

Grammatical Cohesion in the State of the Nation Address of Female Presidents of the Republic of the Philippines: An Analysis Based on MAK Halliday's and Roman Jakobson's Theories

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Abstract

The purpose of studying language is to determine how various textual parts interact with one another. Cohesive devices are words or phrases that link the various sections of texts. They are also referred to as cohesive devices, cohesive words, discourse markers, and connectors. Written or spoken, communication becomes meaningful when the language is structured clearly and relevant to the circumstance at hand. This is the meaning and order of language. A discourse is a text that provides an excellent means of analyzing language organization and relevance. This study looks into the grammatical coherence of the president's State of the Nation Address and the linguistic roles that language plays in communication.

The study reveals that the utterances in the First SONA of the Female Philippine Presidents utilize two grammatical cohesions: reference and conjunctions. It also reveals that the cohesive and coherent features found in the First Sona of the Female Philippine Presidents are the use of reference and conjunctive as the dominant type of grammatical cohesion found that makes the meaning of the idea conveyed understandable to the listeners. Moreover, it also reveals that the utterances in the First Sona of the Female Philippine Presidents utilize the six types of language functions. Each of them has two utterances. The first one is referential which includes expressive or emotive, conative or directive, poetic, and phatic types of language functions, while the other one is a metalingual function that only consists only of one utterance in the SONA.

In general, the presence of cohesive and coherent words in the text is mainly regarded as the links that hold between clauses or sentences in a text and give both lexical and semantic meaning in the text. Banares (2020) with the application of cohesive devices, the students can observe logical semantic relations which aids them in the elimination of ambiguous ideas; instead, giving them a sense of cohesive and coherent legibility. Moreover, the study also reveals that the utterances in the First Sona of the Female Philippine Presidents utilize the six types of language functions. Each of them has two utterances. The first one is referential which includes expressive or emotive, conative or directive, poetic, and phatic types of language functions, while the other one is a multilingual function that only consists of one utterance in the SONA.

Furthermore, the vital role of these lexical cohesion items in the text is that the speaker fundamentally leads the listeners by linking phrases to sentences and sentences to paragraphs observing a sense of interconnectedness in the text. This promotes clarity and understanding on the part of the listeners. This study, therefore, investigates the grammatical cohesion of Halliday Hassan, and Jakobson's model of the linguistic functions of language found in the SONA and reveals their contribution to establishing the cohesiveness of the text.

Keywords: Language, Cohesive Devices, First Sona of the Female President, Language Features, Grammatical Cohesion, Language Functions

1.0 Introduction

Language is examined to determine the relationship between the various textual elements.

Cohesive devices, also known as connecting words, discourse markers, connectors, cohesive devices, or devices, are words or phrases that connect the

various sections of texts. When the language used in communication is organized clearly and pertinent to the situation at hand, it becomes meaningful. Written or spoken, discourse is the order and significance of language. A discourse is a text that offers a great way to examine how language is arranged and relevant.

The study of language and politics is vital to comprehend how language and linguistic techniques are used within the political sphere to influence others. Politicians carefully craft their platform to convince the reader of their credibility, and language plays a crucial role in their speeches as a tool of persuasion. The important role of understanding the language used in presidential speeches is to establish coherence and effectively communicate the speaker's message.

Hence, the study focuses on the inaugural speeches of the two lady presidents of the Philippines. The State of the Nation Address (SONA) is a speech given by a newly elected president. The speech informs the populace about the new government's direction, policy thrust, and action plan. As Adetunji (2009) observes, "the Presidential Inaugural Address (PIA) provides a new president with the opportunities for self and agenda presentation, audience endorsement and past, present and future actions towards the attainment of the goals." He says that the PIA presents the President with the first chance to use the official voice, which should extinguish all tensions and ultimately unite the nation after a democratic election. For this study, the choice of former President Corazon C. Aquino's inaugural speech is appropriate because it represents the much-sought democracy following the 21 years of the reign of late President Ferdinand Marcos. It was well attended by diplomats worldwide after the famous EDSA Revolution in 1986 when the Filipino people of power removed Marcos from office peacefully. Former President Gloria M. Arroyo is also selected, together with former Pres. Late Corazon C. Aquino is the only lady president in the annals of the history of Philippine Presidents. The study further examines the grammatical cohesion of the presidents' SONA and

investigates their linguistic functions of language as essential to communication.

