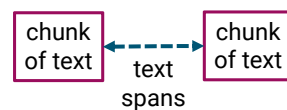


# Relational Coherence

## Analyzing the Local Relationships Between Textual Constituents

*Relational* coherence is more specific and local  
relation between two chunks of text



Paratactic

among elements of equal importance to the text  
nuclei

Hypotactic **most textual relations are hypotactic**

among elements of equal importance to the text

- satellite – revolves around the nucleus
- nucleus – more important to the text

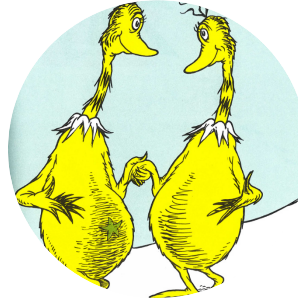
## Paratactic Relations

Contrast

- theme
- character

Sequence

plot element



Nuclei

Now, the Star-Belly Sneetches  
Had bellies with stars.

The Plain-Belly Sneetches  
Had none upon thars.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock; Sneetches: Dr. Seuss (1989). *The Sneetches and Other Stories*. Random House. p.24.

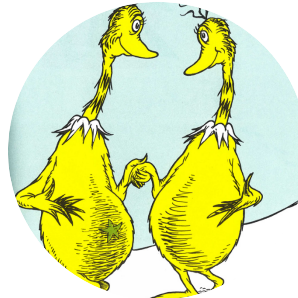
## Paratactic Relations

Contrast

- theme
- character

Sequence

plot element



Nuclei

Off again!

On again!

In again!

Out again!

Nuclei

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock; Sneetches: Dr. Seuss (1989). *The Sneetches and Other Stories*. Random House. p.24.

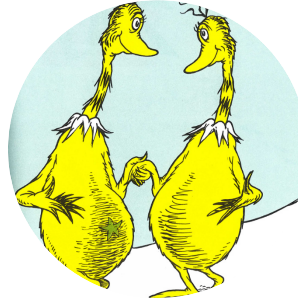
## Hypotactic Relations

### Nucleus

Utterance that contributes to the core of the text.

### Satellite

Utterance that is peripheral to text, and which depends on a nucleus.



Sneetches: Dr. Seuss (1989). *The Sneetches and Other Stories*. Random House. p.24.

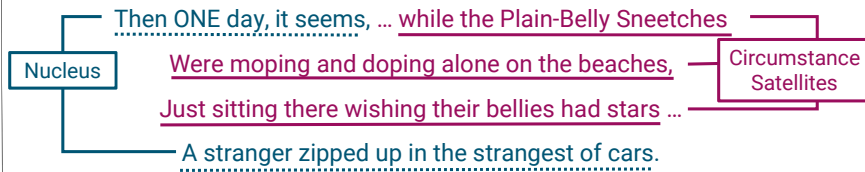
## Hypotactic Relations

Then ONE day, it seems, ... while the Plain-Belly Sneetches  
Were moping and dopping alone on the beaches,  
Just sitting there wishing their bellies had stars ...  
A stranger zipped up in the strangest of cars.



Text: Seuss, D. (1961). *The Sneetches*. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; McBean: Dr. Seuss (1989). *The Sneetches and Other Stories*. Random House. p.9.

## Hypotactic Relations: Circumstance



### Circumstance

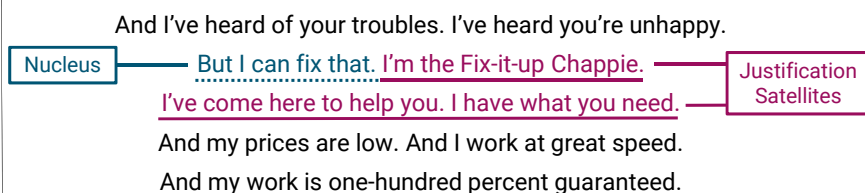
- A satellite which gives the framework in which the reader is intended to interpret the situation described in the nucleus.
- Most satellites provide a 'why' mechanism.

