

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter introduces and explains the establishment contents of the research which are started with Background of the Study, Research Question of the Study, Objective of the Study, Significance of the Study, Scope and Limitation, Key of terms and Organization of the Study.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

The study of cohesion is a part of applied linguistic that very important. Markels (in Taboada, 2004) said that without cohesion, a text can hardly be said to exist at all for cohesion provides the textual means for initiating comprehension. Tanskanen (2006) also points out that cohesion refers to the grammatical and lexical element on the surface of the text which can form connections between part of the text.” Cohesion can be defined as the set of resources for constructing relations in discourse which transcend grammatical structure (Halliday 1994:309) This means that a there is no part of text which does not have relationship with other parts and it occurs because of help of cohesive devices. According to Halliday&Hasan (2013:27), “Cohesion is a potential for relating one element in the text to another, wherever they are and without any implication that everything in the text has some parts in it”. Cohesion means “unity” of the discourse or text. Halliday&Hasan (2013:1) state “ If a speaker of English hears or reads a passage of the language which is more than one sentence in length, he can normally decided without difficulty whether it forms a unified whole or is just a collection of unrelated sentences”. The unified whole text means has cohesion in it when one sentence and the others are related in meaning. In contrast, a collection of unrelated sentences has no cohesion.

One form of written language that is useful to convey information to others is discourse. A discourse should be a good text. In a discourse, there are many sentences which have to be united and stick together. With the help of cohesive devices, the discourse is able to have good unity. If a discourse has a good unity, it will bring a deep understanding about the content of the discourse so the readers can easily catch the writer's messages that the writer wants to tell about. Tarigan in Alwi (1993:122) states that discourse is an arrangement of language that is more complete and bigger than a sentence enriched by cohesion and coherence and it is either written and oral. Oral discourse includes an interview, speech, conversation, dialogue and so on. Meanwhile, written discourse covers a thesis, journal, daily notes, article, column, poem, novel and many more. As mentioned before, one of written discourse is thesis or final project.

Final project or final thesis is a scientific writing based on the student's research. As an academic piece of writing the thesis of graduate students has some chapters or sections. Part of the thesis that has a central role is introduction. The fact is that the introduction is the section that informs readers what to expect and what the writer argues for in their writing (Goodson, 2013). Swales and Feak (1994) state that it is in the introduction is the section that a writer makes claims for the centrality of the research and begins to outline the overall argument of the thesis.

The introduction of the research thesis should provide a background of the study. As a one form of written discourse and due to its crucial role, the background of the study of thesis must be composed in a well-formed text in order to give information to the readers. It has to be united and connected among sentences as well as the concept of cohesiveness so that the readers can understand the intended information easily. This includes an explanation of the

area of the research to set context for the problem at hand. Supported by (Kim Philips Colorado Technical University:2016) “the introduction addresses what the study will entail. The background discusses existing data on your topic, the problem statement is what you identify as an issue with supporting data. Lastly, the rationale tells the reader from your perspective why the study is needed. As long as the writer can persuade her readers of the need to study the issue and what will be added to the body of existing knowledge you will be okay. Therefore that background is to make a reader understand the reasons of conducting a study and the incidents leading up to the study”. Furthermore, STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo is chosen for this research. STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo is one of the first English language teaching department. This department has graduated many professional English teachers. Therefore, the researcher is interested in analyzing cohesive devices which are used on the background of the study in order to identify whether or not the background of the study has a good cohesive relation. The researcher explores the types of cohesive devices background of the study of Undergraduate Thesis written in Academic year 2015/2016 by the Students of English Language Teaching Department Students of STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo.

## **1.2 The Research Questions of the Study**

The study is intended to analyze the following questions:

1. What types of cohesive devices are commonly used on the Background of the Study of undergraduate thesis written in Academic year 2015/2016 by English Language Teaching Department Students of STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo?
2. What are the types of errors in using cohesive devices made by students?

## **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

In line with the questions of the study, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the types of cohesive devices that are commonly used on the Background of the Study of undergraduate thesis written in Academic year 2015/2016 by English Language Teaching Department Students of STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo.
2. To analyze how the students misuse cohesive devices on the Background of the Study of undergraduate thesis written in Academic year 2015/2016 by English Language Teaching Department Students of STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo.

#### **1.4 The Significance of the Study**

Theoretically, the result of this study is expected to serve as a reference for the researchers who write a thesis on cohesive devices. This exploration of cohesive devices on the background of the study of English Language Teaching Department students undergraduate thesis will give information about how to analyze what types of cohesive devices are used in a text and what is error cohesive devices. Practically, this study is expected to give more information to the students in developing their knowledge about the cohesive devices and improving their understanding in using cohesive devices in their writing. Then, this study is expected to further inform teacher of writing on how to teach cohesive devices.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

The research has been conducted in English department, STKIP PGRI in Sidoarjo. The subjects of the research are background of the study of undergraduate thesis written in Academic year 2015/2016 by English Language Teaching Department Students of STKIP PGRI Sidoarjo. The researcher examined data through analyzing all students' writing, counting the use of cohesive devices, and inputting each of them according to the classification in each

table of cohesive devices classification, categorizing the cohesive devices. the last is assessing the correctness and incorrectness of cohesive devices in students' writing.

This study does not include analysis on why certain cohesive devices are more preferable than others since that particular study will require an in depth research though active participation of the students specifically. In addition, since researching deeper into reasons why certain mistakes are made needs further and deeper analysis by involving individual's reasoning from the students, this study limits its analysis on researching the types of incorrect use of cohesive devices. The probable reasons maybe presented based on the researcher's assumption and background knowledge, but there is no further interview done.

## **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

- Discourse analysis: the study of the relationship between language and the context in which it is used (McCarthy,1991:5).
- Cohesion: the relationship between an element to another element in discourse or text.
- Cohesive devices: the cohesive devices includes grammatical and lexical. The grammatical resources are reference, ellipsis (including substitution) and conjunction. The lexical resources are the taxonomic relations (synonymy/ antonym, hyponymy,metonymy) and collocation. Each occurrence of cohesion in a text is called a "cohesive tie".(Halliday&Hasan, 2013).
- Thesis background of the study: thesis background of the study is a part of introduction on the thesis that contains the rationale the writer that tells the reader why the study is needed.

## **1.7 The Organization of the Study**

The research consists of five chapters. The first chapter is introduction that consists of background of the study, Background of the Study, Research Question of the Study, Objective of the Study, Significance of the Study, Scope and Limitation, Key of terms and Organization of the Study. The second chapter is review of related literature, the third chapter is research methodology, the fourth chapter is the result of the research and the fifth is about the Conclusion and suggestion.