

A Study of Pakistani English Newspaper Texts: An Application of Halliday and Hasan's Model of Cohesion: A Discourse Analysis

Muhammad Afzaal¹, Kaibao Hu¹, Muhammad Ilyas Chishti² & Muhammad Imran¹

¹School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

²School of Natural Sciences, National University of Sciences and Technology, Islamabad, Pakistan

Correspondence: Muhammad Afzaal, School of Foreign Languages, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.
E-mail: muhammad.afzaal1185@gmail.com

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Abstract

This article aims to examine the patterns of each type of cohesive device in light of the cohesion model proposed by Halliday and Hasan in 1976. Halliday and Hasan identified five different types of cohesion: reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction and lexical cohesion in the text. This study uses the selected weekly articles authored by Cyril Almeida from well-known daily published English Newspaper “*The Daily Dawn*”. Analysis of text comprises Halliday and Hasan’s cohesion model, and analyzes linguistic techniques used in newspaper texts. The study finds repeated occurrences of cohesive devices such as referencing, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, and lexical cohesion. Moreover, reiteration is found to be the most frequently occurring cohesive device. Reference from grammatical cohesion also outnumbers all other subcategories of cohesion. In addition, many of the literary terms employed in articles make it diverse in uncovering some of the political contexts to the audience. Hence, it concludes that in the overall occurrences of lexical cohesion, reiteration and collocation are dominant; suggesting that the texts of selected news articles of Cyril Almeida are cohesive mainly because of lexical cohesion, i.e. semantic linkage through vocabulary rather than grammar.

Keywords: cohesion, newspaper discourse, occurrences, lexical cohesion

1. Introduction

A text usually consists of semantic units that combine to form a coherent set of messages conveying certain meanings. Semantically, a text constitutes a pattern of syntactic and semantic sentences forming a unified set of meanings joined together by the grammatical principles of language to form a meaningful or logical piece of writing. The study deals with textual analysis of English newspaper articles through the principles of cohesion proposed by Halliday and Hasan (1976), providing the detailed analysis of the techniques, structure of newspaper article and examination of lexical choices used by the author to communicate his message to the public while using some linguistic techniques. Cyril’s discourse of articles comprises many key literary terms such as, phrases, idiomatic expressions. Some literary terms and complex structures unmask the trivial issues of the state through his excessive use of complex language. This study uncovers his linguistic techniques used by the author in his articles.

Halliday (1976) referred to ‘text’ as a meaningful unit of language comprising particular stylistic or textual constituents (semantic and syntactic properties of text) that provides cohesiveness inside the text and makes the text function as a unified linguistic unit. Textual constituents regulate the straits and manners over which meaning is conveyed according to Halliday’s practical semantic approach to language. In other words, it can be said that the textual constituents play a role in determining the type of text that is being encountered by the reader. A text is a primary source on which interpretation can be drawn, i.e., it can be a magazine, a signboard, a novel, a conversation, a shirt, arrangement of furniture in a room, etc. Hence, text is anything which gives out a particular meaning or through which any meaning can be drawn according to the context or circumstance of the text.

Furthermore, a text can be comprehended through textual analysis helping linguists to define and understand the features of any written or spoken text. Nunan (1993) proposed that a text is analyzed to determine the construction, subject matter, and purpose of the meanings confined within it (p. 78). Choosing the kind of text to

be considered, obtaining one that is suitable and defining a specific method to be practiced in examination; are significant concerns in the textual analysis of a text. Whenever a text is analyzed a logical assumption about the utmost possible interpretation for the textual semantic and syntactic elements which can be made through the text are examined by the linguists. Analysis of the use of actual language is the ultimate goal of discourse comprehension of any writing. Michael Halliday (1994) defined writing as any reliable stretch of textual or spoken language which can be analyzed linguistically. Halliday (1994) further suggested that initially, the study of linguistics at sentence level included morphology and then examining the meaning of words leading to the connotation of language use. Though, he also agreed to an opposite approach that language can be comprehended if it is taken as an organization of meanings which are connected through deferent links for their expression. A language is interpreted as a system of meaning accompanied by forms through which the meanings can be expressed.

