COHESION

Cohesion is:
- The relations of meaning that exist within a text;
- Expressed partly through the grammar and partly through the vocabulary;
- A semantic relation between an element in the text and some other element that is crucial to the interpretation of it;
- The range of possibilities that exists for linking something with what has gone before.

Note: text/ discourse: any passage, spoken or written, of whatever length, that does form a unified whole.

Cohesion occurs where the interpretation of some elements in the discourse is dependent on those of another.

Examples:
Wash and core six cooking apples. Put the apples into a fireproof dish.
Wash and core six cooking apples. Put them into a fireproof dish.

It’s raining. Then let’s stay at home. (non-structural)
Since it’s raining, let’s stay at home. (structural)

There are five types of cohesive devices: reference, substitution, ellipsis, conjunction, and lexical cohesion.
Reference: relationship between an item with another referred by the item

A. Situational (exophora)
B. Textual (endophora)
   a. anaphora (to preceding text)
   b. cataphora (to following text)

Three types of reference:
Personal: reference by means of function in the speech situation, through the category of person;
Demonstrative: reference by means of location, on a scale of proximity;
Comparative: indirect reference by means of identity or similarity.
Ex: John has moved to a new house. He had built it last year.

Substitution: replacement of one item by another
Three types of substitution: nominal, verbal and clausal
Ex:
These biscuits are stale. Get some fresh ones.
John thought it was impossible. – Yes, I thought the same.

Ellipsis: ‘substitution’ by zero => there is no implication that what is unsaid is not understood.
Three types of ellipsis: nominal, verbal, and clausal
Ex:
Would you like to hear another verse? I have twelve more.
We’re not late. -- No
Conjunction
Conjunctive elements express certain meanings which presuppose the presence of other elements.
Four important categories: additive, adversative, causal, and temporal
Ex:
For the whole day he climbed up the steep mountainside, almost without stopping.
   a. And in all his time he met no one. (additive)
   b. Yet he was hardly aware of being tired. (adversative)
   c. So by night time the valley was far below him. (causal)
   d. Then, as dusk fell, he sat down to rest. (temporal)

Lexical Cohesion
Two types: reiteration (repetition, synonym, superordinate, and general word) and collocation (cohesion that is achieved through the association of lexical items that regularly co-occur)
Ex:
There is a boy climbing the old oak. That tree isn’t very safe.
Why does the little boy wriggle all the time? (girls don’t wriggle)