

# 1. An Analysis of Grammatical Cohesion Found in Barack Obama's Speech

*by Anhar Anhar*

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## An Analysis of Grammatical Cohesion Found in Barack Obama's Speech

<sup>1)</sup>Faroz Hizbullah, <sup>2)</sup>Seno H Putra, <sup>3)</sup>Andi Idayani

<sup>1)2)</sup> Universitas Islam Riau

Email: <sup>1)</sup>farozhizbullah02@gmail.com <sup>2)</sup>senoputra70@yahoo.com

<sup>3)</sup>andiidayani@edu.uir.ac.id

### ABSTRACT

*The purpose of this research was to find out the types of grammatical cohesion device in Barack Obama' speech Grammatical cohesion deals with grammatical and semantic connections. Grammatical cohesion belongs to the various grammatical devices that can be used to make relations between one sentence and the other sentences to be more explicit. Based on the theory by Halliday and Hassan (1976) provide the basic categories of grammatical cohesion pointing that can systematize this concept by classifying it into a small number of distinct categories. They are Reference, Substitution, Ellipsis and Conjunction. In this research, the researcher was conducted to analyze about grammatical cohesion device especially in Barack Obama The Ex President of USA. The research design of this research was descriptive research by using qualitative approach. This was based on investigating involving description, calculating and analysis. There was only one variable in the research namely Grammatical Cohesion. The researcher took the data by downloading five selected episodes of speech led by Barack Obama. It was about 5 appendix of utterances between the Speaker and the Hearer in Barack Obama Speech in Public. The findings of this research showed that found some utterances of Barack Obama in those five chosen episodes. Based on the data analysis, there are found References about 77 data. The researcher found Substitution about data of this research. Furthermore, researcher found Ellipsis about 4 data of this research. Then, Conjunction found in this research around 59 data. The most frequent strategy used by Barack Obama is References, most frequently used References and Conjunction.*

**Keywords:** Grammatical Cohesion, Barack Obama, Speech.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

English is extremely important in today's world since it is used as a medium of communication in a variety of situations. For example, they utilize it in magazines, newspapers, the internet, advertisements, and some television programs such as movies, Youtube, talk shows, and so on. As a result of the globalization period, it is critical for us to learn English, particularly for students.

Nonetheless, due to a variety of causes, students and others find it difficult to grasp English at times. One of the challenges is that pupils have trouble understanding the meaning of the sentences. It is difficult to comprehend the meaning of a sentence in a written or spoken language. As a result, students must examine the meaning of the phrase by understanding the relationship between sentences in written text or utterances in spoken text. They should be aware of the text's

cohesiveness in order to have a better understanding of it. In Linguistics, one of the aspects to consider is cohesion. Linguistic is about language, one of the branches of linguistics that is appearing in the text, and has function in comprehend text is discourse analysis.

When it comes to discourse analysis, linguistics refers to language learning grammar and structure. Discourse is the study of sentence analysis, and it not only describes sentence construction but also the overall composition of a document. It's all about how sentences are put together to produce text. The cornerstone of a discourse analysis, according to discourse analysis, is cohesion and coherence.

In general, speech and public speaking refer to the capacity to communicate in front of an audience. The communication practice of a speaker for the purpose of communicating ideas with an audience is referred to as public speaking. The purpose of public speaking is to communicate one's perspective or to provide an overview of a topic or event that should be discussed. Speech is one of the actions of public speaking. Graduation speeches, leadership speeches, religious speeches, orations, and presidency formal speeches are all types of speeches. The objectives are to influence, encourage, educate, explain, and provide information to individuals in specific locations.

Furthermore, there are various things that may be said in a speech, such as condolences, a declaration of concern, or a campaign. In order to examine, there are several speeches that demonstrate some grammatical cohesiveness. Barack Obama, the former president of the United States, is one of the world's most well-spoken public speakers.

The research objectives are : 1). To

find out what kinds of gramatical cohesion device used by Barack Obama in his formal speech. And 2). To determine the grammatical cohesion used dominantly in the speech text of Barack Obama was taken in youtube videos.

Linguistics is the study of language. Muhammad (2014:111), linguistics is the study of language. When it comes to linguistics, there is a need for a model language that reflects how language is structured in the mind and how social structures of human communities impact language, as well as how language reflects those structures in expression and interpretation. Linguistics, according to Edward Finegan (2008:22), is the systematic study of human language, its structures, and their relationships, as well as the evolution and learning of language.

Every language serves to deliver information first and foremost in communication. When communicating, humans employ symbols, gestures, mimics, voice quality, pitch range, and other signals in addition to spoken or written words. All of these signals assist the addressee in receiving and comprehending the message, as well as understanding the meaning of the improved message. On the other hand, it does not always employ gestures and mimics to aid with the comprehension of information. It is not possible to perceive such signals in the written. Nonetheless, even with written word, there must be some hints of meaning. Similar to how a psychologist can decipher the meaning of a certain gesture, a linguist can decipher the meaning of a text, whether written or spoken, on several levels. Discourse analysis is the name of the discipline.

