Cohesion in News Articles: A Discourse Analysis of Two News Articles
From BBC And TOLO News About Overturning The Courts’
Decision For Ahmad Omar Sheikh

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Abstract
The purpose of the current study is to identify various types of cohesive devices and their usage in the
selected news articles about the courts’ decision for British-born Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh who is
convicted of killing US journalist Daniel Pearl; published in Tolo News and BBC News websites. The data
is analysed based on the cohesion model proposed by Holiday and Hasan Cohesions are semantic
connections or “relationships of meanings within the text that describe it as a text” (Halliday and Hasan,
1976). The findings of the study show that grammatical cohesive devices containing references,
conjunctions, substitution and ellipsis as well as lexical cohesions involving repetitions and collocations
were found in both news articles. Among other grammatical cohesive devices, references were found to
be frequently used in both news articles while repetitions were the most frequently occurred cohesive
devices among lexical cohesion. It can be concluded that all the mentioned cohesive devices employed in
the text ultimately contributed to the meaning of the text by binding it in an organised way. It also has been
observed that writers use cohesions to give a sense of connection and order to the text.

Keywords: cohesive devices, Cohesions, Discourse analysis

INTRODUCTION
A text is a unit of language in use. Every text has a structure, and the structure refers
to how information is arranged within a written text (Holiday and Hassan, 1976). A text
is called well-structured text when the clauses and sentences in the text link together.
Every word, phrase, clause and sentence must link to each other in written text. The unity
of text is shown by its cohesion. Cohesion refers to the relationship of meaning that
occurs within the text and determines it as a text. It is considered an internal element
binding together the passage (Halliday & Hasan, 1976). According to Dastjerdi and
Samian (2011), it is a kind of hint for readers to relate the meaning together within the
text. The usage of cohesion plays a unique role in the creation of text through which we
identify the continuity existing between one part of the text to another (Halliday &
Hasan, 1976). Generally, media uses written text from all sort of aspects to convey news.
The media used for the public requires clear language to allow the readers to know what
is presented in the text. News is one way to spread information through mass media,
online or electronic media. In Afghanistan, individuals who were not able to access
newspapers or magazine or who don’t have time to read a newspaper or watch television
programs can access the news online. Currently, there are many kinds of online news
sources in Afghanistan which can be easily accessed such as BBC, VOA, Tolo News,
Shamshad News, Taand, Khaama Press, Afghanpaperv, Pajhwok Afghan News and so on.
The researchers, of course, can analyse the language within the discourse of the news
which comes from critical discourse analysis (CDA). The critical analysis criticises discourse of the news itself in the language news or journalism (Richardson, 2007). Therefore, the writer argues that the unity of text is considered if the elements of cohesion exist in a text. Cohesion refers to how various parts of a text are linked through the use of grammatical reference, conjunction, ellipsis and substitution, and lexical cohesion (Halliday and Hasan, 1976). Semantic is ties or relationship of the meaning that exists within the text and defines it as a text being associated with the concept of textual cohesion. A tie is a part of a sentence which is used for clarity and is referred again to a text which is already described. To produce a coherent text, the use of semantic ties are very important. Sentences without these ties would not be considered as text (Holiday and Hasan 1976). The current research addresses an analysis done on two news articles from BBC and TOLO news websites published on 2nd April 2020. Through this research, the writer analyse the frequency of cohesive devices, how these cohesive are used in the news articles and also the macro-structures of the two news articles.

LITERATURE REVIEW

One of the essential criteria for good writing identified by Holiday and Hasan (1976) is the effective use of cohesive devices. Cohesion has been studied extensively in several areas. Holiday and Hasan (1997) states that a coherent text can be produced with the help of cohesive devices. They define the cohesion as a “set of semantic configurations that are typically associated with a particular class of context or situation and define the substance of the text”. Hasan and Holiday also state that the role of cohesive devices is to connect and relate one part of a text with the other.

