

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Research

People who communicate in their daily lives must always pay attention to the use of conjunctions. The use of conjunctions is an important part of daily communication because it helps connect related ideas, information, or events. Without conjunctions, sentences or conversations can feel disconnected and difficult to understand. The proper use of conjunctions helps strengthen the structure and order of our communication, making it easier for the listener or reader to understand. It also helps us to convey information more effectively and clearly.

Conjunctions are essential to the development of an understandable and cohesive sentence structure in linguistic contexts because they enable speakers to communicate ideas in a clear, logical, and precise way. Although it is crucial to comprehend conjunction usage in language research on conjunctions is important. Not only is this crucial for comprehending language structure in general, but it also has consequences for learning foreign or second languages, natural language processing, and even the creation of artificial intelligence systems with strong text comprehension and generation capabilities.

Conjunction serves the dual purpose of joining words or phrases together and indicating the logical flow of ideas inside sentences in several languages.

Conjunctions, for instance such as *"and"*, *"or"*, *"but"*, *"as"*, and others are crucial for explaining complicated concepts and giving sentences a wide range of interpretations. The usage of a conjunctions can very significantly depending on specific cultural, social, and language contexts. Therefore, further research on the use and function of conjunctions across different language contexts can provide deeper insights into how language structures are understood and used by native speakers and language learners.

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976, p.227), conjunction is a relationship that indicates how the subsequent sentences or clauses should be linked to the preceding or the following (part of the) sentence. In other words, conjunction is a word or part of speech to link other terms or expressions. One use of a conjunction is to connect words or phrases that have the same grammatical function in a sentence. In addition, it can be said that conjunctions are components of the semantic system in which the speaker connects sentences based on the sequence of time, effect, comparison, and addition so as to produce effective sentences.

Conjunctions here in the discussion of grammatical contributions to the text are somewhat different from references, ellipsis, and substitution. Conjunctions do not trigger a backward or forward search for the referent, but they require textual order, and signify the relationship between parts of discourse. The writer can conclude that conjunctions are defined as links between words, sentences, clauses, and phrases that join textual order and signify and have meaning in a sentence.

The existence of conjunction is absolutely important to be observed because conjunction is used as the glue that ties in every sentence. In this case, this study also observes the conjunction used in news articles. In it, the writers have to create their statement as well as possible to make the language they used arranged nicely so that the ideas can be received easily without ambiguous statements. Therefore, it needs cohesive markers such as conjunction to make it interpreted.

Conjunctions belong to grammatical cohesion which is among the important aspects in text and language analysis. The term grammatical cohesion describes how a text's contents are grammatically related to one another to create a coherent structure and make the reader's understanding of the relationships between the concepts easier. The use of words, phrases, clauses, and sentence structures that connect various textual elements is known as grammatical cohesion. The importance of grammatical cohesion lies in its ability to ensure clarity, precision, and fluency in communication.

The effectiveness of grammatical cohesion especially in news writing, including the use of conjunctions is an important aspect in creating cohesiveness and continuity of meaning in a text. In the context of news writing, grammatical cohesion plays a role in conveying information in a way that is understandable, structured, and easy-to-understand manner for readers. As such, this study provides insight into how conjunctions contribute to achieving these goals.



The way grammatical elements are connected among themselves across sentence boundaries in a text is called grammatical cohesion. Together with lexical cohesion, grammatical cohesion represents one of the two main forms of cohesiveness. The four primary mechanisms that comprise grammatical cohesiveness are conjunction, ellipsis, reference, and substitution. The four mechanisms have their own functions and serve the same purpose, namely to make writing coherent and easy to understand.

In the context of discourse analysis, grammatical cohesion is extremely significant because it helps in understanding the language patterns contained in a text as well as how the text interacts where the text appears. Discourse is not only limited to individual sentences but can also refer to an overall larger structure of language, such as an argument or narrative. This means discourse analysis is not only concerned with words or sentences in isolation, but also considers how the whole text shapes meaning and affects the reader or listener.

Discourse analysis is an important approach in linguistics and social science studies that aims to understand the way written or spoken communication produces meaning in social, cultural, and historical contexts. It examines not only the structure of texts, but also the social context in which they are produced and received. These studies expand our understanding of language structure, meaning, and the role of context in human communication.

Discourse analysis is a branch of linguistics that specializes in the analysis of language in broader contexts, such as texts, conversations, or verbal interactions in specific communication situations. It involves a variety of linguistic tools and frameworks, including syntax, semantics, pragmatics, and social linguistic analysis. After analyzing this framework, it can provide a deeper understanding of the way language is utilized in a piece of writing, and the social, cultural, and pragmatic implications of that language use.

Linguistics in discourse analysis is very important because it aids in comprehending how language operates within the broader context of communication. Linguistics provides frameworks and tools to dissect and analyze how texts or discourses are formed, structured, and function. Thus, with the assistance of linguistics, discourse analysis can open up a deeper understanding of how language is used to shape, represent, and influence reality in various communication contexts.

