

Inference and the Use of Cohesion Devices



Instructions: Read the texts carefully and pay attention to the highlighted portions. Can you find examples of the following kinds of cohesion devices?

- **Anaphora:** Reference back to an item previously mentioned in the text. "My brother stayed at my apartment last week. He left his dog here."
- **Exophora:** Reference to an item outside of the text. "That's his dog."
- **Lexical Substitution:** Using a similar lexical item to substitute for a previous one. "His dog ... that animal."
- **Conjunction:** Using links between propositions such as and, but, so...

Also, can you identify any inferences that a listener must make in order to comprehend the meaning of a statement?

M: Is that the menu for the employees' cafeteria? I want to see what they're serving for lunch today.
W: I think this is yesterday's menu. They have a different one for each day of the week, you know. They always post it on the employee Web site.
M: Oh, thanks. I'll go to the Web site and get today's menu.

Good evening, and welcome to Michael's. We're so happy to have you dining with us tonight. To start off your evening, I can recommend a fresh garden salad with your choice of dressing. Oh, and all of our garden vegetables are purchased fresh from local farmers. For our main course specials this evening, we can offer you either a choice of grilled seafood or vegetarian dishes. I'll give you a little more time to look over the menu and make your choices but, before I go, what can I get you to drink this evening?