

## **An Analysis of Grammatical Cohesion on Barack Obama Speech: Discourse Analysis**

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### **ABSTRAK**

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*Penelitian kualitatif ini mengeksplorasi jenis-jenis kohesi gramatikal yang sering digunakan dalam tuturan, dengan fokus pada hubungan antara teori dan penelitian sebagaimana diusulkan oleh Halliday dan Hasan (1976). Data penelitian berasal dari pidato perpisahan mantan Presiden Barack Obama yang tersedia di kanal YouTube The Obama White House sejak 11 Januari 2017. Tujuan utama penelitian ini adalah untuk memeriksa keberadaan dan penggunaan elipsis, referensi, konjungsi, dan substitusi dalam pidato Obama. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan pendekatan observasional, di mana peneliti menonton dan mendengarkan pidato sambil mencatat. Analisis data menggunakan kerangka teori Halliday dan Hasan, serta hasilnya disajikan dengan statistik deskriptif. Penelitian ini mengidentifikasi adanya 15 referensi, 10 substitusi, 4 konjungsi, dan 9 elipsis dalam pidato tersebut. Elemen kohesi ini penting untuk memastikan komunikasi yang efektif dan integrasi pesan, memungkinkan audiens mengikuti pidato dengan lancar. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada pemahaman interaksi antara teori dan penelitian dalam penggunaan bahasa, serta menyoroti pentingnya elemen linguistik kohesif dalam menyampaikan pesan secara efektif.*

**Kata kunci:** Discourse Analysis; Note-Taking Strategy; Speech Farewell

### **ABSTRACT**

*This qualitative research study explores the types of grammatical cohesiveness frequently used in utterances, focusing on the relationship between theory and research as proposed by Halliday and Hasan (1976). The research data is derived from former President Barack Obama's farewell speech, available on The Obama White House YouTube channel since January 11, 2017. The primary objective is to examine the presence and usage of ellipsis, reference, conjunction, and substitution in Obama's speech. Data collection employed an observational approach, with researchers watching and listening to the speech while taking notes. The analysis process involved understanding the context and categorizing the data based on Halliday and Hasan's theoretical framework, with findings presented using descriptive statistics. The study identified significant occurrences of grammatical cohesiveness, including 15 references, 10 substitutions, 4 conjunctions, and 9 ellipses in Obama's speech. These cohesive elements are instrumental in ensuring effective communication and message integration, enabling the audience to follow the speech seamlessly. By investigating grammatical cohesiveness in Obama's farewell address, this research contributes to the understanding of how theory and research interact within language use and highlights the importance of cohesive linguistic elements in conveying messages effectively.*

**Keywords:** Discourse Analysis; Note-Taking strategy; Speech Farewell

### **INTRODUCTION**

Discourse theory, also known as discourse analysis, is an interdisciplinary approach to studying language and communication that examines how language is used to construct meaning, shape social

interactions, and produce power relations. It emerged from the works of linguists, philosophers, sociologists, and other scholars who sought to understand the role of language in society. Discourse theory emphasizes the idea that language is not simply a neutral tool

for conveying information, but rather a socially constructed and historically contingent system that reflects and shapes social reality. It examines how language is used in specific contexts, such as political speeches, media texts, and everyday conversations, to produce and reproduce particular ideologies, power structures, and social norms.

Yule (2010) defines discourse analysis as a discipline of linguistics that explores language beyond the sentence and is related with the study of language in text and speech. One type of spoken language is discourse. The most comprehensive linguistic unit is discourse, which consists of a collection of phrases that are connected, cohesive, and coherent in light of the situation at hand and provide a single unit of information. For the information in a discourse, the integrity of the discourse structure is crucial. For conversation to be easily understood, cohesion and coherence are essential.

And the researchers found a general phenomenon from a discourse analysis that occurred in interviews, between the host and Trump:

Host : What was the main message you wanted to convey in this interview?

Trump : My main message is that I was right about everything. I accomplished many incredible things during my presidency, and the results prove it.

(<https://youtu.be/b37kIrOMyng>)

In the conversation above there are 2 speakers, namely the interviewer as the speaker and Trump as the resource person. In conversation, the speaker is talking to the listener. In conversation use the pronouns "I" and "that" to refer back to yourself and statements made earlier.

