



## An Analysis of Lexical Cohesion in the “Alice in Wonderland” Novel by Lewis Carroll

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### Abstract

The title of this study is Analysis of Textual Cohesion in the Novel Alice in Wonderland. The purpose of this study is to explore the type and amount of textual cohesion in Lewis Carroll's novel Alice in Wonderland. The method that the writer used is descriptive qualitative method. The technique of data collection used in this study involves several steps such as reading the novel searching for lexical cohesion in the novel and recording lexical cohesion in the novel. The source of data for this study is Lewis Carroll's novel Alice in Wonderland. The lexical cohesion that is the focus of this research are repetition, synonym, superordinate, and general noun. Based on the results of data analysis, it was found as much as 103 data. They were 64 findings (62%) of repetition, 11 findings (10,5%) of synonym, 24 findings (23,5%) of superordinate and 4 findings (4%) of general noun. From the finding above it can be seen that the most domineering is Repetition with 64 data findings with a percentage of 62 %.

**Keywords:** An Analysis, Lexical Cohesion, Novel

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### INTRODUCTION

Language is a tool of communication used by humans in everyday life. Language is used to communicate and exchange information and arguments with each other (Moats, 2020). Language is an expression that contains meaning to convey something to others. Something that is meant by the speaker can be understood and understood by the listener or interlocutor through spoken language. To understand meaning in language, we can study one branch of linguistics, namely semantics.

Semantics is the study of meaning in language (Shaw, 2011). Semantics studies the relationship between words and the meaning of these words. In linguistics the semantics of an expression refers to a complex meaning calculated by combining the meanings of the individual lexical units in the expression (Pykkänen, 2011). The term semantics is often interpreted as the study of meaning. It may be more accurately defined as the study of the relationship between linguistic form and meaning (Kroeger, 2023). Semantics is related to the literal meaning of a word and the way these words are combined to form the root or starting point of the meaning that is the basis for the formation of the full meaning of an utterance (Kearns, 2017). The use of semantics will be very helpful in unraveling problems related to understanding a word or the connotation of that word. The reason is, often the same set of words can be interpreted differently by each person. To interpret semantics in text elements and several other elements, we can study and use cohesion.

Cohesion is the meaningful relationship between parts of a text and other elements important to its meaning (Halliday and Hasan, 1976). Cohesion is the semantic relationship found in a text to create connections between different parts of the text. (Septiyana et al., 2021). Cohesion is one of the semantic links that human writers use to structure and organize text (Benbrahim, 1995). Although lexical cohesion is considered one of the most effective ways to meet the above expectations the various research on lexical cohesion have a common observation that they identify different linguistic ways to achieve text organization (Danglli, 2014). So cohesion is a semantic concept that occurs when the interpretation of some elements of speech depends on another. Cohesion is not only a matter of form (grammatical cohesion) but also a matter of meaning (lexical cohesion) (Sidabutar, 2021). Cohesion is divided into two types: grammatical and lexical cohesion.

Grammatical cohesion is a marker of cohesion that involves use linguistic elements (Halliday and Hasan, 1976). This tool is used to connect ideas between sentences. In other words, connectedness between sentences that are expressed grammatically element. Grammatical cohesion is the combination of sentences made up of grammatical features (Batubara, 2022). Grammatical cohesion is created by using the grammatical elements of a text to express semantic relationships within and between sentences (Afrianto, 2017). Grammatical analysis is used to analyze papers. According to him the match can be grammatical and lexical. Elliptical referential substitution and conjunctions are types of grammatical cohesion or cohesive relations (Alarcon, 2011). Grammatical cohesion is

used to show that there is a pattern of linguistic relationships between sentences that form a conversation (Ekowati, 2019). Grammatical cohesion is characterized by references, substitutions, ellipsis, and conjunctions. Grammatical cohesion is the form of coherence created by grammar. Clauses refer to the internal structure of links or devices in the text to express sentences. In addition to grammatical cohesion there is also lexical cohesion.

