Abstract

The Study of Cohesion in Chinese Text from the Perspective of Text Linguistics

--with a Focus on Two Non-manifest Linguistic Phenomena--

Xin Tan

This paper analyzes the cohesion in Chinese text with a central focus on two non-manifest linguistic phenomena, "zero anaphora" and the noun composition "X *de* Ø".

As shown below, this paper consists of three parts and seven chapters.

The first part of this paper is an overview of the research conducted and consists of the first and second chapters.

The first chapter is the sequence chapter, which explains the research purpose, research method and structure of the paper.

The second chapter introduces the cohesion theory of Halliday&Hasan (1976) and Halliday (1994), the theoretical framework that will become the basis of this paper's analysis and discussion. It makes clear the definitions of the key words to be used in this paper, namely, "text", "cohesion", "zero anaphora", "clause" , "style" and "X *de* Ø" whilst looking at the arguments of past research. In addition, the chapter also explains the necessity of the view point of analysis and the research method of this paper.

The second part is the so-called doctrine part of the paper, that uses the cohesion theory of Halliday&Hasan (1976) and Halliday (1985,1994). Through the research of two non-manifest phenomena, "zero anaphora" and the composition of noun "X *de* Ø", detailed analysis and research are carried out for the cohesion in Chinese text . The second part consists of chapters 3, 4, 5 and 6 .

The third chapter is a study on the first non-manifest phenomenon, "zero anaphora", which has the function of reference in text. This chapter gives a brief introduction to past research and studies of Chinese "zero anaphora", before considering the overall and basic features of "zero anaphora" based on macro analysis and through detailed analysis of data collected by the corpus from Peking University. This chapter then goes on to focus on the analysis of the micro starting point through the study and analysis of the differences in the use of "zero anaphora" and "non- zero anaphora" (the third person pronoun) in the Chinese novel "love in a fallen city", with further study of the special features of "zero anaphora". As a result of the investigation, this paper discovers that in the first subject of the Chinese small sentence, the third person pronoun is more powerful than "zero anaphora" in terms of linguistic cohesion. This conclusion is different from previous research.

The fourth chapter is the-comparative study of "zero anaphora" in Chinese and Japanese. As a starting point of further defining the nature of Chinese "zero anaphora" through the comparative analysis of

another language, this chapter compares a total of four novels; the Chinese novel "love in a fallen city" with its Japanese translation and the Japanese novel "breeding" with its Chinese translation. As a result of the study, this paper finds that the use of "zero anaphora" as the first subject of Chinese sentences is not necessarily less than that of Japanese. This conclusion is also different from previous studies. In addition, compared to Japanese, the third person pronoun in Chinese is more powerful and more prominent in the text cohesion, and has the function of relating words.

The fifth chapter is the study of the nominal composition of the second non-manifest phenomena, "X *de* Ø". This chapter firstly makes specific provision of the definition of "X *de* Ø", and briefly introduces the different theories and views of previous research. On the basis of this, the chapter clearly points out three problems that can be found in previous research.

The sixth chapter seeks to find the answer to the question posed in the fifth chapter through the theoretical framework of Halliday&Hasan (1976) and Halliday (1985,1994) cohesion theory and studying the features of the nominal composition "X *de* Ø" in the text. As a result of the study, this paper concludes that "X *de* Ø" has an alternative function in the text, one that brings about cohesion in the text. Furthermore, it is suggested that "X *de* Ø" is also able to bring cohesion to the text with its enumeration feature, something that Halliday&Hasan (1976) do not argue. Therefore, this paper highlights this new feature of "X *de* Ø" as an "enumerating feature" of cohesion in the text. This study also discovers that "X *de* Ø" can be used to express the speaker's emphasis and emotion and therefore comes to the conclusion that "X *de* Ø" has a special feature that expresses the subjectivity of the speaker.

The third part, which consists of chapter seven, is the last part of this paper.

Chapter 7 briefly reviews the contents of this research, and then concludes the answers to all the issues in this paper. In addition, chapter 7 gives a brief description of the research issues that need to be solved in the future.