

REFERENTIAL COHESION IN “MY MOTHER MY SELF” BY NANCY FRIDAY

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ABSTRAK:

*Novel merupakan salah satu teks tertulis yang bertujuan untuk menghibur dan menyampaikan pesan cerita kepada pembaca. Dengan tujuan itu, novel harus ditulis secara berkaitan dan berpadu untuk mencapai pengertian yang lebih baik. Tulisan ini bertujuan untuk menganalisa penggunaan kalimat perpaduan yang ada dalam novel *My Mother My Self* karangan Nancy Friday. Tiga bentuk kalimat referensi yang digunakan dalam novel ini, referensi personal, referensi demonstrative dan referensi comparative.*

Kata Kunci : *Perpaduan, Referensi, Referensi personal, Referensi demonstrative, Referensi Comparative.*

1. Introduction

Halliday and Hasan in their book entitled *Cohesion in English* (1976), state that the concept of cohesion is semantic one. It refers to relation of meaning which stresses the existance of text. Cohesion is part of language system. The potential of cohesion lies in the systematic resources of reference, ellipsis and are built into the language itself. The actualization of cohesion in any given instance, however, does not depend merely on selection of some option from within these resources, but also on the presence of some other elements which resolve the presupposition that this sets up (Halliday and Hasan, 1985 : 5).

Halliday and Hasan (1976 : 31) propose the definition of reference as the spesific nature of information that is signaled for retrieval. The information to be retrieved, in the case of reference, is the referential meaning. Reference constitutes items in the English Language which, “instead of being interpreted semantically in their own right, make reference to something else for their interpretation” (Halliday and Hasan 1976). It can be divided into the following three types:

- a. Personal reference, for example : *I, me, you, we, us, him, she, her, they, them* and *it*.
- b. Demonstrative reference, for example : *the, this, there, that and those*.

- c. Comparative reference, for example: *same, identical, equal, other, different, more, better.*

2. Problems of the Study

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

1. What types of reference items are used in the novel entitled *My Mother My Self*?
2. How are the reference items presented in the novel?

3. Aims of the Study

1. To identify the types of references used in the novel entitled *My Mother My Self*
2. To analyze how the reference items are presented in the novel

4. Research Method

The data of this study were taken from Nancy Friday's novel "My Mother My Self" which was published in 1977. It is used as data source in this study because it consists of a set of sentences in which cohesive relations, including references, could be found.

The novel was analyzed per sentence and the reference items found were classified in terms of the types of the reference, to find out whether they belong to personal, demonstrative or comparative reference in order to figure out how the reference items presented based on the theory of cohesion proposed by Halliday and Hasan in their book entitled *Cohesion in English* (1976).

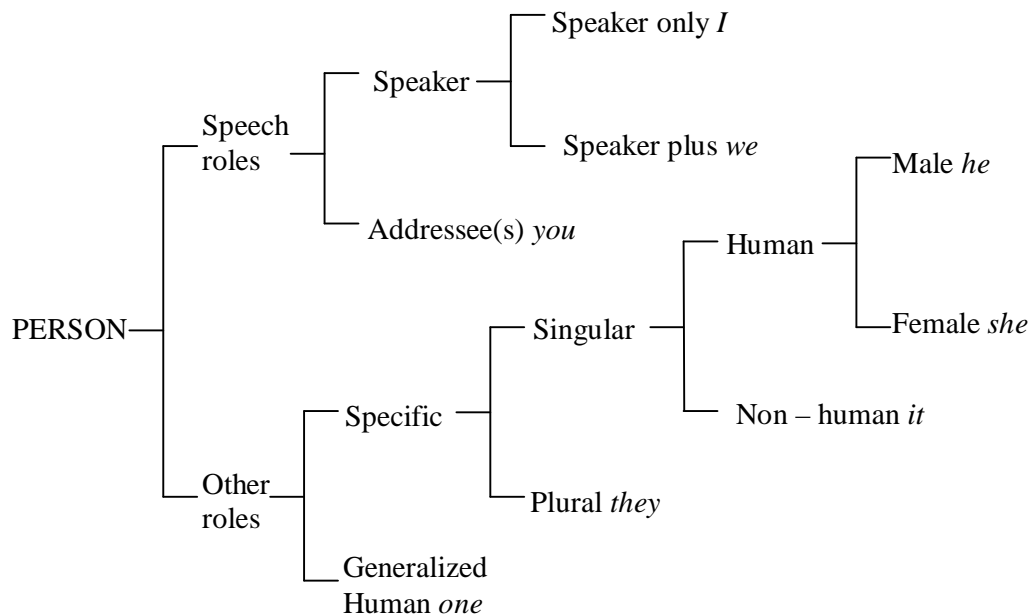
Therefore, this paper focused on how to analyze the reference items presented in Nancy Friday's novel "My Mother My Self". The main reason of this writing is to apply some theories of discourse proposed by some linguists, which are used as the concept of analyzing the reference items presented in the novel.

5. The Analysis of Reference Items

The three types of reference items such as; Personal references, Demonstrative references, and Comparative references are analyzed in this section.

5.1 Personal Reference

The category of personal includes the three classes of personal pronouns, possessive determiners (usually called ‘possessive adjectives’), and possessive pronouns. There is no general name for this category in traditional grammar, because the member belongs to different classes with diverse structural roles, but in fact they represent a single system, that of person:



(The Configuration of single system *Personal Reference I* by Halliday and Hasan, 1976 : 45.)

And below are description of personal reference I, you, andthey;

5.1.1 Personal Reference I

Personal reference *I* always takes position as subject. If *I* used as non subject then it changes its form into *me*. As possessor *I* changes into *my* and it

function as modifier. *I* changes its form into *mine* when its function as possessor head, as exemplified by :

1. “*I* have always lied to my mother,” Nancy said.

