II.   Text Linguistics vs Discourse Analysis

a. Text and Discourse Definitions

In everyday popular use it might be said that the term text is restricted to written language, while discourse is restricted to spoken language. However, modern Linguistics has introduced a concept of text that includes every type of utterance; therefore a text can be a discourse and they both may be a magazine article, a television interview, a conversation or a cooking recipe, just to give a few examples. Halliday believe that text is everything that is meaningful in a particular situation: "By text, then, we understand a continuous process of semantic choice" (1978:137). Namely, text and discourse can be used almost synonymously, yet a distinction is always there and that is discourse has some social purposes while test fulfills the function of communication of some meaning only. In other words, a text can be without a context while discourse is always related to a given context. Moreover, text may be non-interactive whereas a discourse is interactive. That is, a text fulfills only the function of conveying some meaning; however, discourse is involved in two ways responses in some formal or informal conversational and dialogues etc. "Discourse is a linguistic communication seen as a transaction between speaker and hearer; while text is also a linguistic communication (either spoken or written) seen simply as a message coded in its auditory or visual medium" (Hawthorn, 1992).

It can be said that discourse and text have something in common as both use the medium of language, both have some meaning that they try to convey. But text has limited scope as compare with discourse. In other words, discourse is somewhat broad category in the system of language; while text deals with the written form of language. Discourse has different forms as discourse of

advertising, discourse of racism, discourse of medical etc. but text has no such forms. Text has its maximum interpretation in its own but discourse has a lot of things above the language level.

b. Context

It could be said that the text-internal elements constitute the text, while the text-external ones constitute the context. In its narrow sense, context refers to factors outside the discourse/text under consideration. It refers to the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement, or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood. It is the parts of a discourse that surround a word or passage and can throw light on its meaning. Context can be referred to by circumstances, conditions, factors, surroundings, situation, setting, and background.

There are three main classification of context,

- *Linguistic Context* refers to the context within the discourse, that is, the relationship between the words, phrases, sentences and even paragraphs. Take the word "bachelor" as an example. We cannot understand the exact meaning of the sentence "He is a bachelor." without the linguistic context to make clear the exact meaning of this word.

- *Situational Context* or context of situation refers to the environment such as time and place. in which the discourse occurs, and also the relationship between the participants.

- *Cultural Context* which includes participants and whether they share the same background or not. It refers to the culture, customs and background of epoch in language communities in which the speakers participate. Language is a social phenomenon, and it is closely tied up with the social structure and value system of society. Therefore, language cannot avoid being influenced by all these factors like social role, social status, sex and age, etc.

c. Definition and Evolution of Text Linguistics and Discourse Analysis through Time

Crystal (1997) defines Text Linguistics as "the formal account of the linguistic principles governing the structure of texts". He adds that Text Linguistics focuses on the structure of written language as found in such text as essays, notices, road signs and chapters, while Discourse Analysis focuses on the structure of naturally spoken language as found in conversation interviews, commentaries and speeches (Crystal, 1997). According to Schiffrin (1994), Discourse Analysis involves the study of both text and context. One might conclude, then, that Text Linguistics only studies the text, while Discourse Analysis is more complete because it studies both text and context.

Harris (1952), argues that we can study discourse from different perspectives or at different levels such as form, content and use.

Text Linguistics: Mono-disciplinary Field (Semantics, Morphology, Phonetics, Phonology, Syntax)

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Discourse Analysis: Multi-disciplinary Field (Sociolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, Pragmatics)

Interestingly, Text Linguistic studies are more concerned with the text-internal factors (i.e. cohesion and coherence), while Discourse Analysis focuses its attention more on the text-external factors, without disregarding the text-internal ones. The history of these disciplines shows that research has evolved, in many cases, from the narrower scope of Text Grammar (and later, Text

Linguistics) into the broader discipline of Discourse Analysis, and therefore both disciplines have merged. For this reason and for clarifying and practical purposes, we shall consider DA as a macro-discipline that includes several sub-approaches, among which the text-linguistic ones can also be found (Alba-Juez, L. 2009).