

COHERENCE OF DISCOURSE LEXICAL COHESION IN *TIRTO.ID* ONLINE NEWS THEMES OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMI: A DISCOURSE STUDY

Annisa Ayu Latifah¹, Tadkiroatun Musfiroh²

Indonesian Language and Literature Education¹, Mastes Study Peorgam Yogyakarta State University²

annisaayu.2020@student.uny.ac.id¹, tadkiroatun@gmail.com²

Abstract

The element of cohesiveness in terms of form that is cohesive interrelated, and from its inner structure in terms of coherent meaning is something that must be considered in writing a story. Meanwhile, based on this explanation, this study aims to determine the use of the relationship between sentences (lexical cohesion) used in an online news discourse *Tirto.id*. The focus of this research is on enhancing lexical cohesion such as repetition, synonym, and lexical equivalent. This type of research is descriptive qualitative with the research subject is online news on the news site *Tirto.id*, while the object of this research is the lexical cohesion aspect. Data collection was done by reading method with data analysis technique used was distributional technique with basic technique for Direct Elements or *Bagi Unsur Langsung* (BUL). The results of this study are in the form of lexical cohesion enhancers consisting of (i) word repetition including repetition of words with replacement, (ii) synonyms in the form of selingkung synonyms, and (iii) equivalent, the equivalent form who have changed the process of changing affix and confix morphemes in the online news *Tirto.id* of the Covid-19 Pandemic edition.

Keyword: Lexical cohesion, discourse, online news, *Tirto.id*

1. Introduction

Language as a communication tool is not specified only in the form of sounds, phrases, or separate sentences, but is used in the form of interrelated sentences. The form of a series of related sentences will connect other propositions and form a unity called discourse. Discourse is a unit of language above the sentence level used for social context communication. In written communication, discourse acts as a result of expressing ideas. Discourse must have coherence, the coherence of discourse can be seen in terms of the relationship of meaning or its inner structure is coherent, Utami & H [2019:294]. Regarding cohesion of Halliday, M.A.K., Hasan, [1976:6] divides cohesion into two types, namely grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion in discourse is in terms of meaning or outward structure, while lexical cohesion in discourse is in terms of meaning or inner structure. Cohesion relates to textual components and

surfaces, i.e., the connectedness of 'text syntax', Titscher [2009:35]

Halliday and Hasan in Yeh, Yang, & Wong, [2010:55] states "Cohesive devices present a necessary semantic continuity between sentences for the purpose of interpreting and comprehending a text", cohesion in the text is determined by the relationship of meaning in the text, and defines it as text. Hoey in Alotaibi, [2015:262] explains that cohesion is the way certain words or grammatical features of a sentence can relate that sentence to its predecessors (and successors) in a text. A similar definition is also given by Carter in Alotaibi, [2015:261] which states that the term cohesion includes mean that link texts linguistically. Cohesion is a manifestation of certain aspects of coherence, and a pointer to it, not a necessary cause or result.

Cohesion is a series of meanings to connect one component that has been mentioned previously from the text. the

function of cohesion is as a liaison between the parts in the discourse, so that the discourse becomes a unified meaning. Cohesion is the relation between positions which is stated explicitly between grammatical and semantic elements in sentences that form discourse. Sukriyah, Sumarlam, & Djatmika, [2018:269]. Cohesion has two categories that have been agreed upon, namely lexical and grammatical cohesion. Halliday and Hasan in Alotaibi, [2015:262] said that lexical cohesion has two main subclasses, namely reiteration and collocation. In the form of repetition of cohesion used by repeating prepositions or parts of prepositions, reiteration includes repetition, synonyms, superordinate (hyponyms), antonyms, conjunctions. The word of collocation shows the closeness of the place (location), Ardiyanti, D. Ririn, [2019:9].

