



Analysis of the Use of Lexical Cohesion in Leo Tolstoy's Short Stories

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Abstract

Reiteration (repetition, synonyms, antonyms, superordinate, general word), and collocations are the subject of research by researchers on lexical cohesion. The aim of this research is to identify the different types of Lexical Cohesion as well as the most common uses of Lexical Cohesion in four short stories written by Leo Tolstoy. In this research, library research was used. The data source comes from four short stories by Leo Tolstoy, namely “Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong”, “The Bird”, “The Gray Hare”, “Work Death, and Sickness”. Researchers analyzed data through reduction, display and verification using the Miles and Hubberman’s model. The research results show that Lexical Cohesion is 393, with 259 repetitions, 1 synonym, 16 superordinate, 29 general words, and 88 collocations for Leo Tolstoy's four short stories. In this study, the repetition type of lexical cohesion was the most common.

Keywords : Leo Tolstoy; Lexical Cohesion; Short Stories

Introduction

Literature is a work of art that describes human existence so that it can be enjoyed, understood and utilized by society. According to Keraf in Adampe (2015) Literary works use intriguing, creative words to communicate beauty in an artistic way. Because literary works include information about a variety of subjects that readers might not be familiar with, it is evident that writers use them as a tool to produce ideas for their artistic creations. On the other hand, Irsyad & Ahmad (2015) say that the purpose of literature is to provide communication information about the background of a work and present artistic and unique writing.



Meanwhile, literature is as works created by humans as a means of communication by which they can convey and express their opinions, feelings or experiences. The aim is to provide information that is in accordance with reality, such as explanations, historical events and facts about people's lives, as well as entertainment media that inspire people's thoughts and feelings. The term "literature" includes types of literature such as novels, prose, short stories, drama, poetry, and so on. Astuti and Jumaidah (2020) said that literature describes society. Literature comes in three flavors: drama, poetry, and prose. There are many categories for prose as well, including romance, novels, and short stories. Because they are shorter and require less time to read than novels, short stories are a type of literature that is in great demand. As explained by Webster (1989:1319), short stories are a type of work of fiction which is usually less than 10,000 words.

A short story is a type of literary work that can be read in one situation and usually focuses on a single event, event, or problem. According to Klarer (2004) novels are much longer and usually have only a few characters. According Kemendikbud (2014, p. 6) short stories are a type of prose that tells part of a character's life which is full of situations, conflicts and experiences. A short story is defined as a manuscript that contains a free story, and the author can write anything, whether based on experience or imagination. Throughout the world, there are many short stories written by various authors, one of which is Leo Tolstoy. Leo Nikolaevich Tolstoy (1828–1910), regarded as one of the greatest novelists of all time, was born into a well-known Old Russian noble family south of Moscow. He is mainly recognized for his 19th-century masterpieces. Leo Tolstoy, while coming from a noble family, devoted a large portion of his life to fighting for the rights of the Russian peasantry, particularly in the area of education. In the 1850s, he launched his writing career with the publication of *Boyhood, Boyhood, and Youth*, a trilogy based on his own childhood (Gale, 2016). During the Crimean War, Tolstoy enlisted in the Russian army. Literary critics lauded his book *Sevastopol Sketches*, which is comprised of numerous stories, for offering a realistic portrayal of the battle (Tolstoy, 2013). Leo Tolstoy returns to his homeland after traveling around Europe. He spent his time raising his family and writing novels and short stories such as "Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong", "The Bird", "The Gray Hare", "Work, Death, and Sickness". He concentrated on more spiritual and philosophical matters from the 1880s until his death, writing several essays on ethics and morals, which were described in *Confessions* in 1879 (Anargyros, 2002). Numerous studies on the application of cohesive



devices in other literary genres, including novels, short stories, poetry, essays, and others, have been carried out based on Halliday and Hasan's (1976) taxonomy of cohesive devices.

The two categories of cohesiveness that Halliday, M.A.K., and Hasan (2013) distinguish between are grammatical and lexical. In speech, lexical cohesion refers to meaning or structure on the inside, whereas grammatical cohesion deals with meaning or structure on the outside. Meanwhile cohesion define as the exact frequency of lexical, grammatical, or structural textual features that help readers make connections between the ideas presented. Lexical cohesion can be a useful indicator of the link between different conceptual structures. The function of lexical cohesion is to establish relationships between words, phrases, and phrases within a text, which can be classified as repetition, superordinate, synonym, antonym, general word and collocation. The demand for English increases as time and globalization progresses, particularly in developing nations where the majority of citizens are non-native English speakers.

