

An Analysis of Grammatical Cohesive Device of the Short Story the Little Match Girl by Hans Christian Andersen 2016/2017

Agus Hidayat

IAIN Raden Intan Lampung

Email: hidayatagus66@yahoo.com

Abstract. *The objective of this study is to analyze the grammatical cohesive device especially the reference of a short story written by a famous author, Hans Christian Andersen entitled The Little Match Girl. The type of the study used in this case is descriptive qualitative research. This study is done by analyzing the short story by locating the references used in the story and then calculating the amount of the references and determining the type of references found in to two categories, Anaphoric and cataphoric references. Based on the analysis, it was found that the short story contain 87 (eighty seven) references, in which 81 (eighty one) references belong to the anaphoric category and 6 (six) references belong to cataphoric category.*

Key words: *grammatical cohesive devices; references; anaphoric; cataphoric*

A. INTRODUCTION

Compared to the other skills, it is quite possible that writing will come out as the hardest one to master. Blanchard and Root (2010) state that in learning new language, writing is the most difficult skill to achieve. There are many things to be considered when producing a written product. One of them is grammar knowledge. Someone is considered successful in learning a language when they are able to communicate with ease in both oral and written. Well-structured and understandable sentences are the clear sign of a good grammatical competence. Richards (2006:3) states that grammatical competence refers to the knowledge we have of language that accounts for our ability to produce sentences in a language.

Beside grammar knowledge, there are other factors contribute to the quality of a writing product, such as cohesion and coherence. Cohesion, or coherence, is the intangible glue that holds paragraphs together. Having good coherence in a writing project means that your ideas stick together and flow smoothly from one sentence to the next, so that readers of your work can easily understand where you are taking them.

In this study, the writer focused his attention on the cohesion or cohesive devices found in an essay. Cohesion concerns the flow of sentences and paragraphs from one to another. It involves the tying together of old information and new. When we write academic essays, particularly in the humanities, we work hard to foster cohesion structurally; this enhances a reader's understanding of our ideas.

In this study, the writer analyzed a famous short story written by Hans Christian Andersen entitled The Little Match Girl. Hans Christian Andersen (2 April 1805 - 4 August 1875) is a well-known author for his masterpiece has been spread and acknowledged in the whole world. Wenande (2012) mentions that Andersen's fairy tales, which have been translated into more than 125 languages, have become culturally embedded in the West's collective consciousness, readily accessible to children, but presenting lessons of virtue and resilience in the face of adversity for mature readers as well. some of his most famous fairy tales include The Little Mermaid, The Little Match Girl, The Ugly Duckling, Thumbellina, and The Snow Queen

In this study, the writer limited the discussion only in the references of the grammatical cohesive device. Through this study it is expected that the reader could gain a deeper understanding about the reference of the grammatical cohesive devices used in short story.

Cohesive Devices

One thing that must exist in a good writing is cohesion. Cohesive devices are useful English language conjunctions, transitional phrases, synonyms and pronouns that express ideas in a cohesive manner. They are used to join sentences together to make ideas more understandable to the reader. It is a series of lexical, grammatical and other relations which provide links between the various parts of a text. In cohesion there is a distinction between grammatical cohesion consists of reference, substitution, ellipsis and conjunction and lexical cohesion which are repetition and collocation (Halliday & Hasan, 1976).

Grammatical Cohesive Devices

According to Halliday & Hasan (1976), In grammatical cohesive devices, there are four items are attached which are reference, substitution ellipsis and conjunction. Each of them stands as grammatical cohesive device that has its own character.

1. Reference

Wales (1989: 396) observes that reference is concerned with the relation between words and extra-linguistic reality. Reference is when one word refers to the other word. The references are distinguished into two kinds, they are Anaphoric and Cataphoric references. Morley (1985: 76) for his part sees reference as the meaning relationship which links full lexical expression of an entity or circumstance with the pro-form/substitute to which it refers. Pronouns and certain phrases are used to point back or forward to elements in the text in English.

Table 1. Pronoun in References

Pronoun	He/she/it/they
Possessive pronoun	His/her/hers/their/theirs
Objective pronoun	Her/him/them
Demonstrative pronoun	This/that/these/those
Other phrases	The former/the latter/the first/the second

In a text, the terms reference and refer are convenient to describe the function of words like pronouns and determiners to designate a noun phrase they identify within the immediate co-text (Wales, 1989: 397).

a. **Anaphoric References**

The most common cohesive device in texts is the backward reference to something that has been mentioned before. The technical term for this type of reference is *anaphora*. Three examples of anaphoric reference are:

1. Use of a pronoun to refer back to an already-mentioned noun.
2. Use of the definite article to qualify a noun that has been already been introduced with the indefinite article.
3. Substitution of an already mentioned noun by a synonym or hyponym.