Lexical cohesion is a cohesive bond that appears in discourse because of word choice. The cohesive bonds of lexical elements are more difficult to identify directly because the lexical system of language is open, while the grammatical system is closed, so that the cohesive bonds that are more visible and consistent are grammatical elements. Seeing the phenomenon in written discourse that must pay attention to the related between sentences in maintaining the relationship and coherence between sentences. The connection and orderliness in the language system is known as cohesion and coherence. The correct discourse contains elements of cohesion and coherence; discourse will have harmonious relations between elements with one another in a discourse called cohesion. Cohesion and coherence must be present in the discourse, so as to make the discourse easy to understand and read. As previously explained, lexical cohesion in discourse can be divided into six types, namely 1) repetition, 2) synonyms (words match), 3) collocation (words pairing), 4) hyponymy (up-down relationships), 5) antonyms (opposite words), 6) equivalent (equivalence). Keraf and Sumarlan in Hutahean, [2015:82] discuss lexical aspects, lexical discourse in the form of repetition,

synonyms, antonyms, hyponymies, collocations, and equivalents.

Repetition is certain lingual units that are considered important to give pressure in a context. Sumarlan states that the types of repetitions consist of epizeuksis repetitions, tautotes repetitions, anaphora repetitions, epistropa repetitions, simploke repetitions, epanalepsis repetitions, mesodiplosis repetitions, complete repetitions, and anrepetitions. Chaer, [2012:5] states that a synonym is another name or expression whose meaning is more or less the same as another meaning. Synonyms can be divided into free morpheme synonyms with bound morphemes, word synonyms with words, phrase synonyms with phrases, and clause or sentence synonyms with clauses or sentences, Sukriyah et al., [2018:270]. Furthermore, namely the type of lexical cohesion in the form of antonyms, Verhaar, [2012:394] explains that antonyms are expressions (usually in the form of words, can also be in the form of phrases or sentences) which are considered to have different meanings or the opposite of other expressions. Antonyms are parts of lexical cohesion that are related to other names for other objects or things: or lingual units whose meaning is opposite/opposition to other lingual units, Sukriyah et al., [2018:271]. Hyponymy or superordinate is a unit of expression of words or phrases whose meaning is considered to include the meaning of other expressions. Sumarlam, [2008:45] argues that hyponymy is a lingual (word, phrase, sentence) whose meaning is considered to be part of the meaning of other lingual units. Meanwhile Chaer, [2007:305] describes that hyponymy is a semantic relationship between another form of speech. Collocation is a relationship between words that are in the same environment or field Yuwono, 2005). Halliday, M.A.K., Hasan, [1976:6] also states that lexical cohesion is caused by two words or more often appearing together in a language construction or the same discourse context.

Equivalence is the equivalence relationship between one particular lingual unit and another lingual unit in a paradigm

Sumarlam, [2008:69]. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary, equivalent has the meaning of the word comparable, equal, or equivalent. Hutahean, [2015:84] added that equivalence or equivalence is a commensurate relationship between one lingual unit and another lingual unit. In this case, a number of words resulting from the affixation process of the same origin morpheme shows an equivalence relationship. Affix is a morpheme attached to another morpheme so that it can be said that affix is a bound morpheme, affix consists of six types of affix processes, namely; a) prefixes, b) confixes, c) infixes, d) clofixes, e) suffixes, and f) simulfixes, Ashari Ayu, [2015:84]. Prefixes are affixes that are affixed at the beginning of the base form; infix is an affix that is affixed in the middle of a word usually at the beginning of a syllable; suffix is an affix that is affixed to the right of the base form; confix is an affix that is affixed around and to the right of the base form simultaneously because this affix is a single affix; clofik is a word that is affixed with affixes on the left and right, but the affixation is not all at once but gradually; and simulfixes are nasals which are realized with nasal *m-*, *n-*, *ny-*, *ng-*, and *nge-*.

Based on the background of the problem, the formulation of the research problem is how to use lexical cohesion markers in the discourse on *Tirto.id* online news. In this study, the problem is limited to the lexical cohesion of the types of repetition, synonymy, and equivalent. This problem limitation aims to limit the scope of the research to be carried out so that it is more focused and directed. In addition, the use of repetition, synonymy, and equivalent types tends to be more dominantly used in a discourse. In general, the purpose of this study is to describe the lexical cohesion of the types of repetition, synonymy, and equivalent in the online news *Tirto.id*. The news that is the object of this research is about issues and polemics that are currently happening, namely the news about Covid-19 or the corona virus which is endemic throughout the world and which is currently hitting Indonesia. *Tirto.id* is one of the online media which is a site for news,

articles, opinions, and infographics in Indonesia. The online media *Tirto.id* was launched on August 3, 2016, the writings provided by *Tirto.id* include mild report, indepth, hardnews, current issue, and *Tirto* visual reports.