And also, the researchers found a specific phenomenon from the discourse analysis contained in Barack Obama's speech which was used as a source of data in this study:

Obama : "On the first day I applied to be President, I made a promise: that I would work hard for you, honestly and transparently, so that you can have an effective and reliable government. And now, eight years later, when I finish my term me, I can proudly say that we have delivered on that promise."

(<https://youtu.be/QDyjUIsD-wQ>)

In this speech, President Obama uses references to refer back to the promise he made on his first abortion day as president. He used the word "that" to refer to the promise and then used the word "we" to refer to the US government. This helps to keep the flow of the conversation and allows the listener to follow the speech well.

According to Halliday and Hasan (1976), cohesion is the semantic relationship among elements in a text that are essential for their interpretation of each other, which means cohesion refers to the meaning relationships that exist in the text and defines it as a text, and it is also used to create relationships in a text sentence. Cohesion refers to the quality or state of being closely connected, united, or logically consistent. In the context of language and communication, cohesion is the linguistic feature that creates a sense of unity, coherence, and flow within a text or discourse.

Cohesion is achieved through various linguistic devices and strategies that establish connections between different parts of a text, enabling the reader or listener to understand how the ideas and information are related. These devices contribute to the overall clarity and coherence of the communication. Halliday and Hasan (1976) divide cohesion into grammatical and lexical cohesion. The use of conjunctions, ellipses, references, and substitutions all contribute to grammatical cohesion. On the other hand, collocation and repetition are both parts of lexical coherence. Thus, the grammatical use of text elements to convey semantic linkages both within and between sentences is known as grammatical coherence.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Grammatical cohesion refers to the use of grammatical devices and structures to create connections between different parts of a text. It helps to establish coherence and clarity in writing by linking ideas and creating a smooth flow of information. Grammatical cohesion is classified according to the categories of reference, substitution, conjunction and ellipsis. According to Halliday and Hasan (1976) the first three types are purely grammatical while the fourth

category of conjunctions occurs in between the grammatical and lexical classification, but it is closer to the formers. Grammatical cohesion, as mentioned earlier, involves the use of grammatical devices such as pronouns, conjunctions, and lexical repetition to connect different elements of a text grammatically.

Here are some types of grammatical cohesion:

**A. Substitution:**

Substitution involves replacing a word or phrase with a pronoun, adverb, or other word form to avoid repetition. It helps maintain cohesion while reducing redundancy. Ex: My pen is too blunt. I must get a sharper one; The word one is the substitution for pen (Maulida et al., 2018)

**B. Ellipsis:**

Ellipsis refers to the omission of words or phrases that can be understood from the context. It helps streamline the text and maintain cohesion by removing unnecessary repetition. Ex: they could distinguish individual differences as readily as a dog can (distinguish differences) (Ali, 2020)

**C. In the context of grammatical cohesion:**

"Reference" refers to the use of words or phrases to refer back to previously mentioned ideas, objects, or people within a text. It involves using language to establish connections between different parts of the text by referencing something that has already been introduced. Ex: Once upon a time there was a prince who wanted to marry a princess, but she would have to be a real princess; The word 'she' refers to another person (female). In the example the word 'she' refers to princess. (Afriliani & Cahyati, 2022)

Reference serves to avoid repetition and maintain coherence by allowing the reader or listener to understand which entity or concept is being discussed. It helps in tracking and identifying the intended referent in a clear and concise manner.

**D. Conjunction:**

Conjunctions play a crucial role in achieving grammatical cohesion in a text. They are words that connect words, phrases, or clauses to show the relationship between different parts of a sentence. Conjunctions help to create a coherent flow of ideas, allowing the reader to understand how different pieces of

information relate to each other. Ex: There's a boy climbing that tree. The boy's going to fall if he doesn't take care (Maulida, 2018).

These cohesion devices work together to create a coherent and unified text or discourse, allowing the reader or listener to follow the flow of information and understand the intended message. Cohesion helps to establish connections between ideas, maintain the logical progression of thoughts, and ensure effective communication.

