CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Multi-directional communication media which consists of information regarding the current events or incident happening in society is one of Newspaper definition. News contains implicit portrayal of stereotype and social issues through the use of communication and language. Newspaper has played a big role in contributing the readers various information and knowledge which they ignore. According to Khalid and Ahmed (2014), Newspaper were considered as one of the most prominent elements in the construction of national development. Generally, the content of newspaper covered all kinds of topics with different emphasis, some contents may have a strong coverage of international events, while others may be focused more on national or local events. It is due to the ability of media to influence their readers which could shape a certain ideas and sometimes the contents were made to entertain the readers with the various issues happening in society. Meanwhile, in its publications, newspaper has two kinds of form, printed newspaper and online newspaper, there are also a few characteristics that differentiates them. The printed newspaper have more side information than online newspaper that only state what was seen as the main content, online newspaper are faster on delivering the news rather than printed newspaper because the content need to be collected to fulfill the quota needed to be published, online news structure of writing are rather free with many illustration inside than printed which boxed to be compact and does not take too much space.

Online newspapers are quite easy to be accessed just by having an access to internet for people to get. Online newspapers have the ability to correct misinformation but also extend information networks (Huber, et al. 2019). The content of online newspapers is not only shaped to provide information, but also to rake public opinion on a certain issue regarding what happened on site.

The newspapers provide a viewpoint through which people see the society and the environment (Fletcher and Park 2017). Online newspapers especially plays an important role as one of the mass media communication to pass information through writing. The growing presence of technology is affecting how newspapers are distributed and how readers noticed it, the never-ending changing of technology affected the credibility of news (Everett' 2011). Online newspapers are considered credible based on their believability, fairness, accuracy, and comprehensiveness. United Kingdom is the home base of *The Guardian* and it is one of their credible online news portal in the country.

The Guardian was established in 1821 by John Edward Taylor. *The Guardian* credibility is proven by the award they have received by the British Press Awards in 1998, 2005, 2010, and 2013 as National Newspaper of the Year, and also by the Society for News Design award as they got co-winner of the World's Best-designed Newspaper in 2006. *The Guardian* provides their readers with topics revolving social issues, bullying, economy, politics, majority-minority relations, injustice, healthcare, and many more, especially with the recent hot issue in society regarding Coronavirus or COVID-19.

Coronaviruses or COVID-19 is a pandemic that is triggered by extreme acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). The first breakout happened in December 2019, in Wuhan, Hubei, China, and regarded as a dangerous epidemic by World Health Organization (WHO) which could be controlled. As of 16 march over 170.000 affairs of COVID-19 have been informed in more than 150 countries and territories. This virus is primarily spread among people, which is similar like flu, from sneezing or coughing via respiratory droplets. It is considered most infectious when people are symptomatic, but transmission may be possible before the symptoms develop. Fortunately, there is no vaccine or specific antiviral medication yet, so preventive measures are suggested such as washing hand regularly, when coughing cover the mouth so it will not spread, keeping some space from other people, and screening and self-isolation for two weeks for people who are suspected of being infected.

There are several articles regarding coronavirus pandemic on *The Guardian* online news media which five articles were published in January 2020 which discuss about coronavirus incident. The news covered about outbreaks of xenophobia happened in west, racism in Canada to Chinese community, fear of xenophobia in boarding schools in UK, the changing of hostile environment for East Asians in UK, and the last is about coronaviruses symptoms. Thus, from these articles, the theory of cohesive devices can be applied to find the cohesive devices to see the quality of the publisher or news contents.

The use of cohesive devices can be applied in the news articles to see the quality of the newspaper (Yin 2015). This can be seen from the grammatical and lexical

cohesion frequencies which appeared in the news. The frequencies of grammatical and lexical cohesion are used to prove the quality of *The Guardian* through the articles news about coronaviruses issue. Cohesive devices aim to facilitate the author of news article in conveying the message and information, it also help the readers to understand more about the articles (Hameed 2008).