Similarly, cohesion is defined by Vein Hinkel (2003) as the connectivity of ideas in discourse and creating a flow of unified information. Reid (1992) has additionally extrapolated cohesive devices as words or phrases that function as signals to the reader; these words or phrases refer to what has been mentioned or will soon be discussing later in the text. Furthermore, Holiday and Hasan (1976) state that cohesive devices make written and oral communication to be grammatical. They categorised coherences as lexical and grammatical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion includes reference, substitution, conjunction, and ellipsis while the lexical includes retribution and collocation. Halliday (1976) identified grammatical cohesion as based on structured and content whereas lexical cohesion is dealt with lexical content and background knowledge.

Beaugrande and Dressler (1990) believes that a text is a unit of one’s action, thought, collaboration and communication. The text is primarily seen as a unit above the sentence level in a detailed view or as a well-organised arrangement of sentences in a generative view. He believes that the grammar of text is considered as a set of linguistics rules that form a sentence and join several statements to create meaning. However, Yeh (2004) considers text as an interactive system from communicative context. In line with Yeh (2004), Abushihab (2010) states that a text is pertinent to a state of existence but intersexuality is a factor due to which a text relies upon information of previously read texts. Yeh (2004), further elaborates that the appearance of some grammatical unit is not fully responsible for the coherence of a text. So, some fundamental semantic relations should be taken into consideration to form a coherent and complete discourse. To Holiday and Hasan,1976; Alarcon and Morales, 2011; and Tanskanen, 2006, cohesive devices are the only linguistics features which can contribute to a sequence text distinguishing a text
from non-text. It can be inferred from the views of the scholars mentioned above that mastering of the cohesive devices is an important element of effective writing and communication. Once someone has started to write a paragraph, there is a need for cohesive devices to form complete meaning. Various studies e.g. Shahnaz & Imtiaz, 2014; Michael et al. 2013; Neisi and Gorjian, 2017 have been conducted to identify the use and effectiveness of cohesive devices in the text. Michael, Muthusamy, Suppiah and Joseph (2013) studied the cohesive in two Malaysian newspaper articles. The purpose of their study was to identify the discourses that stand for universally held assumptions about how the different texts are created and how different part of the texts are linked with cohesive devices. They have employed Halliday and Hasan (1976) theory analysing the newspaper articles. The result of their study shows that both articles project several connections in the field, in the theme and in the method of writing, which are reflected in their corresponding ritual of structural and lexico-grammatical resources. A similar study was conducted by Shahnaz and Imtiaz (2014) in Pakistan. They have analysed a news article from DAWN news. The aim of their study was to identify how cohesive devices have been used in the news article employing Halliday and Hasan’s (1976) framework of cohesion. The result of the study established that all grammatical and lexical cohesion has been exploited in the text contributing to the clarification of the meaning of the text. Also, it has been noticed by the researchers that the writer has used cohesive devices to make a connection of ideas and order in the text.

Neisi and Gorjian (2017) conducted a comparative analysis of English political news written by American native and Iranian non-natives. The aim of this study was to find similarities and differences in using references. The researchers used 100 news articles written by native and 100 by non-native. For the text analysis, the researcher has adopted the classification of references formulated by Holiday (1994). The result of their study shows that the frequency of reference used in political news was different. In American native, the use of reference was the highest while the reference “hers” was the lowest whereas in Persian political news the highest was “the”, and the lowest was “yours”.

Sari and Indarti (2016) analysed an online newspaper to identify the cohesive devices in the news article. The researchers used cohesion model proposed by Holiday and Hasan (1976) and Renkema (2004). The result of their study shows that references, conjunction and substitution are the types of grammatical cohesion used in the text. Among them, reference is the most frequent used cohesive device. Furthermore, repetition and synonyms are types of cohesive lexical devices used in the article. Likewise, Bahaziq (2016) analysed students’ essays for the purpose of defining and describing cohesive devices. The study was conducted based on Holiday and Hasan (1976) model. The result indicates that the grammatical and lexical cohesion are used in the students’ writing. It was also noticed that references and conjunction is the dominant type of grammatical cohesion used in the students writing. In contrast, the use of lexical cohesion was used very few.

Reviewing previous studies, it appears that the usage of the cohesive devices is vital for good writing. It is also observed that excellent and skilled writers have adopted and used cohesion for a meaningful and coherent text. So, this study aims to examine the English language cohesive devices in the news articles. Specifically, the study seeks to answer the following questions.
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976), the concept of cohesion is a semantic one, and it refers to the relation of meaning that exists in the text. Cohesion is not only concerned with grammar but also with vocabulary. Hence, it is divided into grammatical and lexical cohesion (Holiday and Hasan, 1976).

