CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language has a great position in human life, it becomes a means of communication to utter human’s feeling in interacting to others. Language is a social phenomenon as a means of doing than knowing (Halliday and Hasan, 1976:8). By using language, human can convey their idea, make statements, explain or ask about something and keep social relations among the language users.

Sumarlam (2004:173) states that cohesion is semantic relation between one element in the text and some other element that is crucial for its interpretation. This other element must also be found within the text. Cohesion refers to the range of publisities that exist for linking something with what has gone before. Without cohesion the sentence system cannot be effectively activated all.

Halliday and Hasan (1976) say that the concept of cohesion refers to relation of meaning that exists within the texts, and it is that defines it as a text. Cohesion occurs where the interpretation of some elements in the discourse is dependent on that of another. They classify cohesion into five types: reference, ellipsis, substitution, conjunction, and lexical cohesion.

However, cohesion can be concluded as “the means by which texts are linguistically connected” (Carter, 1998: 80). It is significant to recognise that lexical cohesion cannot exist without sentences. That is, cohesive words should be discussed not only as the meaning relations which hold between items, but also as the explicit
expression of those meaning relations within a text. Ultimately, it is necessary to consider cohesion as “a set of discourse semantic systems” (Martin, 2001: 37).

Furthermore, the meaning of cohesion (Halliday, 1994:170) refers to the sources within language that provide continuity in a text, above and over that is provided by clause structures and clause complexes. Therefore, cohesive relations are non-structural relations which help the text to be understood together.

Cohesion is thus one of the text properties that contributes to the organization of discourse. The term refers to the connectedness of the surface elements in the text. The three main categories of cohesion are

i. Referential cohesion (anaphoric chains)

ii. Relational cohesion (connectives and ellipsis)

iii. Lexical cohesion.

Lexical cohesion, which is the focus of this thesis, contributes to the ideational (semantic) structuring of discourse (Martin 1992). It refers to the semantic relations between the lexical items in the text; thus it provides information about the way lexemes are organized in the discourse (lexical patterning).

Lexical cohesion refers to the relationship between or among word in a text. It is concerned with the content words and primarily related to that field. The field is discovered through the content words within a text. This field tends to have specialized vocabularies and tend to engage in specialized activities. Hassan (1984:320) presents five categories of general lexical cohesion:
1. Repetition / Re-iteration (including inflection and derivation).

    Repetition is the act or process instance of repeating or being repeated.

    Example: Miley is in the **singing contest** on Sunday. Everyone believes that she will win the **singing contest**

2. Synonymy (similarity of meaning)

    Synonymy is a word having the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or other words in a language.

    For example: I am taken to the **clinic** – I am taken to the **hospital**

3. Antonimy (opposite or contrastive meaning).

    Antonymy is a word having a meaning opposite that of another word.

    For examples: Male - female

4. Hyponymy (classes / super ordination and subclasses / is a type of) season

    Hyponymy is relation between two words in which the meaning of one of the words includes the meaning of another words. For example: She’ll win a **trophy**. The **prize** won’t mean much to her.

5. Meronymy (whole part relation)

    Meronymy is a figure of speech in which one word or phrase is substituted for another with which is closely. For example: Linguistics- discourse analysis, language acquisition, sociolinguistics.

    The object of this study is newspaper. Newspaper is media that provides any information for people everyday. So, it is the most readable printed media compared to
other kinds of printed information such as books or magazines. In the past, newspaper was only provided in printed version. But, in this 20th century supported by the advanced technology newspaper is also provided in online version. This thesis uses online newspaper as the main object of the study because:

1. Online newspaper is the most read writing that could influence people grammatically.
2. Online newspaper is very easy to access, people are more interested to read online newspaper than printed newspaper nowadays.

“Jakarta Globe” is one of newspaper which is provided in two versions, there are printed and online version. This thesis uses the selected articles of “Jakarta Globe” Electronic paper (E-paper) as the main object of the study because:

1. ”Jakarta Globe” is one of the most well-known newspaper in Indonesia.
2. Cohesions are found in articles of “Jakarta Globe”.
3. “Jakarta Globe” is provided in online version.
4. “Jakarta Globe” is written in English.
5. “Jakarta Globe” is written by Indonesian people and the reporters are not native speakers too.

The reasons above have motivated the writer to analyze the lexical cohesion of the selected articles contents of “Jakarta Globe” Electronic paper (E-paper) as a kind of written discourse.
1.2 Problem of the Study

By writing this thesis, the writer would like to find out the solution of some following problems:

1. What are the lexical cohesion categories found in the selected articles of Jakarta Globe E-paper from January until March 2014?

2. What is the most dominant lexical cohesion found in selected articles of Jakarta Globe E-paper from January until March 2014?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the lexical cohesion categories in the selected articles of Jakarta Globe E-paper from January until March 2014.

2. To find out the dominant lexical item applied in the selected articles of Jakarta Globe E-paper from January until March 2014.

1.4 Scope of the Study

In research, it is important to limit the analysis on specific data that has been chosen, and to avoid over complicating the issues and analysis.

There is cohesion in this paper, but the writer just focused on lexical cohesion in the selected articles taken from Jakarta Globe E-paper from January until March 2014 based on the theory of Halliday and Hasan.
1.5 Significance of the Study

The significances of study are:

1. It helps the readers to understand the lexical cohesion.

2. It gives an explanation about the categories of lexical cohesion.

3. Theorically, it will enrich the study of Systemic Functional Linguistic (SFL), especially dealing with lexical cohesion.

4. Practically, it will be useful for English Department students who are interested in the field of lexical item study. So, they can use this thesis as reference for their analysis.