As stated above, there is a variety of textual components through which text can be analyzed. Dolnik and Bajzikova (1998) suggested that cohesive elements, coherent elements, contemporary associations, illocutionary construction and expressive purposes of the text are related to the product approach of it and focus on a text-as-a-product view; whereas text production, reception and interpretation are related to the process approach, hence focusing on the text-as-a-process viewpoint. News articles can be written and comprehended as a moderately independent piece of communication giving out a meaning while keeping in concern all the textual elements used in creating a skillful text. Communication is a way of meaning exchange, of which communication makes part of how experiences are construed (Hestbaek Andersen, Boeriis, Maagerø, & Tønnessen, 2015).

In this context, Halliday and Hasan (1976) recognized two important textual elements as important features for good writing which include cohesion and coherence (p. 75). Hence, if English language learners wish to be skilled newspaper article writers, the inclusion of principles of cohesion and coherence are necessary elements for their writings. Writing newspaper articles plays an important role in disseminating information to the people and the government, therefore, professional tactics are needed by the writers. Some of the characteristics adding to the disappointment or achievement in the publication of newspaper article writing include: data structure, schematization, explanatory moves, lexis, and substance. Likewise, cohesion plays a substantial role in creating an interest and consistency in any verbal or written text and helps in the analysis of the text.

1.1 News Article Writing

To facilitate various ideologies, especially when writing on up-to-date social issues, journalists have the supremacy to control the minds of their readers the way they want to through using headlines, lead, and the body of articles. Dijk (1988) proposed that a journalist usually tends to perform creativeness with headlines to express his philosophical vision related to the news story he wants to deliver because a headline is expected to be brief, appealing and attractive; though it is also observed that readers mostly recite and remember just the headline from the text of news story. The introduction of the news story is presented in the first sentence of the news story known as the lead, which contains the descriptions related to the idea commenced in the headline. Information to support and expound upon the proposed view of the news story details are presented in the body.

1.1.1 Direct Leads

Information can be presented either directly or indirectly through direct leads. News announcements or different developments or happenings that are released for the first time have mainly direct leads. “News-feature stories”, having a news theme but do not comprise the proximity of breaking news also have effective direct leads. Following qualities encompass the direct leads:

- 1) Tightness: One sentence of about 35 words covering the core news point.
- 2) Directness: To puts the news in context by the help of a main clause followed by a secondary part.
- 3) Simplicity: No use of unfamiliar terms or abbreviations and technical language that can give rise to the vagueness of the expression.
- 4) Context: Significance of the news converses.

1.1.2 Indirect Leads

Indirect technique is one of the techniques used to bring a delay in revealing the main points in the news story. It begins with unusual information and is more confusing or challenging because of no central news hook. It includes stories about human experiences rather than communicating or delivering an announcement. The following qualities encompass indirect leads:

- 1) Uncommon details are presented making the reader curious to want to know more.
- 2) Use of direct statement with sarcastic turn at the end that gives astonishment to the reader and raises interest.
- 3) An unusual prospect or scene is described.

1.1.3 Importance of News Articles

Newspaper articles are the best source to produce information. New ideas are developed by reading news articles; moreover, they also assist laymen in thinking and discussing different issues. The main subjects of broad awareness in newspaper articles consist of sports, politics, share market, economy, movies, etc. Newspaper articles also act as an important medium to control corruption in society as they inform us of political and social scams and frauds. In addition, they also raise voices against societal subjects such as the dowry system, child labor, gender discernment, and other taboo subjects, influencing society to avoid these activities and live in a sensible way. News articles are helpful to enhance the language capabilities of the reader i.e. reading, writing, and vocabulary and grammar abilities.

1.2 Research Objectives

- 1) To identify different types of cohesive devices applied in newspaper articles.
- 2) To determine the kind of cohesive device that provides major practical subscription for texture in the text of news articles.
- 3) To analyze Almeida's texts in the light of Halliday and Hasan model of cohesion.

1.3 Research Questions

- 1) What are the major cohesive devices proposed by Halliday and Hasan?
- 2) What are the impacts of cohesive devices on the construction of the meaning of the text?

