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An Analysis of Lexical Cohesion Found in “Photograph” Song Lyrics

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to find out the type and function of lexical cohesion used in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph" based on the theory of lexical cohesion. This study uses a qualitative method that focuses on the type of lexical cohesion, especially repetition (anaphora and epistrophe repetition), the synonym, antonym, and collocation. The researcher used observation with note-taking techniques to collect data. The results of this study are found all the types of lexical cohesion in the song lyrics entitled "Photograph". In Reiteration, the writer found 16 repetitions (anaphora and epistrophe repetition), 2 synonyms, 5 antonyms and 1 collocation. So, it can be deduced that the most lexical cohesion that appears in the song lyrics entitled "Photograph" is Repetition. With the lexical cohesion that emerges in the lyrics of the song, will make it more harmonious and meaningful.

Keywords

lexical cohesion, reiteration, collocation

Introduction

According to Chaily (2011 cited in Pratiwi et al., 2019), discourse is a language level that has linguistic units such as phonemes, morphemes, words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. The forms can be advertisements, poems, speeches, novels, and music. Based on Lidinillah & Meinawati (2021), listening to music can make people feel happy and calm. Music can be used as a means of communication in society and a means of sharing emotions, feelings, messages to listeners. The harmony between one element and another in discourse so as to create a great comprehension is called cohesion. According to Halliday and Hasan (1976 cited in Bahaziq, 2016), cohesion is divided into two, namely lexical and grammatical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion is divided into four types, namely reference, ellipsis, substitution, and conjunction.

This study focuses on discussing lexical cohesion. Lexical cohesion is concerned with the relationships that exist between lexical items in a text, such as words and phrases. Lexical cohesion occurs when two or more words are in a text (Murodi et al., 2021). Thus, cohesion plays an significant role in arranging parts of the text according to the situation (Sujatna et al., 2021). This study uses Jan Renkema's theory, in which there are two types of lexical cohesion viz: reiteration and collocation. The reiteration includes: synonymy, repetition, metonymy, hyponymy, and antonymy. Reiteration is two items that have the same reference or meaning and can be repeated in a text. The first reiteration part is Repetition. Repetition is a re-statement of the same lexical item. Synonymy is an item that has the same meaning. Antonym is an item that has the opposite meaning. Hyponymy refers to a 'general-specific' relationship. Meronymy is a 'whole-part' relationship between items. Lastly, collocation is a combination of vocabulary items that appear together (Halliday & Hasan, 1976 cited in Bahaziq, 2016).

The data were taken from the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph". Song lyric is one type of text that is usually used to express the feelings and emotions of the songwriter through the tone performed by singing (Pangaribuan, 2019). The lyrics in this song tell about a long distance relationship, where in this song is told about someone's longing due to a long distance relationship with his partner. The song was very popular because the song has been spread as a free MP3 so it can be downloaded easily (Risdianto, 2016). In this modern era, people often listen to songs to express their feelings, and listening to songs is the most frequent activity. In song lyrics, there are various meanings contained in it, but most people just listen to songs without knowing the cohesion in a text and the meaning of the song. So, to understand the song as a whole, it is important to find the type and function of lexical cohesion in the song. The writer specifies the problem though the following question: what are type and function of lexical cohesion in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph"? The reason the researcher chooses lexical cohesion as the research is because the researcher wants to analyze the type and function of lexical cohesion used in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph".

Besides that, the writers found three previous studies related to lexical cohesion, the first study wrote by Sari & Anindita (2020), entitled "*Lexical Cohesion Analysis On Adele's Songs Lyrics in The Album 25*". In this study, the researchers found several similarities, Sari &

Anindita used song lyrics as the object of the study just as writers did. Sari & Anindita found repetition as the dominant lexical cohesion in use, the same as the writer's discovery. The writers also found one similarity between Sari & Anindita's analysis and the writers did, Sari & Anindita also used Jan Renkema as her major theory. Besides that, the researcher found some differences between Sari & Anindita's analysis and the writers did, Sari & Anindita using the album as the object of research. This album consists of several songs, while the writers only use one song to analyse.

The second study was written by Lidinillah & Meinawati (2021) entitled "*A Study of Lexical Cohesion in The Lyric of Demi Lovato's Song In'tell Me You Love Me'album*". The writers also use songs as the object of research. Besides that, the researcher found one difference between Lidinillah & Meinawati's analysis and the writers did, the writer used Renkema as the primary theory which has the type of lexical cohesion which were reiteration (repetition, the synonym, antonym, metonymy, and hyponym) and collocation. But Lidinillah & Meinawati using Halliday & Hasan (1976) as the major theory that also had the type of lexical cohesion which were reiteration (the same word or repetition, the synonym or near-synonym, superordinate and general word). The last study wrote by Pandia (2020) entitled "*Analyzing Cohesion in the Lyrics of the Song 'Terang Bulan' By Alm. Djaga Depari*". This study aims to analyze the use of cohesion markers in the lyrics of the song "Terang Bulan". In this study, the researchers found several similarities, Pandia used song lyrics as the object of the study just as writers did. Pandia found exophore reference and endophore reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, and reiteration. Besides that, the researcher found some differences between Pandia's analysis and the writers did, Pandia analyzed lexical and grammatical cohesion, while this study only analyzed lexical cohesion.