GRAMMATICAL COHESION

Grammatical cohesion are devices which are used to make a text clear and unambiguous. Grammatical cohesion includes reference, substitution, conjunction, and ellipsis.

REFERENCES

Reference is the fundamental essence of the retrieval information that is being signalled. Eggins (1994) claims that through the use of referencing the writer could add participants throughout a text. Based on the place and meaning, references can be divided into two categories exophoric and endophoric. Endophoric references form the relation within the boundaries of the text while exophoric form the relationship outside of the text. Anaphoric and cataphoric are two kinds of endophoric relations. Anaphora reference refers to something mentioned earlier in the text, whereas the cataphoric reference refers to something which will be said afterward (Halliday and Hasan, 1976). Both anaphoric and cataphoric references use personal reference or pronominal reference, demonstrative reference and comparative reference (Halliday and Hasan, 1976).

SUBSTITUTION

In the text, the need for economy and the prevention of repetition requires the use of substitution. Substitution is the relation in wording rather than the meaning. In a piece of writing, when an item is replaced by others for the purpose of avoiding repetition is called substitution. The difference between reference and substitution is that references lie in the relationship between meaning whereas substitution between words. Substitution may functions as a verb, as a noun or as a clause. Halliday and Hasan (1976) nominate these three types of substitutions as nominal, verbal, and clausal.

Nominal substitution: when a noun or a nominal group is substituted with the elements one (plural form ones) or the same is called nominal. Elements of this type are one, ones, and same. Verbal substitution: substituting a verb group or a verb with another verb is called verbal substitution.

ELLIPSIS

The process of omitting an unnecessary item which has been mentioned earlier in a text and replacing it with nothing is called ellipsis. Or simply, we can say that ellipsis is substitution by zero (Halliday & Hasan, 1976). The process of omission takes place within the text so, it is considered as an anaphoric relation. With the occurrence of ellipsis, the item is omitted from the structure of the text, but the meaning can still be understood. Ellipsis has three types, namely, nominal, verbal, and clausal.
CONJUNCTION
Conjunctions are words and linking devices that connect sentences, clauses or ideas to each other in a text. Conjunction expresses logical semantic relation among sentences and ideas rather than between words (Halliday & Hasan, 1976). In other words, they structure the text in a certain logical order that is meaningful to the reader or listener. There are four types of conjunctions, namely additive, adversative, causal, and temporal (Holiday & Hassan 1976).

LEXICAL COHESION
The relation between the words used in a text is called lexical cohesion. Paltridge (2000) states that lexical cohesion is the relationships among lexical items in a text, in particular, among content words. Reiteration and collocations are two main types of lexical cohesion (Halliday, 1985).

REITERATION
It is a lexical form of cohesion defined by Halliday and Hasan (1976) as two items that share the same referent. Reiteration could either be repeated or have similar meanings in a text. Reiteration includes repetition, synonymy, antonymy, and superordination (hyponymy and meronymy).
Repetition: a restatement of the same lexical item in a piece of text is called repetition.
Synonymy: it refers to the items that have similar meanings.
Antonymy: it refers to the relationships among items that have the opposite meaning.

COLLOCATION
The combination of the lexical items that come together and are related to each other. Or it is the combination of two are more words: adjectives and nouns such as, ‘fast food’, verbs and nouns as run out of money’, and other items such as, ‘men’ and ‘women’ that frequently occur together and form a construction of the language (Paltridge, 2012).