2.0 Objectives

This study analyzes the grammatical cohesion and linguistic functions of the language in the first State of the Nation Address of the Philippine Female Presidents and their contributions to the comprehensibility of the text.

Specifically, this study seeks to answer the following: (1) The utterances in the 1st SONA of the Female Philippine Presidents reveal grammatical cohesion items in terms of cohesion and coherence (2) The cohesive and coherent words structured (3) The structures of linguistic functions of language revealed in the First Sona of Female Presidents

3.0 Design and Methods

This linguistic study employs the linguistic discourse analysis, which is a descriptive-qualitative. This study focuses on the relationship between the language which can be in written or spoken discourse and the contexts in which it is utilized. The sources of written data are taken from the State of the Nation Address (SONA) of the female Presidents of the Philippines, namely: the late Corazon Cojuangco Aquino, the 12th president, and Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, the 15th president.

4.0 Results and Discussion

1. The utterances in the 1st SONA of the Female Philippine Presidents reveal lexical cohesion items in terms of cohesion and coherence

1. Reference

Reference consists of four types: personal, demonstrative, article, and comparative reference. The function of reference is to connect two items. This means that reference is used to refer to one item which refers to another item mentioned previously or after the first item discussed (Halliday and Hasan, 1989)

Table 1 Reference Cohesion found in the State of the Nation Address of Corazon C. Aquino

GRAMMATICAL COHESION	REFERENCE			
	Personal Pronouns	Demonstrative Pronouns	Article	Comparatives
	I We You He Their Us They It Our	This These Those	The a an	As compared More Less important Less than More importantly More revealing

Table 1 shows that personal references such **I, we, you, their, us, they, it,** and **our** are utilized the most with the majority of concurrences. Further analysis of the personal references used in the SONA shows that the pronouns **I, we, you,** and **our** are the most commonly occurring among the personal pronouns in the SONA. The entire discourse has twenty-two (32) personal pronouns **I**, forty-three (43), personal pronouns **we**, five (5) personal pronouns **you**, and forty-three (43) pronouns **you**.

The following excerpt exemplifies the use of personal references in the SONA.

(1) The reference "**I, you, and we**" occurred several times in the SONA.

The above three examples showed the personal references that can be identified as situations in which one element cannot be semantically interpreted unless it is referred to another element in the text. The analysis of the corpus can be gleaned in the excerpt of the SONA which discloses the use of personal references as the highest occurrences. Moreover, the use of personal references indicates that instead of repeating the same phrases or avoiding repetitively reiterating a word, the speaker substitutes them with pronouns, which improves the cohesion of the SONA. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Cabrejas (2021) that excessive usage of the reference of the personal pronoun indicates that instead of repeating the same words or avoiding repeating a noun

monotonously, the speaker replaces them with pronouns which helps in the cohesion of the text. This is also seconded by Wales (1989) observes that reference is concerned with the relation between words and extralinguistic reality. Halliday and Hasan (1989) define Personal reference as a reference employing a function in the speech situation through the categories of person.

On the contrary, the personal reference "**their**" was also used in the SONA as an anaphoric reference.

The following excerpt exemplifies the use of the personal reference "**their**" in the SONA.

The above example showed an endophoric in which the reference to the personal pronoun "**their**" is complete leadership. The personal pronoun "**their**" is an endophoric expression because it refers to something mentioned elsewhere in the text. The endophoric reference links the message to its textual context; it contains the meaning that is repetitive in the text (Awwad, 1989). This notion is supported by the result of the study of Crystal (2021) that the major role of endophoric relations is to "relate referents to their references within a text and to make different parts of the text connected by their ability to retrieve the referential meaning or the identity of the references mentioned within the text." This is also seconded by Kashiha (2022) that endophoric reference can refer to someone the speaker assumes his audience has prior knowledge of, or it can refer to a person he is showing to his listeners.

