

CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH FINDING

This chapter presents the findings of the research based on the gathered data during the investigation. It explores the research findings concerning to the most frequently used adjective in the children short stories. It will be begun with the analysis to the word frequency and the research findings to word frequency of the adjective.

A. Word Frequency of The Short Story

In this study, frequency refers to the list of all the words that occur in the corpus. The frequency list often tells about the words and phrases which are more frequently used in a text. According to Grigaliuniene (2013: 43) frequency information plays a very significant role in language research and language learning. They can help researchers in choosing the most frequent, or the most unusual items for study. They also can help to identify the most and the least common items used in the corpus.

In other word, by using the frequency tool it will help to get accurate information with an effective way. This simple tool also can reduce a workload when analyzing a huge amount of data even with surprisingly million of data. According to Lindquist(2009: 8) one of the main advantages of this tool is that linguists can easily get frequency data from large masses of text, which would be virtually impossible to achieve by hand.

The table below is representing the top 30 most frequent word in the short story.

Table 4.1 Word Frequency of the Short Story

Rank	Word Type	POS Tag	Frequency	Percentage
1.	The	DT	13149	6.53
2.	And	CC	7287	3.62
3.	Of	IN	5370	2.67
4.	A	DT	4974	2.47
5.	To	TO	4637	2.30
6.	He	PP	3504	1.74
7.	In	IN	3187	1.58
8.	Was	VBD	2976	1.48
9.	I	PP	2827	1.40
10.	It	PP	2688	1.33
11.	His	PP\$	2502	1.24
12.	That	DT	2151	1.07
13.	With	IN	1722	0.85
14.	Had	VHD	1677	0.83
15.	You	PP	1476	0.73
16.	As	RB	1386	0.69
17.	On	IN	1346	0.67
18.	She	PP	1334	0.66
19.	Her	PP	1332	0.66
20.	For	IN	1317	0.65

21.	At	IN	1312	0.65
22.	But	RB	1186	0.59
23.	Said	VVD	1112	0.55
24.	S	NNS	1063	0.53
25.	Him	PP	1009	0.50
26.	Not	RB	942	0.47
27.	They	PP	899	0.45
28.	All	DT	851	0.42
29.	Be	VB	828	0.41
30.	My	PP\$	821	0.41

Note: Key to POS (Part Of Speech) tag: DT: Determiner, CC: Coordinating Conjunction, IN: Preposition or Subordinating Conjunction, TO: Infinitival to, PP (PRP): Pronoun, Personal, VBD: Verb be, Past Tense, NP: Noun Phrase, PP\$: Possessive Pronoun, VHD: the past tense form of *have*, RB: Adverb, VVD: verb, past tense, NNS: Noun, Plural, VB: Verb, Base Form. Source: Part-Of-Speech Tagging Guideline for Penn Treebank Project, Beatrice Santorini (1990). (<https://catalog.ldc.upenn.edu/docs/LDC99T42/tagguid1.pdf>)

The list of the frequency in this study shows that the most frequent word which appeared in the corpus of children short stories are determiner such as *the*, *a*, etc, conjunction such as *and*, etc, preposition such as *of*, *in*, etc, and pronoun such as *he*, *I*, *you*, etc. According to Lindquist (2009: 27) these words will occur on the top list no matter which corpus the calculation are based on. However, the rank order may differ depending on the nature of the texts. In the same way, it also happened in the study about vocabulary coverage and word frequency for junior high school course book conducted by Herdian (2017: 90). The result shows that the

most frequent words appeared in the wordlist are prepositions, pronouns, auxiliary verbs, conjunctions, etc.

From the result of the frequency count, it show that the word type *the* is the most frequently used in the corpus. The word type *the* used for 13.149 times. It covers 6.53% of the total types. Here is the example of word type *the* used in the short story, entitled ‘The Legend of Sleepy Hollow’ by Washington Irving (1820)

“The bosom of one of those spacious coves which indent the eastern shore of the Hudson, at that broad expansion of the river denominated by the ancient Dutch navigators the Tappan Zee, and where they always prudently shortened sail, and implored the protection of St. Nicholas when they crossed, there lies a small market-town or rural port, which by some is called Greensburgh, but which is more generally and properly known by the name of Tarry Town.”