2. Halliday and Hasan's Cohesion Model

Halliday and Hasan (1976) proposed that grammar and vocabulary are included in the lexico-grammatical system in which reference, substitution, conjunction, and ellipsis are part of the syntactic system whereas lexical cohesion is the part of vocabulary system. Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) termed language as is an interactive tool which employs linguistic techniques, and grammar to communicate specific meanings, such as expressing emotion or showing a writer's judgment (Bloor & Bloor, 2004, p. 11), even when the writer is not aware of it. While focusing on the role of power of language, Bloor and Bloor (2004) argued, "The exertion of power by individuals with certain social roles in particular social situations is often revealed in the form of language, as is the corollary, lack of power" (Bloor & Bloor, 2004, p. 229).

2.1 Referencing

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976), to retrieve the presupposed knowledge in a text, referencing takes place which identifies with the presupposed knowledge mentioned in the text to create cohesion. Eggins (1994) argued that throughout a text a writer can add participants or elements and keep track of them through referencing (p. 95). Referencing has three common types: homophoric referencing, which includes knowledge in the context of a culture which is shared information, exophoric referencing which includes knowledge in the context of a situation which is immediate, and lastly endophoric referencing which includes knowledge that is reclaimed from the text itself. Cohesion theory focuses on endophoric referencing and is further classified into 3 categories: cataphoric, euphoric and anaphoric. A reference which points in reverse to formerly indicated facts in a written discourse is known as an anaphoric reference. While any reference which points onwards to the knowledge given later in the text is known as a cataphoric reference. Any reference having a common nominal group following the presupposed item is known as a euphoric reference.

Furthermore; demonstrative, personal and comparative references are also three major cohesive references used practically in texts. By using nouns/pronouns e.g., "her, him, she, he" etc. or by using possessive determiners e.g., "yours, theirs, his, mine" etc. personal references maintain track of meaning over the speech situation. To maintain track of knowledge over location by using proximity references like "those, here, this, then, that" etc. are known as demonstrative references.

2.2 Ellipsis and Substitution

While referencing capacities track semantic meaning inside written discourse, ellipsis and substitution contrast this because they work to form language connection at the lexico-syntactic level. Ellipsis or substitution is utilized while an author or a speaker tends to dodge the repetition of a specific word or an expression by using

definite syntactic linguistic resources to substitute that specific word or expression (Bloor & Bloor, 1995, p. 96). To reflect the linguistic or grammatical effort, substitution or ellipsis has three sorts of classification: verbal, nominal, and clausal. The replaced element keeps a similar structural purpose as the presumed element whenever something is being substituted in the text. Words like “one and ones” substitute nouns and give rise to nominal substitution. A verb like “do” sometimes also used in conjunction “so” as in “do so” substitutes verbs and give rise to common verbal substitution.

2.3 Conjunction

A cohesive tie among sentences or clauses for the illustration of a sensible pattern between them in the text is indicated as conjunction (Bloor & Bloor, 1995). It goes about as a semantic firm bond inside discourse in 4 classes: casual, additive, temporal and adversative. To structurally match or bond by adding to the presumed element, additive conjunctions are indicated by “additionally, furthermore, too, also, and”, etc. They are also specified as “either, neither, nor, not”, etc. to negate the presupposed item. Words like “yet, only, but, though, in fact, rather”, etc. are known as adversative conjunctions and are used to show conflicts to expected situations.

2.4 Lexical Cohesion

According to Halliday (1976), lexical cohesion is non-syntactical and this is why it is differentiated from the rest of textual cohesion elements. The cohesion outcome accomplished or resulting through the choice of vocabulary is referred to as lexical cohesion. It gets established through the structure of vocabulary by means of new vocabulary elements which are connected in some manner to those vocabulary elements which occur formerly in the text. Therefore, lexical cohesion occurs between two words that get linked through relation to their meanings in a text. Collocation and reiteration make two primary lexical cohesion classifications.

