

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is the introductory chapter of this research. This consists of background of research, statements of problem, research objectives, research significances, definition of key terms, and previous studies.

1.1 Background of Research

Language is an important part of human life. In their daily lives, language cannot be separated because it is used as a means of communication. People use language as a form to express their thoughts, ideas, opinions, or feelings. As a social being, language certainly has an important role in communication.

The use of language in communication is carried out in two ways, spoken and written which can also be called discourse (Cook, 1989, p. 6). There is a study of discourse namely discourse analysis. Discourse analysis concerns on the study of language by observing how people use language to communicate, especially how speakers construct linguistic messages to others and how other people work on linguistic messages to be interpreted (Brown & Yule, 1983).

Discourse analysis discusses a sentence that forms a unity. Discourse requires text-forming elements characterized by cohesion and coherence. Cohesion refers to form, meaning that the sentences that make up the paragraph must be coherent. Cohesion is the relationship meaning that is in the text as the semantic

concept (Halliday & Hasan, 1976, p. 4). Cohesion itself means the relationship between one sentence and another that forms a unity. Cohesion differentiates whether it is text or not. Without cohesion, that is only a series of sentences and difficult to understand or interpret. Cohesion consists of two devices, namely grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion is a marker of cohesion that involves the use of elements of language rules while lexical cohesion is a cohesive form of the word. The aspects of grammatical cohesion are: references, substitutions, ellipsis, and conjunctions. Then, the aspects of lexical cohesion are: reiteration (repetition, synonym, antonym, hyponymy, meronymy) and collocation (Halliday & Hasan, 1976, p. 6).

Basically, discourse is related to writing. The written language such as articles, published online on the internet is written in simple language so that it makes the readers easier to understand the contents. Technology has a very broad impact on human life. One of the technology is the internet. The presence of the internet as a means of communication and seeking information, for example, with all its advantages has made many changes in society such as in business, social, and language perspectives. The presence of the internet has also brought changes in people's culture. With the internet, people can find and update information anytime and anywhere.

In an era where people must be up to date, the internet seems inseparable from life, almost every day people take the time to browse something on the internet, whether browse for entertainment, information, news, etc. Because it is

easy to access, the internet has become one of the preferred things to update information today.

There is a lot of sites to visit on the internet. One of the interesting websites to visit is Article 19. Article 19 is a British human rights organization with a specific mandate and focus on the defense and promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of information worldwide founded in 1987. This site works for a world in which people everywhere can express themselves freely. News about organizations and articles discussing freedom of expression can be found on the Article 19 website. Recently, that is widely displayed about the coronavirus. This is because of the current situation, the world is facing coronavirus. The coronavirus has become a pandemic which is currently a worldwide concern. One of the articles which is interesting and useful to increase knowledge and information entitled *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus*.

The writer used article entitled *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* as source of data. The article was published on Article 19 website. The article must be informative, simple, straightforward, and interesting. The research will be focused on analyzing grammatical cohesion devices because an article must be cohesive so that the reader can understand the writer's intent and the meaning of the text. When the readers understand that, they will know what is discussed or the information in the text. What is discussed or the main information in the text is the topic.

The research will be presenting grammatical cohesion devices used in the article entitled *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus*. The reason

the writer chose this discussion because aspects of language and elements of discourse are closely related to grammatical cohesion. The relationship between one sentence and another in discourse forms a unity. The unity makes the text cohesive. One of cohesion is grammatical cohesion. The cohesion can be examined in article. From the explanation, the writer chose the title *Grammatical Cohesion of 'Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus' by Article 19 (Based on Halliday and Hasan's Theory)* of this research.

1.2 Statements of Problem

Grammatical cohesion is one of the important parts of the text to make every element of the text become unity and can be meaningful. The problem of grammatical cohesion cannot be separated from the types of grammatical cohesion devices themselves. The problem of this research is about grammatical cohesion devices used in *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* article. From the problem, the writer formulates that two questions that will be the main focus on this research, as follows:

1. What grammatical cohesion devices are employed in *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* article?
2. How do grammatical cohesion devices build the topic of *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* article?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the writer is intended:

1. To investigate the grammatical cohesion devices employed in *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* article.
2. To analyze how grammatical cohesion devices build the topic of *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* article.

