CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As defined by Guy Cook (1986), discourse is language used for communication (p.6). Discourse produces successful communications and is coherently perceived by its receivers (Cook, 1989:7). Coherence is one characteristic of discourse. It is defined as the quality of being meaningful and unified (Cook, 1989:7). Besides coherence, discourse is also characterized by the presence of cohesion. Cohesion indicates a condition in which one sentence to another sentence in a discourse are linked to each other (Cook, 1989:14). Coherence emphasizes more on the connections among the ideas brought through the context of a discourse while cohesion focuses on the associations among the sentences in terms of sentence construction or grammatical rules of the language itself. One element of discourse that functions to provide coherence and cohesion is called cohesive devices. They serve to link one sentence to another, making a discourse meaningful, unified, and purposive. In other words, they create cohesion and coherence in the discourse performed, making a communication successful.

Traditionally, discourse is distinguished into two categories: spoken and written (Cook, 1989:50). Newspaper is an example of a medium of communication built up by such a complex written discourse, consisting of many variations of cohesive devices. The lack of mastery of cohesive devices might result in an inability to comprehend the information conveyed by the news published in the newspapers. On the contrary, the proper mastery of cohesive

devices will help Indonesian readers of English newspaper have a better comprehension which will lead to more effective and useful reading as summed up by Fisher and Peters (1981), who says "truly fluent readers are familiar with a variety of structural or cohesive devices that occur in discourse" (p. 45).

An excelled comprehension of cohesive devices is a positive asset to possess related to the fact that news has been a part of many people's lifestyle. Through news, people update their information about factual and actual events. Those events are the ones that can be regarded and presented as newsworthy (Fowler, 1991:13). As news keeps providing new information daily, it never loses its charm and is always waited by the people from various backgrounds who always crave and want to get new information. News is so powerful that it is defined as a representation of the world in language (Fowler, 1991:4).

Jakarta Post and *Guardian* are examples of two credible newspapers. *Jakarta Post* is an Indonesian newspaper that has constantly published news written in English for years. Published for the first time on April 25th 1983, the newspaper's main goal is to improve the standard of English language media in Indonesia. It is a reputable publisher which has already gained and maintained reputation throughout the nation. *Guardian* is a British national daily newspaper whose credibility has also been proven globally. It has existed for almost 200 years. Founded by John Edward Taylor in 1821, it was firstly a local newspaper known as *Manchester Guardian* before being developed as one of the country's leading newspaper, proven by several awards given by British Press Awards in

1999, 2006, 2011, and 2014. The newspaper also won Pulitzer Award in 2014, which is the highest honor in US journalism.

Responding to the development of the Internet, news has gone online and both newspapers, *Jakarta Post* and *Guardian*, have now owned and run an online newspaper which can be accessed easily so that the readers around the world don't have to buy the printed newspapers in order to read their work. Instead, they can make use of their gadgets and the Internet to search for online news. This indicates that although the era has transformed into the digital one, many people's desire to upgrade their information daily through reading news remains the same, and that desire is well facilitated by both newspapers.

Several sections are included in the newspapers and those generally include a sport section. *Jakarta Post* and *Guardian* also publish sport news. Football is one popular subject that is reported in the sport section of a newspaper. It is hard to deny the fact that football is one of the most favorite sports in the world (Szymanski, 2014:1), including in Indonesia and England. It is loved by people from all genders and levels of age. Many who are keen on it always stay up-to-date by reading news carrying the information about what is new in football. Related to that fact, football always received the biggest attention in the sport section of these two newspapers.

