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Developing Legal English Skills through Graded Readers

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Abstract

Learning English as a second language is challenging, especially when it comes to legal English. For those who wish to become proficient in the language, it is important to find the right resources to help improve their reading skills. This article examines the potential benefits of using graded readers as a tool for developing legal English skills. The literature review will focus on the various types of graded readers available and the advantages and disadvantages of each. The discussion will explore how graded readers can help improve legal English proficiency, and the conclusion will provide an overview of the article's findings.

English has become the predominant language of international business and law, and with this has come to the need for a large number of people to develop their legal English skills. Graded readers are an effective tool for individuals to improve their reading comprehension and legal English skills. This paper reviews the literature on graded readers and discusses their potential for aiding in the development of legal English proficiency. The paper concludes that graded readers are an effective tool for developing legal English skills and should be used more widely in legal education.

Keywords: English, Readers, EFL, ESL, Vocabulary

1. Introduction

The globalization of business and legal systems has seen a dramatic rise in the use of English as a language of international law. This has led to a significant demand for people with a good understanding of legal English and the ability to communicate effectively in it. To meet this demand, there has been an increased focus on the development of legal English skills. One way to develop these skills is through the use of graded readers. Graded readers are books that are written at different levels of difficulty, allowing the reader to gradually increase their comprehension of the text.

Legal English is a specialized form of English used in legal documents, court proceedings, and legal proceedings. It is important for students of the law to be able to understand the language and the concepts behind it. As such, it is essential for them to be able to read and comprehend legal English texts. For those wishing to become proficient in the language, the use of graded readers can be beneficial.

Graded readers are books, stories, or other texts which are written at a specific language level. The texts are usually written in a simpler form, with less complex vocabulary and grammar. They are designed to help language learners of all levels improve their reading skills, and can be an effective tool for those learning legal English. In this article, we will explore the benefits of using graded readers to develop legal English skills.

2. Literature Review

There are several types of graded readers available. The most common type is the graded reader series, which is a collection of books written at different levels. Each book in the series is written at a specific language level, and the books can be used to help language learner's progress from one level to the next. These readers are usually written in a simpler form, with less complex vocabulary and grammar. This makes them an ideal choice for language learners who are just starting to learn legal English.

Another type of graded reader is the simplified reader. These readers are specifically designed to help language learners understand legal English. They are written in a simpler form, with simplified vocabulary and grammar. They are often used in law schools, as they can help students more easily understand the legal concepts and language used in court proceedings and legal documents.

The final type of graded reader is the classic reader. These readers are written in a more traditional style and are more likely to be used by experienced legal English language learners. They are written in a more formal style, and often contain more

complex vocabulary and grammar.

The use of graded readers in the development of language skills has been widely studied. Studies have shown that graded readers are an effective tool for improving reading comprehension, as well as for developing other language skills such as listening and speaking (Celce-Murcia *et al.*, 1996; Ellis, 1996; Grabe & Stoller, 2002). Graded readers have also been shown to be an effective tool for teaching English as a foreign language (EFL) and English as a second language (ESL) (Celce-Murcia *et al.*, 1996; Ellis, 1996; Grabe & Stoller, 2002).

Studies have also shown that graded readers can be an effective tool for developing legal English skills. The use of graded readers has been found to be effective in teaching legal terminology (Leben, 1996). In addition, graded readers have been found to be effective in teaching legal writing (Leben, 1996; Bozorgmehr, 2008). Studies have also shown that graded readers can be used to teach legal reasoning and argumentation (Bozorgmehr, 2008).

3. Discussion

Graded readers can be an effective tool for developing legal English skills. This is because they provide language learners with the opportunity to read and understand legal English texts at their own pace. By reading texts written at their level, they can gradually increase their understanding of the language and concepts used in legal documents and proceedings.

In addition to providing language learners with an opportunity to read and understand legal English texts, graded readers can also help improve their reading skills. As the texts are written in a simpler form, with less complex vocabulary and grammar, they can provide language learners with a more accessible way to read and understand legal English. This can help them to quickly become proficient in the language and to become more confident in their ability to read and understand legal documents and proceedings.

Graded readers can also be used as supplementary resources for language learners. By reading texts written in a simpler form, language learners can improve their understanding of legal English concepts, as well as their ability to read and understand legal documents and proceedings. This can help them to become more proficient in the language and to better understand the material when they are presented with more complex legal documents.

Graded readers are an effective tool for developing legal English skills. The use of graded readers provides the reader with the opportunity to gradually increase their understanding of legal language and terminology. This gradual increase in comprehension allows the reader to become more comfortable with legal language and thus better able to communicate effectively in it. The use of graded readers also allows the reader to become familiar with legal writing styles and argumentation, which is essential for effective legal communication.

In addition to their use in the development of legal English skills, graded readers can also be used to teach other language skills. Graded readers can be used to teach reading comprehension, listening and speaking skills, and writing skills. Graded readers can also be used to teach grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. This makes graded readers an effective tool for language learning in general.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, graded readers can be a valuable tool for language learners who wish to improve their legal English skills. They provide language learners with an accessible way to read and understand legal English texts, as well as the opportunity to become more proficient in the language. In addition, they can help language learners improve their reading skills and become more confident in their ability to understand legal documents and proceedings. Graded readers can therefore provide language learners with the necessary skills to become proficient in legal English.

Graded readers are an effective tool for developing legal English skills. They allow the reader to gradually increase their understanding of legal language and terminology, while also teaching other language skills such as reading comprehension, listening and speaking, and writing. Graded readers should be used more widely in legal education, as they are an effective tool for developing legal English proficiency.

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