ANAPHORIC EXPRESSIONS USED IN ENGLISH AND THE URDU LANGUAGE

Irum Tasleem
irumtasleem08@gmail.com
Esma Ramzan
esmaramzan310@gmail.com
Elishba Najam
elishba.najam@yahoo.com

Abstract
The paper is based on the study of "Anaphoric Expressions", where it tends to explore the various "anaphoric expressions" used in English and Urdu Language. Anaphoric expressions are basically referring items that refer back to the prior concept or antecedent in the same sentence and text. These expressions are used to create cohesion and coherence in the written and spoken text. The paper also explores the most frequently used "anaphoric expression" and how its placement order differs in both languages. Apart from this, the paper aims to cover various "anaphoric expressions" by examining three short stories in Urdu and English to compare and analyze the "anaphoric expressions" used in both languages, utilizing tables to distinguish between the expressions. Apart from this, it also focuses on examining the relationship between antecedents and their anaphors, as the meaning of one word (anaphor) can only be interpreted by another word by referring back to its antecedent. The investigation of referring expressions shows that the most frequently used expression is related to nouns, and other types are neglected.
Key words: Anaphor, Anaphoric expressions, antecedent.

Introduction

"Language" is one of the most important components of human communication, as it allows us to express and convey our feelings and thoughts. "Language" is not something that is taught to us in a formal setting but rather every human has an innate capacity to acquire language naturally. It plays a major role in our lives as it's related to one's future well-being and which helps to achieve our desired goals and become the leading role models for others. But the striking question that we come across is what language is made up of? Well, definitely language is made up words that help us formulate sentences which we use on daily basis to communicate. "Syntax" a branch of linguistics helps us study different sentence structures within languages and allows us to study and understand how words (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs etc) are put together in a specific order to form sentences and to give appropriate meanings. The words that we use within sentences consist of nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverb and other parts of speech but we do not always use the same words again and again and instead we replace them with an another word, for example, Mary decided to go zoo but she had to wash dishes. So here, Mary has been replaced by a pronoun "she". Such words are known as Anaphoric expressions which are replaced by its antecedent.

Anaphoric expressions or relations are words that are used to replace their antecedents in order to avoid the repetition of similar words. They are defined as "special case of cohesion where the meaning (sense and/or reference) of one item in a cohesive relationship (the anaphor) is, in isolation, somehow vague or incomplete, and can only properly be interpreted by considering the meanings of the other item(s) in the relationship (the antecedents)." (Krahmer, 2000).

For example, Aqsa and Hina wanted to go to the event but couldn't as they had to attend the wedding. In this example, Aqsa and Hina (antecedent) have been replaced by "they" (anaphor). We use "Anaphoric expressions" on daily basis while conversing with one another. We find a lot of researches done on the referring/anaphoric expressions which mostly talk about the frequently used "pronouns" as an anaphoric expression found within sentences. In the following example, which has been taken from a story and has been cited by Kathleen F. McCoy in their article, explains the use of pronouns as anaphoric expression and does not highlight other words replaced by anaphoric expressions such as the word "them", "their" and "it",

"court nine years ago, mute, dull-eyed and crippled, it seemed clear to nearly everyone involved that it would be pointless to put him on trial for the murder of his former girlfriend, Donna Kalson, and the wounding of her companion. It had been a year since Mr. Curtis had slammed his pickup truck into them, breaking their legs. He then shot them both and, finally, fired a bullet into his own brain. Mr. Curtis lingered in a coma for months, then awoke to a world of paralysis, pain, and mental confusion from which psychiatric experts said he would never emerge." (McCoy)

The "anaphoric relations" not only belong to Pronominal Anaphora but also have other various types, including verbal, modal, propositional, adjectival, and temporal (deixis). The following example is of "Verbal Anaphora" where a verb has been replaced by another verb. So, we can see a clear difference between the "pronominal anaphora" (mentioned above) and "verbal anaphora" through the examples.

"Please complete this form in full. Failure to do so will result in your application to join the scheme being rejected" (GARDELLE)

We see a lot of research being done to find out the relationship between the two words, referring back to each other, which includes antecedents and anaphoras. But the researchers only talk about the Pronominal Anaphora and no other anaphora mentioned earlier, whereas we use all various types of anaphora in our daily lives in our conversations.