Without further information, in other words, there is no way of knowing the exact meaning of an exophoric term. Endophora as explained by Halliday and Hasan (1989) is the umbrella term that encompasses anaphora and cataphora. Endophora is characterized as having antecedent "within the text"

Moreover, demonstrative pronouns, **this**, **these**, and **those** used as references were also found in the SONA.

The three examples above showed demonstrative reference as independent of the use of determiners such as **this** and **those**. This is also called anaphoric reference which refers to a person, object, place, or event in which the second and subsequent references are marked by some form of pronominalization (Nunan, 1993). This notion is supported by the result of the study of Foronda (2021) that anaphoric points to the information already mentioned, and usually it uses demonstrative pronouns such as **this** and **these** for backward referencing. The use of demonstrative referring expressions in comparative references is a type of verbal pointing. Moreover, Foronda (2021) concurred that demonstrative reference is used to refer to words such as **this/that**, **these/those** to indicate the location whether relatively near or further from the speaker. The use of demonstrative reference is categorized into two. The first is between near (**this, these**) and not near (**that, those**). Secondly according to the numbers of the nouns between singular (**this, that**) and plural (**these, those**).

Another reference is the use of articles **the**, **an**, and **a** are dominantly present in the texts.

The above three examples show the use of the article in the SONA the use of the definitive article **the** and the indefinite article **a** and **an**. Reference as a cohesive approach should be valued to achieve cohesiveness. It is also crucial to employ reference pronouns correctly, as well as other words like demonstratives and conjunctions, to attain a better understanding of the text. Reference can be identified as a situation in which one element cannot be semantically interpreted unless it is referred to another element in the text. This notion is supported by the result of the study of findings by Brown and Yule (1983), that the nature of reference in text and discourse is an

action on the part of a speaker or a writer. It describes what they are doing "not the relationship which exists between one sentence or proposition and another." McCarthy (1991) states that one must consider the notion of discourse segments as "functional units."

Lastly, comparative references such as **as compared**, **more**, **less important**, **less than**, **more importantly**, and **more revealing** are also found in the text.

The analysis of the corpus can be gleaned in the excerpt of the SONA which discloses the use of comparative reference as the second-highest occurrences. The above six examples show comparative references are identified in the investigation. Most of these appear in the text, possibly because the speaker wants to compare items, events, or situations to make the concept more intriguing and engaging. Based on the findings of the analysis of grammatical cohesion on references in the SONA. The researcher found personal references as the dominant type of grammatical device followed by comparative, demonstrative, and article references are frequently used in the SONA. Personal references are employed to avoid repetition and wordiness in a text, while comparative references are also used to compare the likeness or unlikeness of terms or two things that may be the same, similar, or different. The result implies that using reference as a cohesive device must not be taken for granted to achieve a cohesive and coherent paragraph. This notion is supported by the results of the study of Budi (2018) that repeated word allows a speaker to emphasize things they choose as significant in the text, hence, making the listener understand the content of SONA. This is seconded by Amperawaty (2019) that it is also crucial to employ reference pronouns correctly, as well as other words like demonstratives and conjunctions, to attain a better grasp of the reader's view, especially when feature articles cover a wide range of topics. "Lack of mastery on cohesive markers can lead to inappropriate use of references."

In conclusion, the speaker uses personal references as dominant grammatical cohesion found in the SONA to make the meaning of the idea conveyed comprehensible to the listeners. Personal pronouns are used to refer to people or

things that the speaker is talking to or talking about. The use of personal pronouns 'we' and 'I' as strategies to express persuasive messages and political ideologies. Moreover, the pronoun I is used when the speaker wants to speak as an individual rather than as a representative of a group while the pronoun, we is used to invoke a sense of collectivity and to share responsibility, and to avoid referring to himself/herself as an individual. The occurrence of different types of repetition in the SONA shows that language can easily be manipulated not only to demonstrate the

speaker's stylistic command as a political speaker but also to convey the speaker's political ideologies and views that may have an immediate impact on the audience.

