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All enquiries should be addressed to:

ICSAI Secretariat
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The Readability Test of the English Children Short Stories

Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna, Yuyu Yohana Risagarniwa, Rahmat Sopian

Universitas Padjadjaran, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

Many researchers do their research on grammatical intricacy or lexical density as the main elements of readability of texts but it is very limited research on English children short stories. The readability test of texts is different from one text to another. The texts can be classified into spoken or written text. The classification can be based on some elements, such as the total word count or the hard words involved in the texts. This preliminary research tries to figure out the readability test based on the grammatical intricacy or lexical density of the English children short stories by applying the free application called text analyser as the text content analysis tool found in http://www.usingenglish.com/resources/text-statistics.php. The research based on the two aims of the research, they are, (1) To identify the average of hard words found in the English children short story, and (2) To identify the average of grammatical intricacy or lexical density of the English children short stories. The method applied in this research is descriptive analysis. The writers describe the data based on the data which is described by the text analyser. Based on the analysis, the result shows that (1) the average of the hard words found in the English children short story is 3.06% and (2) the average of the hard words found in the English children short story is 33.62%.

KEYWORDS

Readability test, English children short stories, grammatical intricacy, lexical density

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The Readability Test of the English Children Short Stories

Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna*[a], Yuyu Yohana Risagarniwa[b], Rahmat Sopian[c]
[ab]Department of Linguistics, Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung Indonesia
[c]Department of Historical Science and Philology, Universitas Padjadjaran, Bandung, Indonesia
*Corresponding Author: eva.tuckyta@unpad.ac.id

ABSTRACT

Many researchers do their research on grammatical intricacy or lexical density as the main elements of readability of texts but it is very limited research on English children short stories. The readability test of texts is different from one text to another. The texts can be classified into spoken or written text. The classification can be based on some elements, such as the total word count or the hard words involved in the texts. This preliminary research tries to figure out the readability test based on the grammatical intricacy or lexical density of the English children short stories by applying the free application called text analyser as the text content analysis tool found in http://www.usingenglish.com/resources/text-statistics.php. The research based on the two aims of the research, they are, (1) To identify the average of hard words found in the English children short story, and (2) To identify the average of grammatical intricacy or lexical density of the English children short stories. The method applied in this research is descriptive analysis. The writers describe the data based on the data which is described by the text analyser. Based on the analysis, the result shows that (1) the average of the hard words found in the English children short story is 3.06% and (2) the average of the hard words found in the English children short story is 33.62%.

Keywords: Readability test, English children short stories, grammatical intricacy, lexical density

Introduction

Every text has a specific readability level. It is found in every language, including English. The readability level, in fact, depends on the grammatical intricacy or lexical density as the main elements of readability of texts. Commonly, people argue that a text is easier or harder to understand based on their intuition. Of course, it is hard to prove that their arguments are accurate since they have different experience and ability in understanding the text so that it cannot be proven scientifically.

The texts can be classified into spoken or written text. The classification can be based on some elements, such as the total word count or the hard words involved in the texts. This preliminary research tries to figure out the readability test based on the grammatical intricacy or lexical density of the English children short stories.

To describe the grammatical intricacy and lexical density of the text can be analysed manually based on the formula introduced by Halliday and Ure. Besides the manual way, the grammatical intricacy and lexical density of the text can be analysed by applying the free application called text analyser as the text content analysis tool found in http://www.usingenglish.com/resources/text-statistics.php. The research based on the two aims of the research, they are, (1) To identify the average of hard words found in the