Analysing text can be done from several points of view. One of them that aims to know the unity of a text is the analysis of topic continuity. By using this type of analysis, we are able to identify whether or not the producer of a text sends the connected, coherent and relevant information to his receivers. The text with the features above must have high topic continuity. In other word, there is the relatively high occurrence or persistence of the same topic in each paragraph of the text.

By using a concept of topic-comment (Givon 1983 and Renkema 1993); topic-marking construction in English (Brown 1983); referential distance (Givon 1983) the writer analysed an actual text “Ballistic Missiles” in order to find the leitmotif of the text.

The result is that the topic ballistic missiles occurred in high continuity. In this study, I found that the topic was not always realised in a phrase of ballistic missiles, but sometimes it occurred as its type, its operational system, and its function. By using the concept of cohesive relation (Halliday & Hasan 1976) I also found that the topics with low continuity (discontinuous) function to support the main to build the unity of the text.

Key word: topic-comment, topic-marking Construction in English, Referential distance, leitmotif, cohesive relation