Related to news, the students of English language in formal education institutions, including in the English Department of Widya Mandala, are required to study a text genre called news item to improve their writing skills. For the final product in studying this genre and also for their assessment to check their mastery,

they are expected to be able to write news articles. Therefore, having students acknowledge the use of cohesive devices from news, including football news, can facilitate them to learn from the authentic and real-life material. In line with that, in the classroom, during the process of teaching and learning of news items, the lecturers and teachers in charge can explain thoroughly and comprehensively about the use of cohesive devices building up news through presenting the real examples in the form of online football news or any news with different topic. After gaining knowledge from the real examples of news, students then will hopefully be competent to construct sentences using cohesive devices correctly, fostering their ability to create cohesion and coherence in their writing skill. Eventually, they will expectedly become more capable of producing more excellent and accomplished news and master the proper ways to write this genre of text. Mastering to use cohesive devices properly means mastering most of language features required to compose news articles; therefore, to do so will be extremely beneficial for the students.

There is also a big advantage if the lecturers and teachers in charge present football news. Football news differs from the news containing the theories and specific terms of politics, law, economy, conflict, and other more difficult topics or fields as football news is usually constructed with simpler words and terms. Difficult topics will frustrate students, while the topic of football, which is easier to read and learn, will make students remain motivated.

1.2 Research Problems

Related to the title and the background of this research, these are the research problems formulated by the researcher:

1. From the analyzed data source in the form of online football news articles taken from Jakarta Post and Guardian, what kinds of cohesive devices were used by the journalists?

2. Based on their percentages which show their contributions, how did the cohesive devices rank for the data source taken from both Jakarta Post and Guardian?

3. After the percentages had been compared, were there any similarities or differences in how the cohesive devices ranked for the data source taken from Jakarta Post and the one for Guardian?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In line with the research problems mentioned before, the objectives of this research include:

1. To identify, classify, and calculate the percentages showing the contributions of the cohesive devices used to construct sentences and create both cohesion and coherence in the football news taken as the data source.

2. To compare the percentages showing the contributions of the cohesive devices (referring expressions, repetitions, conjunctions, parallelism, substitutions, and ellipsis) and to identify the tenses that influenced the verb forms constructing sentences in the data source for the purpose of finding out whether there were

similarities or differences in how those devices contributed in the data source of both newspapers.

3. To list and provide readers with the examples of how the cohesive devices were used by the journalists in the making of the data source as well as to show the readers how cohesive devices work to build up written discourse in online football news in general.

1.4 Theoretical Framework

- Cohesion and coherence in discourse

One characteristic of discourse is unity. Cohesion and coherence are two features that can result in unity. Related to these features, a discourse must have formal links operating between clauses and sentences. These formal links are known as cohesive devices. These devices will lead to successions of sentences as they create cohesion and coherence. They also show that a discourse is not constructed by disconnected jumbles. Instead, it is built by stretches of language that have a meaning and a unity (Cook, 1989:14).

- The classification of cohesive devices proposed by Guy Cook

There are seven cohesive devices that can be used to build up a discourse (Cook, 1989:15-21): referring expression, repetition, conjunction, parallelism, substitution, ellipsis, verb form. The researcher also referred to some other experts and their theories to study deeper about these devices. The example is that the researcher referred to the theories of the classification of pronouns (referring expressions), conjunctions, and parallelism by Marcella Frank (1972) to limit this research and based his analysis on. Besides Frank, the researcher also referred to

some other experts. Further details about those experts and their theories are presented in the second chapter.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of this research is categorized into two; theoretical and practical.

- **Theoretical**

Cohesive devices are significant tools to make a discourse fulfill its nature to be meaningful and unified. Without the presence of these devices, sentences across a discourse will be less connected and the messages delivered are likely to be misunderstood, making the discourse fail as a language for communicative use. Online football news is an example of a written discourse widely read by people around the world, which means that cohesive devices definitely feature there. In line with that, this research is expected to prove the existence and importance of cohesive devices in online football news and show how these devices operate in the sentences across the news to establish a discourse full of unity, confirming the Cook's theory which states that these devices result in successions of sentences in a discourse (1989:14).