Lexical Cohesion is a composition of sentences built from lexical features of words (Batubara, 2022). Cohesion is created through grammar (such as the use of pronouns and conjunctions) and through lexis (the use of words with related meanings). The latter is called lexical cohesion. (Beata, 2008). Lexical cohesion device refers to the role of lexical choice in maintaining connections in a text. It refers to a relationship based on the words used rather than a grammatical and semantic relationship. This occurs when two words in the text are semantically related in some way. They are related in their meaning (Masithoh, 2017). There are two main types of lexical cohesion: reiteration and collocation. We can find cohesion in various kinds of sentences or texts, one of which is in literary works.

Literary works are forms of expression a culture and traditions of human that create the image of public life (Simanjuntak, 2022). Literary works are divided into three types, namely prose, poetry and drama. Regarding prose fiction, it is generally divided into two, short stories and novel. Novels are a step up from literary works intended for education and entertainment. Novels contain thoughts feelings ideas and an understanding of what is happening in the society around the reader (Epa, 2019). The novel is a long prose essay and tells a series of stories about a mans life with the people around him to the extent that they illuminate the character and character of each actor. It is a novel literary work with cultural socio-ethical and educational values. A novel can be a medium to pour out the writers thoughts and feelings in response to the life around him that the novice view calls him to create a story quickly when new problems arise in the life around him. As a medium form of literature (not a short story or a romance) the novel is sufficient for the important events of human life in a very critical situation. Different problems create different tensions that require solutions.

The researcher is interested to using a novel entitled "Alice in Wonderland". The researcher chooses the novel "Alice in Wonderland" as an object that will be researched because when the writer read the novel, the writer found many lexical cohesion in this novel. This is a classic and popular English novel. Alices Adventures in Wonderland is the most popular childrens book of all time. The novel was a huge success since its publication in 1865. The work has been translated into more than 80 languages adapted for the theater and is one of the most quoted works in English literature which makes researchers interested in analyzing it.

From the statement above the researcher is interested in conducting research entitles " An Analysis of Reiteration Lexical Cohesion in the Novel Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll".

## **METHOD**

The method in this research is descriptive method. Descriptive method is a method used by researchers to gain knowledge about research at a particular point in time (Mukhtar, 2020). The research was approached from a descriptive perspective, where descriptions using words were utilized, and numerical analysis was not included unless it was deemed necessary (Ary, 2006). This study adopted a descriptive approach to narratively describe the data collected not only analyzing and describing the data but also interpreting the data to gain a richer and deeper understanding of the patterns of lexical cohesion in the Alice in Wonderland Novel.

### **Technique of Collecting Data**

In the majority of qualitative studies, the processed of data collection and analyzed occurs concurrently, which implied that the researcher did not delay the interpretation of data until all the data has been gathered. For researchers, data played a crucial role in identifying and resolving problems. As such, it was a fundamental element required in conducting research (Ary, 2006). In collecting data, the researcher used the novel "Alice in Wonderland" as a data source.

In this research, the writer used several ways to collect the data:

1. Understanding about lexical cohesion
2. Read the novel
3. Find the words of lexical cohesion in the novel
4. Make a note of the lexical cohesion words in the novel

## Technique of Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer read to find out the amount of lexical cohesion in the Alice in Wonderland Novel. Technique of data analysis that carried out by the writer based on (Gay, 2012) :

1. Reading/memoing.

The writer read and write memos about all notes and the data in the novel.

2. Describing the data.

The writer describing based on collected data and notes from the novel.

3. Classifying the data.

The writer make a classification or coding; the pieces of data are then categorized.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### RESULT

**Table 1.** Lexical Cohesion in the “Alice in Wonderland Novel” by Lewis Carroll

No.	Type of Lexical Cohesion	Total	Percentage (%)
1	Repetition	64	62%
2	Synonym	11	10,5%
3	Superordinate	24	23,5%
4	General Noun	4	4%
Total		103	100%

### DISCUSSION

The writer discussed about Lexical Cohesion found in the Alice in Wonderland novel by Lewis Carroll. It can be shown from the findings above, where the total words of it were 103 words, and the percentage of using the correct type of lexical cohesion elicited from the theory of Halliday & Hasan. There were Repetition, synonym, superordinate and general noun.

#### a. Repetition

In the Alice in Wonderland Novel by Lewis Carroll there found 64 words (62%) of Repetition. This is the data of repetition that the writer found in the novel.