1.4 Research Significances

The writer expects that the results of this study can be useful and bring some benefits for the use of language theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically, the writer expects this study can be used in enriching the knowledge and theoretical perspective in linguistics study specifically on grammatical cohesion.
2. Practically, this study can be employed in helping readers to analyze grammatical cohesion. It is also hoped that this study can be an empirical source for the next writers and readers who are concerned on grammatical cohesion. The writer also expects this study will be further developed by those who are interested in linguistic studies, especially in grammatical cohesion.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

Based on theoretical framework in this research, the writer provides definition of key terms.

1. Text

The term text refers to any part, spoken or written, of whatever length makes up a unity. The term 'text' refers to an example of any language, in any medium, that makes sense to someone who knows that language (Halliday & Hasan, 1976, p. 1).

2. Cohesion

This study uses the term cohesion to refer to the relationships in language that provide continuity in the text. Cohesion is the relationship between parts of the text which is characterized by the interpretation of some elements in discourse depends on that of another (Brown & Yule, 1983, p. 191).

3. Cohesive Devices

The term cohesive devices used in this study are devices of cohesion to create a unity of meaning in a text. Cohesive devices can be in the form of words, utterances, and phrases that exist in the text to make a unity of the text (Cook, 1989, p. 14).

4. Grammatical Cohesion

The term grammatical cohesion refers to the realization of cohesion through grammar (Halliday & Hasan, 1976, p. 6). It is grammatical devices that are used in spoken and written discourses and used to link word, phrase, and sentence to be unity (Halliday & Hasan, 1976, p. 9). This cohesion achieved

by elements and rules of grammatical between clauses and sentences in discourse.

5. Article

The term article refers to a piece of writing on a specific topic in newspapers or magazines, or the internet.

6. Article 19

The term Article 19 refers to the British human rights organization with a specific mandate and a focus on the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and information worldwide, which was founded in 1987.

1.6 Previous Studies

This research used previous research related to grammatical cohesion which aimed to strengthen the analysis in this research. There were some previous studies about grammatical cohesion. The first, study was made by Ainurrohman (2018). The title of the research was *Grammatical Cohesion Used by 4 Geniuses in "Scorpion" TV Series*. This study used a descriptive qualitative method focusing on the type of grammatical cohesion, the intended meaning, and the grammatical cohesion function used by 4 geniuses in the "Scorpion" TV Series. The theory applied by the writer was grammatical cohesion by Halliday and Hasan (1976). The results showed that there were grammatical cohesion found in this study, references, substitutions, ellipsis, conjunctions. Then this study found intended meaning of grammatical cohesion and the intended meaning of when the dialogue was uttered.

The second study was done by Rofiq'ah (2019). The title was *Grammatical Cohesion Analysis of Students' Essay Writing*. The method used by the writer was descriptive qualitative. This study focused on the types of grammatical cohesion found and the dominant grammatical cohesion types that were used in student's essay writing. The writer applied the theory of Halliday and Hasan in this research. The results of this study found that there were four types of grammatical cohesion contained in the writing of students' essays. They were references, substitutions, ellipsis, and conjunctions. Reference and conjunction became the dominant types that were used by the students in essay writing.

The third study was made by Ningsih (2019). This research was made under the title *An Analysis on Barack Obama's Speech Viewed from Grammatical Cohesion*. The study used descriptive qualitative method. The study focused on the types, dominant, and function of grammatical cohesion on Barack Obama's speech on November 2016. The results of this study showed there were types of grammatical cohesion found namely reference and conjunction. There also found three functions of grammatical cohesion found within the speech. The most grammatical cohesion used was reference with percentage 70,55% while conjunction it was 29,45%.

There are differences between the present research and the previous research. This research has different problem and object. The different problem from the previous research is how grammatical cohesion devices build the topic of the text. Then, the object of this research is an article entitled *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* that was published in Article 19 website. This

article was written in standard English. The article must be cohesive so that the reader can understand the writer's intent and the meaning of the text. For this reason, an article entitled *Viral Lies: Misinformation and the Coronavirus* can be studied and analyzed to determine the cohesion aspects contained in the article, especially grammatical cohesion. Furthermore, knowing aspects of grammatical cohesion can help readers understand the content of the text. In addition to knowing the cohesion aspect in this article, the writer also discusses how grammatical cohesion devices build the topic of the text.