The study of various "anaphoric expressions" in English and Urdu language makes this research unique as we do not find any research done on "anaphoric expressions" in Urdu language and different types of anaphoric expressions used in English language other than "Pronominal Expressions" therefore, the study of various anaphoric expressions in both the languages makes it unique and aims to fill in the gaps of research only restricted to one specific anaphora i.e pronominal by comparing various anaphora's in both languages.

Research Objectives

Identify the different kinds of "Anaphoric Expressions" used in the English and Urdu languages.

Determine the most frequently used "Anaphoric Expressions" in both languages.

Research Questions

What are the different kinds of "Anaphoric Expressions" used in English and the Urdu Language?

What are the most frequently used "Anaphoric Expressions" in both languages?

Operational Definition

The term Anaphoric expression specifically means the usage of referring expressions that refer back to their antecedents. These expressions are used to avoid iteration in the sentences. The usage of these expressions shows the coherence and cohesion in spoken and written text. We use them in our daily conversation without even noticing it.

Literature Review

Anaphora can be defined as "the usage of an expression which denotes to, or is a substitute for, a prior word or group of words in a sentence or a passage" (Simpson & Weine). Anaphora purpose then contains to investigate that which expression or group of words generally the antecedent, the anaphor denotes. For example, the following sentences: John plays the Guitar. He likes music. Here, "he" is the anaphor and "John" is the antecedent. According to Halliday and hasan (1976) when a linguistic item or implicit term follows its linguistic referent then this cohesive tie is called Anaphoric. On the contrary, when a linguistic term precedes its linguistic referent then this cohesive tie is called cataphoric.

Anaphora is at times categorised as the phenomenon whereby the explanation of an incident of one manifestation depends on the interpretation of an occurrence of another which means that occurrence of an event would have its referring expression which is generated by some other

expression of event in the same sentence (Asher, Nicholas, 1987). Quirk et al term this reference relation as "discourse references" (Quirk et al 1972:700). They are of the view that discourse references are indications aimed at marking the relationship between what is being uttered and what has been uttered before". When it is indicating back then it is anaphoric expression.

Anaphoric relation

According to Akmajian et al relation of that identity between what has been said earlier and what is said is recognised as co-referentiality (2001: 48). This relationship contracts with the pronouns or noun phrase and a set of antecedents where this relation highlight that they are referring each other or same thing in the sentence (akmajian, 2001). In the discussion of anaphoric expression there is relation of deictic expression. Deictic expressions relate itself with the usage of terms within some statements to refer to some part of the discourse that consist the statement. The difference between anaphora and deictic expression is that deictic expressions presents a referent while anaphora refers to the same unit in the statement.

Levinson (1983) has defined anaphora that it concerned with the use of generally a pronoun which denotes to the similar referring expression as some preceding word or expression, as in the following example: Robert is sympathetic; he is so caring. Here in the example, a pronoun refers back to a linguistic expression. Robert and he are co-referential as the coo relate each other. According to Brown and Yule (1983) anaphora covers any manifestation which the speaker uses in denoting on the base of which the hearer would be able to choose the proposed referent under specific given context.

Types of anaphoric expressions

Apart from pronoun anaphoric expression there are many other types of these expression which would be discussed with the help of examples. These types are as following:

Pronominal anaphora

This anaphoric expression refers back to proper noun and show a relationship between antecedent and anaphoric expression. For example, Mary left. She said she was ill. Here, in the example "Mary" is antecedent and anaphoric expression is "She".

VP Anaphoric Expression

Anaphoric expression for verb phrase are sometime null and empty VP and sometime the verb phrase is replaced by "did so too". Partee and Bach (1984) gave an example to make it clear that how anaphoric expression refers back to an action previously done. For example, "Lucy took out the garbage. Sara did too. In the above example the antecedent is "took out the garbage" and the anaphoric expression which indicate the same action is a null VP (Prüst et al, 1994).

Propositional anaphoric expression

Propositional anaphoric expression are the ones which replace the previously proposed concept with words like this and that. By doing so, the meaning of the prior uttered statement would be understandable. Asher and Lascarides (2003) gave an example which is following:

One plaintiff was passed over for promotion three times. But the jury didn't believe this. Here, in the statement the antecedent is the intention stated by the early sentence. The anaphoric expression of the statement is "this" which replaces the prior concept.

Adjective anaphoric expression

Adjective anaphoric expressions refer back to the adjective phrase and give the idea that would be understandable. For example; a sympathetic stranger give back my wallet which I lost on the road. Such people are rare. Here, the antecedent is "sympathetic stranger" and the anaphoric expression which refers back to this adjective is "such".

