Abstract

Cohesion in Literary and Religious Arabic Texts

Being an essential component of textness, cohesion refers to the linguistic features which give texture and unity to the text. The aim of the research is to point out the similarities and differences between literary and religious Arabic texts in terms of the use of cohesive devices.

The method used by the researcher is descriptive. That is to say, religious and literary texts are used as an exclusive source of data to illustrate the types of salient cohesive devices used in each text type. The researcher show that both text types employ similar cohesive devices. These devices include reference, conjunctions, and lexical repetition. This leads the researcher to assume that Arabic in general prefers the use of these devices. It has also been shown that ellipsis and substitution play a very marginal cohesive role in both text types. Finally, it has been shown that both literary and religious texts employ some cohesive devices other than those employed by Halliday and Hasan (1976). These are rhyming patterns and titles.