# Original Paper

# An Investigation into the Connection between Language

# Proficiency and Text Analysis Abilities in English Learners

Peifeng Wang<sup>1</sup>, Chuntao Hu<sup>2</sup> & Dr. Puteri Zarina M. K.\*

Received: July 28, 2023 Accepted: September 15, 2023 Online Published: September 28, 2023

This work is in part supported by Anhui Liberal Arts & Social Science Fund. (No. 2022AH053081)

#### Abstract

This study's objective is to evaluate whether or not there is a correlation between students' command of the English language and their analytical prowess with regard to written material. Through quantitative and qualitative study on students with varied degrees of linguistic proficiency, it has been found that an increase in one's level of linguistic competence is strongly and favorably associated with an increase in one's ability for textual analysis. This discovery was made on students with varying levels of linguistic proficiency. Learners who have a higher degree of language competency are able to more effectively absorb vocabulary, grammatical structure, and logical links in the discourse when reading and interpreting English texts. This is because they have a better understanding of the English language. As a consequence of this, they are capable of performing text analysis in a manner that is both more effective and more accurate than before. This article's goal is to give instructional strategies for learners of all language levels in order to optimize the process of strengthening those learners' ability to evaluate texts. The target audience for this article is learners of all language levels. When these strategies are utilized, educators will be provided with practical recommendations that will assist them in more effectively directing students toward mastery of the basic text analysis skills. The outcomes of this study may, in some way, have an impact on the educational practice of teaching English as a second language.

# Keywords

English Language Learners, Text Analysis Skills, Language Proficiency Teaching Strategies

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sultan Idris Education University, TanjungMalim, Perak, 359000, Malaysia

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Anhui Vocational College of Art, Hefei, 230601, Anhui, China

<sup>\*</sup> Sultan Idris Education University, TanjungMalim, Perak, 359000, Malaysia

#### 1. Introduction

As a result of its reputation as the international common language, English attracts a significant number of students and users across the globe. Students of English who want to be successful in the modern world need to be able to analyze texts effectively because globalization is happening at such a breakneck speed. When it comes to evaluating texts, however, a large number of pupils face a wide variety of challenges and obstacles, and it is imperative that this fact be acknowledged. Examples of concerns that fall into this category include difficulties in comprehending and applying terminology, analyzing grammatical patterns, and understanding the logical relationships that underlie language. There is a significant amount of academic and practical value in researching the ability of English language learners to evaluate text and discovering how the ability relates to the level of language proficiency that the learners possess. The goal of this research is to provide educators with strategies and approaches that are more successful for instructing students by evaluating the ability of English Language Learners (ELLs) to analyze text and illuminating the connection between that ability and language proficiency. It is hoped that by combining theoretical and empirical research, it will provide reliable theoretical support and practical guidance for strengthening learners' text analysis skills as well as their overall language proficiency. This will be accomplished by providing a combination of both theoretical and empirical research.

## 2. Research Design and Methodology

This investigation makes use of an all-encompassing research methodology in order to obtain an understanding of the connection that exists between the textual analysis abilities of English language learners and the proficiency levels of these individuals. Data will be collected on the performance of learners in text analysis across a variety of language levels, and additional information will be obtained through focused testing as well as field observations. In conjunction with the results of an English proficiency exam taken by the participants, statistical analyses will be carried out in order to perform a quantitative analysis of the association that exists between text analysis skill and language proficiency. Methods of qualitative research such as semi-structured interviews were also utilized to delve further into the learners' cognition and strategy use in the process of text analysis, so as to acquire more extensive data support. This was done in order to fully understand the actual scenario that the participants of the research were in, which was necessary in order to properly comprehend the findings of the research.

To ensure that the sample is both diverse and representative of the population, participants in this study will be recruited from English language learners who attend a variety of educational institutions and come from a range of educational backgrounds. The participants will be divided into groups according to the various language levels they speak in order to make subsequent comparisons and analyses more manageable. To ensure the accuracy and reliability of the findings, the basic features of the sample include information such as the participants' ages, the length of their educational experiences, and their

prior knowledge of the subject matter. A wide variety of measuring instruments, such as standardized English proficiency tests, specially created text analysis tasks, and so on, are utilized in order to obtain an accurate assessment of the participants' text analysis skills and language competency. This is accomplished by using a number of measurement methods. In order to assure the reliability and validity of these measuring tools, comprehensive testing and validation will be performed on them before the start of the study. The layout of the research design and sample selection described above will make it possible to collect complete data, which will make it possible to investigate the relationship between ELLS' text analysis skill and language proficiency in a more precise manner.