Here are examples of each:

- My sister's on the phone. **She** says she needs the drill **that** she lent us.
- When I looked out of the window yesterday I saw a man and a woman standing by the gate. **The** man was wearing a hooded jacket and **the** woman was carrying a baseball bat.
- There was so much delicious **food** on display, but I'm on a diet so I had to stick to the **salad**.

b. **Cataphoric reference**

Another common cohesive device is forward reference or cataphora. Here are two examples of cataphoric reference:

- Perhaps I shouldn't tell you **this**, but when I was young I had hair down to my waist!
- Please send your reply to the **following** address.

2. Substitution

A relation within the text body is called substitution. A substitute is a short of counter which is used in place of the repetition of a particular item. A word is not omitted, but is substituted for another more general word.

For example:

“Which ice-cream would you like?

“I would like the pink one”.

"one" is used instead of repeating "ice-cream”.

Halliday and Hasan (1997) state that substitution is divided in to three types. They are nominal substitution, verbal substitution and clausal substitution.

- a. Nominal substitution substitutes the noun in the sentence. Commonly the substitutes used are one/ones.

For example : *The car's price is too expensive. I can only buy the cheaper **one**.*

The “one” used in the sentence substitutes the car mentioned in the previous sentence.

- b. Verbal substitution substitutes the verb in the sentence. commonly the substitute used are do/does/did

For example: *You think Sue already drink. I think everybody **does**.*

“does” used in the sentence substitutes the verb “drink” mentioned in the previous sentence.

- c. Clausal substitution substitutes the clause in the sentence. Commonly the substitute used is *so*.

For example: *If you agree on that, **so is she**.*

"so she is" used in the sentence substitutes the clause “agree on that” mentioned in the previous sentence.

3. Ellipsis

Ellipsis is the omission from speech or writing of a word or words that are superfluous or able to be understood from contextual clues. This type cohesive device will be characterized by unchanged of the meaning although part of the sentence has been omitted such as the pronouns

For example:

The tiny creature – called Peewee – is fully grown and yet (he) measures less than one inch in length, (he) weighs less than one ounce and (he) is no higher than a 50p piece. (Halliday & Hasan, 1976).

The pronoun “he” is supposed to be written in the series of sentences above, but instead it is omitted. The omittance of the pronoun is called ellipsis, it is allowed as long as the meaning of the sentence is still the same and understandable.

4. Conjunction

Wren and Martin (2004:129) state that conjunction is a word which merely joins together sentences and sometimes word. Conjunction joins together sentence and often makes them more compact. conjunctions are member of small class that have no characteristic form, their function are chiefly as non moveable structure words that join such units as part of speech , phrases, or clauses. There are four kinds of conjunction; additive conjunction, adversative conjunction, causal conjunction, and temporal conjunction.

a. Additive Conjunction

This conjunction has a function to connect two clauses that contain different information, An, *or, nor, furthermore, besides, that is, in other words, etc* (Halliday & Hasan, 1976)

b. Adversative Conjunction

This conjunction connects two different clauses where each content is in contrast one to another by using these words such as *but, though, yet, however, on the other hand, in either case, etc.*

For example:

- *All of the figures were correct; they'd been checked. Yet the total came out wrong.*
- *All this time Tweedledee was trying his best to fold up the umbrella, with himself in it.....but he couldn't quite succeed..... (Halliday & Hasan, 1976)*

c. Causal Conjunction

This conjunction bodes the cause or signals. The example of them are *so, thus, hence, therefore, consequently, accordingly, result, in consequence, because of that, etc.*

For the example: *...she wouldn't have heard it at all, if it hadn't come quite close to her car. The consequence of this was that it tickled her ear very much..... (Halliday & Hasan, 1976).*

d. Temporal Conjunction

Its function is to give a sequence or a time for something to happen. They are *then, until then, next, afterward, subsequently etc.* In a sentence it can be like in this following: *The weather cleared just as the party approached the summit. Until then they had seen nothing of the panorama around them. (Halliday & Hasan, 1976)*

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The research design of this study is descriptive qualitative. Maneen (1983:32) states that qualitative refers to the meaning, the definition or analogy or model or metaphor characterizing something. Further, Maanen states that qualitative research related with the time, space and the other elements that can be distributed analytically. The processed of qualitative research will form a pattern can be used for long time. Maxwell (1996:17) states that the strength as qualitative research derives primarily from its inductive approach, its focus on specific situation or people, and its emphasis on words rather the numbers.

