A Comparative Study on the Representation of Cohesive Devices in Persian and English Newspapers

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This study was an attempt to investigate the predominant cohesive devices used in English and Persian articles published in two newspapers of Los Angeles Times and Hamshahri in order to shed light on some implications for teaching English. To this end, five articles were selected from each newspaper randomly. The articles were investigated in terms of the cohesive devices using Halliday and Hassan's (1976) framework in which different types of cohesive devices were numerated and classified. Furthermore, the obtained data in the two newspapers were compared. The result of the study indicated to the significant differences between the two newspapers in which English one tended to use more reference words and transitions, and the Persian newspaper more repetition devices. The result of the study indicated that English and Persian have many differences in the domain of cohesive devices in making relationships between and among sentences. Subsequently, these vast differences have made some difficulties for language learners which need to be addressed by curriculum developers or syllabus designers.