In discourse analysis, linguistics helps in several ways, such as pragmatics and semantics. In the context of pragmatics and semantics, linguistics helps understand how language functions to communicate effectively and the way meaning is formed and conveyed in language interaction. Pragmatics is a branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and its context of use. In discourse analysis, pragmatics helps to understand the implications, implied intentions, and purposes behind the use of certain language in certain contexts.

Distinct from semantics, semantics is the exploration of the meaning of language, both the significance of individual words and the meaning of whole sentences. In discourse analysis, semantics assists in understanding how meaning is produced, understood, and used in context. This includes analysis of lexical word-by-word meaning, the semantic structure of sentences, and the relationship between meaning and social context. An example that falls into the semantic domain is news text. Semantics helps in understanding the meaning of words, phrases, sentences, and parts of news texts.

In general, this study plays a role in the field of linguistics, particularly within the examination of the use of conjunctions and grammatical cohesion in texts. The results of this study can enrich the understanding of the function of conjunctions in creating cohesiveness of meaning in certain text genres, such as news. Linguistic analysis of news texts can provide a comprehension of how language is employed in the mass media, how certain ideologies or viewpoints are represented through language, and how language plays a role in shaping public opinion.

In this study, the writer chooses news as research material because the writer wants to describe the content of the news by examining several sentences that are included in grammatical cohesion, especially conjunction. In another reasons, for choosing the news article as research material is because studying conjunctions in news texts will be useful for people, especially English learners. They will know the



various kinds and functions of conjunctions used in news texts. Therefore, they can learn more and apply their knowledge.

The role of news in disseminating information news has an important role in disseminating information to the wider community. In this case, the news about Taylor Swift as the Person of the Year 2023 by TIME is news that attracts public attention and has an impact on public perception. This research can provide insight into how the application of conjunctions in the news affects the delivery of information and its impact on readers.

The other thing that supports the writer in choosing news about Taylor Swift is not only that the writer likes the figure of Taylor Swift. Taylor Swift is a popular singer who has many fans from various circles. Taylor Swift has many fans because of her ability to convey emotions and create songs that describe the feelings of her fans. The lyrics in her songs describe universal feelings such as love, heartbreak, and self-discovery.

This made Taylor Swift named Person of the Year 2023 by TIME International magazine. TIME's magazine says that Taylor Swift achievements in 2023 are immeasurable. She is charting her journey and sharing the results with the world. She is dedicated to affirming the aspirations, emotions, and experiences of individuals, particularly women, who feel overlooked and often undervalued.

Taylor Swift is very deserving to be named TIME's Person of the Year because she has achieved many amazing achievements such as being the only female artist to win Grammy Album of the Year 3 times. Taylor Swift also held a tour that achieved extraordinary profits. Such as the economic benefits attributed to her tour include hotels, tourism, transportation, and shops in the city where her tour takes place. This prompted many governors, mayors, and presidents to ask Taylor Swift to come and perform a concert. As such, many international news platforms have been publishing information regarding Taylor Swift being named TIME magazine's Person of the Year 2023. One of the international news platforms that provided the information is BBC.

BBC News is the news division of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), a leading public broadcaster in the United Kingdom. BBC News provides international, national, and regional news coverage covering a wide range of topics such as politics, economics, culture, and sports. BBC News represents available through television, radio, websites, and other media platforms, and is known for its broad and balanced coverage.

The writer chose the BBC news article because it provides a rich context for analyzing grammatical cohesion, particularly conjunctions, in a contemporary news setting. The article discusses a high-profile public figure, making it a relevant and widely-read piece, which ensures that the linguistic features analyzed reflect current journalistic practices. Furthermore, the topic of Taylor Swift as a cultural and social



icon offers an opportunity to explore how conjunctions contribute to the coherence and flow of narratives about influential figures, making it an ideal choice for the focus of this research.

The writer assumes that the increasing number of researchers who choose news as their object of research shows that news has significant value in society and is an important source of information for many people. News plays a key role in shaping opinions, influencing perceptions, and affecting the actions of individuals and society as a whole. As complex global and local issues increase, news is important in distributing information and providing context on these issues. News research helps in understanding how these issues are raised, presented and perceived by society.

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that this study will analyze the use of conjunctions as one aspect of grammatical cohesion in BBC news about *Taylor Swift being named the Person of the Year 2023 by TIME magazine*. Conjunctions have an important role in forming cohesiveness and continuity of meaning in a text. Looking at the application of conjunctions in the news, this study aims to identify the categories of conjunctions used and their frequency of occurrence, analyze the function regarding conjunctions in creating inter-sentence and inter-paragraph meaning relationships.