3. Data and Method

The present study is qualitative, and data is collected from “*The Daily Dawn Newspaper*”. The study uses Cyril Almeida’s five weekly articles published in *The Daily Dawn* newspaper. The text of selected news articles was organized and improvised into numbered sentences. Data were examined by using the cohesion model of Halliday and Hasan (1976) presented earlier in this paper. Hasan (2015) spells out the role of language and its connection with a society which has a reciprocal relation, as a sign system “[it] enables meaning exchange in performance of social practices” (Hasan, 2015, p. 274). To examine the application and significance of the cohesive devices in the texts of news articles, cohesive devices were identified and comprehended as being existent in the selected texts contributing to their overall meaning. First, the collection or derivation of extracts from a newspaper in the form of news articles was conducted. Then, the texts of news articles were comprehensively read, and the whole text was converted in the form of a numbered sentences followed by placing the data for cohesion analysis through forming tables. For all the occurrences of cohesion, percentages were also counted respectively. In the end, a thorough analysis was conducted and results drawn from the analysis were discussed in the last section of this study.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Grammatical Cohesion Findings

From total occurrences of cohesive ties, grammatical cohesion appeared 183 times in the texts of selected news articles. Grammatical cohesion was contributed by reference, ellipses, substitution, and conjunctions. The findings for each type are given as follows:

4.2 Reference Findings

Reference was first among all types of grammatical cohesion but second from lexical cohesion in the texts of selected news articles. It was the most numerous type amongst all subclasses of cohesive connections next to reiteration and collocation from lexical cohesion. In the articles, referencing appeared 118 times with 36% of total incidences of cohesive links. Personal reference, demonstrative reference, and comparative reference were the three classifications or types of reference.

Table 1. Frequencies and percentages for different types of reference

No.	Reference type	Frequency	Percentage
1	Personal referencing	52	44.7 %
2	Demonstrative referencing	55	46 %
3	Comparative referencing	11	9.3 %
Total		118	100 %

Table 1 shows that demonstrative reference (that, those, here, this, then, that) occurred most frequently and appeared 55 times having the percentage of 46% out of 118 total occurrences of different reference types. Personal reference (she, he, her, his, they, you) was found to be the second most frequent type of reference, occurring 52 times and having the percentage of 44.7%. Comparative reference (better, more, else, similar, different, such, similarly) was identified as the least recurrent type of reference occurring 11 times and having the smallest percentage of 9.3%. Halliday (1994) defined referencing as the most cohesive type of cohesion (p. 312). To maintain track of participants all over the text, personal referencing is taken into account in the text whereas, to specify a “measure of vicinity” to the presumed item in the text, demonstrative reference is used and to show similarity or likeness between two items in the text comparative referencing is taken into account (Halliday & Hasan 1976, p. 57).

4.3 Conjunction Findings

Table 2. Frequencies and percentages for different types of conjunctions

No.	Conjunction type	Frequency	Percentage
1	Adversative	16	28%
2	Additive	22	39 %
3	Causal	19	33%
Total		57	100 %

Table 2 shows that the most recurrent grammatical cohesion after the reference was conjunction. It ranked second as most regularly occurring type of grammatical cohesion. It consisted of 57 occurrences from total grammatical cohesive links. It included adversative, additive, causal and temporal cohesion. Additive conjunctions appeared 22 times out of 57 occurrences of the total conjunctions with the percentage of 39%, hence being the most frequent type of conjunction. In second place, causal conjunctions appeared with 19 occurrences, having 33% percentage. In third, adversative conjunctions appeared with 16 occurrences and accounting for 28% percent. Temporal conjunction was 0%. Halliday (1996) suggested conjunction as a word which is used in a text when what is to follow is analytically linked to what has previously occurred; acting as a semantic unified association, serving to join the ideas within and between sentences or clauses (p. 310).

4.4 Ellipsis Findings

Table 3. Frequencies and percentages for different types of Ellipsis

No.	Ellipsis types	Frequency	Percentage
1	Nominal	2	40%
2	Verbal	0	0%
3	Clausal/phrasal	3	60%
Total		5	100 %

The above table shows that ellipsis ranked third in occurrence from all other types of cohesive devices used in the texts of selected news articles. Clausal/phrasal ellipsis occurred 3 times and nominal ellipsis occurred 2 times, whereas no verbal ellipsis was found. Halliday (1976) suggested ellipsis as missing information in the text which has to be interpreted by the reader by linking the missing information with the previous information provided in the text.

