

AN ANALYSIS OF LEXICAL COHESION IN EDGAR ALLAN POE 'S
"THE TELL - TALE HEART" SHORT STORY

A Thesis

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ABSTRAK

Di dalam skripsi ini dibahas peranan kohesi leksikal pada sebuah cerita pendek yang berjudul "The Tell – Tale Heart" karya Edgar Allan Poe. Kohesi leksikal yang dibahas adalah reiterasi (repetisi, sinonim, antonim, hiponim, dan metonim) dan kolokasi yang menghubungkan makna antar kalimat dalam cerita pendek.

Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menganalisa data berdasarkan teori yang dikemukakan oleh Halliday and Hasan (1976) dan Renkema (1993). Langkah – langkah yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini meliputi pengumpulan data yang dilakukan secara kuantitatif. Kemudian pengalisan data, dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode distribusional. Selanjutnya penyajian hasil analisis dengan menggunakan metode informal.

Dari hasil analisis ditemukan bahwa dalam cerita pendek "The Tell - Tale Heart", tipe kohesi leksikal yang sangat dominan digunakan oleh Poe adalah repetisi sebanyak 59 kali (34,9%). Sementara kolokasi yaitu sebanyak 50 kali (29,6%), sinonim sebanyak 33 kali(19,5%), antonim 15 kali (8,9%), hiponim 9 kali (5,3%) dan yang paling sedikit digunakan adalah metonim yaitu sebanyak 3 kali (1,8%). Penulis berkesimpulan bahwa penggunaan kohesi leksikal sangat berperan dalam menginterpretasi karya sastra "The Tell – Tale Heart" karya Edgar Allan Poe, untuk menciptakan keterpaduan makna sebagai satu kesatuan yang utuh dengan melihat hubungan antar kata dan kalimat serta untuk memberikan efek suatu penegasan makna cerita kepada pembaca.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Literature is a portrait of human's life framed by emotion, feeling, and thinking which are poured into language. Language as a means of communication can be used in spoken and written form. In written form, language can be served in a literary work as a work of art that commonly tells a story of human's life experiences, feeling, thought, and emotion. In line with this statement Hudson (1960:10) said, "Literature is a record of all experiences that happens in human beings including what they have thought, what they have felt, and expressed in language as a media". In other words, it can be concluded that every aspect of human life can be explored and can be seen through language.

Short story as one of the literary works is usually served in a text form. In writing a text, the words that are used by the author are very important because they are intended to give a clear and concise information as understandable as a whole by the reader. Hence a written text is not merely made up of a set of unrelated sentences, but that these sentences are in fact connected to each other in two ways; cohesion and coherence, and have a unity. In particular, the unity of a text can be investigated in the terms of cohesion, especially in its cohesive lexical items.

Cohesion plays an important role in interpreting the literary meaning in a short story. According to Halliday and Hasan (1976:4), "Cohesion refers to the

relation of meaning that exists within the text, and that defines it as a text". In other words, it can be concluded that it will make cohesive relation between one sentence to another sentence, thus it will help the reader in understanding and interpreting the literary meaning conveyed by the author and it can be seen from the continuity of a text.

Meanwhile, according to Renkema (1993:35), "Coherence is the connection which is brought about something outside the text". Coherence refers to the connection between successive sentences which are not apparent in the element of text. For example:

True---**Nervous**---**Very**, very **dreadfully** nervous I had been and am: but why will you say that I am **mad**? The diseases had **sharpened** my senses---not **destroyed**---not **dulled** them. Above all was the **sense** of hearing acute. I heard all the things in the **heaven** and in the **earth**. I heard many things in **hell**. How, then, am I **mad**? Hearken! and observe how **healthily**---how **calmly** It can tell you the whole story.

This datum is taken from the first paragraph of the short story "The Tell - Tale Heart" written by Edgar Allan Poe. In this paragraph, the writer found that the author uses some types of lexical cohesion as his style are; repetition, collocation, hyponymy, antonymy, and synonymy.

The words which are repeated are '**nervous**' and '**very**'. By using these two words the author wants to tell that the character I is **really nervous**. The writer thinks that he is nervous because his sanity insisted him to admit his guilty. This, however, is self - destructive because in attempting to prove his innocence, he fully admits he is guilty of murder. The nervousness is so real that he cannot imagine. It means that the nervousness that is felt by the character I is really tremendous.

The second repetition is the word '*mad*'. It refers to the character I's **feeling** and combined with the correlation encouraged between the reader's vision and that of the old man's. This expression of the reader's perceptions is central to the extential horror that Poe masterfully manifested.

The third repetition is '*you*'. Here, Poe uses the word '**you**' which refers to **the reader**. Poe invites and immediately grabs the reader's attention and pulls the character I into the story. Besides, Poe also tries to give information that the character I tries to tell something to the reader.

Based on the above explanation, the writer is interested to analyze what types of lexical cohesion are used in Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Tell - Tale Heart".

Secondly, the writer also wants to describe the meaning of each type of lexical cohesion found in the short story "The Tell - Tale Heart" written by Edgar Allan Poe.

1.2 The Identification of the Problem

Here, there are two questions formulated dealing with this study, as;

1. What types of lexical cohesion are used in Edgar Allan Poe's "The Tell - Tale Heart" short story?
2. What are the meaning of lexical cohesion in Edgar Allan Poe "The Tell - Tale Heart" short story?

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

In this study, the writer has analyzed the type of lexical cohesion and the meaning of each type in "The Tell – Tale Heart" short story written by Edgar Allan Poe in 1843. After analyzing Edgar Allan Poe "The Tell—Tale Heart" short story, the use of lexical cohesion is prominent. It is used to give certain effects of the words which help the reader to know the author's intention.

The use of lexical cohesion in the short story can give certain effect to the reader and make the short story more interesting to be read. Besides, it also can help the reader to catch the meaning conveyed by the author to understand easily. Here, the writer found that the author uses all types of lexical cohesion. The appearance of lexical cohesion functions to give stress on something or certain words which can help the reader interpret the meaning of a literary work.

Based on the analysis, the form of repetition appears more dominantly than other forms of lexical cohesion because the author wants to mention the character and the things in order to make these clearly defined. Besides, the use of collocation and synonymy also play an important role in creating "The Tell – Tale Heart" short story. Then, these are followed by antonymy, and hyponymy. And the less usage of lexical cohesion can be seen in this story is metonymy.

The writer concludes that the use of each type of lexical cohesion in creating a short story is to make the story more alive. It shows that the use of

lexical cohesion plays an important role in creating and interpreting the literary meaning of a short story as the story reveals the literary meaning.

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