(Friday, 1977:19)

In example above, *I* takes position as subject. Because *I* refers to *Nancy* and *I* stands on the previous text.

5.1.2 Personal reference *You*

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976:46) *you* as one type of Personal reference includes in speech roles. Basically, *you* can be utilized in order to refer to the addressee by ignoring either amount of gender.

Below, the example is analyzed from the text:

1. *Nancy* tries to imagine a little scene that could have helped both her and her mother.

“*Nancy*, *you* know I’m not really good at this mothering business”, her mother says.

(Friday, 1977:19)

In the example above, Personal references *you* take position as subject. It anaphorically refers to *Nancy* which is standing in the preceding text.

5.1.3 Personal reference *They*

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976:47), the personal reference *they* is classified into other rule that is used to refer to ‘the third plural person’, it means the person or the object exposed is more than one without differentially the gender. *They* is not only referring to human, but it can also refer to animate non human like animal or inanimate non human and the amount is plural.

Below is one example was taken to be analyzed:

1. Psychotherapists have long become accustomed to the necessity of working through these bits of insight; making patients aware of the repressed connections again and again before *they* are truly grasped the liberating, emotional truth integrated for good.

(Friday, 1977:364)

In example above, personal reference *they* anaphorically refer to *psychoanalysts* and take position as subject.

5.2 Demonstrative Reference

The analysis of demonstrative reference encloses the analysis of the selective nominal demonstrative such as *this*, *these*, *that*, *those*, and neutral form, *the*. In this paper, demonstrative references such as *this* and *that* are categorized as demonstrative reference.

5.2.1 Demonstrative reference *This*

Based on the semantic differentiations above, *this* is used to refer to something whose position is close and it is in singular form. In addition, demonstrative reference *this* can refer pronominally to human referent. In a text for example, demonstrative reference *this* is used to refer to something that has already been spoken by the speaker itself. I proximity interpreted as time, so *this* related to present and future time referent. Demonstrative reference *this* has function as modifier or head. As modifier, *this* is always followed by noun that identically same as its reference. As illustrated by the following pattern:

1. We have always known *this* feeling existed, and have merely been waiting for it to come along again.

(Friday, 1977:272)

In example above, the demonstrative reference *this* appears only once. *This* in example above has function to identify the feeling itself and cataphorically refers to *the feeling*.

5.2.2 Demonstrative reference *That*

The same as *this*, *that* also has text referent characteristics. In a text, demonstrative reference *that* is always anaphoric if proximity is related to time, *that* is used to refer to the past time (past-time referent) and it has function as modifier or head. If demonstrative reference *that* shows plurality, it is changed into *those*, both *that* and *those* are exophoric.

This can be exemplified as follows:

1. *That* Friday I signed out for a weekend, and Saturday morning Steve I were naked in each other's arms in his roommate's sister's canopied bed on Beacon Hill.

(Friday, 1977:293)

In the example above, demonstrative reference *that* occurs only once. It is referring to the past time (past – time referent). In the text above, demonstrative reference *that* has function as modifier.

5.3 Comparative Reference

Several terms that become parts of comparative reference can be anaphoric or cataphoric and also cohesive in text. In fact, that condition is rarely found. Most of comparative reference is not cohesive in text and usually its reference stands within a sentence that causes an internal relation. In addition, comparative reference mostly exophoric where its reference stands outside text. It can be divided into two types that are general comparison and particular comparison.

5.3.1 General Comparison

General comparison is meant comparison that is simply in terms of likeness and unlikeness, without respect to any particular property: two things may be the same. It is expressed by a certain class of adjectives and adverbs. This comparison expresses likeness between things. The general comparison which occur in the story are *else* and *other*.

5.3.1.1 General Comparison “Else”

- a. She can be honest about everything *else*.

(Friday, 1977: 28)

- b. We learn our deepest ways of intimacy with mother; automatically we repeat the pattern with everyone *else*.

(Friday, 1977: 29)

All of the examples of the general comparison *else* above, show the general comparison in terms of unlikeness.

5.3.1.2 General Comparison “*Other*”

- a. The daughter will repeat this relationship with men and *other* women.

(Friday, 1977: 27)

- b. And to look in the real world for those *other* aspects we did not get from her.

(Friday, 1977: 29)

The two examples of the general comparison *other* above shows the general comparison in terms of unlikeness.

5.3.2 Particular Comparison

Particular comparison means comparison in respect of quantity or quality. The particular comparison in terms of quality founded in the novel are *more* and *so*.

5.3.2.1 Particular Comparison *More*

- a. A more *everyday* example might be when mother refuses to let us go the movies with friends.

(Friday, 1977:432)

In the example above, the particular comparison in terms of quality and it cataphorically refers to *everyday*.

5.3.2.2 Particular Comparison *So*

- a. I needed and loved my mother *so* intensely at times

(Friday, 1977 : 33)

In the example above, the particular comparison *so* also shows the particular comparison in terms of quality and it cataphorically refers to *intensely*

6. Conclusion

Based on the analysis and discussion in the previous chapter, the following points can be drawn as conclusion:

In the novel *My Mother My Self*, all types of referential cohesion appear, namely: Personal references, Demonstrative references and Comparative references. Kinds of personal references that occur in the novel are: reference *I*, *you* and *they*. All of demonstrative references appear such as: selective nominal demonstrative, neutral demonstrative adverb. Selective nominal demonstrative

that appear in the novel are *this* and *that*. In addition, comparative reference occurs in the novel, is general comparison. General comparison that occur are *else* and *other*. Particular comparison that occur are *more* and *so*.

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