Mandarani and Zuhri (2020), this study specifically looked at the grammatical and lexical coherence of a Donald Trump speech in relation to the upcoming, careless assassination of Iran's top general, Qasem Soleimani, in early 2020. This inquiry requires the use of textual analysis of a chosen speech from a YouTube video, which was then meticulously studied after being transcript. The findings demonstrated that Trump rationalized his actions positively while disparaging his addressee. This was demonstrated by the fact that the reference, which received 65 pieces of evidence, as well as Mandarani and Zuhri (2020) near-synonym and repetition, which received only 9 pieces of evidence, are the most frequent types of cohesiveness in the grammatical area. The combination, which has the fewest supporting factors (23), is likewise the least supported by general and synonym terms (1 each). This brought to light the fact that some cohesiveness features are used with differing intentions and results. Overall, this study offered a theoretical conclusion that all components of a connected correct speech required the usage of both lexical and grammatical cohesiveness.

Oktavia & Suprayogi (2021), this essay examines the grammatical coherence of Boris Johnson's speech on the UK's coronavirus outbreak. The purpose of this study is to determine the types of grammatical cohesiveness that are most frequently utilized in speech. The cohesion was examined using theories from Halliday and Hasan (1976) as part of a qualitative study methodology. Data for this study comes from a speech by Boris Johnson that was uploaded to the BBC News YouTube channel in May 2020. The researcher discovered that conjunction, ellipsis, reference, and substitution are the grammatical cohesions

utilized in Boris Johnson's statement about the spread of the coronavirus in the UK. There are 181 references, 2 substitutions, 2 ellipses and 80 conjunctions. The dominant kinds of cohesion in this speech there is reference with the total 181 and divided into three types: personal reference (122), demonstrative reference (50) and comparative reference (9). The usage of cohesiveness is required to make those messages acceptable; a succession of phrases and a word choice must be interwoven with one another in order to effectively communicate the substance of the message.

The equation for the entire investigation makes use of qualitative methods and theory (Halliday & Hasan, 1976). Previous research was different from the current research in that it looked at the references, replacements, and ellipses that were used to describe data cohesiveness. The grammatical coherence of reference passages is the subject of current research. Data from earlier studies and contemporary studies are distinct. In this research, we looked at Barack Obama's farewell speech.

## RESEARCH METHODS

In this study, data is presented through speech or written words using qualitative research. Bryman and Bell (2015) state that qualitative research is a research strategy that shows the relationship between theory and research and usually focuses on how theory is revitalized. The research data comes from former President Barack Obama's farewell address. The observation approach is used by researchers to obtain data. The observational approach to data collection involves observing the data (Sudaryanto, 2015). Additionally, the technique, researchers use a note-taking approach. Researchers collect data by watching, hearing and taking notes. In addition to data collection methods, many procedures are taken to collect data.

The researcher started by observing the speech delivered by Barack Obama. Second, the debate script is written. The steps in analyzing the data were to know the context and the data was grouped using theory by Halliday and Hasan (1976). Then the researcher made a conclusion from the result. The result in this research was presented by using descriptive statistics. Watch

the video several times to understand the various methods of choosing words in a speech. In this research, researchers looked at Barack Obama's farewell speech. To keep the flow of the conversation and allows the listener to follow the speech well.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Grammatical cohesion is the use of grammatical devices to connect sentences and create coherent texts. It refers to the way the grammar of a language is used to make connections between ideas in a text. From the data found in the Barack Obama speech, researchers found 15 reference data, 10 data substitution, 4 data conjunction and 9 data ellipsis.

**Table 1. Types of Grammatical Cohesion**

No.	Types of Grammatical Cohesion	Frequency
1.	Reference	15
2.	Substitution	10
3.	Ellipsis	9
4.	Conjunction	4
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>38</b>

### 1) REFERENCE

#### Data 1.

Obama: - " Michelle and I have been so touched by all **the well-wishes we've received** over the past few weeks. "

In this case, "The well-wishes we've received" refers to the messages or expressions of goodwill, support, and positive thoughts that have been directed toward the speaker and Michelle. In this context, "well-wishes" typically come in the form of verbal or written messages, cards, emails, social media posts, or any other means of communication where people express their positive sentiments and best wishes for the well-being, success, or happiness of the recipients.

In the context of the speaker and Michelle, it implies that they have been going through a notable event or situation that has prompted others to reach out and offer their support, encouragement, and positive thoughts. By mentioning "well-wishes we've received," the speaker is acknowledging the kindness and positivity they have experienced from others during this time.

**Data 2.**

Obama: - "my conversations with you, the American people"

In this instance, refers to the discussions and interactions the speaker has had with the citizens of America Exactly, when Obama says "my conversations with you, the American people," he is referring to the discussions, interactions, and engagements he has had with the citizens of the United States of America during his time as the President or even beyond his presidency. This phrase suggests that Obama has actively sought to connect with the American people, listen to their concerns, understand their perspectives, and communicate his ideas and policies.

