

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION

#### 5.0 Introduction

The objectives of this thesis was to identify which of the five sources of English cohesion discussed by Halliday and Hasan (1976) can be found in W-CT Pwo Karen folktales, to compare the sources of cohesion found in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales and those in Sgaw Karen discussed by Katsura (1993), and to conclude which sources of cohesion are more commonly and which are rarely or never found in W-CT Pwo Karen.

This chapter will summarize which cohesion sources have been identified in these three texts, show the comparison of the sources of cohesion between W-CT Pwo Karen and Sgaw Karen, and present conclusions regarding the sources of cohesion that commonly occur. Ideas for further study will also be suggested.

#### 5.1 Source of cohesion found in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales

The cohesion sources Halliday and Hasan (1976) found in English are reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, and lexical items. These five cohesion sources have also been found in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales.

In Mueng Nong Nwe, cohesion through reference has two subcategories: personal reference and demonstrative reference. Substitution includes clausal only. Ellipsis has two types: nominal and verbal. Temporal conjunction is the only type of cohesion through conjunction. Reiteration and collocation are the two forms of cohesion through lexical items. Reiteration is shown by the repetition of some lexical items and some episodes. Collocation is achieved by words in six different domains.

In *Tiger Skin*, cohesion through reference is through personal reference, demonstrative reference, and comparative reference. Substitution has two subcategories: nominal and clausal. Three types of ellipsis are nominal, verbal, and clausal. Cohesion through conjunction is only created by temporal conjunction. Reiteration and collocation are also the two forms of cohesion through lexical items. Reiteration is through by the repetition of some lexical items and the use of general word. Collocation is mainly shown by words in six different domains.

In *Taokhe*, there are two subcategories of cohesion through reference. These are personal reference and demonstrative reference. Nominal and verbal are the two forms of cohesion through substitution. Ellipsis includes nominal, verbal, and clausal. Temporal conjunction is also the only one type of conjunction as one source of cohesion. Cohesion through lexical items consists of reiteration and collocation. Reiteration is through the repetition of some lexical items, the use of synonym, and the use of general word. Collocation is achieved by words in seven different domains.

## **5.2 Comparison**

This section will compare the sources of cohesion found in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales and those in Sgaw Karen folktales, and conclude which sources of cohesion are more commonly and which are rarely or never found in W-CT Pwo Karen.

### **5.2.1 Cohesion through reference**

Table 5.1 shows cohesion through reference in the three W-CT Pwo Karen<sup>5</sup>. It can be seen that personal reference and demonstrative reference have been found in all three

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<sup>5</sup> When discussing cohesion through reference, Katsura (1993) follows the other linguists' theories instead of Halliday and Hasan's (1976). Therefore, in section 5.2.1 cohesion through reference in Sgaw Karen will not be compared.

texts. Comparative reference occurs in Tiger Skin but there is only one example to show this type. Thus it can be concluded that personal reference and demonstrative reference are commonly used in these three texts, but comparative reference is rare.

Language	Cohesion Through Reference		
	Personal Reference	Demonstrative Reference	Comparative Reference
English	✓	✓	✓
Mueng Nong Nwe	✓	✓	
Tiger Skin	✓	✓	✓
Taokhe	✓	✓	

Table 5.1 Reference in English and W-CT Pwo Karen

### 5.2.2 Cohesion through substitution

Halliday and Hasan (1976) posit three types of cohesion by substitution in English: nominal, verbal, and clausal. The findings of the use of these three types of substitution in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales and those in Sgaw Karen folktales are shown in Table 5.2. It can be seen that nominal substitution is used in Tiger Skin and Taokhe. There is only one example of clausal substitution in Mueng Nong Nwe and only two in Tiger Skin. Verbal substitution only occurs in Tiger Skin. Clausal and verbal substitution rarely occurs in these W-CT Pwo Karen folktales. All three types are found in Sgaw Karen folktales.

Language	Cohesion Through Substitution		
	Nominal	Verbal	Clausal
English	✓	✓	✓
Mueng Nong Nwe			✓
Tiger Skin	✓		✓
Taokhe	✓	✓	
Sgaw Karen	✓	✓	✓

Table 5.2 Substitution in English, W-CT Pwo Karen, and  
Sgaw Karen

### 5.2.3 Cohesion through ellipsis

Cohesion by ellipsis in English as discussed by Halliday and Hasan (1976) are nominal, verbal, and clausal. As shown in Table 5.3, both nominal and verbal ellipsis have been found in all the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales. Clausal ellipsis has been found in Tiger Skin and Taokhe but not in Mueng Nong Nwe. Thus, nominal and verbal ellipsis are comparatively commonly used in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales. According to Katsura (1993), nominal ellipsis is the type of cohesion through ellipsis found in his Sgaw Karen data.

Language	Cohesion Through Ellipsis		
	Nominal	Verbal	Clausal
English	✓	✓	✓
Mueng Nong Nwe	✓	✓	
Tiger Skin	✓	✓	✓
Taokhe	✓	✓	✓
Sgaw Karen	✓		

Table 5.3 Ellipsis in English, W-CT Pwo Karen, and Sgaw  
Karen

It has been noted that in this data all of the examples of verbal and clausal ellipsis have to do with verbs and clauses of speech. Both the speech verb in a quote formula clause and the entire clause can be ellipted. No other types of verbs or clauses were found to be ellipted.

