

EXAMINING COHERENCE IN THE DESCRIPTIVE TEXT OF CRISTIANO RONALDO IN WORK IN PROGRESS TEXT BOOK

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Abstract

English is one of the main languages that is used in communication, while Coherence is an aspect that is very important in a text, where it becomes the main guide in guiding the reader to be able to receive the information within the text without misleading the reader about the content of the text. This research Coherence in the Descriptive Text with title Cristiano Ronaldo inside a student text book namely Work in Progress. The data are analyzed through qualitative research design to emphasize literature review methods for exploring meaning and contexts through thorough analysis of non-numeric data. The data collection involved segmentation of the text into sentences and identification of instances of coherence elements. Each of the four elements repetition, transitional words, pronouns and logical order, the elements then categorized into tables based on its type. The descriptive text "Cristiano Ronaldo" from the book Work in Progress shows strong coherence through the use of transitional words, repetition of key nouns, and various types of pronouns. This effectively highlights the important point of the text, making the descriptive text easy to understand.

Keywords: Cristiano Ronaldo; Descriptive text; Textbook analysis.

INTRODUCTION

English is one of the main languages that is used in communication. English has become an essential language to learn in order to adapt to current development. Rao (2019) stated that because of its universal characteristics, English has been embraced as the global language by speakers of thousands of different languages. This will become a challenge for students, particularly for those who learn English as a foreign language (EFL). There are a lot of ways for EFL students to learn English either in a formal or fun way. Skinner (1957) suggests that language learning is a routine developed similarly to other behavioral patterns, achievable through consistent practice. In the formal way English can be learned through textbooks and supplementary books. In a fun way students can utilize their hobbies to learn English such as listening to music, playing games, watching movies, reading novels, or etc.

Coherence is an aspect that is very important in a text, where it becomes the main guide in guiding the reader. According to Halliday and Hasan (1976) Coherence refers to the method of connecting a series of clauses or sentences to the available context in the text. Coherence also

becomes the link between paragraphs to maintain the readability of text. According to Almaden (2006) effective writing necessitates unity, coherence, and sufficient development, with coherence being the most essential aspect.. Because of that, In educational setting it is important to ensure coherence in students' reading material, since it is essential for students' comprehension.

As logically as possible, the reader may proceed from a single idea, sentence, or paragraph to the next, all because of how coherence works. According to Thornbury (2005), for readers to fully understand a text in its entirety, writers must first establish the context of the text. It implies that when authors address a topic, they have a responsibility to clearly describe the circumstance to ensure the readers can establish the connection between the context of the text and prior knowledge in their minds. Five techniques for writing coherently were given by Sherman et al. (2010) such as to link concepts, phrases, and paragraphs through repetitions, transitional words, parallel structures, pronouns, and also apply synonyms to help maintain variety while creating connections between concepts.

Numerous studies and academia have highlighted the challenges and issues that EFL learners encounter when creating and producing coherent texts. In an EFL context, Han & Hiver (2018), Hynninen (2018), and Lee (2002) offered some insight into the challenges that students have while trying to create and master a consistently coherent text. It was highlighted by Alodwan & Ibnian (2014) that the most challenging part of writing for EFL students was most likely coming out with cohesive texts. In addition, Saud (2016) looked over fifty texts that were written by Saudi Arabian EFL students. She noticed that they were incapable of putting together an English paragraph that seemed to make sense. It seemed as though these texts were distinguished by a lack of coherence, an inadequate vocabulary, and a poor usage of cohesive devices. Connected to the aforementioned instances, Cavdar & Doe (2012) claimed that a significant portion of students' common difficult writing issues can be attributed to the system of education.

