


**ANALYZING CLARITY AND READABILITY OF TEXT USED IN CRITICAL
 READING COMPREHENSION CLASSROOM AT ENGLISH EDUCATION
 DEPARTMENT OF UNISMUH MAKASSAR**

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p>Article history: Received: January 1, 2023 Revised: January 25, 2022 Accepted: February 19, 2023 Published: December 30, 2023</p> <p>Keywords: Clarity Readability Critical Reading</p>	<p>This thesis aims to determine clarity and readability in analyzing journal articles used in critical reading comprehension classroom in the English Education Department by using a calculator website. This study focuses on analyzing the clarity and readability of journal articles texts in critical reading comprehension classroom at the department of English Education, Unismuh Makassar. Research sample by communication with an English lecturer in a critical reading comprehension classroom at Muhammadiyah University Makassar. The data analysis technique used is using a simple web calculator, to measure concreteness sentences, examples per page, word frequency, and active voice sentences of a journal article that can be found using a calculator. And using the website readability calculator, calculates the number of sentences length and syllables per word. This study uses the flashch formula equation convenience formula to measure the readability of journal article texts.</p> <p><i>This is an open access article under the CC BY-SA license.</i></p> 
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INTRODUCTION

Critical reading is an activity where the reader examines, evaluates, and processing reading material in deeply. Critical reading skills need your ability to focus against part of a reading and involves reasoning, reflection, evaluation, and your judgment (Cottrell, 2005, pp. 147). Critical reading is one of the ways to help students in reading comprehension. According to Mulumba (2016) critical reading is one of the skills the language students need to acquire if they are to attain effective knowledge in language education. in this case I will take a sample from critical reading class at the Department of English, University of Muhammadiyah Makassar with journal article material.

Journal articles are articles that are shorter than books and are written on a more specific topic. In general, a journal is also a collection of articles published periodically throughout the year. where these articles will become reference material for further scientists to conduct research and develop new research.

According Nordquist (2019) states that the term conciseness (clarity) refers to language that is brief and to the point in speech or writing. Conciseness or clarity is essential to getting your message across accurately and efficiently. Justesen (2017) states that conciseness means writing everything that is needed in a few words as possible. In improving the comprehension and understanding of writing, clarity is one of the essential dimensions of good writing (Kafi & Degaf, 2021).

Readability of text is relate to the easiness of a text to be read. Readability is declared easy if it is understand by the reader and is said to be difficult if the reader does not understand the message conveyed. Muchlish (2016: 85) state that readability level is the level of ease of text or discourse to be understand by reader. A high level of readability will add to the ability of readers in terms of understanding, learning, receiving information, the ability to remember, and speed of reading.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research use the quantitative research method. The researcher use descriptive quantitative methods to describe clarity and readability in reading article journal. According to sugiono (2005), the descriptive method is a method that is used to describe or analyze research but is not used broader.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result of this study found that the average values for clarity and readability in the journal articles in critical reading comprehension classrooms at he English education department of Unismuh Makassar.

1. Journal Article Clarity

Clarity refers to the language used in articles characterized by brief and thing speech or writing. Clarity using the right choice of words and not giving rise to anything else has a singular meaning so it doesn't create ambiguity. The value of clarity of the journal articles is analyzed using Writing Clarity Calculator developed by [Warren et al. \(2021\)](#) The value is described in Table 1.

Table 1 *Journal Articles Clarity*

Journal Articles		
Texts	Score	Classification
1	1,97 %	Low Clarity
2	2,11 %	Low Clarity

Table 4.1 Explains that the clarity of text 1 is described with a score of 1,97 % which is classified as low clarity. It means that the journal used in the reading comprehension classroom is difficult for readers to understand. The clarity of text 2 used is described with a score of 2,11 % which is low clarity, this means that the text of the journal article is also difficult for readers to understand. Where the final results have been through several trials to determine concreteness, samples per page, frequency, and active voice which are components of the web clarity calculator in analyzing the clarity of journal article texts.

2. Description of the Clarity Component of Article 1

The clarity components of the Writing Clarity Calculator cover four components. The components refer to the concreteness of ideas written in the articles, the number of words found per page, the frequency of words use and the percentages of sentences that use active voice. The description of the clarity component in journal article one is described in Table 2.

Table 2 *Description of the Clarity Component of the Article 1*

Web Clarity Calculator			
Components	Score	Entire Article	Conceptual Development Section
Concreteness	2,92	81 %	81 %
Example per page	4,00	47 %	40 %
Frequency	0,02	87 %	87 %
Active voice	0,95	93 %	90 %
Total clarity	1,97	77 %	74 %

Total	50,9 %
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Table 4.2 shows that the clarity of article 1 refers to Concreteness (2,92 %), Examples per page (4,00 %), Frequency is 02 %) and Active Voice (0,95 %). So, the total clarity of article 1 is (1,97 %) where the score is included in Low Clarity. So, based on analysis article 1 in 4 trials when analyzing the article in web calculator clarity show the results 1,97 %) where the score is included Low clarity. this means the article is difficult to understand the reader.

Table 4.3 Description of the Clarity Component of the Article 2

Web Clarity Calculator			
Components	Score	Entire Article	Conceptual development section
Concreteness	2,91	86 %	86 %
Example per page	4,57	71 %	53 %
Frequency	0,02	12 %	13 %
Active voice	0,95	95 %	95 %
Total clarity	2,11	66 %	62 %
Total			43,0 %

Table 4.3 shows that the clarity of article 2 refers to concreteness (2,91 %), examples per page (4,57 %), frequency (0,02 %) and active voice (0,95 %). So, the total clarity of article 1 is (2,11 %) where the score is included in low clarity. So, based on analysis article 1 in 4 trials when analyzing the article in web calculator clarity show the results (2,11 %) where the score is included low clarity. this means the article is difficult to understand the reader.

