocations. The repetitions are presented by 137 repetitions of pronoun, 32 repetitions of noun and 12 repetitions of verb. In the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* synonymy or near synonym are used 15 times. The superordinate occurs 6 times in the short story. Besides, the story uses collocation as a part of lexical cohesion. The types of collocation are antonym occurring 7 times and unordered lexical set occurring 3 times in the short story.

The lexical cohesion in the short story *The Tell-Tale Heart* that most frequently occur is repetition especially the repetition of pronoun *I*. The repetition of pronoun *I* occurs 106 times. The pronoun *I* refers to the narrator as the main character of the story. The repetition can be used to convey the message in much more engaging and notable way. It enhances the beauty of the sentence and stresses the main point .

7. Bibliography

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