(<https://www.rethinkela.com/2014/05/40-excellent-short-stories-for-middle-school/>)

Based on the short story above, the word type *the* is repeated six times for only in one sentence. Most of the word type *the* always follow the definite noun such as the name of town, geographical area, etc. In the same way, the language service at the University of Catalunya (2013: 95) states that the definite article **the** always precedes the noun it modifies and indicates that it is definite and specific.

Afterward, the second most frequent word is the word type *and*. This word type is used for 7.287 times in the short story with its occurrence covers 3.62% of the total types. The word type *and* or generally called conjunction is used to connect words, clauses or sentences together (Language Service, 2013: 188). One examples is extracted from the short story, entitled ‘The Third Wish’ by Joan Aiken (1955)

“He stood a moment waiting to try and discover where the noise was coming from, and presently heard a rustling and some strange cries in a voice which was almost human-and yet there was something too hoarse about it at one time and too clear and sweet at another”

(<https://www.rethinkela.com/2014/05/40-excellent-short-stories-for-middle-school/>)

The third most frequent word is the word type *of*. This word type is used in the short story for 5.370 times which covers 2.67% of all words type. One example is extracted from short story, entitled ‘RIP Van Winkle’ by Washington Irving (1819)

“Every change of season, every change of weather, indeed every hour of the day, produces some change in the magical hues and shapes of these mountains, and they are regarded by all the good wives, far and near, as perfect barometers”

(<https://www.rethinkela.com/2014/05/40-excellent-short-stories-for-middle-school/>)

The fourth most frequently used word is determiner *a*. It appears in the short story for 4974 times which covers 2.47% of all types. According to the Language Service (2013: 96) this word type generally called indefinite article is used to indicate a single but unspecified noun. Here is an example from the short story, entitled ‘A Visit of Charity’ by Eudora Welty (1940)

“It was mid-morning—a very cold, bright day. Holding a potted plant before her, a girl of fourteen jumped off the bus in front of the Old Ladies’ Home, on the outskirts of town”

(<https://www.weareteachers.com/best-short-stories-for-middle-schoolers/>)

The fifth most frequently used word in the short story is *to*. It appears in the short story for 4.637 times. It covers 2.30% of all the words type. An example is extracted from a short story, entitled “A Monument to Adam” by Mark Twain (1905)

“Someone has revealed to the TRIBUNE that I once suggested to Rev. Thomas K. Beecher, of Elmira, New York, that we get up a monument to Adam, and that Mr. Beecher

favored the project. There is more to it than that. The matter started as a joke, but it came somewhat near to materializing.”

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/mark-twain/short-story/a-monument-to-adam>)

Then, the sixth most frequently used word in the short story is the pronoun *he*. It is used in the short story for 3504 times with its occurrence cover 1.74%. Based on the frequency list above, *he* is the most highly used pronoun rather than the other pronoun such as *she*, *you*, *I*, *they*, etc. Afterward, the seventh most frequently used word in the short story is the word type *in* with its occurrence covers 1,58% and repeat in the short story for 3187 times. After that, the word type *be* regarded as the 29th rank for the most frequently used in the short story. Then, the word types *my* regarded as the 30th most frequently used in short story. Both of the word types cover 0.41% of all types.

B. Word Frequency of Adjective in the Short Story.

The result of the frequency count in the corpus of children short stories revealed that there are 2.663 adjectives used in the short story with the total of tokens is 14.039. Therefore the percentage of the adjective's token in this corpus compared to the total all tokens is 6.97%. The result of tagged data found that there are three form of adjectives which are general adjective (JJ), comparative adjective (JJR), and superlative adjective (JJS). The amount of the general adjective is 2.522. While, the comparative adjective is 72 and the superlative adjective is 69.