## 3. Analysis of the Correlation between Text Analysis Ability and Language Level

The study is conducted in conjunction with real-world examples so that researchers can gain a more concrete understanding of how language proficiency impacts the ability to comprehend written material. A group of students with varying degrees of language proficiency was chosen, and these students were given a series of text analysis tasks to complete. These activities included analysis of reading comprehension, grammatical structure, and other components. Throughout the course of the trial, the performance of the learners in the tasks was tracked and recorded. This performance data included accuracy, speed, level of understanding, and other indications. The particular degree of influence that a learner's language level has on their ability to comprehend text can be derived by comparing the disparities in performance between students who have different levels of language proficiency. In depth research will be conducted not just on the effect that language level has on one's ability to comprehend text, but also on the effect that training in text analysis has on increasing one's language proficiency. It is planned to develop, over the course of some time, a number of training programs that, catering to students of various levels of language proficiency, will be followed up on.

Changes in the level of language proficiency attained by learners are painstakingly measured during the subsequent evaluation procedure. Specifically, crucial indications such as development in vocabulary and progress in the correctness of syntactic analyses will be the focus of attention as it relates to this project. When these quantitative data are collected and analyzed, a full picture of the real influence that training in text analysis has on the language competency of learners will be acquired. Keep an eye on how well students succeed in authentic reading comprehension exercises. The beneficial effect that text analysis training has on learners' language skills will be demonstrated when they successfully complete real-world activities and demonstrate improved fluency and accuracy when reading and analyzing texts. As a result of participating in this set of in-depth investigations, one will come away with a more all-encompassing comprehension of the association that exists between linguistic competence and the capacity to analyze literature. Because of this, we will have a solid basis for constructing instructional tactics that are more scientific and reasonable. In addition to this, it will provide students of English with training methods that are more targeted and efficient, which will result in a significant improvement in the students' ability to analyze text.

# 4. Teaching Strategies and Practices

To improve students' capabilities in analyzing text, a number of tactics and practices for instruction will be implemented, and these will be described below.

## 4.1 Individualized Teaching Strategies for Learners with Different Language Levels

It has been decided to take a methodical, step-by-step approach with students of lower levels in order to ensure that the students' ability to analyze text is steadily developed. Reinforcement of Fundamental Vocabulary and Syntax: Learners will be given assistance in building up their fundamental skills in vocabulary accumulation and syntactic analysis by participating in focused vocabulary expansion and syntax training. Students will be able to learn and use new vocabulary in specific circumstances through the use of theme-based vocabulary instruction, for instance, which will be implemented in the classroom. Students will be given games and activities in syntactic analysis in order for them to gradually become familiar with and master the structure of sentences. This will be accomplished through syntactic analysis. The capability of the learners to comprehend material in its entirety will be developed through the step-by-step dissection of the text's logical structure. The students will be led through a progressive progression of moving from the level of a sentence to the level of a paragraph, and then finally to the level of a chapter, in order to help them comprehend how information is organized at various levels. For instance, students will be led through the process of comprehending the logical connection that exists between sentences, beginning with the understanding of simple sentences before moving on to the comprehension of paragraphs and, finally, the overall grasp of the entire book. Build a strong foundation for your knowledge by reviewing a huge number of relevant cases, directing students to gradually apply their newfound knowledge in actual reading so that they might increase their practical abilities. Students will be given a wide range of reading materials and different types of practice questions so that they can review and internalize the information that they have learned and enhance their ability to apply it via more practice. In order for students to improve their practical abilities, we will organize activities that are hands-on and will give them the opportunity to put their skills in text analysis to use in real-world reading situations.

## 4.2 Challenging Text Analysis Practices for Intermediate and Advanced Learners

More difficult texts and activities that require in-depth analysis will be made available to learners with intermediate and advanced language skills in order to help them expand their proficiency in the use of language. In order to improve students' ability to comprehend what they read, they will be directed to engage with more difficult forms of writing, such as academic papers, professional articles, and so on. Students will be given authentic academic publications to read as reading materials in order to challenge themselves with increasingly difficult language and substance during the reading process. This will improve the students' capacity to analyze texts in the professional world. In order for learners

to have a better understanding of chapter organization, they will strengthen their capacity to recognize logical linkages in texts. Learners will be led through the process of analyzing logical connections in texts, such as cause and effect links and contrasts, in order for them to gradually acquire mastery of the abilities required to identify logical linkages in text analysis. In order to encourage learners to develop both the breadth and depth of their thinking, they will be arranged to take part in either group discussions or shared textual analysis. Students will be able to read and analyze texts from a variety of perspectives if they engage in conversations and exchanges with their classmates. This will allow students to expand their thinking about text analysis.

## 4.3 Sharing of Examples of Teaching Strategies in Practice

During the course of practice, the implementation of the teaching tactics that have been selected is meticulously recorded and thoroughly assessed, with a strong emphasis placed on the feedback provided by the students. Case studies are used to evaluate the efficacy of teaching tactics to ensure that they produce the desired results. If necessary, tweaks and improvements are made to the strategies in order to optimize their performance. For instance, in the case of the LDT for low-level learners, the content and level of difficulty are flexibly altered according to the real learning situation of the students to ensure that each student is able to improve in an efficient manner. This is done to ensure that the LDT is suitable for low-level learners. On a consistent basis, regular assessments and reflections on teaching tactics are carried out in order to investigate the benefits and drawbacks of the teaching strategies that are currently being used in the classroom, with the ultimate goal of developing more efficient instructional approaches.

