

**COHERENCE STRATEGIES AND  
DEVICES OF EFL ACADEMIC WRITING  
INTRODUCTIONS**

**A THESIS**



**BY:**

**VINCENTIA SRI HARTI SISWANTI**

**8212712001**

**MASTER IN TEFL**

**WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
SURABAYA**

**2014**

# **COHERENCE STRATEGIES AND DEVICES OF EFL ACADEMIC WRITING INTRODUCTIONS**

**A THESIS**

Presented to Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya  
in partial fulfillment of the requirement for  
the degree of  
Master in Teaching English as a Foreign Language

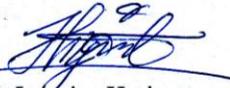


**BY:  
VINCENTIA SRI HARTI SISWANTI  
8212712001**

**MASTER IN TEFL  
WIDYA MANDALA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
SURABAYA  
2014**

## Advisor's Approval

This thesis entitled **Coherence Strategies and Devices of EFL Academic Writing Introductions** prepared and submitted by Vincentia Sri Harti Siswanti 8212712001 has been approved to be examined by the Thesis Board of Examiners.



Dr. Ignatius Harjanto

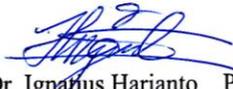
Thesis Advisor

## Thesis Examiner Board's Approval

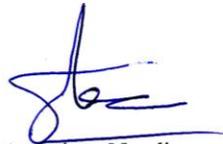
This thesis entitled **Coherence Strategies and Devices of EFL Academic Writing Introductions** prepared and submitted by **Vincentia Sri Harti Siswanti** 8212712001 has been approved and examined by the Thesis Board of Examiners.



Prof. Anita Lié, Ed.D  
Chair



Dr. Ignatius Harjanto  
Secretary



Prof. Dr. Agustinus Ngadiman  
Member



Prof. Anita Lié, Ed.D  
Director

## Statement of Authenticity

I declare this thesis is my own writing, and it is true and correct that I did not take any scholarly ideas or work from others dishonestly. That all the cited works were quoted in accordance with the ethical code of academic writing.

Surabaya, September 10<sup>th</sup> 2014

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vincent" with a horizontal line underneath.

Vincentia Sri Harti Siswanti

## Acknowledgment

First of all, the writer would thank to her beloved God Almighty, Jesus Christ, for His blessing and spirit that enable her to accomplish this thesis. The writer would also like to express her deepest gratitude and appreciation to those who gave their valuable time that make the accomplishment of her thesis possible especially to:

1. Dr. Ignatius Harjanto, her advisor, whose encouragement, guidance, valuable comments, and numerous constructive suggestions have been great help for the writer in accomplishing this thesis.
2. All lecturers at MPBI Widya Mandala Catholic University for imparting their knowledge and for sharing their precious experiences.
3. The writer's husband, Beatrix Vesteriyanto Murtiadi Floridaewa, and beloved son, Kenneth Kenzie Bro Samuel who have always given their best support, attention, and spirit that enable the writer to finish her thesis.

4. The writer's beloved parents, Antonius Hartanto and Florentina Tri Antini, and brother, Vincentius Tio Putra Wibawa, who have given supports, motivation, and prayers to finish her thesis.
5. All her friends from Batch XVII, some from Batch XVIII and XIX, and her colleagues for supporting her to finish her thesis.

Finally, the writer also would like to thank those who have not been mentioned here one by one for giving contributions, supports, prayers, and loves in completing this thesis.

The writer realizes that all of the guidance, cooperation, time, and opportunities given are really helpful for her to enlarge her knowledge and enable her to arrange this thesis as well as it should be. May God always bless all of them.

Surabaya, September 10<sup>th</sup> 2014

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Vincentia", with a horizontal line underneath.

Vincentia Sri Harti Siswanti

## **Abstract**

Siswanti, Vincentia Sri Harti. 2014. *Coherence of EFL Academic Writing Introductions*. English Department of the Graduate School. Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya.

Key words: academic writing, introduction, coherence, coherence strategies, coherence devices

Academic writing plays an important role in higher education like graduate school. Introduction is the most important part in academic writing since it gives an overview of the whole writing because of its crucial role. An introduction must be understandable and readable where coherence is needed since introduction is the gate to go further. Hereby, the researcher conducted a study focusing on how students of MPBI Widya Mandala Catholic University achieve the value of coherence of the academic writing introduction. The study was intended to describe the coherence strategies and devices used by the students to achieve coherence.

The study was discourse analysis where it would describe the internal relationship of form and meaning. This research applied textual analysis with multimodal analysis. Multimodal analysis used an integrated perspective to study the development of research in education. The data was the introduction paragraphs of the academic writing essays.

The researcher found *non-deductive* and *neither deductive nor non-deductive* strategy in this study. The *non-deductive* strategy consisted of three elements like context establishment, further focus, and thesis statement. On the other hand, the *neither deductive nor non-deductive* strategy did not have the complete three elements like *non-deductive* strategy, so those writings which used this strategy were categorized as incoherent introductions. Beside those strategies, there were 6 coherence devices found; they are repetition of key nouns, the definite article 'the', parallelism, purpose signals, substitution, and transitional signals.

For further research, the researcher suggests to conduct a research study on similar topic. Perhaps, the further researcher could dig more information related to the subjects of the study and the data by giving more triangulation devices like interview and questionnaire. Therefore, the findings and discussions of the findings could be described deeply.

## **List of Tables and Figures**

### **Tables**

- Table 1: Coherence strategies ..... 29
- Table 2: Coherence devices ..... 39

### **Figure**

- Figure 1: Research diagram ..... 23

## Table of Contents

Advisor’s Approval.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Thesis Examiner Board’s Approval .....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Statement of Authenticity .....	iii
Acknowledgment .....	v
Abstract.....	vii
List of Tables and Figures .....	ix
Tables.....	ix
Figure.....	ix
Introduction .....	1
Background of the Study .....	1
Research Questions.....	13
Objectives.....	13
Significance of the Study.....	14
Theoretical Frame works.....	14
Definition of Key Terms .....	15
Scope and Limitations of the Study .....	19
Review of Related Literature .....	20
Academic Writing.....	20
Coherence in Academic Writing Introduction.....	31
Review of Related Studies .....	48
Research Method.....	51
The Design.....	51

<b>Subjects of the Study</b> .....	<b>52</b>
<b>Source of the Data and Data</b> .....	<b>53</b>
<b>The Instruments</b> .....	<b>54</b>
<b>Data Collection Procedure</b> .....	<b>55</b>
<b>Data Analysis Techniques</b> .....	<b>56</b>
<b>Triangulation</b> .....	<b>58</b>
<b>Findings and Discussion</b> .....	<b>60</b>
<b>Findings of the Study</b> .....	<b>60</b>
Coherence strategies. ....	62
Coherence devices.....	85
<b>Discussion of the Findings</b> .....	<b>103</b>
<b>Conclusion and Suggestion</b> .....	<b>110</b>
<b>Conclusion</b> .....	<b>110</b>
<b>Suggestions</b> .....	<b>113</b>
<b>References</b> .....	<b>115</b>
<b>Appendices</b> .....	<b>119</b>
<b>Appendix 1</b> .....	<b>119</b>
I. Introduction structure .....	119
II. Coherence strategies model.....	120
III. Coherence devices.....	125
Coherence devices coding.....	127
<b>Appendix 2</b> .....	<b>129</b>
I. Coherence strategy analysis .....	129
II. Example of coherence strategy analysis .....	132
III. Example of coherence devices analysis .....	134