

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of The Research

As a student, there are many tasks to do to support the learning process. The first main task is learning and carrying out educational activities. Students are given teaching from lecturers with maximum facilities in the process of teaching and learning activities. Not only carrying out education in the classroom, students are also expected to take part in student activities outside the campus. Such as participating in student activity units, volunteering, and also being committee members at an event. From this educational process, it is hoped that it will produce outstanding students.

The second main task of students is to serve the society. Students not only have role for themselves but also for society, nation and state. Many of students are currently not aware that the task of a student is to serve the society. Many are still not aware of the circumstances around them. Actually in fact that the existence of students in Indonesia is a hope to become agent of change in the local district, or become pioneers for change in their area.

The last main task of student is to do the research. At the final year of college, students have to make a thesis that must be done to fulfill the final project as a requirement to get a bachelor's degree. Because it is

required, writing a thesis is mandatory for every student. Writing a thesis is not only just writing, it must be logical and understandable because it is written in good language. In writing a thesis, the use of effective and efficient language is needed so that the function of the paper as an effective communication tool that is able to convey messages or information to the reader correctly.

There are many conditions that must be considered by students to write it. This condition is different in each university. However, what needs to be considered is how in a thesis paragraph it can be written not only using the right language, but how the correct language can become a coherent. To create a coherent paragraph, it takes elements that build in a paragraph. One of these elements is cohesion and coherence. Because the principle of a good paragraph is a paragraph that meets the requirements of cohesion and coherence, so that in a paragraph there is a unity of meaning and form.

The problem that often occurs is there are still many of the students who write thesis only pay attention to the contents of the thesis, the process is fast or not, multiplying paragraphs in each discussion, and even more fatally there are also students who only finish their thesis just to complete the task, regardless of whether the writing is already using the correct language, how the cohesion and coherence in the paragraph, and so on.

Some students find it difficult when writing a thesis especially in writing the background, this section of the thesis plays an important role in conveying a topic of the problem to be studied. Because many of the background sections in student thesis have not paid attention to aspects of cohesion and coherence, so they do not have good sentence linkages. It is not uncommon to find sentences that only serve to add pages and do not have a clear contribution to the main idea to be conveyed.

Some people see texts as coherent or incoherent, but often fail to explain where that coherence comes from. Coherence is commonly described as the way a speech is stitched together, with elements that relate to one another, in the study of discourse. Coherence is the connection of discourse with meaning in order for it to be communicative and include an idea that can be understood. Mann & Taboda, 2007 in Renkema (2009, p. 127) stated there is some function, some reasonable reason for its presence, clear to readers, for every section of a coherent text, and there is no sense that some portions are somehow missing.

There are many theories that explain how coherence in a paragraph is marked. One that signifies a coherent discourse is the explicit and implicit coherence relation. Explicit coherence relations are characterized by the presence of discourse markers conjunctions such as *because, if, although, but, and, however, while* and so on. Meanwhile, the implicit do not contain clear indicators.

Another way of marking a coherent in discourse is described by Jan Renkema, 2004 in Renkema (2009, p. 129) proposes to divide coherence relation into two which are additive and causal relations. Additive relations relate two spans of text (clauses, sentences, or larger portions) paratactically, through a form of coordination. The causal relation is connecting the main and subordinate parts, and expressing causes, reasons, goals, conditions or concessions. Moreover, Wolf and Gibson (2006, pp. 28-29) distinguished coherence relations into two, there are asymmetrical or direct relations and symmetrical or indirect relations. This theory is very suitable for the writer to be a reference in analyzing paragraph coherence in a student's thesis.

The importance of coherence is because when a text is coherent, the message and meaning will be conveyed properly without causing ambiguous perceptions. Otherwise, if a text not coherent, the message conveyed in the text can be misinterpreted by readers. Because when readers process a text, they establish a coherent representation by means of coherence relations.

Furthermore the harmonious relationship of elements in discourse is cohesion. Cohesion can connect one thing to another in the text so as to create a good comprehension. Cohesion is divided into two types, namely lexical cohesion and grammatical cohesion. Markers on the aspect of lexical cohesion, namely repetition, hyponyms, synonyms, antonyms,



collocations and equivalence. Meanwhile, grammatical lexical markers consist of references, ellipsis, substitutions, and conjunctions.

Cohesion and coherence are the main requirements of discourse both are concepts of cohesiveness. Cohesiveness in a text of discourse is the most crucial thing. The harmony and the links between one sentence and another sentence are the main key of determining legibility factor. Based on this understanding, it can be said that cohesion and coherence have an important role in the preparation of a complete paragraph in context of discourse. Discourse can be said to be complete because it includes phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and is supported by other elements.

Discourse consists of paragraphs while paragraphs are formed by sentences. Paragraphs are the essence of pouring ideas into an essay. It contains one unit of thought that is supported by all the sentences in the paragraph, starting from the introduction sentence, main sentence or topic sentence, explanatory sentences to the closing sentence. As a text, paragraph can be classified into three parts which are the beginning, the body, and the ending. To form a paragraph, one must compose one sentence with the next sentence must be related, so as to form a unified whole or form a unified idea.