The textbook "Work in Progress: Bahasa Inggris," designed for tenth-grade students, serves as one of resources for learning English in many high schools across Indonesia. It includes various types of texts, including descriptive ones, to help students enhance their reading and writing abilities. Among these texts is a descriptive text titled "Christiano Ronaldo," which introduces students to one of the most famous football players globally. This text not only provides cultural and factual knowledge but also serves as an example for students in learning descriptive text. However, there is still a need to examine whether this text meets the standard of coherence, as this aspect can significantly affect the effectiveness of learning material. If the text lacks coherence, students can face a struggle to gather the information in the text.

This study focuses on examining the coherence of a descriptive text titled "Cristiano Ronaldo" from the textbook *Work in Progress: Bahasa Inggris*, which is intended for tenth-grade

students. The study's objective is to determine whether this particular text meets coherence standards, making it suitable for use as a teaching tool. If the text meets coherence standards, it would serve as a valuable model for students, helping them grasp how to organize and present descriptive information.

METHODOLOGY

This study adopts a qualitative research design to emphasize on literature review methods for exploring meaning and contexts through thorough analysis of non-numeric data. This study is a presentation of a descriptive paragraph entitled 'Cristiano Ronaldo' from Work In Progress: Bahasa Inggris textbook. This research refers to Sherman et al. (2010) for Coherence Theory on the four basic elements of coherence; that is repetition, transitional words, pronouns and logical order. These elements were examined in relation to how clear, flowy and generally useful the passage is for teaching and learning purposes. The data collection involved segmentation of the text into sentences and identification of instances of coherence elements. Each of the four elements repetition, transitional words, pronouns and logical order, the elements then categorized into tables based on its type. The frequency of each piece was analyzed to establish its dominance and patterns across the text.

FINDINGS

After evaluating the evidence, the researchers determine what caused the clause or sentence to appear coherent in the written text. This was evidenced by the characteristics of coherence that can be discovered in the reading material. Therefore, After reviewing the reading material, the researcher conducted the following analysis backed by the characteristics provided by Sherman et al. (2010):

Table 1: The Distribution of Coherence's Characteristics

Coherence's Characteristics	Findings	Number
Repetition of key nouns	And	4
	Also	2
	Because	1
	Since	1
	Sometimes	1
	Until	1
	Or	1

	But	1
	While	1
	In addition to that	1
Transitional Words	Football	4
	Player(s)	3
	Goal	3
	Records	2
Pronoun	He	11
	His	8
	Him	2
	Himself	2
	This	3
	That	5
	These	1
Parallel Structure	Challenge	1
	Very fast	1
	Approximately	1
	higher that of cheetah	1
	more compared to any basketball player	1
	Prestigious	1
	Net worth	1

Based on the researchers' analysis, it is evident that the descriptive text "Christiano Ronaldo" in the book "Work in Progress," contains elements of coherence. Regarding transitional words, the word "and" occurs four times which serves as an additive conjunction that connects associated ideas and adds more detail to the telling of Cristiano Ronaldo's successes. The double appearance of the word "also" provides more context for the information presented in the earlier sentence(s). In addition, there are other transitional words that only occur once such as "because",

“since”, “sometimes”, “until”, “or”, “but”, “in addition to that”, and “while”. One of the examples is in the text in line 12: “...use their respective legs to score goals but Ronaldo can easily use both of his legs efficiently to make goals.” The second characteristic is the use of repetition, specifically in key nouns. The four appearances of the word “football” serve to further establish Cristiano Ronaldo as the main subject matter. Furthermore, the word “player” appears three times, like in line 7: “He also challenged himself by playing along with older players.” In addition, the word “records” appear twice, and the word “goal” is included three times. By keeping the focus on Ronaldo’s successes and skills, these repeated nouns provide the text with more coherence and clarity.