The writer interests to conduct an analysis toward the articles about the coronaviruses issue to look at the quality of *The Guardian* as the online media which provides credible news. Halliday and Hasan (1976) divided texts into two, spoken and written. Linguists used text to refer to any section, which can be written or spoken, each of it must use words that express something and contain meaning. The writer used cohesive devices to make the readers to be able to derive more understanding of the text. Cohesive devices are part of discourse analysis. Cohesive devices have two categories, Cohesion and Coherence.

Nevertheless, this study only use Cohesion to analyze the source of the data. Cohesion is the idea to connect the sentences and the link on each word, which affects the text itself. Cohesion is categorized into two categories, grammatical and lexical cohesion. Grammatical cohesion consists of substitution,ellipsis,reference, and conjunction (Halliday and Hasan 1976). On the other part, lexical cohesion consists of reiteration (repetition, synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, or hyperonymy, and meronymy) and collocation (Renkema 2004).

There are several studies about the use of cohesive devices which are appropriate as the references. The first study by Tambunan, Hanafiah, and Mono

(2019) which identified the forms of grammatical cohesion also to reflect the realization of grammatical cohesion used in *international newspaper*, this study found that the news text often uses other forms of the grammatical cohesion, in particular the usage of substitution and ellipsis that could be used in writing. Prayudha (2016) identified the Cohesion and Coherence in Indonesian newspaper editorials of *The Jakarta Post*. The sources were 28 editorial articles published in May 2011 edition, Identity method were used to analyze it. The results of the study shows that editorials in *The Jakarta Post* in May 2011 comprise of all sorts of cohesion and coherence devices. Pangastuti (2018) identified the types of cohesive devices in an online newspaper about Indonesian flag incident published by *The Daily Mail.* The result is the most widely used form of grammatical cohesion is demonstrative references and the form of lexical cohesion that most widely used is reiteration with the sub-type of repetition.

By considering at the previous studies, the writer decided to use the two forms of cohesion, grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion, specifically, the theory initiated by Halliday and Hasan (1976) of cohesive devices specifically for grammatical cohesion and Renkema's (2004) as the supporting theory for lexical cohesion. The writer analyzed the articles which discussed about coronaviruses around the world. This study focuses on the most frequently used forms of grammatical cohesion and the most frequently used forms of lexical cohesion in the text. This study used 5 articles about coronaviruses issue which differentiates this study from the previous study. Then the writer used *The Guardian* online newspaper as the source of data for this study.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Considering the background of the research, this research purpose is to examine the Cohesive Devices in an online newspaper from The *Guardian* regarding Coronavirus. Hence, to conduct the present study, the writer wanted to find out :

1. What type of grammatical cohesion is mostly found in the article about Coronavirus published by The *Guardian* Online Newspaper?

2. What type of lexical cohesion is mostly used in the article about Coronavirus published by The *Guardian* Online Newspaper?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of this research are meant to answer the statements of the problem. It is the main purpose of the analysis considering the research question. The objectives of this research are devised as:

1. To find out the type of grammatical cohesion which mostly used in the news article about Coronavirus published by The *Guardian* Online Newspaper.

2. To find out the type of lexical cohesion which mostly used in the news article about Coronavirus published by The *Guardian* Online Newspaper.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The research of Cohesive Devices has been conducted by many researchers that may help to some significances to some researches. The present study is anticipated to have theoretical purposes and practical contribution.

Theoretically, this research can give some knowledge about cohesion proposed by Halliday and Hasan (1976), so it can be applied extensively to a study of discourse. Practically, this study could help the readers understand content in the news article. Furthermore, it can stimulate people's thoughts about the recent issue happening in the society and how the issue may be described in the media. Also, this research is expected to be a guidance for the people who are interested in undertaking a study of cohesive devices analysis in news using cohesion as the base of analytical framework.

1.5 Definition of Keyterms

Coronavirus : A large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV). (Meng, Hua and Bian 2020)

The *Guardian* : British daily Newspaper, part of Guardian Media Group. Founded in 1821 by John Edward Taylor (Veneti, Karadimitriou and Poulakidakos 2016)

Cohesive Devices : Words or Phrases that show the relationship between paragraphs or section of a text or speech. (Halliday and Hasan 1976)

Online Newspaper : The online version of newspaper, either as a stand-alone publication or as the online version of a printed periodical (Fletcher and Park 2017)