4.5 Substitution Findings

Table 4. Frequencies and percentages for different types of Substitution

No.	Substitution type	Frequency	Percentage
1	Nominal	1	33 %
2	Verbal	0	0%
3	Clausal/phrasal	2	67%
Total		3	100 %

Table 4 shows that depending on the number of occurrences, substitution was ranked fourth in grammatical cohesion after reference, conjunction and ellipsis in the texts of selected news articles. It was further sub-divided into a nominal, verbal and clausal substitution. Substitution mainly occurred as clausal/phrasal substitution having 2 out of 3 total occurrences at the percentage of 67%.

4.6 Lexical Cohesion Findings

Table 5. Frequencies and percentages for different types of lexical cohesion

No.	Types of lexical cohesion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Reiteration (repetition)	132	55%
2	Collocation	110	45%
Total		242	100 %

In the selected articles, lexical cohesion differs from other cohesive devices such as reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunctions, because in lexical cohesion the semantic link is formed through the use of vocabulary instead of grammar. Table 5 shows that lexical cohesion occupied first rank among all other types of cohesive devices in the texts of selected news articles with a total of 242 occurrences, from which 132 occurrences (55%) were of reiteration and 110 (45%) were of collocation. According to Halliday (1976), semantic link through vocabulary is formed through reiteration and collocation, which are the two significant patterns for achieving lexical cohesion. Reiteration occurs through repetition of the same items in the text, establishing semantic relation within and between sentences whereas collocation in the text occurs when different words with same contextual meaning are used to give rise to semantic bonding.

4.7 Grammatical Cohesion Analysis

It was observed that to establish a semantic link through the use of grammar, the type of cohesion used was grammatical cohesion. It was classified into 4 main types including reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction which were different from each other in establishing cohesive links within the text of news articles. In the selected news articles reference took the first rank followed by conjunction, substitution, and ellipsis.

4.8 Reference Analysis

Reference analysis showed semantic associations where the link between elements of text including words and sentences was found such that the presence of linked elements can be found elsewhere in a text and not immediate. The interpretation of referencing was found by sentence structure and concluded with the help of anaphoric or cataphoric means. However, the generally occurring reference was the anaphoric reference, where the reference came after its referred item. For example, in line 1, “THE ducks were in a row. Which have been dragged, kicked, shot and used to beat Nawaz over the head”, the word “they” from the second sentence referred to “the ducks” in the first sentence, hence taking in account anaphoric means for referring back to the preferred item for its referential connotation? In line 82, “The iqama is new, but the embarrassment of having to hang an ouster on it has forced attention away from it” the personal reference “it” referred back to “the iqama”.

However, cataphoric means of referencing employed that the reference must appear before its referred item. For example, in line 77, “IF he shuts up, they shut up” and line 83, “And, it seems, as long as Nawaz is willing to shut up—and possibly stay out of the country—they’re willing to shut up too”, it can be seen that first the reference “he” is mentioned in line 77, leaving the reader in doubt and curiosity to read more and find out what “he” referred to. The referred item for “he” was “Nawaz” which the reader found out earlier in the text in line 83.

4.9 Personal Reference Analysis

Through analyzing the texts of selected news articles, it was suggested that, by using personal pronouns for the reference of the category of a person, personal referencing including words like he, she, it, they, her, his, theirs, you, etc. were used. 52 occurrences of personal referencing were found in which the most frequently used was “it/its” having 16 occurrences, then there was the personal reference “their” having 13 occurrences, the pronouns “he” and “they” came in third place having 7 occurrences each, “his” appeared 5 times and other pronouns such as she, her, him, them, you, himself, we, and our occurred only once.