2. Conjunctions

Another category of grammatical cohesion is a conjunction that is used to construct a strong unification of the ideas in the text by their specific meaning (Cabrejas, 2021). Halliday and Hasan (1989) posit that conjunction has four types which are additive, adversative, causal, and temporal.

Table 2 Conjunctive Cohesion found in the State of the Nation Address of Corazon C. Aquino

GRAMMATICAL COHESION	CONJUNCTIONS			
	Additive	Adversative	Casual	Temporal
	And or	But Yet Still However	Henceforth Therefore Because Thus	First Second Meanwhile

In the category of conjunction, the most common type is causal conjunction such as **henceforth, therefore, because, and thus**. This happens because the speaker describes and explains how things work and why things happen by often providing additional information. An effective example of using and cohesively connecting the relationship of two ideas where one causes the other to happen can be seen in the following excerpt exemplifies the use of casual conjunction in the SONA.

The above four examples show the causal conjunction as introduce results, reasons, or purposes. They are characterized by the use of items such **as, so, thus, therefore, and because**. The analysis of the corpus can be gleaned in the excerpt of the SONA which discloses the use of causal conjunctions as the highest occurrences. This happens because the speaker describes and explains the ideas by often providing additional information. Moreover, these causal conjunctions

found in the SONA are signals or signposts that indicate the direction of the argument. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Marollano (2010) that connectives are words and phrases that are used to indicate a specific connection between the different parts of a text. This is also seconded by Hidayat (2016) who describes conjunction as cause or signals.

Moreover, in terms of temporal devices, the words **First, Second, and meanwhile** were used by the speaker coherently in the SONA to show the contextualization of information in terms of a sequence of events. **second**, describes a sequence of events that implies action over time while indicating a fixed point in time or specific period.

This notion is supported by the result of the study of Hidayat (2016) that the function of the temporal conjunction is to give a sequence or a time for something to happen. This is also seconded by Bahaziq (2016) causal conjunctions introduce results, reasons, or purposes. They are

characterized by the use of items such as, so, thus, therefore, and because. Similarly, the speaker's usage of adversative is relevant, usually placed in the middle of the sentence or text to express a contrast between two ideas. the words **But**, **Still**, **Yet**, and **However** were used by the speaker coherently in the SONA and are called coordinating conjunctions. These coordinating conjunctions join or coordinate two or more equivalent items such as words, phrases, or sentences. The sample excerpt of the SONA below shows the use of Adversative devices to show the cohesion of the text.

The above three examples show the adversative conjunctions that demonstrate the relation between clauses and connect their ideas. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Bahaziq (2016) adversative conjunctions are used to express contrasting results or opinions. This type of conjunction is expressed by words such as, but in contrast, and whereas

Additionally, the great use of additive conjunction **and**, and **or** are manifested in the analysis in this study. This can be explained that the speaker has the habit of using additive conjunction. It is a device that is familiar to the speaker which generally used to express addition. The sample excerpt of the SONA below shows the use of additive devices to show the cohesion of the text.

The above two examples show the additive conjunctions such as **and** and **or** connect the text from one sentence to another. The most straightforward relationship is that addition, where the speaker, having mentioned one thing, wants to go on to talk about something else is similar. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Hidayat (2016) that additive conjunction has a function to connect two clauses that contain different information. Additives can be set up between real-world events or between arguments in an exposition (Halliday and Hasan, 1989). This is also seconded by Halliday and Hasan (1989) that conjunction contributes to textual cohesion by linking successive sentences that are not structurally related (Halliday and Hasan, 1989). Based on the findings of the analysis of grammatical cohesion on conjunctions in the SONA. The researcher found causal and adversative as the dominant type of grammatical

devices followed by temporal and additive conjunctions are frequently used in the SONA. This grammatical cohesion on conjunctions is used to construct a strong unification of the ideas in the text by their specific meanings.