The third characteristic is the use of pronouns. In an effort to maintain narrative coherence and clarity throughout the text, several pronouns are utilized in the text of Cristiano Ronaldo. Personal pronouns for example, that includes “he,” “him” and “his” are used, in particular “he” which is used eleven times in the text. This pronoun is usually used for Ronaldo, that is to avoid repetition in the text, but keeping attention on him. For instance, the sentences, “...train very hard since his childhood” and, “All of these helped him achieve his success” demonstrate how these pronouns link with the context of the text. A form of pronoun of “He”, under reflexive pronouns, “himself” used to emphasize Ronaldo's self-driven effort such as, “Sometimes, he even trained himself continuously from morning until evening.”. Next is demonstrative pronouns that include “that” and “this”, which point to specific activities or characteristics as in, “That is why he is also known as a rocket man.” and “This helps Ronaldo do his famous free-kick,” so that there is a coherent flow of ideas. The last is possessive pronouns such as “his” mention relationship, dependencies or ownership as in, “He used to train very hard since his childhood” and “Currently his net worth is around \$500 million.” Using these pronouns effectively, the text creates a cohesive flow, preventing redundancy and ensuring readers can easily follow the descriptions of Ronaldo’s life, skills, and achievements.

The last characteristic In Cristiano Ronaldo text parallel structure, this characteristic plays a key role in enhancing clarity and flow. For instance, first is highlighting his dedication with the use of “challenge” in the sentence “he even trained himself continuously from morning until evening.” And, “He also challenged himself by play with older players”, this sentence utilizes parallelism by balancing the actions of training himself continuously and challenging himself by playing. This emphasizes the dedication of Ronaldo's in soccer, in this sentence his discipline in training are connected and show a clear progression to his strive in furthering his skill in soccer. Similarly, in the cluster of sentences, Ronaldo’s versatility and skills as a footballer is highlighted. First in the parallel structure of “he can use both of his legs efficiently to score goals” and “he also can use his head to score as well.” The text draws a comparison between

Ronaldo's speed and jumping ability with sentences like, "he can run very fast, he run with a speed of 33.6 kilometers/hour," where the use of word "very fast" followed with data of Ronaldo's skill to emphasize his skill. Additionally, his jumping power and height that drawing comparisons to "cheetah's" G-force when running and comparing his jumping height to professional basketball players. In this cluster of sentences the text is listing every skill by giving comparisons that highlight his prowess and emphasize his versatility in playing soccer. Ronaldo's achievements are also presented through parallel structure, such as winning many trophies and breaking many records, which further illustrate his success. This are highlighted with the word "prestigious" in the sentence "...winning the prestigious FIFA Ballon d'Or award five times" and for records he broken is highlighted with sentence like "created a world record by scoring the most goals in 2021" This achievement, also includes his financial wealth, that highlighted with word "net worth" in the sentence "...his net worth is around \$500 million" with highlights his success this keep maintain the logical order after the text previously highlights his skilli. the consistent use of parallel structure in the text allows for clearer communication, emphasizing the various facets of Ronaldo's skill and accomplishments.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

English is one of the main languages at the same time it is needed to be able to adapt with the current development. On the other hand, coherence becomes the main guide in guiding the reader while also becoming the link between paragraphs to maintain the readability of text. Coherence allows the reader to logically progress from one thought to another, from sentence to sentence, and from paragraph to paragraph.. For readers to fully understand a text in its entirety, writers must first establish the context of the text. It implies that when authors address a topic, they have a responsibility to clearly describe the circumstance to ensure the readers can establish the connection between the context of the text and prior knowledge in their minds.

Based on the findings of this study, the author of The descriptive text "Cristiano Ronaldo" from the book *Work in Progress* shows strong coherence through the use of transitional words, repetition, and pronouns. These maintain the clarity of the text and emphasize the goal of the text to be written, and ensure the flow of ideas throughout the text. This coherence effectively highlights the important point of the text, making the descriptive text easy to understand, while also reducing the interruption of flows in reading. This research covers mostly on the coherence of the text. Suggestion for the next researcher that is interested in the same or similar text to not only cover the coherence but also the cohesion of the text. This due to coherence and cohesion has strong relation to each other in the term of writing skill.

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