In this study, the researcher only focused to analyze the top 167 most frequent adjective from the total of all types. (see table 4.2)

Table 4.2 Word Frequency of Adjective in the Short Story

Rank	Word Type	Frequency	Rank	Word Type	Frequency
1	little	379	85	sudden	28
2	old	359	86	distant	27
3	great	223	87	late	27
4	good	190	88	nice	27
5	last	155	89	real	27
6	first	152	90	thick	27
7	long	150	91	wrong	27
8	more	142	92	brown	26
9	white	132	93	different	26
10	many	123	94	dry	26
11	large	108	95	mere	26
12	beautiful	107	96	perfect	26
13	young	107	97	wide	26
14	whole	100	98	yellow	26
15	black	99	99	lovely	25
16	small	98	100	empty	24
17	next	90	101	usual	24
18	big	87	102	wise	24
19	new	86	103	angry	23
20	same	86	104	gentle	23
21	dead	78	105	light	23
22	strange	77	106	enough	22
23	high	76	107	flat	22
24	few	75	108	impossible	22
25	much	75	109	quick	22
26	cold	71	110	front	21
27	poor	69	111	gray	21
28	blue	65	112	possible	21
29	full	64	113	awful	20
30	red	64	114	dull	20
31	sure	63	115	early	20
32	dark	57	116	general	20
33	only	57	117	grey	20
34	happy	56	118	larger	20
35	open	56	119	pretty	20

Rank	Word Type	Frequency	Rank	Word Type	Frequency
36	terrible	56	120	sick	20
37	bright	55	121	evil	19
38	wild	55	122	faint	19
39	better	54	123	fearful	19
40	green	50	124	foolish	19
41	second	47	125	pale	19
42	certain	46	126	thin	19
43	best	45	127	tiny	19
44	clear	44	128	vain	19
45	low	44	129	dim	18
46	very	43	130	Indian	18
47	ready	42	131	like	18
48	right	42	132	natural	18
49	fine	41	133	ordinary	18
50	most	41	134	safe	18
51	silent	41	135	serious	18
52	strong	40	136	straight	18
53	least	39	137	vast	18
54	warm	39	138	ancient	17
55	bad	38	139	calm	17
56	deep	37	140	difficult	17
57	human	37	141	former	17
58	quiet	37	142	less	17
59	several	37	143	simple	17
60	true	37	144	anxious	16
61	wicked	37	145	close	16
62	huge	36	146	curious	16
63	short	36	147	easy	16
64	single	36	148	French	16
65	tall	36	149	higher	16
66	golden	35	150	important	16
67	hot	35	151	lonely	16
68	hard	34	152	nervous	16
69	sweet	34	153	peculiar	16
70	third	34	154	pleasant	16
71	afraid	33	155	sad	16
72	dear	33	156	slow	16
73	heavy	33	157	sorry	16
74	able	32	158	clever	15
75	glad	32	159	common	15
76	horrible	32	160	Dutch	15

Rank	Word Type	Frequency	Rank	Word Type	Frequency
77	rich	32	161	favorite	15
78	fresh	31	162	five	15
79	nearer	31	163	greater	15
80	wonderful	31	164	original	15
81	sharp	30	165	silver	15
82	broad	29	166	splendid	15
83	fair	28	167	wet	15
84	soft	28			

From the result of the finding revealed that there are many categories found from the corpus of children short story. Based on A. J. Thomson and A. V. Martinet (1986) and Khamying in Jitpranee (2017) categories, there are ten types of categories found from the data. The following table demonstrates the finding.

Table 4.3 Ten Adjectives Type Found in Finding

No.	Type Of Adjectives	Total	Percentage (100%)
1.	Adjective of General Description	96	56.47%
2.	Adjective of Personality/Emotion	17	10.00%
3.	Adjective of size	16	9.41%
4.	Quantitative Adjectives	14	8.24%
5.	Adjective of Color	11	6.47%
6.	Adjective of Age	3	1.76%
7.	Adjective of Physical Description	3	1.76%
8.	Adjective of Shape	3	1.76%
9.	Adjective of Origin	3	1.76%
10.	Emphasizing Adjective	1	0.59%

Regarding the table 4.3, the first rank of category is adjectives of general description. In this study, the adjective of general description refers to adjective which describe noun exclude from category of

adjective of personality/emotion, adjective of size, quantitative adjective, etc (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 23). The category of adjective of general description covers almost 56.47% of the total words or from the total of 167 adjectives which analyzed in this study. The 96 adjectives are included in the category of general description. The adjective *little* is the highest frequency in the category of adjective of general description. This adjective repeated for 379 times in the short story. The second is the adjective *great*. It repeated for 223 times in the short story. The third is adjective *good*. The adjective *good* is used for 190 times in the short story. Then, the fourth is *last* and repeat for 155 times in the short story. The fifth adjective in the category of general description is *more*. The adjective *more* is used for 142 times in the short story.