Generally, the speaker's use of conjunctive devices shows the variety and is not limited. This can be due to the speaker's linguistic knowledge of how to use the subsequent sentence or clause should be linked to the preceding or the following sentence or parts of a sentence. This is always achieved by the use of conjunctions, thus, facilitating comprehension and better understanding. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Afrianto (2017) that conjunctions establish the semantic relation in the text. This is also seconded by Banares (2020) in using specific conjunctions, text can relate to the previous or following text which is meaningfully connected to what has gone before.

In conclusion, the speaker uses conjunctions as dominant grammatical cohesion found in the SONA to make the meaning of the idea conveyed comprehensible to the listeners. The function of conjunctions is often referred to as choosing between putting the conjoined clause headed by the conjunction first and putting it second at the end of a sentence because the beginning of the sentence knows the purpose of a sentence. Bloor and Bloor (1995) characterize conjunction as cohesive links between sentences or sections of texts that serve to illustrate significant connections between them.

2. The cohesive and coherent words structured

It is clear that cohesion, one component of textual function, is realized by grammatical units in a discourse.

The sample excerpt of the SONA below shows cohesion and coherent in the SONA

(1) When I took power in this country 17 months ago, I was immediately called upon to deal with a dangerous combination of a severely distressed economy and a growing insurgency
(Corazon C. Aquino)

(2) **We** adhere to a freely convertible peso and market exchange rates. However, **we** support the Central Banks' measures to curb speculation
(Gloria Macpagal-Arroyo)

In the examples above, it can be inferred that the role of cohesion provides texture helps to create text, and expresses the continuity that exists between one part of the discourse and another. The copious use of the personal pronoun "I", twenty-two times, "took power" and "immediately called upon to deal with" all correspond to the same event- the Philippines' status before the Aquino's Administration, so this knowledge allows listeners to feel that, together, they are co-workers and partners in progress, in the quest for a democratically elected leader. On the other hand, in the case of Arroyo, she used the personal pronoun. "we" to invoke a sense of collectivity to share responsibility and to avoid referring to herself as an individual. Moving toward grammatical cohesion, the analysis showed the massive use of references, specifically the tremendous use of personal references "I" and "We". This fact may be good since this indicates the text is accessible to public readers. It is supported by Eggins as cited in Fitriati and Yonata (1994) says such a type of retrieval reference facilitates readers whenever they want to trace the referent in a sentence, it is already stated in the previous sentences. Thus, in other words, the elements in the text intertwine each other and show logical relations within the text that bring about cohesion and coherence in the text of the SONA. Halliday (1989) notes that "In writing a text, it is required to use a connection that involves the elements both within the clause and beyond it, which can make the text flow smoothly. These connections used within the text are cohesion and coherence to make the text stream smoothly.

Additionally, the use of repetition, a reiterative cohesive device is evident in the SONA of the First Female Philippine President. The synonymous use is found in the SONA "Your Excellencies", "Distinguished guest". These phrases are used as synonyms to recognize distinguished heads of the high-ranking government officials who are present in the SONA. The presence and application of this device in the speech of the First Female Philippine President gives the speech an aura of importance to the listeners would be quickly acquainted with the caliber of people that attended the SONA of the President. Moreover, the traditional forms of greeting by acknowledging and recognizing are

also collocates used by the First Female Philippine Presidents to recognize the presence of the dignitaries. The use of the synonyms "ladies" and "gentlemen" is also seen in the speech. These devices strongly assist in giving this text the lexical that it possesses.

The following is the extract from the SONA that demonstrates synonyms

(1)Mr. President of the Senate; Mr. Speaker of the House of Representatives; members of both Houses of Congress; the Vice President and members of the Cabinet; the Chief Justice and the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; **Your Excellencies** of the Diplomatic Corps; **Distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen.**

Furthermore, the use of "future" and "past, division, and unity" are in an antonymous relationship with each other. The antonymous relationship increases the listeners' understanding of the message of the political discourse.

To illustrate the occurrence of the antonym, an excerpt is shown below.

(1) A vision for the **future** must be rooted in the **past**.

