CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Unity, cohesion, and coherence are three factors for writing a good paragraph. Unity refers to how the writer unites the ideas in his writing and links them to the topic. Coherence is about considering the sequences of sentences or utterances to hang together in a text Cohesion relates to the meaning that exists within a text (Halliday and Hasan, 1976, p. 23).

(Nunan,1993, p. 152). From these 3 aspects, cohesion is a way to make the writing become united and coherence as in cohesion there are cohesive devices which have the function to make writing (Halliday and Hasan, 1976, p. 23); Nunan, 1993, p. 152). (Crystal, 1992) holds that a text must be organized in order to create a coherent discourse. The text organization can be achieved by forming cohesion. Cohesive devices are words or phrases used to link different ideas in a paragraph. Cohesion is crucial for the semantic system to be effectively activated (Halliday and Hasan, 1976: 27). Many studies on cohesion in students' essays indicated that the frequency of cohesive markers used in their essay is low (Meisuo, 2000; Liu, 2005; Alarcon and Morales, 2011).

In the recent studies, Cohesion and coherence are considered as two of special elements that have to be existed during writing processes include the organizing of sentences into paragraph, how sentences are joined together, and the general organization of ideas into a coherent piece of discourse (Hasanah, 2017, p. 2). Cohesion is a connecting process to provide a clear and structured complete meaning of the clauses in the sentence. Cohesion is categorized into two types, namely grammatical cohesion and lexical cohesion. In grammatical cohesion. four processes that need to be done reference, substitution, ellipsis and conjunctions. Meanwhile, lexical cohesion has two processes, namely reiteration and collocation. The cohesive devices are important because they have grammatical and lexical

features that help them develop sentences and make them more accurate and contextually understandable (Uru et al., 2021).

Furthermore, the study of cohesion including lexical cohesion has the importance especially for students to make their writing skill better. The fact is there are still many students who find it difficult to write a good literature work. In this context, many of them do not utilize the lexical cohesion devices appropriately resulting in literary works that are not united and coherent. Therefore, this study is conducted to investigate cohesion in student essays. This study also identifies the least frequent use of lexical cohesive markers in the students' argument essays. Written discourse in particular plays a significant role in an academic context. Science and technology develop and disseminate through academic writing such as journal articles, scientific reports, theses, and dissertations.

1.2   Research Questions

This paper hopes to find answers to the following questions.

1. Which lexical cohesive markers are used by the students in their argumentative essays?
2. What are the least lexical cohesive markers used by the students in their argumentative essays?

1.3   Aims of the study

The aim of the study is to investigate how lexical cohesive markers establish relationships across sentence boundaries to organize argumentative essays. Additional relations form the basis for the distribution of information in a text, and thus they construct an academic discourse.

The texts used for the analysis of the lexical cohesion are taken from the student essays collected through essay task assignments. The data have been limited to argumentative essays which present an argument with ideas supporting or opposing an argumentative issue. The selected essays have been written by

students who learn English as a foreign language. The number of essays has been restricted to 6 essays.

The model analysis of the current investigation is based on the analyses of sentences in order to figure out how lexical cohesion enables the creation of a text.

Additionally, the discourse analysis presents lexical cohesion in the complete essays. There are several features of the texts chosen for the current analysis. The argumentative essays are short compositions on the topic of the use of the Internet by young people. Some texts are short and information oriented. Analysis of lexical cohesion in each essay were carried out systematically, to display the four types of lexical cohesion and on giving explanations of how these cohesive relations contribute to the creation of text.

Findings are presented where possible via tables since these can provide the reader with the information in a clear and concise visual form to support the discussio.