ABSTRACT


This research focused on the readability between reading texts in textbook and reading texts in national examination of the ninth grade students of SMP Negeri 27 Medan. This research used a quantitative design in which the data are taken from three reading texts in a textbook and three reading texts in a textbook. This study was done to find out the readability level of reading texts in book under titled English in Focus published by Pusat Perbukuan Departemen Pendidikan Nasional in 2008 and three national examination reading texts in academic year 2015/2016. The population of this study was 40 students. The Dale-Chall readability formula was used to analyze the data from the textbook and national examination. There are totally three genres in this study; they are Narrative text, Descriptive text and Report text. The procedures were conducted by distributing the cloze test to the students, collecting data, correcting data, calculating data, analyzing data, interpreting data and the last was concluding the result of the study. The analysis of the reading texts in the textbook found: 1) The Legend of Lake Batur (7.85), text has 9th-10th grade level score and the cloze test in Assisted Reading Level (48.47%). 2) The Giraffes (8.05,) text has 11th-12th grade level score and the cloze test in the Unassisted Reading Level 73.80%. 3) Musical Instruments (11.63), text has college graduate level score, the text has 13th-15th grade level score and the cloze test in Frustration Level (32.69%). The average based on Dale-Chall readability formula is 9.17 (13th-15th grade) and the average of cloze test is 59.31% (Unassisted Reading Level). The analysis of the reading texts in the textbook found: 1) The Monkey and the Crab (6.36), text has 7th-8th grade level score and the cloze test in Assisted Reading Level (48.47%). 2) Guava (9.05), text has 13th-15th grade level score and the cloze test in Unassisted Reading Level (64.79%). 3) Butterflies (8.97), text has 11th-12th grade level score and the cloze test in Assisted Reading Level (35.89%). The average based on Dale-Chall readability formula is 8.12 (11th-12th grade) and the average of cloze test is 49.71% (Assisted Reading Level). Therefore it is concluded that the reading texts in the textbook is more difficult than the reading texts in the national examination based on the average of the Dale-Chall readability formula. But in the cloze test, the result of the deleted words of reading texts in the textbook get the higher score than the reading texts in the national examination.

Keywords: Readability, Reading Texts