The results of this study are hoped to provide significant understanding the role of conjunctions in creating grammatical cohesion within he news genre, as well

as its implications for journalistic practice and discourse analysis. A deeper comprehension of the application of conjunctions can help improve the quality of news writing and facilitate the delivery of information to readers. Moreover, this study additionally aims to provide readers with a comprehension of the BBC writing style. The BBC is a leading news source featuring a high writing style and journalistic standards. This study can reveal how the use of conjunctions in BBC news reflects the writing style and conventions adopted by the news source.

## **B. Questions and Scopes of the Research**

### **1. Questions of the Research**

Based on the description of the research background, this study problem is formulated in general as to how are conjunctions used in BBC news specifically, as well as what are the functions of conjunctions in news articles. This research problem is formulated as the following research questions:

- a. What types of conjunctions in the BBC news articles?
- b. What is the explanation of internal or external category from those selected types?

### **2. Scope of the Research**

This study aims to analyze the use of conjunctions in a BBC news article entitled “*Taylor Swift is TIME's 2023 Person of The Year.*” This study focuses on identifying sentences that contain grammatical conjunctions, categorizing

these conjunctions into types. In addition, this study also explores the difference between internal and external conjunctions in the text. The theories used by the writer is Halliday and Hasan (1976). By focusing on these areas, this study seeks to offer a detailed understanding of the function of conjunctions in creating grammatical cohesion in news articles. This will contribute to the wider field of linguistic studies, particularly in understanding how news media construct coherent narratives.

### **C. Objective and Significance of the Research**

#### **1. Objective of the Research**

Generally, this study is aimed to describe how conjunction is used in BBC news. Specifically, it is aimed as follows:

- a. To categorize the types of conjunctions in BBC news articles.
- b. To explain internal or external categories from those selected types.

#### **2. Significance of the Research**

The writer hopes that this study is focused on very significant as it enhances the understanding of grammatical cohesion in news articles by analyzing the role of conjunctions. This study enhances the examination of linguistics by providing insight into how conjunctions create coherence in texts and offers practical guidance for journalists to advance the quality and clarity of news writing.



Educationally, this study acts as a valuable resource for teaching grammatical cohesion and coherence, bridging theory and practice.

**a. Theoretically**

The objective of this study was hoped to give theoretical details regarding the conjunction of grammatical cohesion. This study increases linguistic understanding by studying how conjunctions contribute to grammatical cohesion and coherence in news articles. Furthermore, by categorizing and analyzing various categories of conjunctions, this study enriched broader linguistic theories and frameworks, providing a more profound insight into how these linguistic elements function within texts to create logical and fluid links between concepts, thus advancing the field of linguistics.

**b. Practically**

This research hopes to give information to students, lecturers, and future researchers. This study offered journalists with important perspectives on the effective use of conjunctions, helping them to refine the quality and clarity of their writing. In understanding the role conjunctions in connecting ideas and ensuring a coherent progression, journalists can create more coherent and compelling news stories. In addition, this study also serves as an educational resource, supporting the teaching of grammatical cohesion and coherence, thus bridging the divide between theoretical knowledge and practical application in writing.

## **D. Operational Definition**

### **1. Conjunction**

Conjunctions link sentence components and are essential for expanding and deepening discourse meaning.

### **2. Discourse Analysis**

Discourse analysis examines language use in contexts to understand how it shapes meaning and identities.

### **3. Grammatical Cohesion**

Grammatical coherence refers to the use of grammatical elements to express semantic relationships within and between sentences.

### **4. News article**

A news article conveys information on current events in areas like politics, society, and culture written by journalists and published by mass media.

## **E. Systematization of the Research**

In this study, the writing is arranged systematically so that it is easy to read and understand by the readers. This study generally consists of five parts. The description of each part will be explained in the following points:

Chapter I explains about the background of the research and describes the reason why the writer choose the research. The second is the question of the

research, this statement highlights the core issue being addressed in this research. The third is the scope of the research, the point aims to highlight a specific cause and propose a study approach utilized by the writer in this research. The fourth is the objective of research, this point explains the purpose that the writer wants to achieve in this research. The fifth is the significance of the research, this point about how it will benefit the other writer. The last point is systematization of the research, it explains the resume of this research as a whole.

Chapter II explains the theoretical description used by the writer to conduct the research, detailing various linguistic theories that underpin the study. It also reviews relevant previous studies, showcasing their relevance to the current research.

Chapter III is outlines the research methodology, which is divided into five sections: the research method, research procedures, data collection techniques, data analysis techniques, and sources of data.

Chapter IV presents the findings and discussion, focusing on the data uncovered by the writer. This chapter interprets the data, integrating the analysis with the theoretical framework and methods applied in the study.

Chapter V explains the conclusion and suggestions. It summarizes the key findings from the previous chapters and provides the writer overall conclusions.



Following this, the chapter offers several recommendations based on the results of the study.