#### 5.2.4 Cohesion through conjunctions

Cohesion by conjunction, such as, additive, adversative, temporal, and causal are commonly used in English. The conjunctions found in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales and those in Sgaw Karen are shown in Table 5.4. It can be seen that only temporal conjunction was found in the three folktales. Additive, adversative, and causal conjunctions were not found in these three WCT Pwo Karen texts. In Sgaw Karen, Katsura (1993) discovered that cohesion through conjunction includes additive, adversative, temporal, and causal.

Language	Cohesion Through Conjunction			
	Additive	Adversative	Temporal	Causal
English	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mueng Nong Nwe			✓	
Tiger Skin			✓	
Taokhe			✓	
Sgaw Karen	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 5.4 Conjunctions in English, W-CT Pwo Karen, and Sgaw Karen

### 5.2.5 Cohesion through lexical items

On the basis of Halliday and Hasan (1976), lexical items can create cohesion in the form of reiteration and collocation. In English, reiteration appears in the forms of repetition, a synonym, a near-synonym, or a superordinate. It can be seen in Table 5.5 that repetition occurs in all the W-CT Pwo Karen texts while synonyms only occur in Taokhe, and general items are only used in Tiger Skin and Taokhe. Thus, repetition is abundant in the three W-CT Pwo Karen texts. The rest of the reiteration forms are not so common. In Sgaw Karen, the forms of reiteration found include the repetition of some lexical items, the use of synonyms or near-synonyms, and the use of general words.

Language	Cohesion Through Lexical Items			
	Reiteration			
	Repetition	Synonym	Near-synonym	General Word
English	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mueng Nong Nwe	✓			
Tiger Skin	✓			✓
Taokhe	✓	✓		✓
Sgaw Karen	✓	✓	✓	✓

Table 5.5 Reiteration in English, W-CT Pwo Karen, and Sgaw Karen

As discussed, collocation is achieved through the association of lexical items that regularly co-occur. Like English, these three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales use lots of collocational chains through which cohesion is created. Katsura (1993) did not discuss collocational chains in Sgaw Karen folktales.

### 5.3 Suggestions for further study

Having analyzed all the cohesion sources identified in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales, the findings of all the subcategories under the five cohesion sources have been summarized. Based on the analysis and the findings, four particular areas about W-CT Pwo Karen will be mentioned for further research.

*ḡḡ* 'this' and *nḡ* 'that' are two words used in these three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales with high frequency. These two words clearly have some kind of extended use

beyond simple demonstrative pointing. The following examples show the use of these two words in use as something other than demonstrative pointing. According to Phillips (2004), the use of these two words as found in examples 1, 2, and 3 need to be analyzed at the discourse level. However, to get a clear understanding of their use, more data and further research are needed.

## (1) Tiger Skin (S 13)

ʔà- phĩ yà nó khubài' de cúcài' jò  
 NMLZR younger\_sibling person that close with hand this  
 PFX N CLF DEM V PREP N DEM

lɔ̃  
 that's\_the\_way\_it\_is  
 PRT

As for the younger sibling, she covered her eyes with a hand.

## (2) Tiger Skin (S 41)

thĩ nó ʔá ʔà wê dá mà pà'θí lè jò  
 time that Oh! 3 ? ? do how QUES this  
 CLF DEM EXCL PRN PRT PRT V PRT DEM

"Oh! What to do?"

## (3) Taokhe (S 52)

ʔó là- nĩ θòkhâ ʔómàlái' tái'khê kekú' là- nĩ nó  
 exist one day monk order Taokhe tomorrow one day that  
 V NUM CLF N V PN N NUM CLF DEM

ʃádòmĩ thố lú' tà khĩ nó kù' jà ʔô thũ  
 North\_Star up yonder sugar\_palm on that call 1s OK arrive  
 N V PREP N LZN DEM V PRN PRT PREP

khâ c<sup>h</sup>əp<sup>h</sup>ɔ̃t<sup>h</sup>ɔ̃ nó  
 time early\_morning\_hours that  
 N N DEM

One day the monk instructed Taokhe, "Tomorrow, when the North Star is over the sugar palm, call me at dawn."



The main objective of this study is to identify which of the five sources of English cohesion discussed by Halliday and Hasan (1976) can be found in the three W-CT Pwo Karen folktales. To reach this objective, this thesis limited itself to cohesion sources discussed by Halliday and Hasan only. Sources of cohesion unique to W-CT Pwo Karen may exist and further research is needed to identify them.

The use of some particles is clear in some circumstances, for example, *ʔé'* is a particle used to mark a negative sentence. Another example is *ǰá*, a particle used to show that the sentence in which this particle occurs is an interrogative sentence. However, it is difficult to fully understand the use of some other particles like *nà*, *kənè'*, *pho nà*, and *lô* which may carry a cohesive role and should be examined in future work.

The unusual phenomenon that only speech verbs and clauses has been ellipted in these texts also needs further research. In fact, this may prove to have another explanation besides that of ellipsis.

The three texts used in this study are all narrative discourse. In order to get a holistic understanding of how discourse cohesion is achieved in W-CT Pwo Karen, further study should include discourse cohesion in the other discourse genre, such as hortatory, expository and procedural. In fact, other types of narrative also need to be examined as this data is restricted to folktales. So there is much more room for further analysis on sources of cohesion in W-CT Pwo Karen than this thesis has been able to examine.