LEXICAL AND GRAMMATICAL COHESION

Lecture 2 26/10/2015

Plan

- 1. Cohesive and not-cohesive text.
- o 2. Grammatical cohesion.
- o 3. Lexical cohesion.

Halliday/Hasan (1976): "Where the interpretation of any time in the discourse requires making reference to some other item in the discourse, there is cohesion"

Cohesion requires 2 elements:

a) occurrence of a referent

b) a tie to it

The difference between cohesive and not-cohesive text

- (1) To reach the movie theater you will need to turn right on the next intersection and then go straight for about 5 minutes. You will see it on your right-hand side.
- (2) A cat catches a mouse. The car broke down. I go swimming.

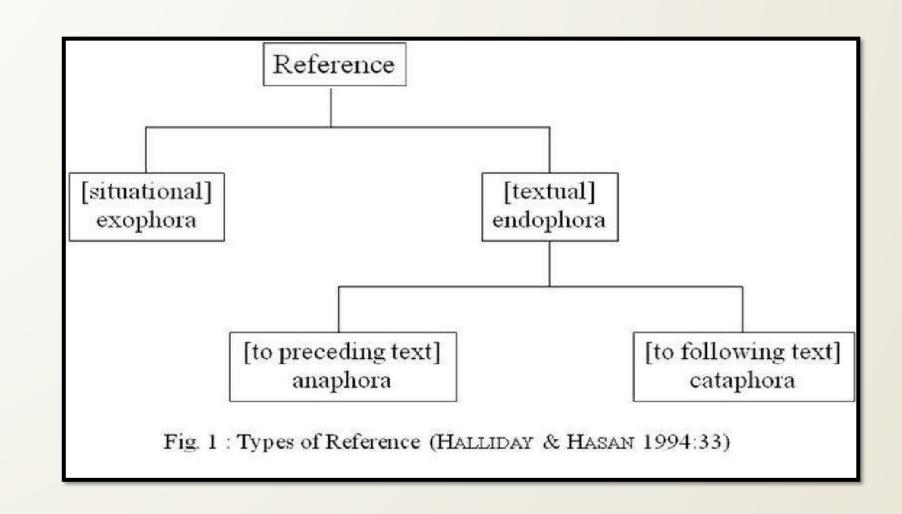
Michael Alexander Kirkwood Halliday (often M.A.K. Halliday) (born 13 April 1925) is a British-born Australian linguist who developed the internationally influential systemic functional linguistic model of language. **Ruqaiya Hasan** (1931 – 24 June 2015) was a professor of linguistics who taught and held visiting positions at various universities in England.





Grammatical Cohesion

Reference occurs when one item in text points to another element for its interpretation.



Examples of exophoric, anaphoric & cataphoric reference:

(in a fitting room)

Daughter: Mom, what do you think about this dress?

Mom: Oh dear, I think **that**'s too short for you. Would you try **this**? (showing another dress she is holding).

- ☐ The man is living alone. *His* wife left *him* for 9 years.
- He's a superstar, he's the best in his era. Let's welcome.. Justin Bieber!

Personal reference

•I, you, she, they (subject pronouns), him, her, us (object pronoun), my, your (possessive pronoun), or ours, theirs, hers (reflexive pronoun)

Demonstrative reference

 here, there, this, that, etc refers to the location of presupposed elements

Comparative reference

 bigger, more dilligent, and etc refers to compared adjectives of one noun to another

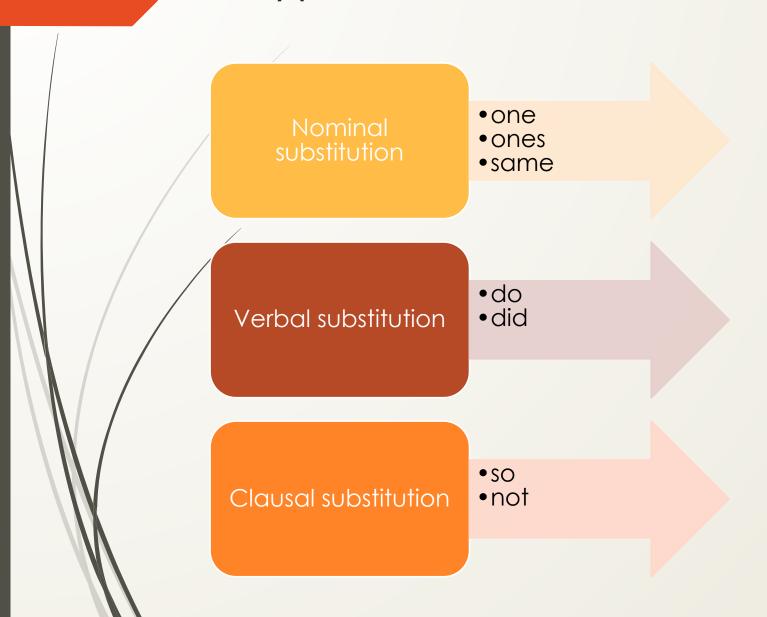
Examples of personal, demonstrative & comparative reference:

- I never met *him* before. My friends said that *he* is a kind and helpful professor. I wish I can see **Professor William** soon.
- There I was born and grew up. There I met him, my beloved one.
 There we raised our kids. There, in a small town called Slawi.
- (in a boutique) Woman: I think this blouse is too dark for my skin.
 Can I have the *lighter*, please?

