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TINGKAT KETERBACAAN PADA BUKU TEKS BACAAN "ENGLISH FOR NUSANTARA" YANG DIGUNAKAN PADA SMP KELAS TUJUH

The Readability Level of Reading Texts in "English for Nusantara" Book Used in Seventh Grade Junior High School

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tingkat keterbacaan teks bacaan dan kelas keterbacaan teks bacaan pada buku Bahasa Inggris dengan judul "English for Nusantara" untuk kelas VII. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode penelitian deskriptif dengan pendekatan kuantitatif. Peneliti mengukur tipngkat keterbacaan teks bacaan dalam buku "English for Nusantara" menggunakan rumus Flesch Reading Ease dan Flesch Kincaid Reading Age. Peneliti mengukur 11 teks bacaan, yang merupakan keseluruhan teks bacaan di buku teks "English for Nusantara". Hasil analisis dari rumus Flesch Reading Ease, 11 teks bacaan yang dilakukan peneliti dalam teks bacaan dikelompokkan menjadi 4 level, yaitu; easy, fairly easy, standard dan fairly difficult. Dari 11 teks bacaan, yaitu easy dengan jumlah 1 teks, fairly easy dengan jumlah 3 teks, standard dengan jumlah 4 teks dan fairly difficult dengan jumlah 3 teks. Sedangkan hasil Analisa untuk kelas keterbacaan, peneliti menemukan dari 11 teks bacaan, hanya 1 teks yang sesuai untuk siswa Sekolah Menengah Pertama kelas VII yaitu teks 5, teks bacaan nomor 5 tersebut berdasarkan Flesch Kincaid Reading Age dengan memiliki skor dalam skala 7.00-7.99 yang berarti cocok untuk digunakan pada peserta didik kelas VII.

Kata Kunci:
Keterbacaan
Teks Bacaan
Kemudahan Membaca Flesch
Usia Membaca Flesh Kincaid

Keywords:
Readability
Reading Text
Flesch Reading Ease
Flesch Kincaid Reading age

Abstract

This research aims to determine the readability level of reading texts and the readability class of reading texts in English books with the title "English for Nusantara" for class VII. The method used in this research is a descriptive research method with a quantitative approach. Researchers measured the level of readability of reading texts in the book "English for Nusantara" using the Flesch Reading Ease and Flesch Kincaid Reading Age formulas. Researchers measured 11 reading texts, which are all the reading texts in the "English for Nusantara" textbook. The results of the analysis of the Flesch Reading Ease formula, the 11 reading texts carried out by researchers in the reading texts were grouped into 4 levels, namely; easy, fairly easy, standard and fairly difficult. Of the 11 reading texts, namely easy with 1 text, fairly easy with 3 texts, standard with 4 texts and fairly difficult with 3 texts. Meanwhile, from the analysis results for the readability class, the researcher found that of the 11 reading texts, only 1 text was suitable for class VII junior high school students, namely text 5, reading text number 5 was based on the Flesch Kincaid Reading Age with a score on a scale of 7.00-7.99, which means suitable for use with class VII students.

INTRODUCTION

In teaching and learning process, textbooks are generally needed to study the teaching material being delivered. Especially English textbooks, learning English is very important for those of us who want to develop in the era of globalization, especially for students. There are four skills that must be understood when someone learn English, they are reading, speaking, writing, and listening. One of the skills related to textbooks is reading. Reading is an important skill to develop in schools to improve their knowledge and skills, especially in language (Mogea, 2023). Analyzing and evaluating textbooks that are already very important in the process of developing new textbooks (Al Harbi, 2017). In selecting a good teaching material book for school is a language that is easy to understand and can be understood by students at the appropriate level of ability, so that it can be used by all

students. Readability level is also important in choosing a good textbook. Several factors affect the level of readability, including the use of words that are easy to understand, sentences that are not too long, and correct grammar. In selecting a good textbook, it is also necessary to consider the readability level according to the target audience.

To measure the level of readability of text in an English textbook entitled "English for Nusantara", a measuring instrument is needed that is able to assess the correct readability to be applied, they are Flesch Reading Ease Formula and Flesch Kincaid Formula. Researcher use the Flesch Reading Ease (FRE) and Flesch Kincaid Reading Grade Level (FKRGL) because in calculating the readability level is easy to use. It was supported by Jindal & Macdermid (2017) Between Flesch Reading Ease and Flesch Kincaid Reading Grade Level calculates the readability based on two variables: average sentence length (based on the number of words) and average word length (based on the number of syllables).

Since there is a new curriculum, namely the "Kurikulum Merdeka", there has been no previous research that examines the readability level of the latest textbooks. Researcher are interested in researching a textbook entitled "English for Nusantara". In this case, the discourse in the "English for Nusantara" textbook for seventh grade learners. If the discourse is not appropriate or suitable, it can result in students having difficulty understanding the discourse contained in the textbook. The problem is to make students understand the text of reading materials to achieve the goals of learning reading skills, teachers need to choose reading materials or textbooks that are in accordance with the basic competencies of the current curriculum (Kamarudin & Sugianto, 2020).