2. Research Method

Type of this research is qualitative research. Krik and Miller in Moeleng, [1997:29] explains that qualitative research is a particular tradition in social science that is fundamentally dependent on observing humans in their own area and relating to these people in language and in terms. This research is included in qualitative descriptive research because it tries to describe lexical cohesion markers, especially repetition, synonym, and equivalent in news discourse.

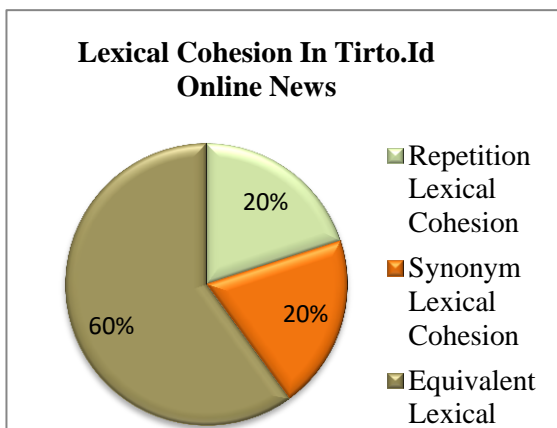
The subject of this research is online news on the *Tirto.id* website which contains news about covid-19. By taking several news written by different authors, while the object of the research is the aspect of lexical cohesion in the form of repetition, synonym, and equivalent. The data collection methods and techniques used in this study were to use the note-taking method. The note-taking method is carried out by listening to the research subject, namely the online news *Tirto.id* and then recording the lingual units which are the lexical cohesive markers in the form of repetitions, synonyms, and equivalents.

The data analysis method used is the distributional method with the basic technique for Direct Elements or *Bagi Unsur Langsung* (BUL), a technique that divides a construction into the direct elements that makes construction. The analysis techniques in *Tirto.id* online news on the topic of the Covid-19 Pandemic are as follows; (1) presenting the data obtained through the process of looking at notes; (2) choosing words in the *Tirto.id* news rubric that have repetition, synonyms, and equivalent forms; (3) copy and record according to category; (4) analyzing lexical cohesion markers; and (5) describe the research results that have been obtained from the online news rubric of *Tirto.id*.

3. Findings and Discussion

The results of this study are presented in the categories of lexical cohesion with the types of repetition, synonyms, and equivalents. The results of this study indicate the use of lexical cohesion tools, on the use of repetition, synonyms, and equivalents in the online news site *Tirto.id* with the news topic of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2021. The use of lexical cohesion markers on the type of repetition is repetition with substitutes. Type of synonym markers used synonyms words of words. And in the use of lexical cohesion, the equivalent type used is in the form of an affixation process consisting of prefix-konfix, konfix, and prefix-konfixes. The results of the study will be described as follows.

Tabel 1.



3.1. Repetition Lexical Cohesion

The use of repetition lexical cohesion markers on the online news site *Tirto.id* found the use of repetition with replacement. Reshaping with substitutions used in the online news site *Tirto.id* edition of "*Varian Baru Corona menjadi Penyebab Melonjaknya Kasus di Indonesia*" by Irwan Syambudi found the use of repetition in the words *peningkatan*, *pertambahan* and *lonjakan*, along with a description of the use of lexical cohesion repetition with replacement.

"Pemerintah klaim **peningkatan** mobilitas masyarakat saat hari raya Idulfitri atau lebaran 2021 menjadi

penyebab lonjakan kasus Covid-19 disejumlah daerah" 8/6/2012

In the data above, there is the use of repetition lexical cohesion in the Corona New Variant edition to be the cause of the spike in cases in Indonesia" June 8, 2021. The form of repetition is in the form of repetition with replacements for the words *peningkatan* and *lonjakan*. The word increase is repeated using other words, namely spikes. Repetitions as a proposition by using other forms of pronouns that have the same meaning, the words *peningkatan* and *lonjakan* both have the meaning of the process of increasing.

