# GRAMMATICAL AND LEXICAL COHESION IN EDSHEERANS' SONG LYRICS IN THE "PLUS" ALBUM

#### Oleh:

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## Abstrak:

This research aimed at analyzing the grammatical and lexical cohesion in Ed Sheerans' song lyrics in the 'Plus' Album. The kind of this research is qualitative research with descriptive approach. Reseacher used the Halliday and Hasan's grammatical and lexical cohesion theory to analyze the grammatical and lexical cohesion in this song. The result of this research showed that there were four grammatical cohesion categories found they are reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction, and two lexical cohesion categories found they are reiteration and collocation. The data of this research were words, phrases, and sentences. Grammatical and lexical cohesion creates relationships among the elements in the lyrics. Therefore, the existence of both grammatical and lexical cohesion enhances cohesiveness in the lyrics. Based on summary of the result, that grammatical cohesion is more dominated in the lyrics of the song more than lexical cohesion. In grammatical cohesion, reference consisted of 556 times found in the lyrics of the song, and conjunction consisted of 79 times found in the lyrics of the song. While in lexical cohesion, reiteration consisted of 98 times found in the lyrics and collocation consisted of 7 times found in the lyrics of the song. It is suggested that English learners should pay attention about the usage of grammatical and lexical cohesion in order to be able to produce a good discourse. For the teachers, hopefully this research could be used to enrich their teaching material.

**Key Words:** Discourse; grammatical and lexical cohesion; song lyrics.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language very important in communication. Communication is a process of transfering message from people to another people. In this, language is very effective for human to interactbecause people cannot live individually and that always show their expressions through language, including anger, happiness, humor, dejection and others. Sapir (1921:3) said "Language" is purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desire by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols". People need to communicate with other to share what they want. They use language to communicate with other people in many setting to tell someone about something, to show their intention or feelings, to develop their idea, and to deliver information in english text.

English is the international language that used by most of people in this world include Indonesia, Malaysia and etc. In Indonesia English language is the foreign language which is learned by the students in the school. In National Education system law, English language subject is an obligation that should be studied in school from elementary school up to college. To develop education system in this country, the role of English language cannot be ignored because it gives a big impact. Many people also want to spend their own time to learn English in order to master English as well as possible. In English, we learn the discourse which can be used to relate any

English text to the context. Flowerdew (2013:1) said "Discourse studies can be defined as the study of language in its context of use and above the level of the sentence".

Related on the explanation, the researcher focus on the cohesion of the context to the text. Cohesion is part of system of a language that forming a united whole. According to Tanskanen (2006:16) said "Cohesion in English includes an exhaustive treatment of grammatical cohesive devices, at the expense of that lexical cohesion, which receives a considerably more limited discussion".

Grammatical cohesion is the cohesiveness that is achieved by using grammatical elements. Grammatical cohesion is forming by reference, subtitution, ellipsis, and conjunction. While, lexical cohesion is cohesiveness that is achieved through word choice. Lexical cohesion can take the form of reiteration and collocation. Grammatical cohesion can be found in the lyrics of the song.

Song generally convey message and meaning, where the composer needs time to think, to choose the word, to read, what she or he writes, revise and arrange it. Then he or she considers its effect on the listeners. Song have special characteristics in their lyric which is each lyric is created to have nuance.

Lyric is part of the song. To compose the lyrics, a composer could compose the word in simple way in order to attract the listeners. The composer

makes a beautiful lyric by putting the nuance and harmony that are supported by music in order to entertain the listeners. It is not only the arrangement of words into sentence but also the representation of the composer"s emotion, and intention to describe their feeling such as love, struggle, trouble, jealous, peace, politic, anti social, etc.

This research focuses on cohesion in the xlyric of Ed Sheerans" song. Cohesion which is used to combine the sentence consists of lexical and grammatical cohesion. The analysis of cohesion in the lyric of the songwriter, name Ed Sheeran. Ed Sheeran or Edward Christopher Sheeran is an English singer and a songwriter. He has released three albums. Namely + (plus) in 2011, x (multiply) in 2014, and ÷ (divide) in 2017. He was born in Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, England. He has an older brother named Matthew who works as a composer. Sheeran released his first EP (Extended Play) "The Orange Room" while he was still at school at the age of 16.

