

Abstract

This research studied the reading questions in three test papers: the Ordinary National Education test (O-NET), General Aptitude Test (GAT), and General Education test (GET), and six English language textbooks: *Bridge 6*, *Elevator 3*, *English Explorer 3*, *Icon 3*, *Success 3*, and *Upstream 6*. The objective of this study was to find out the connection between the reading questions in the national tests and the textbooks.

There were 201 questions in three sets of O-NET test papers for the academic year 2011, 2012, and 2013, two sets of GAT for 2011, and two sets of GET for 2011 and 2012. There were 889 questions in the textbooks in which 147 questions are from *Bridge 6*; 163 questions from *Elevator 3*, 170 questions from *English Explorer 3*, 85 questions from *Icon 3*, 205 questions from *Success 3*, and 119 questions from *Upstream 6*.

The questions were classified into five types: Literal Comprehension, Reorganization, Inferential Comprehension, Evaluation, and Appreciation by adapting Barrett's Taxonomy. The results were organized to study the dominant questions in the tests and textbooks apart from looking at the proportion of high-order questions (Reorganization, Inferential Comprehension, Evaluation, and Appreciation) in the data.

The results indicate that, in terms of dominant questions, inferential comprehension is dominant in the tests while literal comprehension is dominant in the textbooks, and *Upstream 6* matches with O-NET in terms of literal and inferential comprehension questions. *Elevator 3*, *Icon 3*, and *Upstream 6* tend to agree with O-NET and GAT in terms of high-order questions. *Icon 3* and *Upstream 6* show connections with GET in terms of high-order questions. Finally, the findings show that *Bridge 6*, *English Explorer 3*, and *Success 3* do not show a strong connection with the tests.