Model anaphoric expression

When a statement show a possibility of a future act then the anaphoric expression used is model verbs. These expression show the possibility. Stone and Hardt (1999) gave an example of model anaphoric expression which is following;

Elizabeth might give a presentation. She would make use of slides. Here, in the stamen the perceived antecedent is the probability discussed by the first sentence and the anaphoric expression used to refer to that probability is the modal "would".

Temporal anaphoric expression

Anaphoric expressions which refer to some period of time are used when the whole phrase indicate the time or event. The example given by Partee (1984) for temporal anaphoric expression is as following; Lucy had a birthday party last Friday and Sara got hurt slightly. Here, in the example event had happened in the past and the time at which Sara got hurt is anaphoric expression indicating the time when Lucy had the birthday party.

Features of anaphoric expressions

These are some of the major categories and types of anaphoric expression used to refer back. Most of the time linguist are inclined to explore the anaphoric expressions of noun. Anaphoric expressions show some salient properties.

1) Anaphors refer back to the main antecedent as well as refers forward and called cataphora
2) Anaphors needs to have an obvious antecedent which mean antecedent which is present in the same text or sentence.
3) Anaphors are inferred as a link to their antecedents.
4) The relationship possessed by anaphor and the antecedent is co-referential, replaceable and also illustrate other diverse characteristics.
5) The usage of anaphors make along sentence short and by using this iteration can be avoided.
6) Anaphors help to make the text coherent and contribute.

The specific role of any anaphoric expression in a conversation or written text is to provide the speaker to get the corresponding word or item from a referring set as colloquial as possible to avoid any ambiguity. So, that the correlation can be assumed to exist between both the antecedent and referring expression. Enkvist (1978) indicated that "the mode in which the writing or scrip has been positioned together out of such existing set of referring expressions can comprise formal features." Therefore, it is an assumed fact that choice of referring expressions also shed light on the cognitive ability of speaker through which he/she is able to choose a specific anaphora according to the nature of antecedent.

Several researches has been done in the paradigm of noun and its anaphoric expressions. The other categories are neglected like verb, propositional, adjective and temporal anaphoric expression which are discussed above in detail.

Current study is significant in a way that besides highlighting the anaphoric expressions of noun, other categories are also highlighted. Other categories besides noun are often neglected. The reason to pick up other categories is to stress the importance of other categories. They all are used in spoken and written text to refer back to an event, time, quality, propositional and any antecedent in the same text. The focus of the study is on the anaphoric expressions of all types and their occurrence in the text. Since other anaphoric expressions are not used much in written and spoken discourse but still these expressions are highlighted.

Research Methodology

Study Design

The current study is quantitative in nature. The reason to use this method is to find out which anaphoric expression is used most in Urdu and English short stories. This would also highlight the fact of distribution of anaphoric expressions in relation to antecedent.

Sample Size

A sample was selected to analyse the anaphoric expression of Urdu and English language, three (3) English and three (3) Urdu short stories. From these stories anaphoric expressions are traced and picked out for further analysis.

Sampling Techniques

To find out which kind of anaphoric expressions are used in English and Urdu language, 3 stories has been selected from Urdu language and 3 from English language. This would also help to find out which expression is used most in both language and what kind of relation it show to its antecedent. For this purpose, 3 stories from *Sarmayae Urdu* of 1st year has been chosen. These stories are "*Zewar ka Dibba,* and *Aik Kahahni Badi Purani."* The selected short stories for *English* are: *"The Gift of Magi"* and *"The child spy"*

Data Collection Procedure

To find out the anaphoric expressions in both languages, stories are selected from the 1st year Urdu book. After the selection of stories, they were read twice to find all types of anaphoric expressions. After doing so, anaphoric expressions of each type were separated. The purpose of doing so was to find out the nature and distribution of expressions according to their antecedent. Sentences are highlighted that contain anaphors.