### Perpetuates:

- sadness
- isolation
- alienation

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

## Hypotactic Relations: Justification

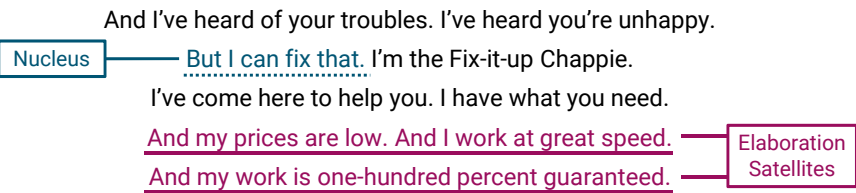


### Justification

A satellite which increases the reader's readiness to accept the writer's right to present the information in the nucleus.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

## Hypotactic Relations: Elaboration

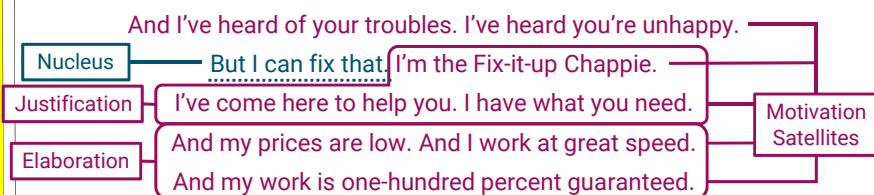


### Elaboration

A satellite which presents additional detail about (some element of) the situation described in the nucleus.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.;

## Hypotactic Relations: Motivation



Coherence relations overlap and interact with one-another.

### Motivation

A satellite which motivates the hearer to perform the action described in the nucleus.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

## Rhetorical Interlude

### Building ethos

Motivation?! Hey, that's persuasion, isn't it?

And I've heard of your troubles. I've heard you're unhappy.  
But I can fix that. I'm the Fix-it-up Chappie.  
I've come here to help you. I have what you need.  
And my prices are low. And I work at great speed.  
And my work is one-hundred percent guaranteed.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

## Rhetorical Interlude

### Building ethos

Motivation?! Hey, that's persuasion, isn't it?

A P E  
r h u  
e r n  
t o o  
e n i  
e a  
s i  
s

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I've come here to help you. I have what you need.

And my prices are low. And I work at great speed.

And my work is one-hundred percent guaranteed.

Phronesis

practical  
wisdom

Arete

virtue

goodwill

Eunoia

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

## Text Linguistics

Text linguistics vs. other analyses

- Text linguistics

Only cares what a satellite is doing.

- Rhetoric

Cares (from a suasive viewpoint) about where, how and why.

- Literary analysis

Cares (from an aesthetic viewpoint) about where, how and why.

## Hypotactic Relations: Cause

The satellite presents a situation that caused the situation presented in the nucleus.

But, because they had stars, ...

"We're the best kind of Sneetch on the beaches."

(The presence of stars causes their superiority)

Cause: Satellite  
Nucleus

You only could play if ...

plain belly sneetches had none upon thars.

(The lack of stars causes them to be prevented from playing)

Cause: Nucleus  
Satellite

We're all just the same, now, ...

we can go to your frankfurter parties.

(The same appearance causes the same treatment)

Cause: Satellite  
Nucleus

those with stars all got frightfully mad ...

wearing a star now was frightfully bad.

(Having a star (now) causes anger)

Cause: Nucleus  
Satellite

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). *The Sneetches*. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.

## Hypotactic Relations: Concession

So they clambered inside. Then the big machine roared. Concession Satellites  
And it klonked. And it bonked. And it jerked. And it berked.  
And it bopped them about. But the thing really worked! Nucleus  
When the Plain-Belly Sneetches popped out, they had stars!  
They actually did. They had stars upon thars.

### Concession

A satellite which concedes potential incompatibilities with the information presented in the nucleus.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

## Hypotactic Relations: Restatement

So they clambered inside. Then the big machine roared.  
And it klonked. And it bonked. And it jerked. And it berked.  
And it bopped them about. But the thing really worked! Nucleus  
When the Plain-Belly Sneetches popped out, they had stars!  
They actually did. They had stars upon thars. Restatement Satellites

### Restatement

A satellite which reformulates (paraphrases) the information given in the nucleus.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.; Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock



## Hypotactic Relations: Solutionhood

Solution  
Nucleus

And I've heard of your troubles. I've heard you're unhappy.

Problem  
Satellites

I can fix that. I'm the Fix-it-up Chappie.

I've come here to help you. I have what you need.

And my prices are low. And I work at great speed.

And my work is one-hundred percent guaranteed.

Solutionhood

The nucleus is a solution to the problem described in the satellite.

Text: Seuss, D. (1961). The Sneetches. In *The Sneetches and Other Stories* (pp. 3-25). Random House.

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Solution  
Nucleus

I've heard of your troubles.

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