4.10 Demonstrative Referencing Analysis

In the selected articles, it was analyzed that demonstrative references were used to represent a scale of proximity or closeness between different items within the text. These references used words such as “this”, “these”, “here”, “that”, “those”, “there”. There were 55 occurrences of demonstrative reference giving it the first rank among all the types of reference cohesion in the selected news articles. For pointing to the things which show the proximity of one item to the other in the text, the demonstrative references such as “this” and “these” were used. Only 2 times “this” was used referring to an activity, kind of something, and reason for something; whereas the demonstrative reference “these” was used once, showing the thing in an amount representing the quantity of the thing. For example, in lines 149–151, “The state has often rightly been criticized for taking half-hearted actions against militants and their supporters of the sectarian and religious variety, despite the fact that these elements have played havoc with national security. This criticism seems particularly justified ...”, “this” in the second sentence demonstrates to the whole first sentence which is the criticism. Similarly, in lines 149–151, “The state has often rightly been criticized for taking half-hearted actions against militants and their supporters of the sectarian and religious variety, despite the fact that these elements have played havoc with national security”, the reference “these” demonstrates the elements which have played havoc with national security and those elements are the reference to “militants and their supporters of the sectarian and religious variety”.

Moreover, the demonstrative references “that” maintained the first rank as the most frequently occurring demonstrative reference with 18 instances. Whereas, the reference “those” occurred 4 times. Both these demonstrative references “that” and “those” were taken into account when there was pointing to the things which are far from the speaker. For example, in lines 125–128, the reference “that” refers to the previous sentence in the text which is “The civilians had the temerity recently to speak of past national sins and the need to move the state off the path of non-state jihad”. In lines 192–193, “They were held back from the occasion by the demands of security, of privilege, of the protocol—all those considerations that meant not a whit to the man who was being honored”, “those” refers to “of security, of privilege, of protocol”.

4.11 Comparative Reference Analysis

After analyzing comparative references from the text of selected news articles it was suggested that to use a reference as a means of similarity or identity; comparative references including adjectives like “different, same better, more, else, similar, different, same” and adverbs like “such, otherwise, so, more, similarly” was used in the texts of selected news articles. To show likeness or similarity between two elements in a text, comparative referencing, which in itself is a referential characteristic, was taken into account. There were 11 incidences of comparative references occurring in the selected news articles. For example, in lines 16–17, “A judgement knocking out a prime minister who was popular enough to be the favorite for re-election is more popular with the people than the prime minister that has been ousted”, the comparative reference “more” tells about the judgement which knocked out the PM to be more popular with people than the PM himself suggesting the comparison between the popularity of judgment knocking out PM among the people and the popularity of PM himself. Similarly, in lines 74–75, “Nawaz is gone, but the others should pay heed: practice a modern politics or suffer the same fate as the mightiest that has fallen”, the reference “same” refers to similar fate “as the mightiest”, i.e. the PM, hence showing the link of similarity between these two elements.

4.12 Substitution Analysis

From the textual analysis of selected news articles, it was suggested that to avoid repetition of the lexical item and to replace that item, the type of cohesion which was used was known as a substitution. It was further divided into three classifications: verbal, nominal and clausal. There were 3 instances of substitution in the selected news articles of this research out of which 2 were a clausal substitution, replacing clauses or sentences; 1 was nominal substitution replacing a noun; whereas no verbal substitution was found. For example, in lines 13–14, “Verdict will stick because it is one thing above all else: popular. Popular with the people” the word “one” substitutes the noun “verdict” so that the repetition of the noun could be avoided. Similarly, in lines 225–228, “That makes sense: institutional self-preservation, internal predominance and the protection of corporate interests mean that the military here can’t want war with India. Needing an enemy is different from fighting that enemy unconstrained.

4.13 Ellipsis Analysis

From the analysis of selected news articles, it was proposed that to maintain the relationship within the text by neglecting a noun, a verb or a clause cohesive device known as ellipsis was used, in which the exclusion was substitution by nothing. In ellipsis, the reader had to interpret and link the missing information to the previous part of the text when something was left “unsaid” in text. Most of the ellipsis used in the anaphoric way for their

reference in which something written in a previous part of the text was omitted and had to be interpreted by the reader afterward in the text to create the effect of cohesion. In the text of selected news articles, there were 5 instances of ellipsis in which 3 were of clausal ellipsis and 2 were of nominal ellipsis. For example, in lines, 5–6, “There’s no precedent for unwinding a Supreme Court judgement during a democratic spell and there won’t be”, the noun “precedent” is not repeated at the end of sentence and there is left something missing after “won’t be” hence giving rise to nominal ellipsis.

