

AN ANALYSIS OF THE COHESIVE DEVICES USED IN SHIRLEY LIM'S POEMS

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A PROJECT PAPER SUBMITTED IN FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF B.A. (HONS) ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

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ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

UCSI UNIVERSITY

APRIL 2015

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ABSTRACT

Listening to the Singer is a compilation of Shirley Lim's poems. It contains many poems from various subtopics. The poem "*Crossing the Peninsula*" which can be found in the poem won the Commonwealth Poetry Prize. Ten poems from the compilation "*Listening to the Singer*" were extracted to analyze the usage of M.A.K Halliday's (1995) Cohesive Devices. According to Bloor & Bloor (2004), the cohesive devices suggested by Halliday (1995) consists of five elements and these are References, Substitution, Ellipsis, Conjunction and Lexical Cohesion. The primary aim or goal of this particular study is to identify and study the types of cohesive devices used in ten of Shirley Lim's poems. After identifying the types of cohesive devices used, a further analysis will be done then to determine what are the devices used for and what devices are used more frequently compared to the others. The analysis of the poems proves that there are usages of cohesive devices in these poems and that some of the devices are used more frequently compared to others. The Lexical Cohesion that are found in the poems suggests that the author incorporated local colour to illustrate her Malaysian-Chinese-Peranakan culture in her literary work.

Keywords: Cohesive devices, M.A.K Halliday, References, Substitution, Ellipsis, Conjunction, Lexical Cohesion, Lexical Cohesion, Shirley Lim.