READABILITY LEVEL OF READING TEXTS

IN *LIFE: ELEMENTARY* AND *ISSUES FOR TODAY*

A THESIS

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

By:

Christina Alfani

1213013008

English Department
Faculty of Teacher Training and Education
Widya Mandala Catholic University Surabaya
2017

APPROVAL SHEET

(1)

This thesis entitled **Readability Level of Reading Texts in *Life: Elementary* and *Issues for Today,*** conducted and submitted by Christina Alfani has been approved and accepted as a partial fulfilment of the requirement for *Sarjana Pendidikan* Degree in English language Teaching by the following advisor:

Maria Josephine K. S., M.Pd
Advisor

APPROVAL SHEET

(2)

This thesis has been written and submited by Christina Alfani (1213013008) for acquiring *Sarjana Pendidikan* Degree in English Language Teaching by the following Boardof Examiners on oral exam with the grade of ___ on July 4th, 2017.

Dra. M. N. Siti Mina Tamah, M.Pd.

Chairperson

Trianawaty, M.Hum.

Member

Maria Josephine K.S., M.Pd.

Member

Dr. V. Luluk Prijambodo, M.Pd.

Dean Faculty of Teacher Training and Education

Hady Sutris Winarlim, M.Sc.

Head of the English Education Study Program

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, the researcher would like to express her gratitude to Jesus Christ who always bless and listens to her not only during the process of doing her thesis but all the time.

The researcher would also like to express her gratitude to the people who have been kind and always supported her during the process of doing her thesis:

1. Maria Josephine K.S., M.Pd., the researcher's advisor who has given her time to guide, give advice, and help the researcher in finishing her thesis.
2. Dra. M. N. Siti Mina Tamah, M.Pd., the researcher's examiner who has given meaningful advice to the researcher in writing her thesis.
3. Trianawaty, M.Hum., the researcher's examiner who has contributed her support and advice to the researcher in writing her thesis.
4. The researcher's parents for always praying and supporting her all the time.
5. The researcher's best friends, Priscila Yahya W., Stephani Nimas A. S. M., Olivia Agustina D., Agatha Nita S., Siangjaya Hadinata S., and all of her classmates in high school for their supports during the writing of her thesis.
6. Ivena Maychita A., Paulin Keren G., Yosefina Fernandes N., Chinthia Frilly, and Mulia Darmaningsih, the researcher's college best friends who have shared unforgettable moments and supported each other.
7. Sylvitia Krisnata P., the researcher's college and artsy friend who has supported each other in finishing thesis.

8. All of the researcher's college friends especially batch 2013, who have supported and helped each other during the writing of thesis.

Surabaya, 11th June 2017

The Researcher

SURAT PERNYATAAN

Bersama ini saya:
Nama : Christina Alfani
Nomor Pokok : 1213013008
Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Jurusan : Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni
Fakultas : Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Unika Widya Mandala Surabaya

Menyatakan dengan sesungguhnya bahwa skripsi saya yang berjudul:
Readability Level of Reading Texts in Life: Elementary and Issues for Today

benar-benar merupakan hasil karya saya sendiri. Apabila skripsi ini ternyata merupakan hasil plagiarisme, maka saya bersedia menerima sanksi berupa pembatalan kelulusan dan/atau pencabutan gelar yang telah saya peroleh.

Demikianlah surat pernyataan ini saya buat dengan sesungguhnya dan dengan penuh kesadaran.

Surabaya, 12 Juni 2017
Yang membuat pernyataan,

Christina Alfani

Mengetahui:
Dosen Pembimbing I/Tunggal,

Maria Josephine F.S., M.Pd.

Dosen Pembimbing II,

SURAT PERNYATAAN
PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI KARYA ILMIAH

Demi Perkembangan Ilmu Pengetahuan, saya sebagai mahasiswa Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya.

Nama Mahasiswa	:	Christina Alfani
Nomor Pokok	:	1213013008
Program Studi Pendidikan	:	Bahasa Inggris
Jurusan	:	Pendidikan Bahasa dan Seni
Fakultas	:	Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan
Tanggal Lulus	:	4 Juli 2017

Dengan ini **SETUJU/~~TIDAK SETUJU~~***) Skripsi atau Karya Ilmiah saya,

Judul :

Readability Level of Reading Texts in Life : Elementary and Issues for Today

Untuk dipublikasikan/ditampilkan di Internet atau media lain (Digital Library Perpustakaan Universitas Katolik Widya Mandala Surabaya) untuk kepentingan akademik sebatas sesuai undang-undang Hak Cipta yang berlaku.