4.14 Conjunction Analysis

Cohesion analysis suggested that there were some cohesive devices which formed cohesive ties between clauses or sections of text in such a way as to establish a meaningful arrangement between them, these cohesive devices were known as conjunctions. In the selected news articles, when what is to follow was analytically linked to what had previously transpired a text, conjunctions acted as semantic unified associations, serving to join the ideas within and between sentences or clauses. Adversative, additive, temporal and causal were the four kinds of conjunctions used in selected news articles. To indicate something “contrary to expectation” adversative conjunctions were used and indicated by the words such as “but, however, etc.”. In the selected news articles, when new elements were coordinated or linked in addition to the presupposed element by adding to the previous elements; additive conjunctions were used and were represented by “and, or, moreover etc.”. Moreover, in stating a result, reason, and purpose; causal conjunction was used and were represented by “for, because, if, etc.”. There were total 57 occurrences of conjunctions giving it second rank as most frequently occurring grammatical cohesion after reference. Out of the 57, most occurring type of conjunctions were additive with 22 instances, at second rank there were causal conjunctions having 19 instances, and at last adversative conjunctions occurred in 16 instances. For example, in lines 159–161, “To defeat terrorism in the long run, moves such as the ones mentioned must be sustained and complemented by other acts that deprive hatemongers and sectarian demagogues of access to funds and space and the liberty to preach their divisive message”, the conjunction “and” is used several times to join different parts of sentence. In lines 218–219 the conjunction “if” is used to connect the specific purpose to the sentence purpose, “The past isn’t necessarily the future and if you look hard enough, there’re signs of change in how those constituent units behave”.

4.15 Lexical Cohesion Analysis

The analysis in the appendix section 3 showed lexical cohesion as the kind of cohesion that established semantic association using vocabulary. Reiteration and collocation were the two classifications of the lexical cohesion. Lexical cohesion outnumbered all other types of grammatical cohesion in the text of selected news articles under examination, with a total of 242 occurrences, from which 132 occurrences were of reiteration and 110 were of collocation.

4.16 Reiteration Analysis

In the selected texts, reiteration occurred through repetition of same items in the text, in a way that semantic relation within and between sentences was established using the recurrences of words, phrases or clauses with same structure and meaning. Moreover, in reiteration, there was no need to employ the context to understand the meanings of reference as done in other cohesive devices, making it the easiest cohesive relation to be analyzed or comprehended by the reader. For example, in lines 22–23, “Hating politicians is as old as politics. In Pakistan, there’s an added edge: the urban, middle-class, educated cohort that sneers at all things politics and wears its dislike of politicians with pride”, the words “politics” and “politicians” are repeated in both the sentences. Similarly, in lines 70–71, “Busy practicing an anachronistic politics, the caricature of a corrupt, dynastic, and out-of-touch ruler grew and grew until it was too late”, the word “grew” is repeated for emphasis. In lines 212–213, “Because the four have never aligned in the right way, there has been no peace. Conversely, and quite happily, the four have never aligned in the wrong way either”, the phrase “the four never aligned” is repeated creating reiteration.

4.17 Collocation Analysis

It was also suggested that the words which were not same in structure, meaning or sometimes did not even share same grammatical category but came under the same context of the given talk or text in the selected news articles formed collocation. In the texts of the selected news articles, it was observed that when a word which was similar in context (i.e., contextual meaning) to a word which came before it in the text, gave rise to collocation. Collocation linked different vocabulary items to each other hence forming a semantic link. For example, in line 1, “THE ducks were in a row. They’ve been **dragged, kicked, shot** and used to **beat** Nawaz over the head”, the bold words though having a slight difference in their actual meanings show the same contextual meaning of a harsh activity. Similarly, in lines 64–66, “And then there was the disregard for