Here the example of adjective *little* which include in the category of general description. Two examples are taken from short story, entitled 'A Visit of Charity' by Eudora Welty (1940) and 'The Selfish Giant' by Oscar Wilde (1888)

Marian, the *little* girl, did not tell her that this visit would give her a minimum of only three points in her score.

(<https://www.rethinkela.com/2014/05/40-excellent-short-stories-for-middle-school/>)

I will put that poor *little* boy on the top of the tree, and then I will knock down the wall, and my garden shall be the children's playground forever and ever.

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/oscar-wilde/short-story/the-selfish-giant>)

From two examples above, the adjective *little* followed by the noun girl in 31 repetitions and the noun boy in 21 repetitions. From the total of 379 repetitions of adjective *little*, the 30.08% of adjective *little* is followed by

the noun such as boy, girl, duke, child, maiden, children, brother, and also a name such as Virginia, perseus, gustavus, and mythical creature such as goblin, elves, etc. The rest of them are followed by the noun of place such as village, mountain, churchyard, valley, garden, etc or noun of animal such as birds, mare, squirrels, etc. It can be conclude that the adjective *little* is used to describe how a characters looks or how the setting of place in the short story.

The other adjective which include in the category of general description is *great* repeated for 223 times and appeared in 50 titles of short story. Here the example of the use of adjective *great* in the short story, entitled 'The Gorgon's Head' by Nathaniel Hawthorne (1851).

“You and your good mother have received a *great* deal of kindness from myself, as well as from my worthy brother the fisherman, and I suppose you would not be sorry to repay some of it”

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/nathaniel-hawthorne/short-story/the-gorgons-head>)

From the example above, the adjective *great* is modifying the noun deal in twelve repetitions. Most of the adjective *great* are followed by noun such as deal, difficulty, success, distance, etc. According to Thomson and Martinet (1986: 16) this nouns are so-called abstract noun. So, it can be concludes that the adjective *great* usually followed by abstract noun.

The other adjective which include in the category of general description is *beautiful*. The adjective *beautiful* repeated for 107 times and appeared in 30 titles of short story. Here the example of the use of the adjective *beautiful* in the short story, entitled 'The Travelling Companion' By Hans Christian Andersen (1835)

“John kissed the good old king's hand, and said he was sure it would be all right, for he was quite enchanted with the *beautiful princess*”

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/hans-christian-andersen/short-story/the-travelling-companion>)

From the example above the adjective *beautiful* is modifying the noun princess in seven repetitions. However, based on the analysis of adjective *beautiful* only 29 repetitions of adjective of *beautiful* which followed by the noun of person such as princess, lady, girl or even a mythical creature such as Nymph. In the short story, most of the adjectives *beautiful* are followed by the noun such as night, world, garden, flower, crown etc. So, it can be concluded that the adjective *beautiful* is not only describe the physical appearance of characters but also used to describe how a place or things look in the short story.

The second rank of category is adjectives of personality/emotion. It covers 10% of the total words. The category of adjective of personality/emotion refers to adjective which describe the characteristics and qualities of a person (Thomson and Martinet 1986: 23). The adjective which include in the category of personality/emotion are *wicked*, *afraid*, *glad*, etc. The adjective *wicked* becomes the highest frequency in this category. It used for 37 times in the short story. The second is adjective *afraid*. The adjective *afraid* is repeated for 33 times in the short story. Then, the adjective *glad* is used for 32 times in the short story.

Here the example of the use of adjective *wicked* in the short story, entitled ‘The Gorgon’s Head’ by Nathaniel Hawthorne (1851).

“Thus, as you will easily perceive, it was a very dangerous adventure that the *wicked King* Polydectes had contrived for this innocent young man.”