3. Journal Article Readability

Readability is declared easy if it is understood by the reader and is said to be difficult if the reader does not understand the message conveyed. The value of readability of the journal

articles is analyzed using the Writing readability Calculator developed by Rudolph Flesch (1948) The value is described in Table 4.4.

Table 4. *Journal Articles Readability*

Journal Articles		
Text	Readability	Classification
1	51,7 %	Fairly difficult
2	50,9 %	Fairly difficult

Table 4.4 explains that the Readability of text 1 is described with a score of 51,7 % which is classified as fairly difficult. It means that the journal used in the reading comprehension classroom is difficult for readers to understand. The readability of text 2 used is described with a score of 50,9 % which is fairly difficult, this means that the text of the journal article is also difficult for readers to understand.

4. Description of Readability Component of Article 1

The readability components of the web readability Calculator covers two components. The components refer to ASL (Average sentence length) and ASW (Average number of syllables per word). Description of the Readability component in journal article one is described in Table 4.5.

Table 5. *Description of Readability Component of the Article 1*

No	Classifications	Score	ASL	ASW	Score
1	90-100	Very easy	78,7 %	42,7 %	49,1 %
2	80-89	Easy	72,4 %	45,3 %	35,6%
3	70-79	Fairly Easy	71,4 %	48,3 %	45,1%
4	60-69	Standard	70,3 %	49,2 %	51,4%
5	50-59	Fairly difficult	43,0 %	29,1 %	45,3%
6	30-49	Difficult			
7	0-29	Very confusing			
Total			67,1 %	42,9 %	45,3%
Total Readability				51,7%	

Note: ASL: Average Sentence Length

ASW: The Average Number of Syllables per Word

Sentence length in a text, especially journal articles, is very influential in the reader's understanding. so that sometimes ambiguity occurs which results in the reader not understanding at all which is caused by several things, including the use of polysemous words and sentence structures that are not exactly. A syllable is a word-forming unit composed of one phoneme or a sequence of phonemes.

Table 5 explains that article 1, readability is shown through the average score of sentence length used and the number of syllables per word used in article 1 the average sentence length of article 1 is 67,1% and the average number of syllables per word is 42,9%. So, total the readability of article 1 is (51,7 %) where the score is included as fairly difficult, based on analysis of article 1 in 5 trials when analyzing the article in web calculator readability shows the results (51,7 %) where the score is included fairly difficult. this means the article is difficult to understand the reader.

Table 6. *Description of readability component of article 2*

Web Readability Calculator					
No	Classifications	Score	ASL	AS	Score
1	90-100	Very easy	36,5	47,5	24,2 %
2	80-89	Easy	78,1	45,3	31,2%
3	70-79	Fairly easy	78,1	49,9	37'6%
4	60-69	Standard	81,2	50,4	26,1%
5	50-59	Fairly difficult	82,2	48,0	34,3%
6	30-49	Difficult	79,1	49,8	35,7%
7	0-29	Very confusing	78,1	48,8	29,1%
8			79,1	50,7	22,8%
Total			74,0	48,8	30,1%
Total Readability				50.9%	

Note: ASL: Average sentence length

ASW: The average number of syllables per word

Table 6 explains that article 2, readability is shown through the average score of sentence length used and the number of syllables per word used in article 2 the average sentence length of article 2 is 74,0% and the average number of syllables per word is 48,8%. So, total the readability of article 2 is (50,9 %) where the score is included as fairly difficult, based on analysis of article 1 in 8 trials when analyzing the article in web calculator readability shows the results (50,9 %) where the score is included fairly difficult. this means the article is difficult to understand the reader.

DISCUSSION

In this part, the researcher wants to discuss the findings regarding the clarity analysis and readability analysis of journal articles using the web calculator clarity and web calculator readability.

This research proved the score classification where in articles 1 and 2 on the clarity analysis of the journal articles both are low clarity classification. then the score classification articles 1 and 2 in the readability analysis of journal articles are fairly difficult classifications.

In getting the results of clarity analysis using a web calculator, it is necessary to do several trials to find out the average clarity results of journal articles. The clarity analysis test in journal article 1 was 4 trials so the final result was 1,97 % (low clarity) and the journal article 2 was 4 trials so the final result was 2,11 % (low clarity). The results of both showed that the journal article about what is learned in Critical Reading Comprehension Classroom is difficult for readers to understand.

Meanwhile, to get the results of the readability analysis using the web readability calculator, it takes several trials to find out the average results from the analysis of journal articles studied in the Critical Reading Comprehension Classroom. The readability analysis of journal article 1 is 5 trials so the final result is 51.7% (fairly difficult). And journal article 2 is 8 trials so the final result is 50.9% (fairly difficult). The results of both show that the journal articles studied in Critical Reading Comprehension Classroom are very difficult for readers to understand.

Based on the results of the research data analysis above, it shows that the results of the analysis using a web clarity calculator on journal articles show "low clarity" results, and using a web readability calculator on journal articles shows "fairly difficult" results.

CONCLUSION

Based on the result of findings in the previous chapter, the researcher concludes that Clarity and readability are part of measuring a reading text, especially journal articles. Based on the above results using calculator website analysis clarity and Readability, the results of articles 1 and 2 on the clarity analysis of the journal article both are low clarity meanwhile the results of articles 1 and 2 on the readability analysis of the journal article both are fairly difficult. can be said that the accuracy of a text can be seen from how easy reading is to be understood by the reader so that the messages contained in the text can be conveyed to the reader.

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