M. Knapp & J. Daly (2002:102) define that Discourse analysis is the systematic study of naturally occurring (not hyporhetical) communication in the

broadest sense, at the level of meaning (rather than as physical acts or features). Van Dijk (1997) in M. Snapp Journal (2002:103) points out that the term discourse is commonly used to refer to a particular form of language use (for example: public speeches) or more generally to spoken language or ways of speaking. Additionally, Cook (1989:6) wrote that discourse is the study about how the rules of language work, and another which has been used to communicate something and is felt to be coherent.

Discourse analysis is the study of how speakers integrate sentences to form a border speech unit. Discourse is the study of how language is combined and interwoven; activities, relationships, ways of thinking, believing, written texts of all types, and spoken facts, ranging from casual conversation to highly institutionalized forms of discourse. Discourse analysis, according to McCarthy (1991:5), is concerned with the study of the link between language and the context in which it is used. Discourse, on the other hand, encompasses not just words (spoken or written), but also other forms of communication, such as visual imagery and nonverbal actions (for example: gestures). Discourse analysis, according to Schiffirin (2009:8), entails the examination of both text and context.

The term "cohesion" is used often throughout the book. It is a component of a language's system. The network of lexical, grammatical, and other relationships that create ties between different portions of a text is known as cohesion. Denise's recitation of cohesion is a surface relation that unites the actual words or sentences that we can see or hear (Baker, 1992: 180). (2001:5). Cohesion is one facet of the study of texture, which investigates the

interplay of cohesion with other dimensions of text structure, according to Deborah Schiffirin and Heidi E. Hamilton (2001: 35).

Grammatical cohesion is concerned with the grammatical and semantic links between words. Grammatical cohesiveness is a term that refers to the numerous grammatical strategies that may be employed to make the relationships between sentences more evident. The fundamental categories of grammatical cohesion pointing, based on Halliday and Hassan's (1976) approach, can formalize this idea by dividing it into a limited number of discrete types. Reference, Substitution, Ellipsis, and Conjunction are the four terms.

- a. Reference is a point in English grammar that allows you to create surface linkages between phrases. Hidayat (2016:3) defines reference as when one term refers to another. It creates meaning by using signaling things such as words or components. However, it is not about the semantic meaning of reference; rather, it is about the referential meaning, which is required to describe what signaling elements. Halliday and Hassan define reference as the relationship between an element of the text and something else by reference to which it is understood in the given instance (1976:308). Because the entity that provides the source of the interpretation may be a text element, it's a possible cohesive relation.
- b. *Substitution* is a way for avoiding textual repetition. Substitution, according to Halliday and Hassan (1976:89), is a connection at the lexico-grammatical level, the level

of grammar and vocabulary, or linguistic form. It occurs when one aspect in a text takes the place of another previous word or expression. Substitution is the replacement of one item by another.

c. *Ellipsis*, is the absence of a word or a portion of a phrase. Because ellipsis is the replacement of parts inside a text by nothing, Halliday and Hasan's (1976) concerns about ellipsis and substitution are extremely similar.

d. *Conjunction*, according to Hidayat (2016:6), connects sentences and makes them more compact. Conjunctions belong to a tiny class of words that have no distinct form and serve primarily as nonmovable construction words that connect such things as parts of speech, phrases, or clauses.

## 2. METHOD

A study should be planned, and the study should be designed. The qualitative descriptive approach was applied in this study. Qualitative research, according to Rugaiyah (2016:1), is study that focuses on describing a phenomena and frequently employs analysis. In general, qualitative research entails delving deeply into concepts, reasoning, and viewpoints. According to Sudaryanto (1993:44) in Dr. book, Rugayah's Pengantar Penelitian Kualitatif, descriptive analysis is a method for investigating ideas or products of human thought that have been contained in print media, both in the form of primary manuscripts and secondary texts, by conducting critical studies of them.

A qualitative method, according to Himala Putra (2014:32), is a research design that, in its analysis, always explains and describes in full the data received from the sample, informants, and study objects using language sentences. Instrument is a tool / thing used by researchers to acquire data from samples, informants, or objects researched, according to Himala Putra (2014:36). The researcher, laptop, and internet connection are all critical components of this study. It means that the researcher was directly involved in gathering data, identifying data, analyzing data, and disseminating the findings from the YouTube channel.

First, the researcher need internet connection and open Youtube Application to find out the speech videos of Barack Obama. Second, researcher try to select some good videos to analyze and then downloade the choosen videos on Youtube in order to ease the analysis. Third, after downloading the videos, the researcher watch and rewatch the videos to get transcripts of the speech uttered in the video as the data of this research.