Method

In this study the writers used qualitative methods. The data were analyzed qualitatively based on the theory of cohesion proposed by Jan Renkema. The qualitative method is an approach that does not use statistical figures as in the quantitative approach. Based on Creswell (2014), qualitative methods rely on text and image data, have steps in data analysis. Based on the qualitative method and the data obtained, the researcher used observation method with note-taking techniques to collect data.

The writers used all the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph" as data in this lexical cohesion research. Photograph song lyrics downloaded from the internet. Furthermore, the writer uses words, phrases, sentences used in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph" which contain lexical cohesion as the data for this research. In collecting data, the writer followed steps such as downloading song, listening song then transcribed into written form song lyrics, recording all data, tagging words, phrases or sentences that contain lexical cohesion. After that, the writer analyses and classify any type of lexical cohesion and analyse the functions used in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph" (Lidinillah & Meinawati, 2021).

Results

The results shown are repetition, the synonym, antonym, and collocation found in a song that was popular in 2014 sung by Ed Sheeran. In this research, the data is taken from the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph". The object of this research is the aspect of lexical cohesion in especially, repetition, the synonym, antonym, and collocation that appear in song lyrics.

Table 1. Table of occurrences of repetition, the synonym, antonym, and collocation

Category of Lexical Cohesion that appear	Frequency
Repetition	16
Antonym	5
Synonym	2
Collocation	1
Total	

From the data above, it can be deduced that repetition is the most prominent type of lexical cohesion that appears in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph". Repetition amounts to 16. The second prominent type is antonym as much as 5, then the synonym as much as 2 and collocation is the least only amounts to 1.

Discussion

After providing the data obtained, it is important to analyse all these types of findings as follows:

Repetition

In this study, the writers found a lot of repetition in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph". Repetition is the most common type found in this lyric. There are 2 types of repetition in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph", namely Anaphora repetition and Epistrophe repetition. Anaphora Repetition is the repetition of the first word or phrase in each line or next sentence. Epistrophe repetition is the repetition of a word or phrase at the end of a line, or at the end of a sentence. Therefore, the used of repetition is to make the reader or listener comprehend the note or content of the song. The emphasis of this song is to tell the reader or listener about the situation of the song by using repetition. Ed Sheeran uses repetition to repeat the words, phrases or sentences to reinforce the idea of the song.

Here, the writer found the 16 repetition of the words, phrases or sentences used. The following is a detailed description of the repetition found.

<i>Loving can hurt</i>	(1)
<i>Loving can hurt sometimes</i>	(2)
<i>Loving can heal</i>	(17)
<i>Loving can mend your soul</i>	(18)

"Loving can" on the data is called anaphora repetition because "Loving can" is the first word which is then repeated in the data/lyric in the next row in the first position as shown in data numbers 2, 17, 18.

<i>We keep this love in a photograph</i>	(7), (23)
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In line 7, there is the sentence "We keep this love in a photograph" and the repetition of the sentence in line 23. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>We made these memories for ourselves</i>	(8), (24)
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In line 8, there is the sentence "We made these memories for ourselves" and the repetition of the sentence in line 24. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>Where our eyes are never closing</i>	(9), (25)
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In line 9, there is the sentence "Where our eyes are never closing" and the repetition of the sentence in line 25. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>Hearts are never broken</i>	(10), (26)
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In line 10, there is the sentence "Hearts are never broken" and the repetition of the sentence in line 26. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>And time's forever frozen, still</i>	(11), (27)
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In line 11, there is the sentence "And time's forever frozen, still" and the repetition of the sentence in line 27. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>So you can keep me</i>	(12), (28)
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In line 12, there is the sentence "So you can keep me" and the repetition of the sentence in line 28. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>Inside the pocket of your ripped jeans</i>	(13), (29)
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In line 13, there is the sentence "Inside the pocket of your ripped jeans" and the repetition of the sentence in line 29. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>Holding me closer 'til our eyes meet</i>	(14), (30)
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In line 14, there is the sentence "Holding me closer 'til our eyes meet" and the repetition of the sentence in line 30. The type is Anaphora repetition.

<i>You won't ever be alone</i>	(15), (31)
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In line 15, there is the sentence "You won't ever be alone" and the repetition of the sentence in line 31. The type is Anaphora repetition.

Wait for me to come home (16), (36), (37), (38), (39), (51)

In line 16, there is the sentence "Wait for me to come home" and the repetition of the sentence in line 36, 37, 38, 39, and 51. The type is Anaphora repetition.

And if you hurt me (32), (44)

In line 32, there is the sentence "And if you hurt me" and the repetition of the sentence in line 44. The type is Anaphora repetition.