Limitations

The current study has been done on a limited dataset to find out the anaphoric expressions of both languages. The study can be done on an extensive amount of data sets with an extended sample size. This would further help to investigate the frequency of referring expressions in a language.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Stories

Stories selected for the purpose of analysis to find out the anaphoric expression are as following: From Urdu language; "Zewar ka Dibba", "Aik Kahani Badi Purani"
From English language; "The Gift of Magi", "The child Spy"

Data Analysis

Table for anaphors of Noun

Statement	Antecedent	Anaphor
Chandar parkash ko aik tution krny k siwa kuch na suja. Unn ki maan pehly e marr chuki thi	Chandar parkash	Unn
Parkash jo sherein khwab dekha krta ta wo mitti m mil gy.	Sherein	Wo
Aurat b mili to taleem yafta jisy motta khany sy marr jana qabool ta	Aurat	Jisy
Thakur parkash ki izzat krta ta or ghar k har mamly m uss sy mashwara lia jata ta.	parkash	Uss
Chor zewar ka dibba utha k ly gy, unhyn kesy maloom hua k zewar uss sandooq m rakhy hn.	Chor	Unhyn
Maal to jana ta, wo gya	Maal	Wo
Aik sandooq hamesha bnd rehta, us ski vhabi kaha sy ksi ko nahi maloom.	Sadooq	uss
Parkash khana kha kr leta tous ka zameer usy malamt krta raha	Parkash	Ussy
Jo admi hum py yaqqeen rakhy uss sy ankh bcha kr aik pai lena b gunah smjhti hoo.	Aadmi	Uss
Sweater rkh do jo yah akaam kry ga woi pehny ga issy.	sweater	Issy
Sweater to buna hi nahi bss uss ka gala e to reh gya ta.	Sweater	Uss ka
Mian k rishty ki phupi or un ki langri beti	Phuppi	Unn ki
6 touly sony ka set ta wo b baich dia.	Sony ka set	Wo

Here, in this table it is easily understandable that anaphoric expression used mostly are *iss, uss, un ky* and *wo*. This kind of expression show the link between antecedent and anaphors. Mostly, anaphors of a specific antecedent continue till the end of the specific conversation.

Anaphoric expression of a verb

Statement	Antecedent	Anaphor
Chaey e theek bna sko to woi behtr h	Chaey bnana	Woi
Barhiya zewar bnty hn iss ki umeed na ti	Bariha zewar bnna	Iss ki umeed
Paou ki nishan mily hn, wesy e dusri janib bhi paey gy hain	Paou k nishan	Wesy e paey gy hn

This table show the anaphors related to verb and these referring expressions are low in occurrence as compared to noun anaphors. In two Urdu stories only at three places referring expression for verb is used.

Anaphoric expression of adjective

Statement	Antecedent	Anaphor
Bariya zewar bnty hn yaha	Bariya zewar	Iss ki
Budda noukar ny darwazy khola, ub us k hath m gathri ti	Buddha noukar	Uss k
Unho ny gehri sans li jo un ki thouri ko ja lagi	Gehri sans	Jo
Teen k dabby mila jo almari m rkha hota h har waqt	Teen ka dibba	Jo

These referring expression relate with the adjectival antecedent. These are again low frequency as they occur occasionally. Here, teen ka dabba is adjective which is replaced by anaphor *jo*. In Urdu stories only at four places anaphoric expression have been used to refer back to their antecedent.

Temporal anaphoric expression

Statement	Antecedent	anaphor
Seeni torium k ward m parhi rehti jaha unyn shohar or bacho ki fikkar lgi rehti		The time when she was in ward
Un ki maan pehly e marr chuki ti, ussi saal baap bhi chal basy		The year when his mother died was the year of his father's death

This table show that at two places in two Urdu stories temporal anaphoric expressions have been used. These are again very low in occurrence that is why few work is done on other types of anaphoric expressions.

Anaphoric Expressions found in English stories
Table for anaphors of Nouns

Statement	Antecedent	Anaphor
"ONE DOLLAR AND EIGHTY-SEVEN CENTS. That was all."		That

ISSN E: 2709-8273
ISSN P:2709-8265

JOURNAL OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS AND TESOL

JALT

"A furnished flat at \$8 per week. It did not exactly beggar description"	Furnishing flat	It
"Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called 'Jim'"	Mr. James	His
"Delia finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag.	Delia	Her
Expenses had been greater than she had calculated. They always are."	expenses	They
One flight up Della ran, and collected herself, pant-ing.	Della	Herself
"Father Stenne was so fond of his boy!	Stenne	His
"He followed the battalions of the quarter when they went to the fortifications."	battalions	They
"Then the tall fellow lowered his voice"	fellow	his
"The old sergeant was there, busily engaged in posting his men,"	sergeant	his
"He went down and joined the troops who were marching away in the darkness"	troops	who
"He was a child of Paris, sickly and pale, who might have been ten years old,"	he	who
"The child stayed out of doors, wandering about until night. He followed the battalions of the quarter when they went to the fortifications,"	child	he
"Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed,"	Jim	his
"'Twenty dollars,' said Madame, lifting the mass with a practiced hand. 'Give it to me quick,' said Della."	dollars	it

The above table show the anaphoric expression of noun which are used to refer back to the antecedent. Anaphor of noun are frequently used in the two stories of English language.