METHOD
The current study uses qualitative research designs. The data of the study are two news articles about the court’s decision for British-born Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh who is convicted of killing US journalist Daniel Pearl, published on 2nd April 2020 in Tolo News and BBC News websites. In the following section of the study, the news article from the BBC website is shown as Text (A), and the Article from TOLO News website is shown as text (B). For the qualitative data analysis, the news articles were analysed based on Holiday and Hasan (1976) cohesion model.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
MACROSTRUCTURE OF THE NEWS REPORTS
Both reports present detail information about the situation. The title of the text A presents a clear picture and gives clearer information about the report, whereas the title of the text B is somehow confusing and needs some elaboration. It does not give a clear picture to the readers about the report. As the report is about overturning the death sentence of the killer of the wall street journal reporter but in the title of text B it is not
explained. The title and the body are not aligned as it appears in the title that the focus is on the reporter, whereas the report is about overturning the death sentence of the killer. The headlines of both reports present the summary of the report. The news reports from both sources are organised as the narration in episodes, each consisting of events and followed by consequences and reactions. Each news article provides background information about the person involved in the murder but compares to text B text A provides more background details about the killer’s life. The writers have given enough details about the family background and life of the killer as well as includes the ideas of the defense lawyers and persecutors. According to van Dijk (1986), printed news can be described in term of sequences of structure starting with the summary and leading to the main story organised as one or more episodes and ending with an evaluative or productive comment. This macrostructure of a text reflects and realise writers and readers cognitive schema. The overall organisation of the news articles are narrative (presented as episodes) and informative (provides enough information) in nature.

COHESIVE DEVICES IN TEXT A AND B

In this section, the findings of the study are presented. For the results of the study firstly Text (A) and Text (B) were analysed based on types of cohesive devices proposed by Holiday and Hasan (1976). After the analysis of the cohesive devices, it was classified into grammatical and lexical cohesion and tabulated as follow.

Table 1 Occurrences of Cohesive Devices in Text A

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Cohesive Devices</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Type Number</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reference</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrative</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conjunction</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additive</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adversative</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ellipsis</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clausal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Substitution</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clausal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lexical Cohesion</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retriation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synonym</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collocation</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 AKSARA: Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan Nonformal
Table 1 shows the frequency of various types of cohesive devices found in Text A. All four major types of grammatical cohesion and two types of lexical cohesions namely retriation including repetition and synonym and collocation exist in text A. In this text, there are a total of (92) cohesive devices. From these cohesive devices (73) are grammatical cohesion containing references, conjunction, ellipsis and substitution; and the other (19) are lexical cohesion consist of retriation and collocations. The most frequently used cohesive devices used in text A is references. On overall, 52 references used in the report among which demonstrative references are the most occurred (29), followed by personal (21) references and the least occurred references are comparative references (2). The conjunction is in the 2nd place of grammatical cohesion used in text A. Also, the news article includes (19) conjunctions where the additive conjunction is the dominant one (11), Adversative (2), Causal (0), Temporal (1). The ellipsis and substitution are other kinds of cohesive devices found in the text. There are a total of five substitutions in the text consisting of (4) nominal and (1) clausal whereas only one clausal ellipsis found the article. Lexical cohesion is the other kind of cohesion used in the article. There are a total of (19) lexical cohesive devices in the text. Among these (19) cohesive devices (11) of them are retriation consisting of (6) reputation and (5) synonyms while the other (8) are collocations.

Table 2 Occurrences of Cohesive Devices in Text B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types of Cohesive Devices</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Type Number</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrative</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conjunction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additive</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adversative</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Causal</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellipsis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clausal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substitution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verbal</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clausal</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retriation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repetition</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synonym</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collocation</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 shows the frequency of various types of cohesive devices found in Text B. In Text B, there are a total of 105 (64 grammatical and 41 lexical) cohesive devices. The
frequently used grammatical cohesive device in text B is references. In-text B, there is a total number of (49) references containing (25) demonstrative, (22) personal and (2) comparative references. There are (12) conjunctions consists of (6) additives, (4) casual, and (2) temporal conjunctions. A small number of nominal and clausal substitutions is also found in the text, whereas the number of ellipses is zero in the text. Lexical cohesion is another kind of cohesion which is found in text B. There are 41 lexical cohesions in text B. Reputation is the frequently used (30) cohesive ties among reputation, synonym (5) and collocations (6). To conclude, there are three major types of grammatical cohesion, namely; references, conjunctions and substitution and two major types of lexical cohesion, namely; retraction and collocations.

GRAMMATICAL COHESION

As explained in previous section that grammatical cohesion establishes a semantic link in the text through the use of grammar and is classified into four major categories namely references, conjunctions, substitutions and ellipsis.

