READABILITY LEVEL OF READING PASSAGES

“UP-BEAT INTERMEDIATE” AND “ISSUES FOR TODAY”

A THESIS

As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching Faculty

By:
Angelina Hartono S.
1213012009

English Department
Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya

December 2015
SURAT PERNYATAAN

Jalur Skripsi

Bersama ini saya:

Nama : Angelina Hartono Soebijanto
Nomor pokok : 1213012009
Program studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Jurusan : Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni
Fakultas : Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Unika Widya Mandala
Surabaya

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Dosen pembimbing I,

[Signature]

Maria Josephine K.S., M.Pd.
NIK 121.020.537

Dosen pembimbing II,

NIK
APPROVAL SHEET

(1)

This thesis entitled Readability Level of Reading Passages in "Up-Beat Intermediate" and "Issues for Today" prepared and submitted by Angelina Hartono Soebijanto has been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Sarjana Pendidikan degree in English Department by the following advisor:

Maria Josephine K.S., M.Pd
Advisor
SURAT PERNYATAAN
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nomor Pokok</td>
<td>1213012009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>BAHASA INDONESIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jurusan</td>
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Dr. V. Luka Priambodo, M.Pd.
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Maria Josephine Kriyeye, S.M.Pd.
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B. Himawan Setyo W. M.Hum.
Member

Maria Josephine Kriyeye, S.M.Pd.
Advisor

[Seal]

[Seal]

Dr. Dwi Andrea Wiyansri, Ph.D.
Managing Director

Dr. Pramita Kurnia Wijaya, M.Pd.
Head of the English Department
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The Researcher
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ABSTRACT


Advisor: Maria Josephine K.S., M.Pd.

Keywords: readability, readability level, reading, reading passages, Up-Beat Intermediate, Issues for Today, textbook

In doing teaching and learning process, the most useful tool is the material. Material can be in a form of tools, text, textbook or information. As what Jabberwocky (2005) said, a textbook is a collection of the knowledge, concepts, and principles of a selected topic or course. A textbook should have a good quality and should be readable for the readers and attract readers to read it. A good and suitable textbook helps the student to comprehend the lesson and make the student understand the lesson and the language used.

The study that the researcher conducted uses descriptive quantitative content analysis design and Fry Readability Graph. The aim of the study is to know the readability level of 6 reading passages from both Up Beat
Intermediate and Issues for Today which are used by the 1st and 2nd semester students of the English Department of Widya Mandala Catholic university Surabaya and to know whether the readability level of reading passages from Up Beat Intermediate and the readability level of reading passages from Issues for Today are graded.

The researcher’s study shows that 3 reading passages under analysis have increasing level. However, the other 2 passages’ level cannot be identified because the level was not valid. There was only 1 passage with theme Communication has higher level than the level of the passages in Issues for Today.

The result of analysis on the readability level of Up Beat Intermediate and Issues for Today reading passages show that the level is increasing. The average readability level of reading passages from Up Beat Intermediate is 8. While, the average readability level of the reading passages in Issues for Today is 11. So, the reading passages in both Up Beat Intermediate and Issues for Today textbook can be considered as suitable for the first and second semester students of the English Department.
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