Demikian surat pernyataan **SETUJU/TIDAK SETUJU***) publikasi Karya Ilmiah ini saya buat dengan sebenarnya

Surabaya, 19 Juli 2017

Yang menyatakan,

NRP 1213013008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE ..... **i**
APPROVAL SHEET (1) ..... **ii**
APPROVAL SHEET (2) ..... **iii**
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ..... **iv**
SURAT PERNYATAAN PLAGIARISME ..... **vi**
SURAT PERNYATAAN PUBLIKASI ..... **vii**
TABLE OF CONTENT ..... **viii**
ABSTRACT ..... **x**
CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION **1**
1.1 The Background of the Problem 1
1.2 Research Questions 3
1.3 The Objective of the Study 3
1.4 Theoretical Framework 3
1.5 The Significance of the Study 4
1.6 Scope and Limitation 4
1.7 Definition of Key Therms 5
1.8 Organisation of the Proposal 6
CHAPTER II REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE **7**
2.1 Review of Related Theory 7
2.1.1 Language Learning 7
2.1.2 Reading 9
2.1.3 Readability 9
2.1.3.1 Fry Readability Formula 10
2.2 Review of the Previous Studies 12
CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHOD **14**
3.1 Researh Design 14
3.2 Instrument of the Research 15
3.3 The Procedure of Data Collection 15

3.4 The Technique of Data Analysis 15
3.5 Triangulation 19
CHAPTER IV RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION 21
4.1 Researh Findings 21
4.1.1 Descriptive Analysis of reading texts in *Life: Elementary* 21
4.1.2 Descriptive Analysis of reading texts in *Issues for Today* 31
4.2 Discussion of the Findings 36
CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS 39
5.1 Conclusion 39
5.1.1 The Readability Level of Reading Texts in *Life: Elementary* 39
5.1.2 The Readability Level of Reading Texts in *Issues for Today* 40
5.1.3 The Readability Level of Reading Texts in *Life: Elementary* and *Issues for Today* 41
5.2 Suggestions 41
5.2.1 Suggestion for Intensive Course Coordinator 41
5.2.2 Suggestion for Reading Coordinator 42
5.2.3 Suggestion for the Next Researcher 42
BIBLIOGRAPHY 44
APPENDICES 51
Appendix A 46
Appendix B 61

ABSTRACT

Alfani, Christina. 2017. *Readability Level of Reading Texts in Life: Elementary and Issues for Today*. S-1 Thesis. English Department, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Widya Mandala Catholic University, Surabya.

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

Keywords: readability, readability level, reading, reading texts, textbook, Life: Elementary, Issues for Today

The purpose of the study are to find out the readability level of 14 reading texts from Life: Elementary, the readability level of 6 reading texts from Issues for Today and to see whether the readability level of the reading texts in Life: Elementary and the readability level of the reading texts in Issues for Today are graded or not using Fry Readability Graph.

The steps of the research are: (1) the researcher found the average number of syllables per 100-words both from *Life: Elementary* reading texts and and *Issues for Today* reading texts which define as "*x*" on the graph. (2) Then, the researcher found the average number of sentences per 100-word both from *Life: Elementary* reading texts and and *Issues for Today* reading texts which define as "*y*" on the graph. (3) After getting the number of the "*x*" and the "*y*", the researcher determined the readability level from each text by marking the dot on the Fry Graph. (4) Then, the researcher put the result on the table of data analysis.

In this study, the researcher uses descriptive quantitative content analysis design. The researcher collects the data based on the percentage and theme. She takes 50% of the total of reading text in *Life: Elementary* and 50% of the total of reading text in *Issues for Today*. After that she classifies them into 4 similar themes: Science & Technology, Lifestyle, People, and History.

The readability level result of reading texts in *Life: Elementary*, from 14 reading texts which were analyzed, there were 10 reading texts' readability level that can be analyzed while there were 4 reading text which the level cannot be identified because the meeting point of the texts' number of sentences and number of syllables fall in shades area. The result from *Issues for Today*, 6 reading texts which were analyzed, all reading texts' level can be identified. The average readability level of reading passages from *Life: Elementary* is 7 which is as the same as 1st grade of Junior High School while the average readability level of reading passages from *Issues for Today* is 11 which is as the same as 2nd grade of Senior High School. As the result, the researcher concluded that it is better to upgrade the level of the textbook for Intensive Course. On the other side, *Issues for Today* is suitable for 2nd semester students in this English Department.