(2) The enemy to beat is ourselves: when we spread **division** rather **than unity**;

These cohesive devices employed in the SONA of the First Female Philippine President help the listeners understand the political discourse. This is supported by the study of Enyi and Chitulu (2011) that the presence of cohesive devices helps the listeners or readers can get the main ideas of the entire text as quickly as possible. Readability and comprehension are enhanced.

In conclusion, the presence of grammatical cohesion in the SONA of the First Female Philippine Presidents to ascertain cohesiveness and coherence as text devices that are used to achieve text and textuality.

In principle, a discourse of any length will employ cohesive ties. Moreover, it is a sufficient condition for a text to be coherent. Moreover, coherence comprises three elements: connectedness, consistency, and relevance. Connectedness means the sentences in a text are interconnected with each other in semantics and grammar. Consistency refers to the fact that there is no contradiction between the propositions expressed by these sentences and they are true to

a certain extent. Relevance means that a text should be related to the context, the sentences in a text should be related to each other and the sentences should all be related to the general topic of the text. The vital role of these cohesive ties and coherent features in the text is that the speaker fundamentally leads the listeners by linking phrases to sentences and sentences to paragraphs observing a sense of interconnectedness in the text. This is to promote clarity and understanding on the part of the listeners. Hence, these cohesive and coherent words contribute to the achievement of the semantic relationship of ideas found in the text of the SONA. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Emah and Omachonu (2018) the use of cohesion in a text is best observed when there are cohesive devices, thus creating a good and solid discourse.

3. The structures of linguistic functions of language revealed in the First Sona of Female Presidents

Language must be investigated in all the variety of its functions. At the time people talk about language functions, they are talking about the reason for using language. At its most basic, the function of language is communication usually called speech function; people use language to give and receive messages between themselves (Arista and Murni, 2014).

Roman Jakobson (2001) enumerates the six linguistic functions of verbal communication as the referential function, emotive function, conative function, phatic function, poetic function, and metalingual function as the model of communication which is the addressee will get the message from the addresser. The text should require a context that refers to the referent to operative. The texts should be full of codes or at least partially codes between the encoder (addresser) and the coder (addressee) of the message.

The following are extracts from the SONA that demonstrates referential function.

(1) **Fifteen years ago**, in this season of the year, **my husband stood in the Senate and delivered what turned out to be the valedictory of Philippine democracy.** (Corazon C. Aquino)

(2) **Our foreign debt stands today at more than 284 billion.** The increase from \$ 26.3 billion when we took power is largely accounted for by the weakening of the dollar against major currencies. (Corazon C. Aquino)

(3) A sense of nationhood was born but also **the dream of a better life for all Filipinos.** **Andres Bonifacio**, the poor man, the great plebeian **who started this revolution, nurtured this dream.** (Gloria M. Arroyo)

(4) Inspired by the great plebeian, **my father, President Diosdado Macapagal, promulgated the Land Reform Law** to emancipate the peasants from feudal bondage to the soil. (Gloria M. Arroyo)

The first example shows that the speaker describes the condition of the country before the implementation of martial law. The second example shows that the speaker gives information about the country's foreign debt. The examples can be grouped as an informative function because, in the underlined utterance, the speaker explains the condition of the country during the regime of Late President Ferdinand Marcos and the status of the foreign debt. The third example contains referential function, through this utterance, Gloria M. Arroyo said a piece of information that Andres Bonifacio started the revolution and nurtured the dream of a better life for all Filipinos. The sentence brings a piece of information from Gloria C. Arroyo to the audience the fourth example is also referential function because the sentence brings also a piece of information that President Diosdado Macapagal who promulgated the Land Reform Land. The function underlying the SONA is referential because it concerns contextual information. This function is primarily used to convey information which was one of the primary reasons that language was discovered. Referential function focuses on the context; it means that referent or subject matter of discourse, and what it refers to. The referential function is oriented toward the context of the communication. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Arista and Muri (2014) that referential function means providing information. Essentially, the referential function is the communication of information.