"setelah terjadi **lonjakan** tertinggi pada 30 Januari 2021 dengan 14.518 kasus positif Covid-19 dan menurun drastis hingga 2.385 kasus pada 15 Mei 2021 atau tiga hari setelah Idulfitri, **pertambahan** kasus kembali berangsur naik" 8/6/2021

Moreover, From the data above there is the use of repetition lexical cohesion in the Corona New Variant edition as the Cause of the Soaring Cases in Indonesia "June 8, 2021. The form of repetition is in the form of repetition with replacements for the words spike and increase. The word spike is repeated by using another word, namely addition. Repetition as a proposition by using other pronouns that have the same meaning, the words spike and increase both have the meaning of a process or way of increasing, in this case an increase in Covid-19 cases.

3.2. Synonym Lexical Cohesion

The results of the research on the cohesion of lexical cohesion in the online news site *Tirto.id* indicate the use of synonymous lexical cohesion in news discourse. Synonyms function to establish a commensurate meaning relationship between one particular lingual unit and another lingual unit. The results of the research were obtained from the online media site *Tirto.id* edition of "Knowing the Causes of Emotions Labyrinth to Slow After Healing" by Nur Hidayah Perwitasari 18/8/2021. Synonym lexical cohesion contained in the discourse in the form of

word synonyms with words. The following is a description of the use of lexical cohesion in synonyms of words with words.

"penurunan fungsi kognisi yang gejalanya mencakup lupa hingga pikiran melambat atau lemot bisa dialami mereka yang sembuh dari covid-19" 18/8/2021

In the news discourse above, it shows the use of words that are meaningfully expressing synonymous relationships because they refer to the same meaning. The *melambat* or *lemot* both have the same meaning. *Melambat* has the meaning of "slowly (movement, process, etc.), while the word *lemot* has the meaning of "something that has a long performance" of the two words still have the same meaning, which is related to an activity that is not carried out quickly.

"Menurut Puvokisa, masyarakat tidak perlu khawatir dan cemas berlebihan. Ahli kesehatan akan membantu penyusunan program sesuai dengan masalah kognitif yang ada" 18/8/2021

Then, In the news above, it shows the use of words that are meaningfully expressing synonymous relationships because they refer to the same meaning. The words *khawatir* and *cemas* both have the same meaning. The word *khawatir* means a state of fear, anxiety, and anxiety about something that is not known with certainty. Meanwhile, the word *cemas* means a state of anxiety because of a fear. From the two meanings of the word, the words *khawatir* and *cemas* have the same meaning relationship.

3.3. Equivalent Lexical Cohesion

Based on the results of the analysis on the online news site *Tirto.id*, there is the use of equivalent lexical cohesion. The use of equivalent lexical cohesion is found in the editions of "*Varian Baru Corona menjadi Penyebab Melonjaknya Kasus di Indonesia*" and "*Grafik COVID Indonesia Juli 2021: Jauh dari Target & Tak Terkendali*". The results of the analysis found the use of equivalent forms of affixation of prefixes, forms prefixes-konfixes, konfixes, dan konfixes-

prefiks, the results of the study will be described as follows.

"VoC terbukti secara ilmiah dapat menular dengan cepat dan terindikasi dapat menularkan kepada orang yang telah divaksin. Kasus-kasus yang terjadi saat ini yang menyebabkan lonjakan seperti di Kudus dan Bangkalan itu menurut Pandu terindikasi disebabkan oleh VoC" 8/6/2021

Cases in Indonesia" 8/6/2021 there are equivalent forms of the words *menular* and *menularkan*, both words are formed from one basic word, namely *tular*. *Menularkan* words undergo an affixation process in the form of affixes with the addition of the affix *me-*. The word *menular* undergoes a confix process in the form of *me-kan* and undergoes a change in the phoneme /t/ of the infectious word so that it becomes (*meN-*) transmits. The words *menular* in the news quote above has the meaning of "affecting a disease" while the word *menularkan* has the meaning of "making infectious".