Several related studies have previously been carried out by researchers. Such as Jayashree P.S (2021) who examined the cohesive method used by Leo Tolstoy in *A Grain as Big as a Hen's Egg* and determined whether seven English Department students who carried out analysis could found substitutions and ellipsis in the same story. The research results show that the ellipsis "dominant substitution in point A, such as *Big as a Hen's Egg*, is a short story whose device forms Tolstoy's straightforward and concise aesthetic style, which makes the parable clear to everyone who reads it. Another research was conducted by Faiha F.M.A (2019) which focused on three short stories written by Leo Tolstoy. The findings of the study demonstrate that Leo Tolstoy's three works exhibit a profound comprehension of human nature and reality, as well as an awareness of both classic and modern values. Meanwhile, Saadat.M and Alavi S.Z (2018) in studied, grammar cohesive choices in two types of paragraphs produced by native speakers and EFL learners. Additionally, this study examines whether the use of cohesive options influences paragraph judgment analysis. The findings demonstrated that, in comparison to EFL students, native speakers cited more sources in their writing. These results indicate some raters do not pay attention to paragraph cohesion.

However, to the best of the researcher knowledge and as evidenced by the relevant literature reviewed, no one has conducted research related to analysis of the use of Lexical Cohesion (LC) into reiteration (repetition, synonyms, antonyms, superordinate, general word), and collocation in Leo Tolstoy's Short Stories. In this research, the researchers to



analyze four short stories written Leo Tolstoy, namely Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong, The Bird, The Gray Hare, Work, Death, and Sickness. So, the researchers want to research this topics, with research questions are:

1. What types of Lexical Cohesion in four short stories written Leo Nikolaevich Tolstoy, namely Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong, The Bird, The Gray Hare, Work, Death, and Sickness.?
2. Which one is the most dominant used of Lexical Cohesion in four short stories by Leo Tolstoy.?

Research Methodology

This research was conducted using qualitative methods. Creswell (2014) states that qualitative research is a method for examining and comprehending the meanings that people or groups ascribe to social or human situations. Furthermore, according to Perry (2005) qualitative research is characterized by oral descriptions of its data. Furthermore, Mason (2002, p.01) said that qualitative research is a sort of large dimension in the social world, the work of texture of life, understanding, experience, discourse or relationships. The purpose of qualitative research is to comprehensively summarize specific events experienced by an individual or group of people.

This research refers to a short story by Leo Tolstoy. Literary research was used in this research, while the data source was taken from short story texts written by the Russian writer Leo Tolstoy, totaling 4 short stories entitled: "Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong", "The Bird", "The Gray Hare", "Work, Death, and Sickness". In collecting data, researchers took it from the site <https://americanliterature.com/author/leo-tolstoy>. The words and sentences that exhibit lexical cohesion in each paragraph are categorized by researchers, who then examine them by grouping them into columns representing the three different forms of lexical cohesion identified by Miles and Huberman's model: reduction, display, and verification. The researcher then interprets the data and makes conclusions based on the analysis.

The qualitative and quantitative designs of this study were conducted using a sort of descriptive research, according to the authors. According to Kumar (2011), descriptive research aims to methodically explain a scenario, issue, phenomena, service, or program. Examples of this kind of study include discussing opinions regarding a topic or providing



details about a community's living conditions. It is used to describe Fox W and Bayat (2007, p. 45) stated that the goal of descriptive research is to identify issues that exist now and in the future through the process of gathering data. able to sufficiently explain circumstances and environments. Problems in descriptive research can be resolved by description, observation, and analysis. Descriptive research aims to close knowledge gaps, provide a more thorough explanation of the findings, and enhance comprehension.

As a step in data analysis, researchers examined the lexical cohesion contained in four short stories by Leo Tolstoy. The author applies qualitative description methods in this research: selection, classification, description of lexical cohesion. The author took several steps when analyzing the data. First, researchers used qualitative descriptive methods in selecting data. The data selection process consists of carefully reading each paragraph of text, obtaining relevant data based on theory, and classifying words based on Halliday and Hasan's lexical cohesion theory.