1. There was nothing that very remakeable in that, nor did Alice think it so very much. (15, 3-4).

**Analysis data:** From this data, the word “very” is mention 2 times. First word of “very” is refer to white rabbit and the second word very is refer to Alice that think about white rabbit. So this is include to repetition.

2. There were doors all round the hall, but they were all locked; and when Alice had been all the way down...(18, 1-2)

**Analysis data:** Based on data above there is repetition of the word “all” as much as 3 times, first word “all” is refer to position of the door, the second word “all” is refer to the door that locked, and the last word “all” is refer to Alice. So this is include repetition because the word “all” is mention 3 times.

3. Either the locks were too large, or the key was too small (18, 14-15)

**Analysis data:** In this data there is the word “too” that stated by author as much 2 times, first word “too” is refer to the locks, and the second word “too” is refer to the key. So the writer include it in repetition.

4. And behind it was a little door about fifteen inches high: she tried the little golden key in the lock (18, 20-21)

**Analysis data:** From the that data the writer foud the repetition of word “little”. The first word “little” is refer to the door about fifteen inches high, and the second word “little” refer to the golden key. So this is include repetition because the word “little” are stated 2 times.

5. Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage, not much larger than a rat-hole: she knelt down and looked along the passage into the loveliest garden you ever saw. (18, 23-26).

**Analysis data:** In this data, the word “passage” is mention by the author. First word of “Passage” is when Alice open the door and found a small passage. And the second word “Passage” is when Alice was looked along the passage and found a beautiful garden into it. It include a Repetition because it stated 2 times in the sentence.

#### b. Synonym

In the Alice in Wonderland Novel by Lewis Carroll there found 11 words (10,5%) of Synonym. Synonym occurs when lexical items are identical and have the same meaning. In another word, one lexical item can be substituted with another because it has a similar meaning or has a related meaning. This is the data that the writer found in the novel.

1. “Well!” thought Alice to herself. “After such a fall as this, I shall think nothing of tumbling downstairs!.. (15, 12-13)  
**Analysis data:** From the data above, the writer found a synonym from the word “thought” and “think”. This word refer to Alice, when she fall in the rabbit hole. The word thought and think have similar meaning and categorized as synonym meaning. So based on explanation above, the writer include it into synonym.
  2. She looked up, but it was all dark overhead. (17, 8-9)  
**Analysis data:** In the data above the writer found the word “looked up” and “overhead”. This term refers to the fact that when Alice fell into Wonderland she felt no harm just bounced for a moment and appeared completely black. The words head up and up mean the same thing. So, because of that the writer include it into synonym.
  3. ... if you hold it too long; and that if you cut your finger very deeply... (19, 26-27)  
**Analysis data:** From the data above, the writer found synonym of the word “too” and “very”. This is refer when Alice when she made a supposition by assuming that if he held the red hot poker too long she would burn, and if she cut his finger too deeply she would bleed. The word “too” and “very” have similar meaning, so the writer include it in synonym.
  4. It is almost certain to disagree with you sooner, or later. (20,2-3)  
**Analysis data:** Based on the data above, the writer found the synonym of the word “sooner” and “later”. This is refer when Alice think about a bottle marked poison that almost certain to disagree with her sooner or later, but the bottle not marked poison. The word “sooner” and “later” have similar meaning and categorized as same meaning, so the writer include it in synonym.
  5. But it’s no use now, though poor Alice “to pretend to be two people! Why, there’s hardly enough of me left to make one respectable person!”. (21, 16-17).  
**Analysis data:** Based on that data, the writer found a synonym the words “people” and “person” that have smilar meaning and categorized as synonym meaning. The word “people” refer to more than 1 person and the word “person” refer to 1 person. In this data, the use of the words "person" and "people" are interpreted to have the same meaning. When Alice feels that she is two people because her body is always changing size, and wishes she could become one person, namely her whole self. So the writer categorized it into synonym.
- c. Superordinate
- In the Alice in Wonderland Novel by Lewis Carroll there found 24 words (23,5%) of Superordinate. The author uses new words that include more precise meanings of the words. It is a superlative relation of meaning between a more general word and a more specific word. This is the data of superordinate that the writer found in the novel.
1. And noticed that they were filled with cupboard and bookshelves here. (15,4)  
**Analysis data:** From the data above, the writer found superordinate of the word “cupboard” and bookshelves”. This is refer when Alice fall into the hole rabbit, she looked the cupboard and bookshelves when she fall. The word cupboard is a part of bookshelves. So the writer include it in superordinate.
  2. And here and there she saw maps and pictures hang upon pegs. (15, 5)  
**Analysis data:** Based on the data above, the writer found superordinate from the word “maps” and “pictures”. It’s refer to Alice fell into the rabbit hole and sees pictures and paintings hanging on nails. The word maps is a part of the word pictures, so the writer include it in superordinate.
  3. ... into her eyes and once she remembered trying to box her own ears... (21, 10-12)  
**Analysis data:** In the data above, the writer found a superordinate from the word “eyes” and “ears”. This is refer to when Alice cry because she can’t open the door to found the white rabbit. The word “eyes” is part from the word “ears”, based on that explanation the writer include it in superordinate.
  4. How queer everything is today! And yesterday things went on just as usual. (26, 6-7)  
**Analysis data:** From the data above, the writer found superordinate from the word “today” and “yesterday”. This is refer to when Alice looked the white rabbit walk away into the dark passage. The word “today” is a part of the word “yesterday, because of that, the writer include it in superordinate.
  5. I wonder if I’ve been changed in the night? Let me think was I the same when I got up this morning? (26, 7-8)  
**Analysis data:** Based on the data above, the writer found the superordinate from the word “night” and “morning”. This is refer to Alice that wonder and confused about what happen in her life. The word “night” is same part as “morning”, so this is include superordinate.
- d. General Noun
- In the Alice in Wonderland Novel by Lewis Carroll there found 4 words (4%) of General Noun. Novel authors use certain words or phrases that occur in certain word patterns or novel units. This is the data that writer found in the novel.
1. Who in the world am I? Ah, that’s the great puzzle! (26, 10-11)  
**Analysis data:** From the data above, the writer found the word “the world” and the word “the great puzzle”. This is when Alice confused and wonder where she is. The word “the world” is explained more in the next sentence by the word “the great puzzle”, so the writer include it in general noun.