# **5. Exploration of Influencing Factors**

## 5.1 Interaction between Reading Comprehension Skills and Text Analysis Strategies

During the in-depth study, both the influence of reading comprehension skills on text analysis as well as the relationship between reading comprehension skills and text analysis strategies will be investigated and scrutinized. In particular, we will investigate the abilities that students employ to demonstrate reading comprehension, as well as how these skills influence students' capacity to evaluate texts. By investigating this interaction, we not only improve our understanding of the connection between reading comprehension and text analysis, but we also provide direction for the improvement of instructional practices.

## 5.2 Measurement of the Positive Impact of Reading Comprehension Enhancement on Text Analysis

The extent to which improving reading comprehension genuinely improves text analysis skills will be investigated in depth, and the effects of this improvement will be statistically evaluated using a methodical approach to data analysis. The capacity to correctly quantify the positive influence that reading comprehension has on text analysis will be accomplished by comparing the results that learners get in text analysis tasks before and after receiving reading comprehension skill enhancement. Before and after the experiment, data on the performance of learners in reading comprehension and text

analysis tasks were collected and recorded. Key indicators such as accuracy, speed, and depth of comprehension were among the indicators that were recorded. The actual facilitating effect of reading comprehension enhancement on the text analysis ability of learners can be achieved by doing in-depth statistical analyses of these data. This will produce a clear image of the effect. This study will not only provide a quantitative understanding of how reading comprehension skills enhance the capacity to analyze text, but it will also provide a scientific basis for teaching practice. Specifically, this study will look at how reading comprehension skills enhance the ability to analyze text. It is possible to achieve a more significant improvement in teaching objectives by precisely analyzing the efficacy of this teaching technique. This allows teaching methods to be improved to better strengthen learners' text analysis capacity, which in turn leads to accomplishing the teaching objectives.

#### 5.3 The Role of Vocabulary Mastery

The extent to which improving reading comprehension genuinely improves text analysis skills will be investigated in depth, and the effects of this improvement will be statistically evaluated using a methodical approach to data analysis. The capacity to correctly quantify the positive influence that reading comprehension has on text analysis will be accomplished by comparing the results that learners get in text analysis tasks before and after receiving reading comprehension skill enhancement. Before and after the experiment, data on the performance of learners in reading comprehension and text analysis tasks were collected and recorded. Key indicators such as accuracy, speed, and depth of comprehension were among the indicators that were recorded. The actual facilitating effect of reading comprehension enhancement on the text analysis ability of learners can be achieved by doing in-depth statistical analyses of these data. This will produce a clear image of the effect. This study will not only provide a quantitative understanding of how reading comprehension skills enhance the capacity to analyze text, but it will also provide a scientific basis for teaching practice. Specifically, this study will look at how reading comprehension skills enhance the ability to analyze text. It is possible to achieve a more significant improvement in teaching objectives by precisely analyzing the efficacy of this teaching technique. This allows teaching methods to be improved to better strengthen learners' text analysis capacity, which in turn leads to accomplishing the teaching objectives.

#### 6. Conclusion

The findings of a comprehensive study and analysis of the relationship between the ability to analyze texts and language proficiency of English language learners reveal that there is a strong positive correlation between the improvement of language proficiency and the ability to analyze texts. This finding supports the hypothesis that there is a link between the two. Learners' abilities in vocabulary comprehension, syntactic analysis, and general discourse understanding have greatly improved as a result of their increased language competency. This study is not without its flaws, the most notable of which are its limited sample size and its one-dimensional approach to research design. In subsequent research, more complex research designs including several samples and other dimensions might be

implemented to further validate the findings. In addition, other aspects that can have an impact on one's capacity to analyze text, such as one's cultural background and reading habits, can also be investigated in further detail. This study has a few flaws, one of which is that it has a rather small sample size. In the future, researchers would want to explore increasing the size of their samples in order to get more accurate results. In addition, the effect that a learner's cultural background has on their capacity to analyze literature and the ways in which different reading habits affect one's ability to comprehend text are both topics that can be investigated.

#### References

- Kim, M. W., L. A. B., Laura, B. et al. (2023). Unpacking the language demands in academic content and English language proficiency standards for English learners. *International Multilingual Research Journal*, 17(1).
- Kim, S., & Kathy, E. (2023). More than Language Learning: A QuantCrit Analysis of the Relationship Between District Contexts and Long-Term English Learner Rates. *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk (JESPAR)*, 28(1).
- Nami, S. C. J. K., Eunhee, K. et al. (2023). How Long-Term English Learners Perform on an English Language Proficiency Assessment During Grades 2 through 5: An Examination of Assessment Tasks and Features. *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk (JESPAR)*, 28(1).