Once the data is classified, the next step is to analyze it. Furthermore, during the parsing process, the data is parsed sentence by sentence, and the researchers encodes the sentence as (S). This code is called an "encoding". Sutton and Austin (2015) said that encoding is "code as a tag, name, or label", as the process of inserting labels into single words or small or large blocks of data. Furthermore, According to Rossman and Rallis (2012) coding as the process of organizing data by classifying words that represent specific categories such as text, images, etc. To analyze the data researchers use coding, because written material is the source of the analysis.

In this study, four short stories by Leo Tolstoy were examined for different forms of lexical cohesion . Lexical cohesion can take several forms, including superordinate, collocation, general word, antonym, synonym, and repetition. The researchers manually estimated the prevailing mode of lexical cohesion and presented the results in a table.

Findings and Discussion

1.1 Findings.

3.2 Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong"

Table 1

Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong"



Number	Lexical Cohesion Types	Founds
1.	Repetition	101
2.	Superordinate	3
3.	Synonym	-
4.	Antonym	-
5.	General Words	3
6.	Collocation	24
Total		131

According to the descriptions in the table above, the researchers found various type of lexical cohesion, that is 101 repetitions, zero synonym, zero antonym, 3 superordinate, 3 general words, and 24 collocations. So the total lexical cohesion found in Short Story "Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong" is as much as 132 types.

3.3. Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "The Bird".

Table 2

Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "The Bird"

Number	Lexical Cohesion Types	Founds
1.	Repetition	53
2.	Superordinate	-
3.	Synonym	-
4.	Antonym	-
5.	General Words	19
6.	Collocation	39
Total		111

According to the descriptions in the table above, the researchers found various type of lexical cohesion, that is 53 repetitions, zero synonyms, zero superordinate, zero antonym, 19 general words, and 39 collocations. So the total lexical cohesion found in short story "The Bird" is as much as 119 types.

3.4. Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "The Gray Hare".



Table 3

Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "The Gray Hare"

Number	Lexical Cohesion Types	Founds
1.	Repetition	32
2.	Superordinate	-
3.	Synonym	-
4.	Antonym	-
5.	General Words	6
6.	Collocation	17
Total		55

According to the descriptions in the table above, the researchers found various type of lexical cohesion, that is 32 repetitions, zero synonyms, zero superordinate, zero antonym, 6 general words, and 17 collocations. So the total lexical cohesion found in short story "The Gray Hare" is as much as 59 types.

3.5. Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "Work, Death, and Sickness".

Table 4

Findings of Lexical Cohesion in Short Story "Work, Death, and Sickness"

Number	Lexical Cohesion Types	Founds
1.	Repetition	73
2.	Superordinate	13
3.	Synonym	1
4.	Antonym	-
5.	General Words	1
6.	Collocation	8
Total		96

According to the descriptions in the table above, the researchers found various type of lexical cohesion, that is 73 repetitions, 1 synonym, 13 superordinate, zero antonym, 1 general



words, and 8 collocations. So the total lexical cohesion found in short story “Work, Death, and Sickness” is as much as 96 types.

3.6. Findings of Lexical Cohesion Dominant Types Used in 4 Short Stories By Leo

Tolstoy

Table 5

Findings of Lexical Cohesion Dominant Types Used in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy

Number	Lexical Cohesion Types	Founds
1.	Repetition	259
2.	Superordinate	16
3.	Synonym	1
4.	Antonym	-
5.	General Words	29
6.	Collocation	88
Total		393

According to the descriptions in the table above, the researchers can conclude that repetition is mainly dominant type of Lexical Cohesion found in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy. Researchers found 259 repetitions in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy.

Discussion

Researchers used Halliday and Hasan's (1976) cohesion theory, namely Reiteration (repetition, synonyms, antonyms, superordinate, general word), and collocation, to examine the data. The sign (S) was used to identify texts that contained lexical cohesion devices per sentence.

4.1 Repetition

The duplication of the same term, generally with the same reference, is referred to as repetition. Repetition, according to Halliday and Hasan (1976), might be a word or words that are repeated in the same sentence, a separate sentence, or a distinct paragraph. To find out the purpose of the research, after the data is attached, the researchers then verifies it to found out the purpose of the research. To analyze the type of lexical cohesion, the researchers reduced



the data to the 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy. After the researchers conducted data analysis, the researchers found lexical cohesion of the repetition type in the 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts, a total of 259 repetitions.

The following is an example of the most dominant repetition of the Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy text which the researchers analyzed for each sentence.

Example:

-Short Story, the title : Hatred is Sweet, But God is Strong.

Sentence Code (S)

S.1

In the olden time there lived a good **master**. He had much of everything and many **slaves** served him. And the **slaves** praised their **master**.