This research will take in the researchers' own comfortable zone because the data was analyzed by watching several choosen video and analyzing speech script.

## 3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Data Description

The data of this research were Types of Grammatical Cohesion in Barack Obama Speech. There were four kinds of grammatical cohesion of device; reference, Substitution, and Conjunction.

In this case, Barack Obama as the speaker of President Speech uses four different that uttered in each five choosen episodes. Those strategies

will be showed briefly in the following table:

Table 1 Types of Grammatical Cohesion Used

Types of Grammatical Cohesion Used	Barack Obama Utterance
1. Substitution	
a. Nominal Substitution	✓
b. Verbal Substitution	✓
c. Causal Substitution	✓
2. Ellipsis	✓
a. Nominal Ellipsis	
b. Verbal Ellipsis	
c. Causal Ellipsis	
3. Conjunction	✓
a. Additive Conjunction	✓
b. Adversative Conjunction	✓
c. Causal Conjunction	✓
d. Temporal Conjunction	✓

#### Data Analysis

In this sub-chapter, the researcher would like to describe the deeper analysis of Grammatical Cohesion used by Barack Obama in his speech in the other chance. To make the analysis easier to be read, the researcher would like to divide the analysis in each type of Grammatical Cohesion.

##### a. Reference

- Michelle Lavaughn Robinson, girl of the south side, for the past 25 years, **you** have not only been my wife and my mother.
- **You** have not only been my wife

and my mother.

- **You** have not only been my wife and my mother of my children.
- **You** have been my bestfriend **You** took a rule
- **You** didn't ask for
- **You** didn't ask for and made it for **your** own with Grace and with Grit
- **You** made the White House a place that belongs to everybody
- A new generation set it's sight higher because it has **you** as a role model
- So **you** have made me proud

The sentences number 1 until number 22 are Personal References, kind of grammatical cohesion. It can be seen clearly. The Personal Reference elements which exist are **we, I, you, it**, as personal pronoun. Additionally, **your, yours**, as possessive pronouns. Also possessive identifier consist of those statements **my, our, its**. In Barack Obama Speech, he always mention the citizen or hearer with "**you**". In the text (2), (3), (16) and (21), "**my**" is the possessive identifier/determiner. It refers to the speaker or Barack Obama and it is an Object.

##### b. Substitution

*I do have one final ask of you as your president the same thing i asked when you took a chance on me eight years ago.*

There are only one substitution found from five choosen appendix in this research.

##### c. Ellipsis

*1. You are kind and thoughtful and*

*full of passion.*

Based on this research, the researcher get four ellipsis from each five appendix, based on the sentence number 1 "You Are" as an ellipsis. Because the real sentences of that sentence may be look like below:

**You are** kind, you are thoughtfull and **you are** full of passion Ellipsis **you are** kind, and thoughtfull and full of passion

1. *not in my ability to bring out change, but in yours.*

Based on the sentence number 2 "ability to bring out change" as an ellipsis. Because the real sentences of that sentence may be look like this not in **my ability to bring out change**, but in your **ability to bring out change**.

#### d. Conjunction

1. **for** the past 25 years, you have not only been my wife **and** mother of my children.
2. you didn't ask for **and** made it your own with Grace **and** with Grit and with style **and** good humour.
3. **So**, you have made me proud
4. You are smart **and** you are beautiful, but more importantly, you are kind **and** thoughtful and full of passion **and** you wone the burden of years in the spotlight so easily
5. The same thing I asked **when** you took a chance on me eight years ago
6. not in my ability to bring out change, **but** in yours.
7. That's idea whispered **by** slaves **and** leaders **and** those whom marched for justice.

#### Most Frequent Strategy Used

Based on the analysis, the researcher found some utterances of Barack Obama in those five chosen episodes. There are 4 Types of Grammatical Cohesion that claim includes in Barack Obama speech. Based on the data analysis, there are found References about 76 data, The researcher found Substitution about 2 data of this research. Furthermore, researcher found Ellipsis about 4 data of this research. Then, Conjunction found in this research around 61 data. The most frequent strategy used by Barack Obama in this five chosen speech is conjunction. Barack Obama in his speech most frequently used conjunction.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

In this sub- chapter, the researcher would like to conclude the result of the analysis done in the previous chapter. The results of the analysis include the types of grammatical Cohesion used by Barack Obama in doing communication with the hearer in the public, and what is the most frequent of strategy used by Barack Obama based on the theory. The researcher found some utterances of Barack Obama in those five chosen episodes. There are 4 Types of Grammatical Cohesion that claim includes in Barack Obama speech. Based on the data analysis, there are found References about 76 data. The researcher found Substitution about 2 data of this research. Furthermore, researcher found Ellipsis about 4 data of this research. Then, Conjunction found in this research around 61. The most frequent strategy used by Barack Obama in this five chosen speech is conjunction. Barack Obama in his speech most frequently used

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