The analyzed data in this study was gained through documentation by conducting an analysis of the grammatical cohesive devices; especially the reference in the short story written by Hans Christian Andersen entitled The Little Match Girl. The full script of the studied short shory is as follows:

THE LITTLE MATCH GIRL

Most terribly cold it was; it snowed, and was nearly quite dark, and evening-- the last evening of the year. In this cold and darkness there went along the street a poor little girl, bareheaded, and with naked feet. When she left home she had slippers on, it is true; but what was the good of that? They were very large slippers, which her mother had her to worn; so large were they; and the poor little thing lost them as she scuffled away across the street, because of two carriages that rolled by dreadfully fast.

One slipper was nowhere to be found; the other had been laid hold of by an urchin, and off he ran with it; he thought it would do capitally for a cradle when he some day or other should have children himself. So the little maiden walked on with her tiny naked feet that were quite red and blue from cold. She carried a quantity of matches in an old apron, and she held a bundle of them in her hand. Nobody had bought anything of her the whole livelong day; no one had given her a single farthing.

She crept along trembling with cold and hunger--a very picture of sorrow, the poor little thing!

The flakes of snow covered her long fair hair, which fell in beautiful curls around her neck; but of that, of course, she never once now thought. From all the windows the candles were gleaming, and it smelt

so deliciously of roast goose, for you know it was New Year's Eve; yes, of that she thought.

In a corner formed by two houses, of which one advanced more than the other, she seated herself down and cowered together. Her little feet she had drawn close up to her, but she grew colder and colder, and to go home she did not venture, for she had not sold any matches and could not bring a farthing of money: from her father she would certainly get blows, and at home it was cold too, for above her she had only the roof, through which the wind whistled, even though the largest cracks were stopped up with straw and rags.

Her little hands were almost numbed with cold. Oh! a match might afford her a world of comfort, if she only dared take a single one out of the bundle, draw it against the wall, and warm her fingers by it. She drew one out. "Rischt!" how it blazed, how it burnt! It was a warm, bright flame, like a candle, as she held her hands over it: it was a wonderful light. It seemed really to the little maiden as though she were sitting before a large iron stove, with burnished brass feet and a brass ornament at top. The fire burned with such blessed influence; it warmed so delightfully. The little girl had already stretched out her feet to warm them too; but--the small flame went out, the stove vanished: she had only the remains of the burnt-out match in her hand.

She rubbed another against the wall: it burned brightly, and where the light fell on the wall, there the wall became transparent like a veil, so that she could see into the room. On the table was spread a snow-white tablecloth; upon it was a splendid porcelain service, and the roast goose was steaming famously with its stuffing of apple and dried plums. And what was still more capital to behold was, the goose hopped down from the dish, reeled about on the floor with knife and fork in its breast, till it came up to the poor little girl; when--the match went out and nothing but the thick, cold, damp wall was left behind. She lighted another match. Now there she was sitting under the most magnificent Christmas tree: it was still larger, and more decorated than the one which she had seen through the glass door in the rich merchant's house.

Thousands of lights were burning on the green branches, and gaily-colored pictures, such as she had seen in the shop-windows, looked down upon her. The little maiden stretched out her hands towards them when--the match went out. The lights of the Christmas tree rose higher and higher, she saw them now as stars in heaven; one fell down and formed a long trail of fire.

"Someone is just dead!" said the little girl; for her old grandmother, the only person who had loved her, and who was now no more, had told her, that when a star falls, a soul ascends to God.

She drew another match against the wall: it was again light, and in the lustre there stood the old grandmother, so bright and radiant, so mild, and with such an expression of love.

"Grandmother!" cried the little one. "Oh, take me with you! You go away when the match burns out; you vanish like the warm stove, like the delicious roast goose, and like the magnificent Christmas tree!" And she rubbed the whole bundle of matches quickly against the wall, for she wanted to be quite sure of keeping her grandmother near her. And the matches gave such a brilliant light that it was brighter than at noon-day: never formerly had the grandmother been so beautiful and so tall. She took the little maiden, on her arm, and both flew in brightness and in joy so high, so very high, and then above was neither cold, nor hunger, nor anxiety--they were with God.