In addition, cohesion and coherence are examined to see the use of language in accordance with linguistic rules in terms of form and meaning. Research on coherence in English Literature students' thesis at STBA JIA

is interesting to study. This is based on several reasons. First, students' attention is still low on the this aspect. The weakness of students in background is the low effort in arranging sentences so that they do not have a coherence in both form and meaning between one sentence and another. As the writer observed several theses of STBA JIA English Literature students, it appears that there is an error in the use of references and conjunctions in building coherence in paragraphs.

Second, research on coherence in English Literature students' theses is crucial to analyze in order to find out a way to achieve coherence in theses. The researcher's took on several theses, especially on the background of the Thesis of English Literature students of STBA JIA, it indicates that the use of paragraphs is only used for writing models in paragraphs. That is, the paragraph does not meet the principles of compiling a paragraph. With the result that the ideas contained in each paragraph become unclear and ultimately eliminate the contents of the writing as a whole. Based on the background above, the writer is interested in taking the tittle of the research for this scientific paper with:  
*“Paragraph Coherence in The Thesis of English Literature Students of STBA JIA”*

## B. Question and Scope of The Research

### 1. Questions of the Research

Based on the focus of the study above, the writer arranges this research through the following questions:

- a. What kinds of coherence relation used in the *background thesis of English Literature Students of STBA JIA*?
- b. What ways are used to achieve coherence in the *background thesis of English Literature students of STBA JIA*?

### 2. Scope of the Research

This research will focus on examining aspects of coherence in student's thesis based on Wolf Gibson (2006) Theory. Wolf distinguished kinds of coherence relations into two, which are asymmetrical or direct relations and symmetrical or indirect relations. Included in the asymmetric relationship are *cause-effect, condition, violated expectation, elaboration, attribution, example, generalization, and temporal sequence*. Meanwhile, the symmetrical or indirect relations are *similarity and contrast*.

In addition, to find out how coherence in paragraphs is achieved, as a support, the writer uses the theory by Oshima and Hogue (2006, p. 22), that stated about ways to achieve coherence in the paragraph by four ways. There are *repeating key words, use consistent pronouns, transition signal, and logical order*. The writer applies both theories

above to get the overall data analysis appropriately. The writer chooses the data for this research from *English Literature Students Thesis of STBA JIA*.

## **C. Objective and Significant of The Research**

### **1. Objectives of The Research**

Based on the problems of the researcher mentioned above, the objectives of the research are described as the following:

- a. To find out the kinds of coherence relations used in the background thesis of English Literature Students of STBA JIA.
- b. For identifying the ways of achieving coherence in paragraph of student's English Literature Thesis of STBA JIA.

### **2. Significances of the Research**

Through this research the writer hopes that the result of this paper can provide valuable contribution and be useful for student who wants to study English especially in Discourse Analysis.

#### **1. Theoretically Significance**

This research is expected to be useful to enrich the previous studies linguistic about discourse analysis especially in coherence analysis. It also can give information about what coherence in paragraph and how to recognize it to make a discourse text coherent. The writer also hopes that this research will be useful for



the next researches as a discourse comparison or reference that will assist them to understand more about coherence.

## **2. Practically Significance**

Practically, the research result is expected to be useful to help other researchers who are doing research on the same subject and can be a reference for other as well especially to the student whose major in in linguistics. For the writer, this research may improve knowledge to understand and learned about paragraph coherence.

## **D. Operational Definition**

In this section, the writer tries to explain the operational definitions as the theories received from some books as follow:

### **1. Discourse Analysis**

Discourse analysis is a branch of linguistic study, it is the relationship between how a language and the context in which it is used.

### **2. Coherence**

Based on the definition by many experts, the writer has a view that coherence is a linkage or relation between each sentence in paragraph or a discourse. From that linkage, idea and topic can be conveyed clearly.

### 3. Paragraph

Paragraph is a piece of written text, it contains several sentences which are give information or idea.

### 4. Thesis

As a student write a thesis is a must in the end of the year of college. Thesis is a kind of scientific paper and it is an assignment to fulfill the final work for every student in college. Students have to finish it to complete the education and get the bachelor's degree.

### E. Systematization of The Research

This paper is arranged systematically in order to make the reader understand easily. This paper is divided into five parts in the form of chapters. The description of each chapter will be described below:

**Chapter I:** Introduction explains about the background of the research, question of the research, scope of the research, objective of the research, significance of the research, operational definitions and systematization of the research.

**Chapter II:** Theoretical Description consists of definition of discourse, discourse analysis, definition of cohesion and coherence, definition of text, paragraph, and definitions of thesis. This section describes the theory used on this research. The terms of the theory are also explained more detail including the related references.

**Chapter III:** Research Methodology contains the method of the research which consists of Time and Place of the Research, Kind of the Research, Procedure of the Research, Technique of Data Collection, Technique of Data Analysis, and Source of Primary and Secondary Data.

**Chapter IV:** Analysis Data shows data description, data analysis, data interpretation and the discussion.

**Chapter V:** Conclusion and Suggestion give the summary from all chapters and suggestion which relate to the research.