He attended the Academy of Contemporary Music in Guildford, Surrey, as an undergraduate at the age of 18 in autumn 2009. Then Ed Sheeran independently released the extended play "No.5 Collaboration Project" in early 2011 which caught the attention of Elton John and Jamie Foxx. After signing with Asylum Records, his debut album "Plus" was released on 9 september 2011 and got seven-times platinum in UK. The single of the song "The A Team", got him Ivor NovelloAward for best song. Artist and British breakthroughAct. Because of this, the researcher wants to find out the kinds of grammatical and lexical that provide in the plus album. Based on the preliminary study that had been carried out researcher by documentation songlyrics, researcher found several grammatical cohesion; reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunctionand lexical cohesion; reiteration and collocation. For example:

- a. *He* has not changed a bit. He is a reference by means of function in the speech situation, through the category of person.
- b. *Here* is the key. Here is Adverbial demonstrative which is expressed by the words *here*, *there*, *now*, and *then*, which refer to the location of a processin space or time.
- c. *These* perfumes smell fragrant. A child is trying to climb that tree. *The* child will fall if he careless These and The is nominal demonstrative covers the *words*, *this*, *these*, *that*, *those*, and definite article *the*, all of these words refer to the location of a person or an object which is participating in the process.

The researcher is particularly interested in doing a research on the cohesion in the lyric of the song since the researcher wanted to make sure that the word in the sentence of the lyric provide the cohesion.

The researcher believes that the result of this study gives lots of contributions for the learners, this study also can be used to obtain some information about kinds of grammatical and lexical cohesion, and can be used to enrich their teaching materials of discourse analysis.

## 2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research used descriptive qualitative research. Creswell (2013:4) said "Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem". Qualitative approach aims to explain phenomena through the process of collecting and analyzing data. It means that qualitative research is research design that describing about factual phenomena without using numbering to finished the data. Bogdan and Biklen (2007:27) said "Qualitative researcher see what they produce, research reports and articles, not as a transcendent truth, but as a particular rendering or interpretation of reality grounded in the empirical world". The qualitative research has a natural setting as a direct source of the data which focus of the process rather than simply with outcomes and products. From the defenition above, the researcher uses qualitative descriptive research to describe the cohesion in Ed Sheerans" song lyrics in the Plus Album. The researcher tried to collecting the data from the comprehending and reading the songs lyrics which has been downloaded (Surur, M., 2020).

#### 3. DISCUSSION

Considering about the result, this section presented the discussion of the research findings. In this research, aim to analyze the kinds of grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion. According to Halliday and Hasan dalam cohesion divide into two, they are grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion.

Grammatical cohesion expressed by reference, substitution, ellipsis, and conjunction Halliday and Hasan, dalam (Telaumbanua, 2020) Based on the theory, the researcher found the grammatical cohesion that provide in the lyrics of the song. Reference that expressed by word "i, she, he, it, we the, you, and etc", lexical cohesion expressed by reiteration and collocation Halliday and Hasan, dalam . In this song, the researcher found the lexical cohesion that provide in the lyrics of the song. Reiteration is repetitition lexical item of a word, phrases or sentences, and collocation is repeated of a word which have the similar context. Grammatical for each categories achieved the cohesiveness because they make the structure of the sentence to be unity, and the lexical cohesion for each categories achieved the cohesiveness because they make the meaning have the relation between one item lexical to another item. Related to the previous researchers, they found grammatical cohesion. And in this research, the researcher found that in cohesion found grammatical cohesion consist of reference, and conjunction, while lexical cohesion consist of reiteration and collocation. Moreover, In this research seems that grammatical cohesion is more dominated in the lyrics of the song more than lexical cohesion (Telaumbanua, 2020).

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on collecting and analyzing the data in this research, researcher found the result. Some conclusions can be drawn that the usage of cohesive devices is so important to make meaningful language to the lyrics of the song. The two main categories of cohesion devices (grammatical and lexical) are found in these lyrics of Ed Sheeran songs.

In order to make meaningful text, it should be used the cohesion because by the cohesion, the text will be united. Therefore, after doing this research, the researcher consider that this study of cohesion is very important in speaking and writing and from thisstudy everybody can know how to produce a good text.

The function of lexical cohesion within the verse in the lyric of Ed Sheeran songs is making a relationship between the lexical items and also it is used to express and to stress the composer"s idea.

Based on the result of the research, that grammatical cohesion is more dominated in the lyrics of the song more than lexical cohesion. In grammatical cohesion, reference consisted of 556 times found in the lyrics of the song, and conjunction consisted of 79 times found in the lyrics of the song. While in lexical cohesion, reiteration consisted of 98 times

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