<u>Substitution</u> is the replacement of one item by another.

| Type of cohesive relation | Linguistic level |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Reference | Semantic |
| Substitution and Ellipsis | Grammatical |

Types of substitution



Examples of substitution:

- When I was a kid, I had a kitten but then it lost. I wish I had the same now.
- You think Joan already **knows**? I think everybody **does**.
- ... if you've seen them so often. of course you know what they're like'.
- 'I believe so,' Alice replied thoughtfully.
- Do you think that the assignment will due this week? I hope not! I haven't written anything!

Ellipsis is the process in which one item within a text or discourse is omitted or replaced by nothing

| | Reference | Substitution and ellipsis |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Level of abstraction | semantic | lexicogrammatical |
| Primary source of presupposition | situation | text |
| What is presupposed? | meanings | items (ie words, groups, clauses) |
| Is class preserved? | not necessatily | yes |
| Is replacement possible? | not necessarily | yes |
| Use as a cohesive device | yes; anaphoric and cataphoric | yes; anaphoric (occas- sionally cataphoric) |

Find reference, substitution and ellipsis:

- a. This is a fine hall you have here. I'm proud to be lecturing in it.
- □ b. This is a fine hall you have here. I've never lectured in a finer one.
- C. This is a fine hall you have here. I've never lectured in a finer.

Types of ellipsis

- nominal
- (1) They do not like it, yet (they) said nothing.
- •How did you enjoy the exhibition?- A lot (of the exhibition) was very good though not all.
- verbal
- Have you been swimming?- Yes, I have (been swimming).
 What have you been doing?- (I have been) Swimming.
- clausal
- Who was playing the piano? John was.
 I hear Smith is having an operation? He has.

<u>Conjunction</u> refers to a specification of the way in which what is to follow is systematically connected to what has gone before

a. additive: and, or, furthermore, similarly, in

addition

b. adversative: but, however, on the other hand,

nevertheless

c. causal: so, consequently, for this reason,

it follows from this

d. temporal: then, after that, an hour later, finally,

at last

Example of conjunctions:

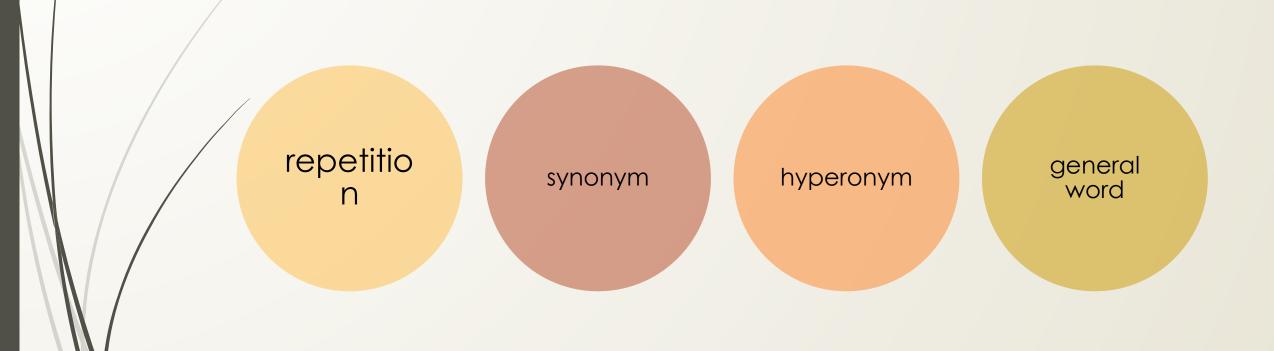
- Doing work with passion will bear great result. **Similarly**, doing work professionally will keep you at the top.
- He has little money on his pocket. However, he insists to buy the movie ticket. He will walk home for sure.
- She was 5 minutes late submitting her final project. As a result, she lost 5% of her final score.
- First, you need to select fresh lemons. Next, you cut them in two parts and squeeze them. Add some sugar to the lemon water. **Finally**, you can add some ice in it.