That's okay, baby, only words bleed (33),
Well, that's okay, baby, only words bleed (45)

In line 33, there is the sentence "That's okay, baby, only words bleed" and the repetition of the sentence in line 45. The type is Anaphora repetition.

Inside these pages, you just hold me (34), (46)

In line 34, there is the sentence "Inside these pages, you just hold me" and the repetition of the sentence in line 46. The type is Anaphora repetition.

And I won't ever let you go (35), (47)

In line 35, there is the sentence "And I won't ever let you go" and the repetition of the sentence in line 47. The type is Anaphora repetition.

When it gets hard (4)
You know it can get hard sometimes (5)

In line 4, there is the sentence "gets hard" and the repetition of the last sentence in line 5 at the same position, namely at the end of the sentence. The type is Epistrophe repetition.

Antonym

The third type is Antonym. Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings to each other. Therefore, the function of Antonym is to compare the word/opposite of one with the opposite word. There are 5 item antonyms found in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph".

Datum 1

It is the only thing makes us feel alive.
Hmm, and it's the only thing we take with us when we die.

Antonyms are found in line 6 and 22 of the word alive and die, these two words are antonyms because "alive" means living, not dead. But "die" means dead.

Datum 2

Where our eyes are never closing.
You won't ever be alone.

Antonyms are found in line 9 and 15 of the word never and ever.

Datum 3

When it gets hard.
I swear it will get easier.

Antonyms are found in line 4 and 20 of the word hard and easier. These two words are antonyms because "hard" means difficult and "easier" means easy or simple.

Datum 4

Inside these pages, you just hold me.
And I won't ever let you go.

Antonyms are found in line 34 and 35 of the word hold me and let you go. These two words are antonyms because in the lyrics "hold me" means someone wants his lover to stay here with him, keep and hug him. But in the word "let you go" means someone let their loved ones go. So, these two words or phrases have opposite meanings.

Datum 5

When I'm away, I will remember how you kissed me
Wait for me to come home

Antonyms are found in line 48 and 51 of the word "away" and "come home". These two words are antonyms because in "I'm away" means to go away. But in the word "come home" means to go home, return or back. So, these two words or phrases have opposite meanings.

Synonym

Synonyms are repetitions of the similar word, words that have the same meaning are called synonyms. The writer uses synonyms in the text because the writer wants to vary the words. There is 2 item synonym or near-synonym found in the lyrics of Ed Sheeran's song entitled "Photograph". Songwriters use different words even though they have the same meaning so that the lyrics of the song are different.

Datum 1

Loving can heal
Loving can mend your soul

Synonym data are found in line 17 and 18. In song 17 and 18, the words heal, and mend are near-synonyms because two words have the similar meaning. The term "heal" means that in loving someone we will feel a cure in the soul. The word "mend" means the same as the word "heal". The definitions of the words heal, and mend are near-synonyms.

Datum 2

We keep this love in a photograph
Inside these pages, you just hold me

Synonym data are found in line 7 and 34. The words keep, and hold are near-synonyms because two words have the same meaning. The meaning of the word "keep" is more commonly used.

Collocation

Collocation is a combination of two or more words that form a term or a combination of words that are closely related to each other. The function of collocation is to make conversations less awkward and more natural.

Datum 1

Wait for me to come home (51)
Verb + Noun = 'come home'

In the lyrics of the song, entitled Photograph, there is a repetition of the subject "I" which is located at the beginning, in the middle of the sentence in succession. The repetition of the subject "I" is meant to emphasize the importance of the main character in the lyrics. "I" is referring to a man.

The repetition of the subject "you" at the beginning and in the middle of the sentence shows the main emphasis as the object of the content of the lyrics. The contents of the lyrics are about someone's longing for having a long-distance relationship.

Conclusion

Listening to music can make people feel happy and calm. Music can be used as the media of sharing emotions, feelings, messages to listeners. The harmony between one element and another in discourse so as to create a great comprehension is called cohesion. Lexical cohesion is a systematic relationship between elements in discourse. The aim of this study is to find out the type and function of lexical cohesion used by Ed Sheeran's song lyrics entitled "Photograph". The writer found all types of lexical cohesion in the song lyrics entitled "Photograph" namely reiteration and collocation. In Reiteration, the writer found 16 repetitions (anaphora and epistrophe repetition), 2 synonyms, 5 antonyms and 1 collocation. In repetition, we found types of anaphora repetition such as loving, we, where, hearts, and, so, inside, holding, you, wait, that's and epistrophe repetition like the word gets hard. The second type is synonym, the synonyms contained in the lyrics are heal = mend and keep = hold. The lyrics also contain antonyms like; die >< alive, ever >< never, hard >< easier, hold me >< let you go, I'm away >< come home. Lastly, cohesion found is collocation as in the word "come home". So, it can be deduced that the most lexical cohesion that emerges in the song lyrics entitled "Photograph" is Repetition. With the lexical cohesion in the song will make it more harmonious and meaningful.

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