- **Practical**

Practical significance of this research is explained in the following:

1. This research is aimed for the lecturers and teachers who teach news item in writing class or writing session in formal educational institutions, including in the English Department of Widya Mandala Surabaya where

news item is taught in the course named Writing II. The researcher hopes that this study is able to encourage the lecturers and teachers to use and present about online news, which can be in the form of online football news articles or any other news reporting different topics, as a real-life learning media through which students will observe, learn, and acquire the necessary skills in producing news. Using online news as a teaching material, lecturers and teachers can present some language features that are essential in constructing news, especially cohesive devices. Ultimately, lecturers and teachers can urge the students to refer to the news that has been presented while they are practicing writing the news. The lecturers who teach discourse, especially about cohesive devices that function as formal links in certain discourse, can also present news to give the real examples of how the devices work in written discourse in the form of news articles. By doing so, lecturers can expect students' better understanding about cohesive devices as they have been shown how these devices work in real-life and authentic materials. This way is hopefully more effective for the lecturers than merely relying on the text book while teaching cohesive devices as an integral part of a discourse.

2. Not only does this research inform the lecturers and teachers in charge of teaching news item, but hopefully it will also motivate the students who learn to master the writing of news item to look up at the real examples of news while practicing and trying to produce news articles of their own. By referring to the real-life examples of news, students are expected to be able

to comprehend some language features of news, including cohesive devices, and eventually write as closely as possible as the real journalists who can produce news articles full of cohesion and coherence. The students who learn about formal links in discourse analysis are also informed so that they will practice analyzing how cohesive devices linking sentences in a certain discourse, especially the written one. Doing such a way will result in a higher level of understanding while they study about the devices.

3. This research is also targeted to encourage English learners in general to make use of news as a learning media from which they can learn some vocabulary and grammatical features through the cohesive devices. As examples, from repetitions used by the writers, readers can learn about new vocabularies whereas the cohesive devices in the forms of parallelism and conjunctions can teach readers about grammatical features and sentence constructions applied in such a wide context.

4. At last but not least, this research is meant to inform Indonesian journalists and those people who intend to be journalists, especially the ones dealing with English columns or hired by English language-based mass media, about the variations of cohesive devices that can be used in writing news and encourage them to use various cohesive devices in more creative manners in order to improve their writings so that it can result in a self-improvement, enabling them to produce greater works in the industry.

1.6 Limitation and Scope of the Study

The data source compiled was in the form of online football news published by *Jakarta Post* and *Guardian* dating from December 5th to December 14th 2015. All of the news taken reported football events covering Barclays Premier League and UEFA Champions League only.

The analysis of the cohesive devices was mostly based on Guy Cook's theory (1989) supported by other supportive theories from some other experts. According to Cook, these devices include referring expressions, repetitions, conjunctions, parallelism, substitutions, ellipsis, and verb forms.

Six of these devices, consisting of referring expressions, repetitions, conjunctions, parallelism, substitutions, and ellipsis, were identified and counted. Eventually, the percentages showing the contributions of each of them were formulated. Then, the rankings indicating their contribution in the articles taken as the data source from both online newspapers were figured out and compared.

Verb forms received different treatment. Instead of finding the percentages of the verb forms, the researcher focused more on finding what tenses besides past tense that influenced the verb forms in the data source. The result of the analysis of the verb forms was not in the figures of percentages, but in the explanations related to the kinds of tenses that had influence on the verb forms and constructed the sentences in the news articles taken as the data source.

Some cohesive devices followed further limitations as explained in the following:

1. Referring expressions were categorized into several pronouns that consisted of subject pronouns, object pronouns, possessive adjective, possessive pronouns, reflexive pronouns, and demonstrative pronouns.

2. To set the classification of pronouns as the referring expressions, the researcher also referred to pronoun theory presented by Marcela Frank in her book entitled "Modern English: A Practical Reference Guide" published in 1972.