Another classification of conjunctions:

- •Simple adverbs
- for, and, but, or, yet, so
- accordingly, subsequently, actuallytherefore, thereupon, whereas
- Compound adverbs
- •furthermore, nevertheless, anyway,
- •instead, besides
- on the contrary, as a result, in addition
- Prepositional expressions
 - as a result of that, instead of that
 - •In addition to that
 - •in spite of that, because of that



<u>Reiteration</u> is the repetition of a lexical item, or the occurrence of a some kind, in the context of reference; that is, where the two occurrences referent



Example of reiteration:

| John caught a snake underneath a bucket. | | |
|--|---|--|
| Repetition | The snake is going to suffocate if it stays there very long. | |
| Synonym | The serpent is going to suffocate if he does not let it go. | |
| Hyperonym (superordinate) | The animal is going to suffocate if he does not let it go. | |
| General word | The poor thing is going to suffocate if he does not let it go. | |

Identify types of reiteration:

I saw <u>a boy</u> in the garden. <u>The boy</u> (______)was climbing a tree. I was worried about <u>the child</u> (_______). <u>The poor lad</u> (_______)was obviously not up to it. <u>The idiot</u> (_______) was going to fall if <u>he</u> (_______) didn't take care.

<u>Collocation</u> is the use of "a word that is in some way associated with another word in the preceding text, because it is a direct repetition of it, or is in some sense synonymous with it, or tends to occur in the same lexical environment

- Opposites (man/woman, love/hate, tall/short).
- Pairs of words from the same ordered series (days of the week, months, etc.)
- Pairs of words from unordered lexical sets, such as meronyms:
 - part-whole (body/arm, car/wheel)
 - part-part (hand/finger, mouth/chin)
 - co-hyponyms (black/white, chair/table).
- Associations based on a history of co-occurrence (rain, pouring, torrential)

Example of collocation:

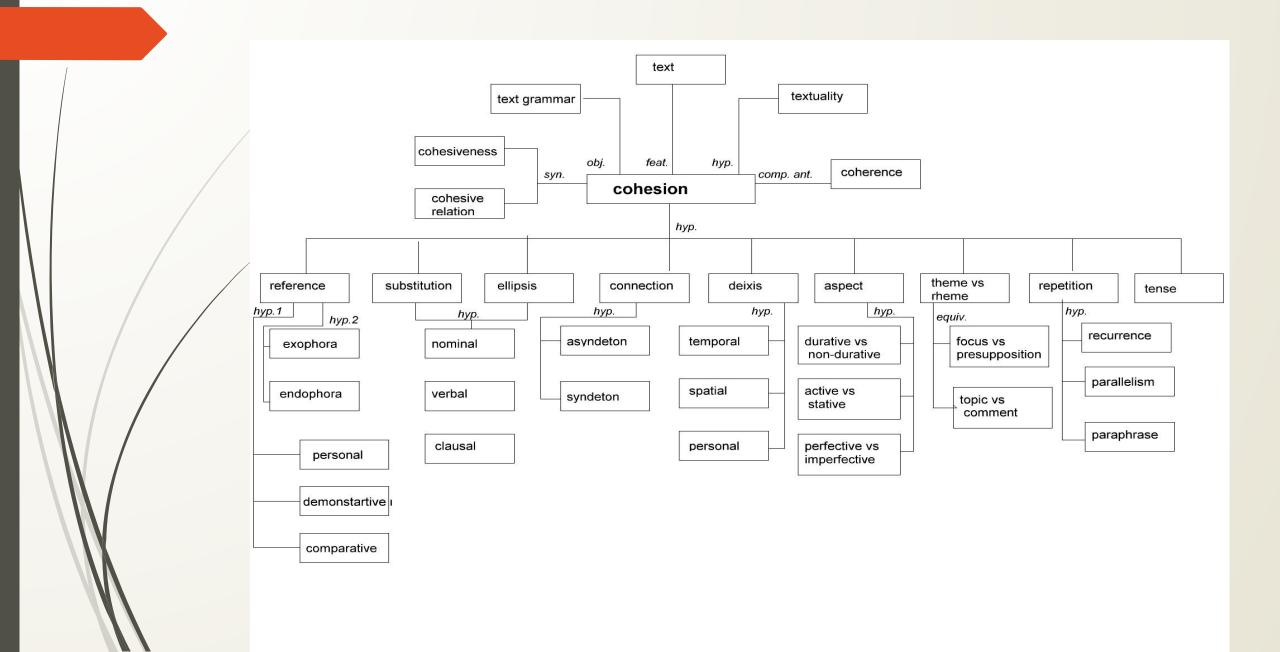


Sing a song of sixpence, a pocket full of rye,
Four-and-twenty blackbirds baked in a pie,
When the pie was opened, the birds began to sing,
Wasn't that a dainty dish to set before a king?
The king was in his counting-house, cotmting out his money,

The queen was in the parlour, eating bread and honey, The maid was in the garden, hanging out the clothes.

Along came a blackbird and pecked off her nose.

Семантическое поле термина "cohesion"



Conclusion

Lexical cohesion is more basic than grammatical cohesion;

However, without grammatical cohesion, even coherent discourse becomes laborious, clumsy, and faltered

Task for **Seminar 2**

 Lecture 2 (learn lexical and grammatical means of cohesion)

Lexical patterns (p. 61-66) (for everyone to read and get ready to discuss)

Report "Different views on the notion of cohesion"