

Introduction to Linguistics (CL1.102)

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Taught by Prof. Aditi Mukherjee

Discourse Semantics

Cohesive Relations

Utterances are cohesive and related to each other in context.

Cohesive relationships within a text occur when the interpretation of some element in the discourse is dependent on that of another.

There are various types of cohesive relationships:

- additive: *and, furthermore*; in Hindi, इसी तरह
- adversative: *but, however*; in Hindi, लेकिन
- causal: *so, for this reason*; in Hindi, ताकि
- temporal: *then, afterwards*; in Hindi, फिर

It is not necessary that a certain marker should exhibit only one cohesive relationship. What is important is the underlying semantic relation, which actually has the cohesive power.

Coreference

Coreferential forms make reference to something else for their interpretation – they direct the receiver to look elsewhere.

There is a classification of coreference:

- exophora: reference to an entity outside conversation for the first time.
- endophora: reference to a mention of an entity that has been or will be made in the context, which is of two types:
 - anaphora: reference to a previous mention, and
 - cataphora: reference to an upcoming mention.

Anaphoric relationships can hold in many ways:

- repeated forms: *Mamta Banerjee thanked the voters. Mamta Banerjee was full of gratitude towards them.*
- partially repeated forms: *The PM Narendra Modi gave his talk. Modi spoke well.*
- lexical replacement: *He proposed to her again. The idiot can't take a hint.*
- pronominal form: *Rohith went out. He came back an hour later.*
- substituted form: *Vijay ate a pineapple. Shekhar ate one too.*
- elided form: *Vijay ate a pineapple. Shekhar did too.*

Conjunctive Participle

In Indian languages, the conjunctive participle is often used to join utterances. It is used to indicate:

- sequential action: as in बाज़ार जाके, सब्जी खरीदके, घर गया
- manner of action: as in चिल्ला-चिल्लाकर सबको स्कीम बता दे
- reason/cause of action: as in खा-खाकर मोटा हो गया
- means for action: as in शिक्षा लेकर आए थे

Repetition of the verb is commonly used in the conjunctive participle; in Hindi, the suffix is attached only to the second verb, but in Bangla or Telugu it is attached to both.