**Data 3.**

Obama: - " Whether we've seen eye-to-eye or rarely agreed at all, my conversations with you, the American people – in living rooms and schools; at farms and on factory floors; at diners and on distant military outposts – those conversations are what have kept me honest, kept me inspired, and kept me going."

In this instance, when Obama refers to "those conversations," he is specifically referring to the conversations he mentioned earlier in the context of his interactions with the American people. In this case, "those conversations" is a pronoun that points back to the previously mentioned discussions, interactions, and engagements with the citizens of the United States of America. By using the term "those conversations," Obama is being more concise and avoiding unnecessary repetition of the phrase "my conversations with you, the American people." This is a common linguistic device used in communication to avoid redundancy and keep the language clear and concise.

**Data 4.**

Obama: - " Throughout these eight years, you have been the source of goodness, resilience, and hope from which I've pulled strength"

In the context of the statement, "the source of goodness, resilience, and hope," made by former President Barack Obama, it indeed refers to the American people being the origin or provider of these qualities. When a public figure like a president uses such language, they are expressing admiration, praise, and gratitude towards the citizens of their country.

**Data 5.**

Obama: " I've taken heart from the hope of young graduates and our newest military officers."

When Barack Obama says anything referring to "young graduates," they are generally referring to recent college graduates who have recently completed their undergraduate or postgraduate degrees. These are individuals who have successfully completed their education at a university or college and are now entering the workforce or seeking further educational opportunities. The term "young graduates" is not strictly defined by age but rather by the stage of life and education the individuals are in. Typically, it refers to those who have recently earned their degrees, often in their early to mid-20s, but it can also include older individuals who have pursued higher education later in life and are now entering the job market with their newly acquired qualifications.

**Data 6.**

Obama: - " I've taken heart from the hope of young graduates and our newest military officers."

When Barack Obama says anything referring to "our newest military officers," they are talking about the most recent individuals who have been commissioned as officers in the armed forces. These individuals have completed the required training and education to become officers and are now taking on leadership roles within the military.

**Data 7.**

Obama: - " I've seen our scientists help a paralyzed man regain his sense of touch."

In this case, when Barack Obama says anything referring to "our scientists", they are usually acknowledging and praising the work of scientists who have been involved in a particular accomplishment or achievement. The phrase "our scientists" emphasizes a sense of collective pride and ownership in the achievements of these scientists, implying that their work is a reflection of the nation's ingenuity, innovation, and commitment to scientific progress.

**Data 8.**

Obama: - " I've seen our scientists help a paralyzed man regain his sense of touch."

In this case, when Barack Obama refers to "a paralyzed man," they are referring to an individual who is unable to move or has impaired



movement due to paralysis. Paralysis is the loss of muscle function and voluntary movement in one or more parts of the body, typically caused by damage to the nervous system, such as the spinal cord or nerve pathways.

Paralysis can result from various factors, including spinal cord injuries, neurological disorders like multiple sclerosis or cerebral palsy, stroke, or traumatic brain injuries. The extent and severity of paralysis can vary depending on the location and severity of the injury or condition.

**Data 9.**

Obama: - "I've seen wounded warriors who at points were given up for dead walk again."

When Barack Obama refer to "wounded warriors," they are specifically referring to military personnel who have been injured or wounded during combat or military service. These are individuals who have sacrificed their well-being and, in some cases, their physical and mental health while serving their country.

The term "wounded warriors" is used as a way to honor and acknowledge the courage, dedication, and resilience of these service members who have faced significant challenges and hardships while serving in the armed forces. It emphasizes the idea that despite their injuries, these individuals remain warriors and heroes for their sacrifices.

**Data 10.**

Obama: - "I've seen our doctors and volunteers rebuild after earthquakes and stop pandemics in their tracks."

In this instance, refers to medical professionals and individuals who provide assistance. They are typically talking about medical professionals and individuals who selflessly provide assistance, support, and aid to others, particularly during times of crisis or in response to humanitarian needs.

Doctors are licensed medical professionals who have completed extensive education and training in medicine, and they play a crucial role in diagnosing and treating illnesses, injuries, and various health conditions. They are often at the forefront of healthcare, working in hospitals, clinics, and medical facilities to care for patients and improve public health.