4.2 Synonym

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976) synonym arises when one lexical item has the same meaning as another. After the researchers conducted data analysis, the researchers only found lexical cohesion of the synonym type in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts, a total of 1 synonym. The following is an example of the synonym of the Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy text which the researchers analyzed for each sentence.

Example:

-Short Story, the title :

"Work, Death, and Sickness"

Sentence Code (S)

S.8

..Having seen that this, too was not well, God decided so as to arrange things that man should not know the time of his **death**, but might **die** at any moment; and he announced this to them..

4.3 Superordinate

A more general class is referred to as a superordinate. The link between general classes and subclasses can help to build cohesion. Halliday and Hasan (1976) define superordinate as a more generic class. It is used to refer to terms with generic properties rather than specific properties. After the researchers conducted data analysis, the researchers



only found lexical cohesion of the superordinate type in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts, a total of 16 superordinate. The following is an example of the superordinate of the Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy text which the researchers analyzed for each sentence.

Example:

-Short Story, the title :

"Work, Death, and Sickness"

Sentence Code (S)

S.4

..To avoid suffering from cold and hunger, they were now obliged to build dwellings, and to dig the ground, and to grow and gather **fruits** and grain..

S.11

Each set of men feared and hated the other. And the life of **man** became yet more unhappy

4.4 Antonym

Antonym, according to Halliday and Hasan (1976), describe opposite or contrasting meanings. After the researchers conducted data analysis, the researchers not found lexical cohesion of the antonym type 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts.

4.5 General Word

According to Halliday and Hassan (1976) general word refers to major classes of lexical items. It is such as thing, person, make, do and so on. General word is a relationship that exists between a general class and its subclasses. After the researchers conducted data analysis, the researchers found lexical cohesion of the general word type in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts, a total of 29 general word. The following is an example of the general word of the Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy text which the researchers analyzed for each sentence.

Example:

-Short Story, the title :

"The Gray Hare"

Sentence Code (S)



S.5

....The **peasants** were walking alongside of their sledges, with their coat collars turned up..

Example:

- Short Story, the title :

"Work, Death, and Sickness"

Sentence Code (S)

S.4

...become impossible for **people** to live without working. To avoid suffering from cold and hunger..

4.6 Collocation

Collocation is lexical coherence obtained by associating lexical items that frequently co-occur. According to Halliday and Hassan (1976) collocation refers to the association between words based on their frequent occurrence in the same context. After the researchers conducted data analysis, the researchers only found lexical cohesion of the collocation type in 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts, a total of 88 collocation. The following is an example of the collocation of the Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy text which the researchers analyzed for each sentence.

Example:

-Short Story, the title :

"The Bird"

Sentence Code (S)

S.2

If seed was scattered on the board and the trap was put out in the yard, the **little bird** would fly down..

S8.

...In the morning when Serozha went to his cage, he saw the bird lying on its back, with its **legs crossed**, and all stiff.

Conclusion and Suggestion



From the research conducted, the researchers draws the conclusion that there are four types of lexical cohesion found in this research. The results found that Lexical Cohesion for 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts ("Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong", "The Bird", "The Gray Hare", "Work, Death, and Sickness") there were 259 repetition, 1 synonym, zero antonym, 16 superordinate, 29 general word and 88 collocation, the total Lexical Cohesion is 393. The dominant type of Lexical Cohesion in this research is the type of repetition.

The function of the five types of lexical cohesion found in four short stories by Leo Tolstoy is to provide word coherence in each paragraph so that the author's understanding will be the same as the reader's understanding of the short story. First, repetition shows that repeated words have an important role in the paragraph. Second, synonyms allow word variations so that the paragraph is not too monotonous. Third, general words are words that have the same meaning, are widely used, and can indicate equivalent words. Fourth, paragraph coherence is supported by collocations. Fifth, the superordinate is responsible for connecting paragraph elements, especially connecting upper and subordinate level meanings.

Meanwhile, the researchers realized that the research carried out by this researchers was only limited to looking for types of lexical cohesion and looking for the most dominant type of lexical cohesion in the 4 Short Stories By Leo Tolstoy texts, namely "Hatred Is Sweet, But God is Strong", "The Bird ", "The Gray Hare", "Work, Death, and Sickness". For further researcher, the researchers suggested conducting a research analysis of the intrinsic and extrinsic elements of short stories written by Leo Tolstoy.

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