REFERENCES ANALYSIS IN TEXT A AND B

Mentioned early that through the use of referencing the writer could add participants throughout a text (Eggins 1994) and references analysis show semantic associations. The references could be referring to something outside the text or referring to something inside the text. Both types of these references use personal reference or pronominal reference, demonstrative reference and comparative reference (Halliday and Hasan, 1976). Based on the analysis, exophoric and the two endophoric including cataphoric and anaphoric references were found in text A and B. For example, in the headline of the text A “the man” reference is considered as a cataphoric reference which is referring to “Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh” the person who has committed the crime and mentioned in the next sentences. In the last sentence, of the text B “Indian police later linked Sheikh to the 11th September attacks on the United States, accusing him of involvement in transferring $100,000 to Mohammad Atta, one of the militants who flew airliners into New York’s World Trade Center” the reference “him” is an anaphoric reference referring back to sheikh. While the reference “the militants” is exophoric reference referring to a group outside the text.

Throughout the articles, all three kinds of the reference, namely personal, demonstrative and comparative were found the text. Among all these three types demonstrative references frequently occur in both news articles (29 text A, 25 text B) followed by personal references (21 text A, 22 text B) while the comparative references occurred two times in each text. In the news articles, the demonstrative references have been used to represent a scale of proximity between the different parts of the text. It is also used for reasoning and referring to activities. For example, in this sentence “The main argument of the defense lawyers was that the prosecution had failed to prove their case beyond doubt” the demonstrative reference “that” is showing the reasoning and as well as it is representing a scale of proximity between the failure of the persecution and argument.

Personal references were the second most occurred references found in the Articles. The personal references, he, him, their, his, they, we, it, them are the personal references found in Text A and B. The use of personal references keeps track of the reader
throughout the text. For example, in-text B “The court has commuted Omar’s death sentence to a seven-year sentence,” Khawaja Naveed, the defense lawyer told Reuters by phone. “The murder charges were not proven, so he has given seven years for the kidnapping.” Here in the second sentence, the personal reference “He” refers back to Omar. The comparative reference is used only twice in the text and showed the identity for example “The Pakistani judiciary has sat on his appeal for nearly two decades” here the adverb nearly function as a comparative reference and showing the approximation of the time.

CONJUNCTION ANALYSIS IN TEXT A AND B

As stated early that conjunctions are word that links ideas and sentences that express logical semantic relation among sentences and ideas rather than between words (Halliday & Hasan, 1976). After the cohesion analysis, it is suggested that some cohesive devices found in the text which form the cohesive ties between one part of the text with the other. The use of conjunctions is in the 2nd place of grammatical cohesion in texts. In text A and B, there are 27 conjunctions words that form the relations between ideas and sentences. Additive, temporal and causal were the three kinds of conjunctions used in text B, while text A lacks causal conjunctions. Additive conjunctions such as “according, such as, and” were used to coordinate or link the presupposed element to the previous element. For example, in-text A in the sentence “He had been researching links between Islamist militant activity in Karachi and Richard Reid who tried to blow up a passenger plane using bombs hidden in his shoes” the conjunction “and” function as additive conjunction which add some information to the first part of the sentence. The adversative conjunctions such as “but and although” in Text, A were used to indicate something “contrary to expectation”. For example, in the sentence “But the Pakistani judiciary has sat on his appeal for nearly two decades, and some observers believe the present ruling has come at a time when the mood in the US and the rest of the world has changed, and nobody seems to be worried about the terrorists of the past” the conjunctions word “but” is functioning as adversative conjunctions which make a contrast between the past and present judiciary of Pakistan. Causal conjunctions in text B were used for the purpose of stating result and reasoning. For instance, “The murder charges were not proven, so he has given seven years for the kidnapping.” Here the conjunction “so” is used for stating the result as well as reasoning. Moreover, the temporal conjunctions were used for stating time. As in this example “Indian police later linked Sheikh to the 11th September attacks on the United States” the word “later” function as temporal conjunction and used for stating the time.