**Data 11.**

Obama: - "So long as America stays true to its values, and its history shows us that, even in the darkest of moments, we have always found the

strength and the courage to come back and build something better."

When Barack Obama says anything referring to "America," they are referring to the United States as a nation. "America" is commonly used as a shorthand term for the United States, and it has become synonymous with the country's identity both domestically and internationally. As the 44th President of the United States, Obama often used the term "America" to address the nation, discuss policy matters, and communicate with the American people.

**Data 12.**

Obama: - " So long as America stays true to its values, and its history shows us that, even in the darkest of moments, we have always found the strength and the courage to come back and build something better."

This context refers to the core principles and beliefs held by America. they are usually talking about the core principles, beliefs, and ideals that define and guide a nation, specifically in this context, the United States of America.

The phrase "its values" emphasizes the collective identity and shared principles that form the foundation of a country's identity and culture. These values often include concepts such as freedom, democracy, equality, justice, human rights, liberty, opportunity, and the pursuit of happiness.

**Data 13.**

Obama: - " So long as America stays true to its values, and its history shows us that, even in the darkest of moments, we have always found the strength and the courage to come back and build something better."

This sentence refers to the historical record of America. They are talking about the collective historical record and experiences of the United States of America. The phrase "its history" encompasses the events, actions, and developments that have shaped the nation's past. It includes significant milestones, triumphs, challenges, struggles, and the various moments that have contributed to the formation and evolution of the country.

**Data 14.**

Obama: - " I've learned that change is never easy, but always possible. So long as America stays true to its values, and its history shows us that, even in the darkest of moments, we have always

found the strength and the courage to come back and build something better."

This sentence refers to times of extreme difficulty and hardship. When Barack Obama refers to "the darkest of moments," he is referring to periods in America's history marked by extreme difficulty, hardship, and challenges. These are times when the nation faced significant crises, both internally and externally, and when the future seemed uncertain and bleak. Throughout its history, the United States has encountered various "darkest moments," and these have tested the resilience of the nation and its people.

**Data 15.**

Obama: - " So long as America stays true to its values, and its history shows us that, even in the darkest of moments, we have always found the strength and the courage to come back and build something better "

This sentence refers to an improved condition or situation. When Barack Obama refers to "something better," he is talking about an improved condition, situation, or outcome. It implies progress and the aspiration for positive change and advancements.

In his speeches and statements, Obama often used the phrase "something better" to express his vision for a brighter future for America and its people. This might involve addressing societal challenges, promoting economic growth and opportunity, advancing civil rights and social justice, or enhancing the overall well-being and prosperity of the nation.

**2) SUBSTITUTION**

**Data 1.**

Obama: "They expected us to do the same." Here, the pronoun "they" is used as a substitute for repeating "our founders" from the previous sentence.

**Data 2.**

Obama: "That's what democracy is. That's what a republic is."

In these sentences, the pronouns "that's" and "that's" are used as substitutes for repeating the definitions of democracy and a republic.

**Data 3.**

Obama: "They are working harder than ever, but still struggling to get ahead."

In this sentence, the pronoun "they" is used as a substitute for repeating the subject "Americans" mentioned earlier in the paragraph.

**Data 4.**

Obama: "We need to invest in education and training, so that every American has the skills they need to compete in the global economy."

Here, the pronoun "they" is used as a substitute for repeating "every American" in the same sentence.

**Data 5.**

Obama: "We can't keep shouting past each other, and demonizing those who disagree with us."

In this sentence, the pronoun "those" is used as a substitute for repeating "each other" in reference to people who disagree.

**Data 6.**

Obama: "Throughout these eight years, you have been the source of goodness, resilience, and hope from which I've pulled strength."

In this sentence, the phrase "the source" is used as a substitute for repeating "the American people" who have been mentioned earlier.

**Data 7.**

Obama: "I've taken heart from the hope of young graduates and our newest military officers."

Here, the phrase "the hope" is used as a substitute for repeating the noun phrases "young graduates" and "newest military officers."

**Data 8**

Obama: "I've seen wounded warriors who at points were given up for dead walk again."

In this sentence, the phrase "wounded warriors" is used as a substitute for repeating individuals who were previously described as being given up for dead.

**Data 9**

Obama: "But our democracy also won't work if we don't find a way to come together and find common ground."