2. But I've got to watch this mouse-hole till Dinah come back, and see that the mouse doesn't get out. (44, 16-17)  
**Analysis data:** In the data above, the writer found the word "mouse-hole" and "mouse". It is refer when Alice enter to the rabbit house and looked a mouse hole. The word "mouse" is explained more by the word "mouse hole", so the writer include it in general noun.
3. As she said this, she came suddenly upon an open place, with a little house in it about four feet high. (68, 3-5).  
**Analysis data:** From this data, the writer found the word "place" and "a little house". It was when Alice came in a place, in that place there is a little house. So the word "place" is explained in more detail by the word "a little house", it could be said that the word "place" here is the general noun of the word "a little house".
4. "It's always teatime, and we've no time to wash things between whiles." (90, 13-15).  
**Analysis data:** In the data above, there are word "teatime" and "time". The sentences is refer to the Hatter that only have teatime and they don't have time to do anything else. The word "teatime" here describes the time for drinking tea, and the word "time" is a more general word than the word "teatime". So the writer put it into a general noun.

## CONCLUSION

According to the results and discussion in the previous chapter, several conclusions can be drawn based on Lexical Cohesion in Lewis Carroll's Novel Alice in Wonderland as follows.

In relation to the first objective, which is to describe the words of lexical cohesion in Alice in Wonderland Novel by Lewis Carroll. There are 103 words of lexical cohesion found in the novel. There are four types of lexical cohesion in the novel. They are repetition, synonym, superordinate, and the last is general noun.

From the three types, the most dominant word used the novel is repetition, which are 64 words (62%). The next word has the second rank, namely Superordinate, as many as 24 words (23,5%) and then in the third rank, synonym as many as 11 words (10,5%), and the last is General Noun as many as 4 words (4%).

Thus, from this amount it can be concluded that in Alice in Wonderland Novel by Lewis Carroll found many words of lexical cohesion with a total of 40 data findings and the most domineering is Repetition with 64 data findings with a percentage of (62%).

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