The following are extracts from the SONA that demonstrate the emotive function

(1) I had taken the oath to be president of a country that had lost everything, everything but honor. With that **honor** came **renewed faith** in national leadership and in the ability of our race to change things for the better given the **courage** to do it. (Corazon C. Aquino)

(2) It is my **sad** duty to report to you that the results of the recently concluded debt renegotiations are far short of our expectations and, more importantly, of our urgent needs. (Corazon C. Aquino)

(3) I **congratulate the LTO** for issuing licenses in half an hour. (Gloria M. Arroyo)

(4) I **congratulate the NBI** for issuing clearances in one day. (Gloria M. Arroyo)

The examples show the speaker's feelings of **honor**, **renewed faith**, and **courage**, **sad**, and expressing the speaker's feelings to **congratulate** the two government agencies. It is included in emotive function because the speaker expresses in the text the feeling of honor with renewed faith and the courage to do it. This focuses on the addresser; it means that a speaker addresses a message. The expressive function aims to convey the speaker's emotion or expression. The aim of a direct expression of the speaker's attitude toward what he is speaking about. It tends to produce an impression of a certain emotion whether true or feigned. It means that the addresser's own towards the content of the message is emphasized. This emotive function is to communicate the emotion of the addresser or express the feelings of the speaker's attitude.

This notion is supported by the result of the study of Arista and Muni (2014) that the Expressive function means expressing the speaker's feelings. This focuses on the addresser; it means that a speaker addresses a message. The expressive function aims to convey the speaker's emotion or expression.

The following are extracts from the SONA that demonstrate directive/ conative function.

(1) We have directed our immediate attention towards **strengthening the chain of command**, **reinstilling discipline** within the rank

and file, and **upgrading morale in the Armed Forces of the Philippines**. (Corazon C. Aquino)

(2) **Join me** now in expressing our congratulations and deepest gratitude to those who have this day by God's grace given to the nation the fully ripened fruit of freedom. (Corazon C. Aquino)

(3) I **want** the bulk of them to be behind bars before the year is over so that every Filipino will at last feel safe in his home, in his workplace, and in his streets. (Gloria M. Arroyo)

(4) All of us want to do our share. **We have to think Filipino, buy Filipino, invest Filipino**. (Gloria M. Arroyo)

The first example shows that the speaker gives immediate command to the Armed forces. It is included in the directive function because of the order **to strengthen the chain of command, instill discipline, and upgrade the morale of the Armed Forces**. The second example shows an expression of "**join me**" as an example of a conative function. This function engages the addressee directly and is usually used to cause or prevent an action. The third and fourth examples are directive function because it indicates the addressee to do something. Directive function focuses on the addressee; it means that the speaker needs the reaction from the hearer or to make someone perform a particular action. The directive function aims to convey the speaker's commands. It is therefore found in commands and requests that require the use of vocatives and imperatives, for example, "**Andy, come here at once**", and "**Please shut the window**." This notion is supported by the result of the study of Arista and Murni (2014) that the Directive function means an attempt to get someone to do something. It means that language is used to cause (or prevent) overt action. This function is most commonly found in commands and requests.

The following are extracts from the SONA that demonstrate phatic function.

(1) **To this end, we** shall continue to exhaust measures and avenues that will involve all **our** people in the task of moral and material reconstruction and national unity. (Corazon C. Aquino)

(2) Mr. President of the **Senate**; Mr. Speaker of the **House of Representatives**; members of

both **Houses of Congress**; the Vice President and **members of the Cabinet**; the **Chief Justice and the Associate Justice of the Supreme Court**; Your Excellencies of the **Diplomatic Corps**; **Distinguished guests**; **ladies and gentlemen**.
(Corazon C. Aquino)

(3) **To succeed**, the template of **our** national agenda must revolve around the four components.
(Gloria M. Arroyo)

(4) **His Excellency President Ramos, Senate President Drilon and other senators, Speaker De Venecia, and other congressmen and congresswomen, the Justice of the Supreme Court**; Your Excellencies of the **Diplomatic Corps**; **Distinguished guests**; **ladies and gentlemen**.
(Gloria M. Arroyo)