Anaphoric Expressions of adjective

Statement	Antecedent	Anaphor
"now Della's beautiful hair fell about her, rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters. It reached below her knee"	Della's beautiful hair	It

These anaphors are used when adjectival phrase is replaced by them or it. These are used few in number since adjective phrases are low in these two English stories.

Anaphoric expressions of verb

Statement	Antecedent	Anaphor
"Nothing was left to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl. So Della did it."	Flop down	Did it

Here, this table shows the usage of anaphor for a verb in a specific sentence or context.

This show the rare occurrence of anaphor for verb.

Discussion

The above comparative study of Anaphoric expressions for English and Urdu language shows how various types of Anaphoric expressions have been used in each language. From the above results, it is concluded that use of noun anaphors is higher as compared to other anaphors. The reason that we find the use of different noun anaphors, which include personal, subjective, possessive, demonstrative, and others, is that we cannot use the same name again and again to refer to something/somebody.

The reason behind using the anaphoric expressions is to avoid repetition of same words whether they are nouns, verbs or adjectives. But according to the number of examples given for various anaphors from both the languages we do not find the same number of Anaphoric expressions used which include verb, adjective and temporal as compared to nouns.

In both the languages the frequency for verbs, adjectives and temporal anaphors is found low as they appear to happen occasionally. Mostly, we use anaphoric expressions for nouns because we cannot just keep on taking somebody's name again and again. In order to avoid the repetition of using the same word for something we use anaphors as mentioned before and it's very rare when we use verbs and adjectives in order to refer back to things.

This highlight the fact that both languages do have referring expression to refer to the prior entity in the sentence. The frequent used referring expression is related to noun. The reason of frequently used anaphoric expressions for noun is the need to make the conversation cohesive and to create coherence. They are important to make conversation smooth and every speaker have unconscious knowledge of using these expression and retrieving the prior concept by these expression of reference.

Conclusion

After examining the anaphoric expressions of both language in the stories, it is clear that anaphor of noun is used most as compared to other all types. Other types like anaphoric expressions of verb, adjective, propositional, deictic expressions and temporal are not used frequently but rarely. These are some major and minor types of anaphora expressions found in both language-based stories. The most frequent referring expression used in both languages is noun based. As we all know that everything in the world around us is having a specific name through which we get meaning and can refer t that particular thing with name. In conversation, the repetition of those name would seem awkward and irritating. In order to avoid this kind of irritation speaker use anaphoric or referring expressions to co relate the antecedent and anaphor. That is why most of the time we use referring expression when we have to use noun frequently.Referring expression of adjective or temporal is rare and infrequently used. The reason behind this rare usage is that we mostly use deictic expression to point out or to refer to that adjective item. Language is not only made up of proper noun but it is made up of parts which together make the language whole. These parts contain anaphoric expressions to make the language a coherent whole. So it is obvious by the study that anaphoric expressions.

References

Akamajian, A. et al. (2001) Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication (4th Edition) New Delhi: Prentice Hall.

Asher, Nicholas and Alex Lascarides, 2003, Logics of Conversation, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Asher, Nicholas, 1987, *"A Typology for Attitude Verbs and their Anaphoric Properties"*, Linguistics and Philosophy, 10: 125–197.

Halliday, M.A.K. & R. Hasan (1985) Language, Context, and Text: *Aspects of Language in a Social-Semiotic Perspective.* Hong Kong: Oxford University Press.

J. A. Simpson and E. S. Weiner, eds., *The Oxford English Dictionary*, p. 436. Clarendon Press, 1989.

Levinson, S.C.(1983) *Pragmatics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Partee, Barbara and Emmon Bach, 1984*, "Quantification, Pronouns, and VP Anaphora", in Truth, Interpretation and Information,* J. Groenendijk, T. Janssen, & M. Stokhof (eds.), selected papers from the 3rd Amsterdam Colloquium, Groningen-Amsterdam Studies in Semantics, Foris Publications.

Prüst, Hub, Remko Scha, and Martin van den Berg, 1994, *"Discourse grammar and verb phrase anaphora"*, Linguistics and Philosophy, 17(3): 261–327.

Quirk, R. et al. (1972) *A Grammar of Contemporary English. Essex*: Longman Group Ltd.