Here, the phrase "find common ground" is used as a substitute for repeating the idea of finding agreement or shared understanding.

**Data 10**

Obama: "And I want you to know that I will always be grateful for the honour of serving as your President."

Here, the pronoun "I" is used as a substitute for repeating the noun phrase "the speaker" or "Barack Obama."

**3) ELLIPSIS**

**Data 1.**

Obama: "Whether we've seen eye- to-eye or rarely agreed at all, my conversations with you,

the American people – in living rooms and schools; at farms and on factory floors; at diners and on distant military outposts – those conversations are what have kept me honest, kept me inspired, and kept me going."

In this sentence, the verb "have" is omitted in the second and third instances of "kept me" ("kept me honest" and "kept me inspired") because it can be inferred from the first instance.

**Data 2.**

Obama: "That's what democracy is. That's what a republic is."

Here, the verbs "is" and "is" are omitted in the second and third instances of "is" ("That's what democracy is" and "That's what a republic is") because they can be inferred from the first instance.

**Data 3.**

Obama: "But they knew that democracy does require a basic sense of solidarity – the idea that for all our outward differences, we are all in this together; that we rise or fall as one."

In this sentence, the verbs "are" and "rise or fall" are omitted in the second and third instances of "are" ("we are all in this together" and "we rise or fall as one") because they can be inferred from the first instance.

**Data 4.**

Obama: "A shrinking world, growing inequality; demographic change and the specter of terrorism – these forces haven't just tested our security and our prosperity, but are testing our democracy as well."

In this sentence, the verbs "have" and "are" are omitted in the second and third instances of "haven't just tested" and "are testing" ("haven't just tested our security and our prosperity" and "are testing our democracy") because they can be inferred from the first instance.

**Data 5.**

Obama: "We have what we need to do so. We have everything we need to meet those challenges."

In this excerpt, the verb "have" is omitted in the second sentence ("We have everything we need") because it can be inferred from the previous sentence.

**Data 6.**

Obama: "They expected us to do the same. But they knew that democracy does require a basic sense of solidarity."

Here, the verb "expected" is omitted in the second sentence ("But they knew") because it can be inferred from the previous sentence.

**Data 7.**

Obama: "That's what democracy is. That's what a republic is. It's not just about a single person, or a single term – it's about you."

In this passage, the verb "is" is omitted in the second and third instances of "is" ("That's what democracy is" and "That's what a republic is") because it can be inferred from the first instance.

**Data 8.**

Obama: "We need to invest in education and training, so that every American has the skills they need to compete in the global economy."

In this sentence, the verb "has" is omitted in the second clause ("every American has the skills they need") because it can be inferred from the previous clause.

**Data 9**

Obama: "We can't keep shouting past each other, and demonizing those who disagree with us."

In this excerpt, the verb "keep" is omitted in the second clause ("we can't keep shouting past each other") because it can be inferred from the first clause.

#### **4) CONJUNCTION**

**Data 1.**

"Michelle and I have been so touched by all the well-wishes we've received over the past few weeks."

This is the first part of the sentence, expressing the idea that both Michelle and the speaker have been deeply moved by the well-wishes they received in recent weeks.

**Data 2.**

"But tonight, it's my turn to say thanks."

This is the second part of the sentence, introduced by the conjunction "but." Here, the conjunction "but" is contrasting the previous idea with a different one. The speaker acknowledges the kindness they've received, but they are now focusing on the specific moment when they want to express their gratitude.

**Data 3**

"That's what democracy is."

This is the second clause, which stands independently and offers an explanation or definition of democracy.

**Data 4**

"Because despite our differences..."



This is the introductory clause, and the conjunction "because" is used to introduce the reason or cause for the statement that follows. It indicates that what follows is the reason or explanation for the situation being discussed.

## CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of this study is to determine the types of grammatical cohesiveness that are most frequently used in utterances. Cohesion was tested using the theory from Halliday and Hasan (1976) as part of a qualitative research methodology. The data of this research comes from former president Barack Obama's speech which was uploaded to The Obama White House YouTube channel on January 11 2017. The researcher found that ellipsis, reference, conjunction, and substitution are grammatical cohesions used in the speech of former president Barack Obama about valedictory. in America. There are 15 references, 10 substitutions, 4 conjunction, and 9 ellipses. The use of integration is necessary for the messages to be received; a series of phrases and word choices must be intertwined with one another in order to effectively communicate the substance of the message.

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