

Cohesion and Coherence

A well organized paper uses techniques to build cohesion and coherence between and within paragraphs to orient and guide the reader through the paper, connecting ideas, building details, and strengthening the argument. These techniques are the glue that hold the paper together. Transitions are the most obvious way to guide the reader through the paper, however, there are many more techniques available to create links for your reader.

Repetition of key terms/concepts/phrases:

Repeating key terms/concepts/phrases will help readers follow the main threads of the paper. The key terms/concepts/phrases strengthen the organization and make the paper easier to follow, no matter how complex the material.

Inhabiting the *space* between the personal and the global can be quite difficult for any writer, yet Myung Mi Kim does this very thing with ease and elegance in her book *Commons*. Fragments mix with complete sentences and her voice mingles with collage text while silence and *space* surrounds it all. The *spaces* between lines and around the edges of the pages invite the reader into her text to discover and explore the multiple readings and meanings

Synonyms:

Using synonyms is similar to repeating key terms/concepts/phrases, except with more diversity in word choice. They not only help hold the paper together, they also add variety to the paper.

She interrogates the diagrams extensively; however, she does not address the other visual images, specifically the *photographs*, with as much attention. The *pictures* comprise the majority of the visual images in *Dictée*, yet she glosses over them in a couple of sentences.

Sentence Patterns:

Repeating and/or using parallel sentence structures can help readers digest large or complicated ideas and follow the progression of ideas.

Sterne *embodies the tension* between fact and fiction by complicating the biography and/or autobiography. Cha *embodies this tension* as well in her “autobiography.”

Pronouns:

Using pronouns, he, she, it, they, those, this, these, can be useful when referring back to something previously mentioned in the paper. However, take care to include a referent if necessary for clarity. Always include a referent for this, these, and those.

He involves his students in framing the conversation that takes place in the classroom. *This framing* is based on the idea of reading and writing as conversation

Familiar information first, new information last:

Presenting familiar terms or information first allows the ideas to build and makes it easier for the reader to follow. It helps lay the foundation for more complex or new ideas.

While the Eighteenth Century *is known* for its rich Augustan tradition and its novels of sensibility and the gothic, *writers did* experiment with the blossoming form of the novel.