institutions, **democratic** and in the **executive**, and the centralization of **power**. It didn't bother the N-League's base, but for the angry cohort, it symbolized corruption at the heart of the Sharif **Empire**", the bold words come under the context of governance and share same contextual meaning, though their individual meaning slightly differ from each other. In lines 167–168, "Firstly, what does the state plan to achieve in the long run? Will the affected individuals be brought to **court**, **investigated** and **prosecuted** if found **guilty** of spreading hatred and division?" The bold words having different meanings and grammatical categories belong to the contextual meaning of crime. Moreover, in lines 222–223, "Whatever you believe about whom in **Pakistan** green-lighted **Mumbai**, **Pathankot** or **Uri**, you can't believe that the purpose was to trigger war", the bold words share the same contextual meaning of place.

4.18 Discussions

Grammatical cohesion was observed in the selected news articles for establishing a semantic link through the use of grammar. Reference showed semantic associations where the link between elements of text including words and sentences was found as such that the presence of linked elements was found elsewhere in a text and not immediate. For instance, in line 1, the pronoun "They" referred back to "The ducks" to form a semantic link which was not immediate as both the words are in different sentences.

Moreover, substitution was used in the news articles to avoid repetition of lexical items. For example, in lines 225–228, the word "same" substituted the previous sentence in the text to avoid its repetition. From the analysis, it was also proposed that in the conservation of the association within text through the deliberate ignorance of a noun, a verb or a clause, the cohesive device which was used was known as ellipsis; in which the omission was not contributed by a substitute word or group of words.

Furthermore, lexical cohesion established semantic associations using vocabulary in the text of news articles, hence differentiating from grammatical cohesion in which the semantic links were formed through the use of grammar. Reiteration and collocation were the two classifications of lexical cohesion. Reiteration occurred through repetition of the same items in the text in a way that semantic relation within and between sentences was established using the recurrences of words, phrases or clauses with same structure and meaning. For example, in lines 212–213, the expression "the four have never aligned" was repeated as it is in both the sentences. Collocation occurred in the texts of selected news articles, when a word which was similar in context (i.e., contextual meaning) to a word which came before it in the text. Collocation linked different vocabulary items to each other hence forming semantic link, for instance in lines 167–168, the words such as "court", "investigated", "prosecuted" and "guilty" having different meanings and even grammatical categories belonging to same contextual meaning of crime.

5. Conclusion

In this study textual analysis of selected news articles was performed by taking into account the cohesion model of Halliday and Hasan presented in 1976. Different types of cohesive devices were identified in the text of the 5 selected news articles of Cyril Almeida. The analysis for each type of cohesive device in creating semantic links in the text of selected news articles was also performed. Findings showed lexical cohesion as the most frequently used cohesive device in the selected news articles among all other types of cohesion. In lexical cohesion reiteration (repetition) outnumbered all other subtypes of cohesive devices.

Furthermore, through lexical cohesion, the cohesion analysis of selected news articles was easy to perform as the choice of vocabulary was detected easily during lexical cohesion analysis, rather than the links which were formed through text structure or grammar in grammatical cohesion analysis. Hence, lexical cohesion made the text coherent by making semantic association more explicit or clear in the selected news articles suggesting that the selected news articles were comprehended or understood with more ease through lexical cohesion analysis than grammatical cohesion analysis. The cohesive associations which were formed through grammatical cohesive devices were implicit or difficult to analyze as they were linked by the sentence structure or syntax which was different for various sentences in the selected news articles. Moreover, difficulty in analyzing the selected text through grammatical cohesion also occurred because in grammatical cohesion previous information in the selected text has to be interpreted and linked with the new information in the text to decode the meaning. In addition, it was also concluded that as the selected news articles were different in terms of the amount of cohesive devices in them, comprehension or understanding of the article was problematic when the article had low cohesion (i.e., a smaller number of cohesive ties). When the cohesive connections in selected articles were less, interpreting or filling of the gaps among the ideas in the texts of selected articles was difficult, resulting in unsuccessful comprehension and frustration on the part of the reader. In contrast, the text of the article was easily

comprehended through the interpretation of lexical and grammatical cohesion when cohesive ties were in more quantity in an article.

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