This research aims to find out at the level of readability of discourse in the seventh grade Junior High School "English for Nusantara" textbook based on the Flesch Reading Ease (FRE) and Flesch Kincaid Reading Grade Level (FKRGL) used at the secondary level. The discourse contained in the textbook will be analyzed based on the FRE and FKRGL and find out the suitability of the discourse contained in the textbook "English for Nusantara" based on the level to be achieved as teaching material.

METHODOLOGY

In this research, the method that would be applied is descriptive with quantitative approach to find out the answer of research questions. This study was going to analyze about readability level of reading text of "English for Nusantara" textbook. Creswell (2014) describes that a quantitative approach describes an idea by making a short hypothesis and using data collection to support or refute the hypothesis. This quantitative starts from the process of collecting and interpreting it, so that this will be an effort to investigate the problem. In the descriptive method, Walliman (2011) defines that descriptive relates to an observation in collecting data. The technique used for the research is testing, measurement, and hypothesis based on mathematical calculations and statistics. Related to the previous theories, the researcher aims to analyze the readability of reading texts on textbook.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

As the result of this thesis, the researcher found the answer from the research question. The research question had been answered by using Flesch Reading Ease formula and Flesch Kincaid Reading Age to counted the data. The formulas used to get the readability level and readability reading age of reading text on "English for Nusantara" book used in Seventh Grade Junior High School.

1. Readability Level

There were 4 readability categories level that researcher found on "English for Nusantara" book. The categories were easy, fairly easy, standard and fairly difficult. For readability reading ease score 80-89 which mean easy (See table 3.2, page 23), there were reading text 11 with the score 82.90. Then, there were 3 reading texts for readability reading ease score between 70-79 that mean fairly easy (See table 3.2, page 23), which were reading text 4 with the score 74.96, reading text 6 with the score 74.42 and reading text 8 with the score 73.00. For the readability reading ease score between 60-69 that mean standard (See table 3.2, page 23), there were 4 reading texts which were reading text 1 with the score 66.57, reading text 2 with the score 67.42, reading text 3 with the score 65.83 and reading text 9 with the score 67.47. For readability reading ease score between 50-59 that mean fairly difficult (See table 3.2, page 23), there were 3 reading texts which were reading text 5 with the score 56.62, reading text 7 with the score 50.90 and reading text 10 with the score 51.88.

2. Readability Reading Grade Level

The readability reading grade of reading text on "English of Nusantara" Book, the researcher found 1 reading text which suitable for student seventh grade Junior High School. The reading text that had score between 7.00-7.99 predicted would appropriate for the seventh grade students. The score showed that 1 out of 11 reading text predicted appropriate. It was reading text 5 with the score 7.76.

Most of the reading text was include to junior students to read, they are reading text 11 for under 4th to 5th Grade. Reading text 4, reading text 6, and reading text 8 for 4th to 5th Grade. Reading text 1, reading text 2, reading text 3, and reading text 9 for 6th Grade. And also there were reading texts that match for the senior students as follow reading text 7 and reading text reading text 10 for 8th to 9th Grade.

The researcher obtained the data from the teachers' textbook and found 11 reading texts which would be analyzed. Based on the result at the previous point, the researcher found 4 categories level of readability of reading text in English textbook. the levels started from the easy to fairly difficult, it means that the reading texts were sufficient to understand and improve students' reading comprehension skills. Meanwhile, the researcher found that only 1 out of 11 reading texts were appropriate for seventh grade. The results of the readability formula analysis show that many texts are too easy for seventh grade students, because the readability level shows that most of the English reading texts are below seventh grade. Therefore, the reading text in "English for Nusantara" book is not suitable for seventh graders. This becomes a problem for students if the readability of reading material is too easy. Students will be less interested in reading and skills in reading will not develop or increase.

CONCLUSION

Based on the finding research data, the researcher concludes as follow, from the data of research finding, the researcher concludes that the readability level of reading texts in "English for Nusantara" book was readable for seventh grade Junior High School. Based on the result of reading ease formula, from 11 reading texts, 8 reading texts are too easy for seventh grade students. The reading texts that categorize readable were reading text 1, reading text 2, reading text 3, reading text 4, reading text 6, reading text 8, reading text 9, and reading text 11. Meanwhile, some challenging reading text for students were reading text 5, reading text 7, and reading text 10. Whereas, the reading text that

appropriate for students seventh grade was reading text 5 based on calculation by using Flesch Kincaid Reading Age formula. For the authors should pay attention and consider the suitability to the texts that will be learnt by students with check the readability level before published the textbook.

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