"VoC terbukti secara ilmiah dapat menular dengan cepat dan terindikasi dapat menularkan kepada orang yang telah divaksin. Kasus-kasus yang terjadi saat ini yang menyebabkan lonjakan seperti di Kudus dan Bangkalan itu menurut Pandu terindikasi disebabkan oleh VoC" 8/6/2021

The news quote in the edition of "*Varian Baru Corona menjadi Penyebab Melonjaknya Kasus di Indonesia*" 8/6/2021 there is an equivalent form of the words *menyebabkan* and *disebabkan*, these two words are formed from the same root word, namely *sebab*. The word *menyebabkan* the affixation process to add the confix affix *me-kan*. The word is *disebabkan* by the process of adding a confix affix to *di-kan*. The root word *sebab* is affixed with the confixes *me-kan* and *di-kan* which means "to cause something" and "to influence". In this case, the confix *me-kan* means to create a situation, namely a spike in Covid-19 cases, while the confix *di-kan* has the meaning in

effect, namely that transmission occurs due to the presence of VoC.

“Menurut Masdalina, dari sekian target tersebut, salah satu yang diklaim berhasil oleh pemerintah adalah mampu **menurunkan** mobilitas warga yang tadinya 30 persen mobilitas warga menjadi **menurun** 50 persen” 30/7/2021

Based on news above, Grafik COVID Indonesia Juli 2021: Jauh dari Target & Tak Terkendali” 30/7/2021 there is an equivalent form of the word *menurunkan* and *menurun*, both words are formed from the root word *turun*. The *menurunkan* degrade undergoes an affixation process in the form of a confix with the addition of the affix *me-kan*. In this case, the confix *me-kan* has the meaning of making or causing, in the form of a decrease in the spread of Covid-19 in July due to vaccination. Meanwhile, the *menurun* word undergoes an affixation process in the form of a prefix with the addition of the affix *me-* to the *turun* root word. The prefix *me-* has a meaning in a situation, in the form of a decreased mobility of citizens.

“itu klaim keberhasilan. Tapi itu tidak bisa dilihat oleh masyarakat. Sebab dilapangan jalan tol masih macet dan orang masih bisa pergi ke sana kemari. Jadi itu menurut kami itu hanya klaim sepihak. Tapi secara umum *pengendalian* pandemi belum *terkendali*,” kata Masdalina 30/7/2021

The news quote in the edition of “Grafik COVID Indonesia Juli 2021: Jauh dari Target & Tak Terkendali” 30/7/2021 there is an equivalent form the word *pengendalian* and *terkendali*, these two words are formed from the sam root word, namely *kendali*. The word *pengendalian* the affixation process to add the confix affix *peN-an*. The word *pengendalian* forming a noun, the word *pengendalian* has the meaning of a process, method, act of controlling. memiliki arti sebuah proses, cara, perbuatan mengendalikan . Meanwhile, the wors *terkendali* formed from the affixation process in the form of the prefix *ter-*. The word *terkendali* as a

form of verb, this word *terkendali* has the meaning has (can) be controlled)

“Angka *penambahan* kasus Covid-19 pada 25 Agustus 2021 sebanyak 18.871, menurun 435 dibandingkan hari sebelumnya. Sementara angka kematian hari ini kembali *bertambah* lebih dari kasus 1.000 kasus” 25/8/2021

The news quote in the edition of “Update Corona RI 25 Agustus 2021: Positif 18.671, Meninggal 1.041” 25/8/2021 There is an equivalent form of the words *penambahan* and *bertambah*. Both words are formed from the root *tambah*. The word *penambahan* undergoes an affixation process in the form of a confix with the addition of the affix *pe-an*. The word *penambahan* as forming a noun has the meaning of a process, method, act of adding. Meanwhile, the word *bertambah* is formed from the affixation process in the form of the prefix *ber-*. The word *bertambah* as a verb form, has the meaning of more or more.

4. Conclusion

Based on the analysis of research data, it can be concluded that data on the use of lexical cohesion in the discourse of a news story on the online media site *Tirto.id* is found. The use of lexical cohesion in discourse consists of repetition, synonyms, and equivalents. The integration of lexical cohesion in the type of repetition in the form of repetition with replacement, the types of synonyms found in the results of the analysis are synonyms between words and words, and the equivalents contained in the discourse, which are equivalent in the form of affixation processes, adding prefiks-konfiks, bentuk konfiks, dan konfiks-prefiks.

The application or usefulness of research results regarding the cohesion of lexical cohesion in *Tirto.id* online news with the theme of the COVID-19 pandemic in the field of learning can be used as teaching materials or references for both teachers and students. Usefulness in everyday life can understand and interpret the use of language with cohesiveness and good and correct Indonesian.

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