3. Repetitions were divided into repetitions using the same word and repetitions using different words or phrases. Repetitions identified only covered the ones that referred to particular noun and noun phrases that commonly become subjects of the news in online football articles. These nouns and noun phrases include football players, football clubs, clubs' managers, coaches, and staff, and also the supporters. The reason was that journalists of football articles can use repetitions in various possibilities and ways every time they have to provide the repetitions for those nouns or noun phrases. In the following are the examples that show how journalists can replace those nouns and noun phrases with many kinds of options:

Table 1.1 Examples of How Journalists Use Various Kinds of Repetitions
in Online Football News Articles

	Example of nouns or noun phrases	Repetitions Using the Same Words	Repetitions Using Different Words or Phrases
Football Player	Harry Kane	Harry Kane or Kane	The 22-year-old striker.
			Spurs' most prolific goal-scorer
			the lethal forward
			the club's leading goal-scorer
			The England international
			"Hurrikane" (nickname)

			the North London club / the North Londoners
Football Club	Arsenal F.C.	Arsenal	the FA Cup's reigning champions
			"The Gunner" (nickname)
Football Manager, Coach, or Staff	Jurgen Klopp	Jurgen Klopp or Klopp	the German tactician
			the 48-year-old Liverpool manager
			the former Dortmund manager
			the stylish coach
			"the normal one" (nickname)
The Supporters	Arsenal supporters	Arsenal supporters	Arsenal fans
			"Gooners" (nickname for male supporters)
			"Goonerettes" (nickname for female supporters)

Those are only a few examples of how these nouns and noun phrases can be repeated in many ways by the journalists. Based on that fact, this research focused only on these nouns in this research.

4. Conjunctions analyzed were classified into two: coordinate and subordinate conjunctions.

5. Parallelism was grouped into nominal and adjectival parallelism as they are common to construct sentences of news while other more complex parallelism, such as sound or phonological parallelism, are not likely to be found in news as they often become parts of literary works such as poems.

6. The same as the one of referring expressions, to set the classifications of conjunctions and parallelism, the researcher also referred to and got supports from the theories presented by Marcela Frank (1972).

7. The analysis began in the first line of the news articles up to the last line, which means that the titles of the news articles were not included in the analysis.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

1. Cohesive Devices

   One component of discourse in the form of formal links that connect sentences and phrases to generate cohesion and facilitate coherence to take place, resulting in unity found in the discourse (Cook, 1989)

2. Online Football News

   A representation of the world of football in language through which newsworthy events selected by such complex criteria are presented and brought to the readers from around the world by the journalists using the means of the Internet

3. *Jakarta Post*

   A leading English-language newspaper in Indonesia owned by *PT. Bina Media Tenggara* which was firstly published in April 25th, 1983 and has constantly published news written in English ever since to improve the standard of English language media in Indonesia (Wati and Ariyanti, 2013)

4. *Guardian*

   A credible British national daily newspaper founded by John Edward Taylor in 1821 that has won several journalism awards such as British Press Awards (1999, 2006, 2011, and 2014) and Pulitzer Award (2014) (Guardian, 2002)

1.8 Organization of the Thesis

This research includes five chapters. Chapter 1 is the introduction of this research that presents the background of the study, research problems, objective of the study, theoretical framework, significance of the study, limitation and the scope of the study, definition of the key terms, and organization of the study. Chapter 2 is composed of review of related literature that mostly explain about discourse, news as a part of discourse, and cohesive devices with their functions and examples. Similar studies are also attached in this chapter. Chapter 3 contains the research method on which the researcher based his work orders to complete this research. Chapter 4, the most important part of this research, explains in details about the results of data analysis as well as the discussion of the findings. Chapter 5, the last chapter consists of the conclusion of the research extracted from the researcher's findings and in this chapter also, the researcher writes down his suggestions for whom he thinks can get the benefits from the significance of this research. Besides all of those chapters, there is also appendix in which the researcher includes all of the articles compiled as the data source and the identification tables. The researcher also completely lists all of the references on which he based this research. These references are placed after the appendix.