What is cohesive?

To be cohesive means to be attached tightly with each other.
Cohesive devices are words used by a writer to link the sentences of a paragraph.

This link is done by using cohesive devices. In addition to making a link, cohesive devices may also often function to provide variation in the way a paragraph is written.

Look at the paragraph below.
The type of food eaten by a fish changes as it grows. A newly-hatched trout does not feed at all during the first weeks of life. **In contrast**, a newly-hatched perch is active as soon as it hatches. It swims up to the surface of the water and take in air to inflate its swim bladder. Air must be swallowed into the swim bladder through the gut before the perch is a few days old. A group of trout like to swim around white rocks. **Meanwhile**, perches like to form another group. They like to hang around the wild weeds.
The use of *in contrast* in line 2 links Sentence 2 to Sentence 1. By reading this cohesive device, we can understand that the writer is comparing between trout and perches. The use of *meanwhile*, also links between this sentence and the sentence before.
The next slides are some other cohesive devices.

These are not the complete examples. You have to look into your dictionary to find more of such words used as cohesive devices.
When she was chosen as the first woman in space, Sally Ride joined the training program together with five other women and thirty-four men. Substitution 1: Personal pronouns: he, him, she, it, them, you, one, ones, etc.
Substitution 2: Demonstratives

this, that, these, such those, two, three, etc.

The Aleuts and the Eskimo speak similar languages. This indicates that the two once shared a common tongue.
Substitution 3: Comparatives

the former, the latter, the first, the last

There are two basic techniques of reading: skimming and scanning. The former is used for fast reading. The latter is used for reading for detailed information.
Substitution 4: Conjunctive

*who, whom, which, etc.*

It is the persons with the least food, clothing, and housing *whom* you have to help in this program.
Three young boys were arrested for ripping off public phones. *These youths* were not aware of the consequences of their act.
to begin with, then, moreover, finally, etc.

To begin with, you should look at the tank. If you don’t find anything wrong, then you ...
besides, in any case, anyway, what’s more, furthermore, etc.

I won’t be coming. I have some work to do. **Besides**, I don’t think this is the right time to play the game.
Summarizing

in a word, in short, to sum up, altogether, in all, to conclude

Each chapter is supported by a reference; in short, this is a carefully-written material.
that is, that is to say, namely, i.e., viz., etc.

At least one person, namely the President himself, supports the proposal.
Although he was very tired, he worked hard until after midnight.

Contrast

evertheless, etc.

but, though, despite, however,
Due to the bad weather, we had to postpone the performance.
He ran out of money. *Therefore*, he had to look for a job.
Exercise

Read the selection on page 83. Then, find some cohesive devices in the text.

Mention them and say their functions.