The first and third examples show that the phatic function deals with the connection between speakers. It is included in the phatic function because the speaker employs the use of expressions **"to this end"**, **"to succeed"**, and the use of **"we"** and **"our"** in her speech. This means that not only her the one who has the responsibility for the task of moral and material reconstruction and nationality but also the audience and the other people. In the second and fourth examples, the speakers open their speeches with traditional forms of greeting by recognizing all the high-ranking government officials and the audience who are present in the SONA. The examples can be grouped as a phatic function because they involve language for the sake of social interaction. This function can be observed in greetings. This notion is supported by the result of the study of Arista and Murni (2014) that Phatic function means expressing solidarity and empathy with others. The phatic function helps to establish contact and refers to the channel of communication. It opens the channel or checks that it is working, either for social reasons. This function is used for sociability.

The following are extracts from the SONA that demonstrate poetic function

- (1) **Time is money.** (Corazon C. Aquino)
- (2) An evil government **has no room for good men and women except in its prisons** (Corazon C. Aquino)
- (3) I sometimes extend **a hand covered by a velvet glove**, inside it is **an iron hand** where justice

and the rule of law are concerned. (Gloria M. Arroyo)

(4) Let us all do **what is right**, let us do **what is best** and **God will take care of the rest.** (Gloria M. Arroyo)

The first example shows that the speaker associated **time with money**. Time is money is an example of an aphorism that means that one should not waste time, because one could be using it to earn money. The second example shows the use of the literary figure of **"evil has no room for good men and women except in its prison"** which is an example of an aesthetic function which is to emphasize the message. The third example shows the use of the phrase **"a hand covered by a velvet glove, inside it is an iron hand"** that someone who seems to be gentle but is forceful and determined. Poetic function is based mainly on the form of the message, the styles used and the literary resources since the main objective of this poetic function is to give greater emphasis to the information. That is transmitted and embellishes the message so that its impact is greater. This function focuses on the message for its own sake and is used in poetry as well as in slogans.

This notion is supported by the result of the study of Arista and Murni (2014) that Poetic function means to focus on an aesthetic feature of language. It is in which the particular form chosen is the essence of the message. Messages convey more than just the content.

The following are extracts from the SONA that demonstrate metalinguistic function.

- (1) **Today, I join you in rededicating this hall to true democracy.** (Corazon C. Aquino)
- (2) **Inshallah, mahimotinu-od ang saassa Mindanao ubossaakong administrasyon.** (Gloria M. Arroyo)

The first example shows an example of metalinguistic function which can be seen in the line **"Today, I join you in rededicating this hall to true democracy."** This statement is simply a clarification from the speaker toward her audience's feelings and she was making sure that she understood what their audiences felt about the mockery of democracy committed in that hall, where the loser was proclaimed the winner of the snap election. The second example containing a

metalinguistic function is **Inshallah, mahimotinu-od ang saadsa Mindanao ubossaakong administrasyon** is an example of code-switching from one language to another in the same discourse. Through this statement, Gloria Arroyo wants her audience especially from Mindanao to know her plans by using their dialect that If Allah wills, the promise for Mindanao will be realized under her administration. Metalinguistic function means comment on the language itself. This function is the use of language to discuss or describe itself. It focuses attention on the code itself, to clarify it or negotiate it. This is the function of language about language. The metalinguistic function is also predominant in questions like "Sorry, what did you say?", where the code is misunderstood and needs correction or clarification. The metalinguistic function aims to convey the code analysis.

This notion is supported by the result of the study of Arista and Murni (2014) that the metalingual function, is used to describe or to ask for true information to make sure or to clarify it. This function is the use of language to discuss or describe itself. It focuses attention on the code itself, to clarify it or negotiate it. This is the function of language about language. This metalingual function, also called "reflexive", is the use of language to describe itself (self-referential) or the use of the code as Jakobson calls it.

5.0. Conclusion

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the first Sona of the female Philippine Presidents reveals grammatical cohesiveness and linguistic functions of language that contribute to the logical relations and comprehensibility of the text. Consequently, the terms cohesion and coherence are related to making sense of language in the text/discourse analysis. This proves that a written text is coherent and comprehensible through the deployment of grammatical cohesion and linguistic functions of language.

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