But in the corner, at the cold hour of dawn, sat the poor girl, with rosy cheeks and with a smiling mouth, leaning against the wall--frozen to death on the last evening of the old year. Stiff and stark sat the child there with her matches, of which one bundle had been burnt. "She wanted to warm herself," people said. No one had the slightest suspicion of what beautiful things she had seen; no one even dreamed of the splendor in which, with her grandmother she had entered on the joys of a new year.

Source: americanliterature.com

In analyzing the data, the researcher did a non-statistical analysis based on the shown data. The procedure of the data analysis was as follow:

1. Identifying the words belong to which type of reference of the grammatical cohesive devices.
2. Counting the number of words belong to each type reference of grammatical cohesive device.
3. Classifying the words that belong to each type of reference of grammatical cohesive device.

C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The short story analyzed in this study was The Little Match Girl written by Hans Christian Andersen. The data have been gathered by reading the text of the short story. Then the references of grammatical cohesive devices found throughout the

text would be located and counted which later would be classified in the respective type of reference of the grammatical cohesive devices.

1. The Reference

Based on the text of the short story, it is found that there are 87 references. the references found are divided into two categories, namely anaphoric and cataphoric.

Anaphoric references

The anaphoric references found in the text consist of 81 reference, for example:

- In this cold and darkness there went along the street a poor little girl, bareheaded, and with naked feet. When **she** left home she had slippers on, it is true;
(“She” refers to the poor little girl).
- They were very large slippers, which her mother had her to worn; so large were **they**; and the poor little thing lost **them** as she scuffled away across the street.
(“They” and “Them” refer to the slippers).
- One slipper was nowhere to be found; **the other** had been laid hold of by an urchin
(“The other” refers to the slippers)
- Never formerly had the grandmother been so beautiful and so tall. **She** took the little maiden.
(“She” refers to the grandmother)
- The other had been laid hold of by an urchin, and off **he** ran with **it**.
(“He” Refers to the urchin, “It” refers to the slipper)
- One slipper was nowhere to be found; **the other** had been laid hold of by an urchin.
(“The other” refers to a slipper)

Cataphoric references

The cataphoric references found in the text consist of 6 reference, they are:

- **They** were very large slippers, which her mother had her to worn.
(“They” refers to the slippers)
- **She** crept along trembling with cold and hunger--a very picture of sorrow, the poor little thing.
(“She” refers to the little girl/poor little thing)
- **it** was a wonderful light
(“It” refers to the light)
- such as **she** had seen in the shop-windows, looked down upon **her**. The little maiden stretched out her hands towards them when--the match went out.
(“she” and “her” refer to the little maiden)
- **it** was again light, and in the lustre there.
(“It” refers to the light)

Based on the analysis of the references found in the short story, it can be found that the types of references used are varied. Based on the text, there are 87 (eighty seven) references in total. 81 (eighty one) reference out of the total references found belong to the anaphoric category, where the rest, 6 (six) references belong to the cataphoric references.

D. CONCLUSION

Wales (1989: 396) observes that reference is concerned with the relation between words and extra-linguistic reality. Reference is when one word refers to the other word. The references are distinguished into two kinds, they are Anaphoric and Cataphoric references. Cohesive device in texts is the backward reference to something that has been mentioned before is called anaphora, while the forward reference is called cataphora

Based on the analysis of the text of the short story entitled The Little Match Girl by Hans Christian Andersen, the writer concluded that the short story used varied references of grammatical cohesive device. It is proven based on the analysis that there are 87 references found throughout the text which 81 out of the total number

of references belong to the anaphoric category and 6 references belong to the cataphoric category .

E. REFERENCES

- Halliday, M & Hasan, R. 1976. *Cohesion in English*. London: Longman
- Morley, G. D. 1985. *An Introduction to Systemic Grammar*. London: Longman.
- [Root, C., Blanchard, K.](#) 2010. *Ready to Write*. London: Longman.
- Wales, Katie. 1989. *A Dictionary of Stylistics*. London: Longman.
- Wenande, Christian.2012. [Unknown Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale discovered](#). The Copenhagen Post. Archived from [the original](#) on 14 December 2012. Retrieved 15 December 2012.