

A decorative graphic consisting of a thin gold circle. A thick black L-shaped bracket is positioned at the bottom left of the circle, and a thick gold L-shaped bracket is positioned at the top right. A vertical bar with a gold-to-white gradient is centered within the circle, containing the text 'Cohesive Devices'.

Cohesive Devices

Reading I

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What is cohesive?


To be cohesive means to be attached
tightly with each other.

Cohesive Devices?


Cohesive devices are words used by a writer **to link the sentences** of a paragraph.


This link is done by using cohesive devices. In addition to making a link, cohesive devices may also often function to **provide variation** in the way a paragraph is written.

Look at the paragraph below.

A decorative graphic on the left side of the page. It features a large, stylized bracket shape. The top part of the bracket is a thin, light green horizontal line. The middle part is a thick, vertical bar with a gradient from light green at the top to dark brown at the bottom. The bottom part of the bracket is a thin, dark brown horizontal line.

The type of food eaten by a fish changes as it grows. A newly-hatched trout does not feed at all during the first weeks of life. **In contrast**, a newly-hatched perch is active as soon as it hatches. It swims up to the surface of the water and take in air to inflate its swim bladder. Air must be swallowed into the swim bladder through the gut before the perch is a few days old. A group of trout like to swim around white rocks. **Meanwhile**, perches like to form another group. They like to hang around the wild weeds.

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- The use of ***in contrast*** in line 2 links Sentence 2 to Sentence 1. By reading this cohesive device, we can understand that the writer is comparing between trout and perches.
 - The use of ***meanwhile***, also links between this sentence and the sentence before.



The next slides are some other cohesive devices.

These are not the complete examples.
You have to look into your dictionary to find more of such words used as cohesive devices.

Substitution 1: Personal pronouns

he, him, she, it, them, you, one, ones,
etc.

When *she* was chosen as the first woman in space, Sally Ride joined the training program together with five other women and thirty-four men.

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Substitution 2: Demonstratives

this, that, these, such those, two, three, etc.

The Aleuts and the Eskimo speak similar languages. This indicates that *the two* once shared a common tongue.

Substitution 3: Comparatives

the former, the latter, the first, the last

There are two basic techniques of reading: skimming and scanning. *The former* is used for fast reading. *The latter* is used for reading for detailed information.

Substitution 4: Conjunction

who, whom, which, etc.

It is the persons with the least food,
clothing, and housing ***whom*** you have
to help in this program.

Substitution 5: Synonyms

Three young boys were arrested for ripping off public phones. ***These youths*** were not aware of the consequences of their act.

Listing

to begin with, then, moreover, finally,
etc.

To begin with, you should look at the
tank. If you don't find anything wrong,
then you ...

Reinforcement

besides, in any case, anyway, what's more, furthermore, etc.

I won't be coming. I have some work to do. **Besides**, I don't think this is the right time to play the game.

Summarizing

*in a word, in short, to sum up,
altogether, in all, to conclude*

Each chapter is supported by a reference; *in short*, this is a carefully-written material.

Explanation

*that is, that is to say, namely, i.e., viz.,
etc.*

At least one person, *namely* the
President himself, supports the
proposal.

Contrast

*but, though, despite, however,
nevertheless, etc.*

Although he was very tired, he worked
hard until after midnight.

Cause/Reason

for, since, because, considering, due to, in view of, etc.

Due to the bad weather, we had to postpone the performance.

Effect/Result

so, so that, therefore, as a result, etc.

He ran out of money. ***Therefore***, he had
look for a job.

Exercise

Read the selection on page 83. Then, find some cohesive devices in the text.

Mention them and say their functions.