SUBSTITUTION ANALYSIS IN TEXT A AND B

After the analysis of the articles, it was found that substitution was used for the purpose of avoiding the repetition of the lexical items. From the three kinds of substitutions, two kinds of substitutions, namely nominal and clausal substitutions, were used whereas both news articles lack verbal substitutions. For example, in-text A “According to prosecutors, Omar Saeed Sheikh lured him to a meeting with an Islamic cleric. The two had built a relationship discussing concerns about their wives who were both pregnant at the time” the word “two” is used as a nominal substitution which is used for the purpose of avoiding repetition of the noun “Omar Saeed Sheikh and Islamic cleric”. Similarly, the word “three others” in the example “A two-member bench of the
High Court of Sindh province issued the order in the city of Karachi on Thursday, Naveed said, adding that the three others who had been serving life-sentences in connection with the case, had been acquitted.” is used as nominal substitution.

ELLIPSIS ANALYSIS IN TEXT A AND B

After the analysis of the articles, it was found that ellipsis was used for the purpose of maintaining the relationship within the text by neglecting a noun, a verb or a clause. As ellipsis is substituting a lexical item with zero, so the reader had to link and interpret the missing information from the previous part of the text. In the selected news articles, there was only one clausal ellipsis in Text A. “Sheikh was convicted of Pearl’s murder in July 2002 by an anti-terrorism court, and has been on death row since.” Here a clause is omitted after the use of the since which shows that time and date the court has made the decision.

LEXICAL COHESION

Establishing semantic associations through the use of vocabulary in the text is called lexical cohesion. Lexical cohesion is classified into two major categories reiteration and collocation. The use of lexical cohesion in the news articles A and B are as follow.

REITERATION ANALYSIS IN TEXT A AND B

In the selected news articles reiteration were used in two ways. Firstly, repetition of the same semantic item which is considered as reputation and the second were using synonyms. Moreover, reiteration was established semantic relation within and between the sentence using the recurrences of words, phrases or clauses with the same structure and meaning. For example, the words (court, commuted, death sentence, kidnapping, murder) in the below two sentences are reputation which is reputed in both sentences. “A Pakistani court has commuted the death sentence of the main person accused in the 2002 kidnapping and murder of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl, and acquitted three co-accused in the matter, and two lawyers told Reuters on Thursday.” “The court has commuted Omar’s death sentence to a seven-year sentence,” Khawaja Naveed, the defense lawyer told Reuters by phone. “The murder charges were not proven, so he has given seven years for the kidnapping.” The frequently repeated words in news articles were “killing, murder, kidnapping, mastermind, court, case, sheikh, death sentence and …” In the news article B, the reputation was frequently used compare to text A. The use of synonyms in both reports were same.

COLLOCATION ANALYSIS IN TEXT A AND B

Collocation linked different vocabulary items to each other hence forming a semantic link. In the news articles, some words which do not even have the same, structure, meaning and grammatical category, but they come under the same category in the text. For example, “Sheikh was convicted of Pearl’s murder in July 2002 by an anti-terrorism court.” The bold words which are not from the same grammatical category and have different meaning but in this sentence, they together form a meaning and function as collocation. Similarly, in “Pakistan has overturned the death sentence of the man convicted of killing US journalist Daniel Pearl, defense lawyers have told reporters” this
sentence the words death, sentence have different grammatical category and actual meaning but, in the text, it functions as collocation and form a contextual meaning.

CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study is to identify the type, and use of cohesive devices in the selected two news articles. To identify the type of cohesive devices in the selected news articles, the writer uses types of the cohesive device proposed by Holiday and Hasan (1976). The data of the current study is two online news articles one from BBC and the other from TOLO News websites on *overturning the court decision about the man convicted in the murder of Daniel Pearl*. Based on the data analysis of the study, several types of cohesive devices were identified, and each type of these cohesive devices create a semantic link in the texts. The findings of the study show that grammatical cohesion was the frequently used cohesion compare to lexical cohesion. References, conjunction, ellipsis and substitutions were all four types of grammatical cohesion were found in both news articles. The order of occurrence of grammatical cohesion shows that references are the frequently used (101) followed by conjunctions (27), substitution (8) and ellipsis (1) cohesive devices in the selected news articles. Lexical cohesion found in the news articles are repetition containing (reputations and synonyms) and collocations. The order of occurrences of lexical cohesion shows that repetition is the most occurred (36) followed by collocation (14) and synonyms (10) cohesive device in the selected news articles. In contrast, the lexical cohesions were used to create ease in making a text coherent through the use of semantic associations.

REFERENCES