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/nathaniel-hawthorne/short-story/the-gorgons-head>)

In the short story the adjective *wicked* is repeated for 37 times. Based on the example above the adjective *wicked* is followed by the noun king for six repetitions. Most of the adjective *wicked* followed by the common noun such as people, king, witch, lord, etc. So it can be concludes that the adjective *wicked* usually followed by common noun such as people and animal which refers to the characters in the short story.

The third category is adjectives of size. It covers 9.41% of all adjectives with the 16 adjective include in this category. According to Thomson and Martinet (1986) the adjective of size refers to adjective which express approval of size. The adjective which included in the category of size is long, large, small, etc. The adjective *long* is the highest frequency in the category of adjective of size. It repeated for 150 times in the short story. The second most frequently adjective in the category of size is the adjective *large*. It used for 108 times in the short story. Then, the adjective *small* is in third rank for category of size and repeated for 98 times in the short story.

Here the examples of the use of adjective *long* in the short story, entitled 'The Sniper' by Liam O'Flaherty (1923)

"The sniper lay still for a *long* time nursing his wounded arm and planning escape.

Weakened by his wound and the *long* summer day of fasting and watching on the roof, he revolted from the sight of the shattered mass of his"

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/liam-oflaherty/short-story/the-sniper>)

From the example above, the adjective *long* followed by the noun time in 14 repetitions and followed by the noun summer in 4 repetitions. From the analysis, 22, 67% of adjective *long* followed by the noun i.e. time, years, summers, day, winter, night, etc. It refers to adjective which measured the period of time. The rest of the adjective *long* followed by noun such ribbon, knives, grass, arm, finger, hair etc. It refers to adjective which measured the size of things. It also gave a description about the physical appearance of character in the short story. However, based on the analysis above, there are none of the adjective *long* which followed by the noun of person.

The fourth category is quantitative adjective. According to Thomson and Martinet (1986) quantitative adjective is the adjective which refers to amount of thing or person such as some, any, much, one, twenty, etc. This category covers 8.24% of all adjectives. There are 14 adjectives which include in the category of quantitative adjective such as first, many, whole, next, etc. The adjective *first* is the highest frequency in the category of quantitative adjective. The frequency of the adjective *first* is 152. Then, the second adjective is *many*. It repeated for 123 times in the short story. The third is adjective whole. The frequency if the adjective *whole* is 100.

Here the examples of the use of adjective *first* in the short story, entitled 'Visit of Charity' by Eudora Welty (1940) and 'The Lumber Room' by H. H. Munro (1914)

"With much to-do the *first* old woman sat down in a rocking chair—still another piece of furniture!—and began to rock."

(<https://www.weareteachers.com/best-short-stories-for-middle-schoolers>)

"Nicholas, Nicholas!" she screamed, "you are to come out of this at once. It's no use trying to hide there; I can see you all the time." It was probably the *first time* for twenty years that anyone had smiled in that lumber-room."

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/hh-munro-saki/short-story/the-lumber-room>)

From the example above, the adjective *first* followed by the noun (old) woman for seven repetitions and followed by the noun time for 18 repetitions. From the analysis, 11.18% of adjective *first* followed by common noun for female and male such as old woman, husband, man, etc. The remaining adjectives *first* followed by the abstract noun such as time, period, place, thing etc. So, it can be concluded that most of the adjective first followed by the abstract noun.

The fifth category is adjectives of color. The category of adjective color refers to adjective which describe the color of the noun (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 23). It covers 6.47% of all adjective which analyze in this study. There are eleven adjectives which include in this category. The adjective *white* is the highest frequency in the category of adjective color. The frequency of the adjective *white* is 132. The second adjective which include in the category of color is adjective *black*. It repeated for 99 times in the short story. Then, the third is adjectives of *blue*. This adjective repeated for 65 times in the short story.

Here the examples of the use of adjective *white* in the short story, entitled 'The Star' by H. G. Wells (1897)

"It rose with a *white glow* in front of it, like the glare of a *white fire*, and those who had seen it come into existence the night before cried out at the sight of it."

(<https://americanliterature.com/author/hg-wells/short-story/the-star>)

From the analysis, most of the adjective *white* followed by the common noun refers to part of body such as hair, hand, heart, teeth, etc. It refers to describe the physical appearance. Some of them followed by noun refers to things such as ribbon, wood, star, etc.

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