

LEXICAL DENSITY OF SHORT STORIES WRITTEN BY O. HENRY

SKRIPSI

*Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For Degree of Sarjana Pendidikan (S.Pd)
English Education Program*

By:

DWI RAHMA USI
NPM: 1402050161



**FACULTY OF TEACHERS TRAINING AND EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF MUHAMMADIYAH SUMATERA UTARA**

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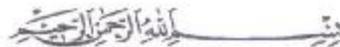


**MAJELIS PENDIDIKAN TINGGI
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SUMATERA UTARA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN**

Jl. Kapten Mukhtar Basri No. 3 Medan 20238 Telp. 061-6622400 Ext. 22, 23, 30
Website: <http://www.fkip.umsu.ac.id> E-mail: fkip@umsu.ac.id

BERITA ACARA

Ujian Mempertahankan Skripsi Sarjana Bagi Mahasiswa Program Strata 1
Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara



Panitia Ujian Sarjana Strata-1 Fakultas Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan dalam Sidangnya yang diselenggarakan pada hari Selasa, Tanggal 03 April 2018, pada pukul 09.00 WIB sampai dengan selesai. Setelah mendengar, memperhatikan dan memutuskan bahwa:

Nama : Dwi Rahma Usi
NPM : 1402050161
Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Judul Skripsi : Lexical Density of Short Stories Written by O. Henry

Dengan diterimanya skripsi ini, sudah lulus dari ujian Komprehensif, berhak memakai gelar Sarjana Pendidikan (S.Pd).

Ditetapkan : (**A**) Lulus Yudisium
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Ketua Sekretaris
 
Dr. Elfrianto Nasution, S.Pd, M.Pd **Dra. Hj. Svamsuyurnita, M.Pd**

ANGGOTA PENGUJI:

1. Fatimah Sari Siregar, S.Pd, M.Hum
2. Prof. Amrin Saragih, MA, Ph.D
3. Erlindawati, S.Pd, M.Pd







LEMBAR PENGESAHAN SKRIPSI

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Skripsi ini diajukan oleh mahasiswa di bawah ini:

Nama Lengkap : Dwi Rahma Usi
N.P.M : 1402050161
Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Judul Skripsi : Lexical Density of Short Stories Written by O. Henry

sudah layak disidangkan.

Medan, Maret 2018

Disetujui oleh:

Pembimbing

Erlindawaty, S.Pd, M.Pd

Diketahui oleh:

Dekan



Dr. Elfrianto Nasution, S.Pd., M.Pd.

Ketua Program Studi

Mandra Saragih, S.Pd, M.Hum



MAJELIS PENDIDIKAN TINGGI
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH SUMATERA UTARA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
Jl. Kapten Mukhtar Basri No. 3 Telp. (061) 6619056 Medan 20238
Website: <http://www.fkip.umusu.ac.id> E-mail: fkip@umusu.ac.id



BERITA ACARA BIMBINGAN SKRIPSI

Perguruan Tinggi : Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara
Fakultas : Keguruan dan Ilmu Pendidikan
Jurusan/Prog. Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Nama Lengkap : Dwi Rahma Usi
N.P.M : 1402050161
Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Judul Skripsi : Lexical Density of Short Stories Written by O. Henry

Tanggal	Deskripsi Hasil Bimbingan Skripsi	Tanda Tangan
5/3-18	Abstract	
7/3-18	Chapter III Rewrite all the sentence from Present into Past Tense	
10/3-18	Chapter IV Data Analysis	
13/3-18	Chapter V Conclusion	
15/3-18	References	

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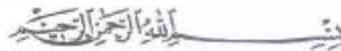
Diketahui oleh:
Ketua Prodi

(Mandra Saragih, S.Pd, M.Hum)

Dosen Pembimbing

(Erlindawaty, S.Pd, M.Pd)

SURAT PERNYATAAN



Saya yang bertandatangan dibawah ini :

Nama Lengkap : Dwi Rahma Usi
N.P.M : 1402050161
Program Studi : Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris
Judul Proposal : Lexical Density of Short Stories Written by O. Henry

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Dwi Rahma Usi

Diketahui oleh Ketua Program Studi
Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris

Mandra Saragih, S.Pd, M.Hum

ABSTRACT

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This study deals with lexical density of short stories written by O. Henry. The objectives of the study are to find out the lexical density in short stories and to find out the lowest lexical density in O. Henry’s short stories. This study was conducted by descriptive qualitative method with qualitative approach. The source of data was conducted of four short stories written by O. Henry. The titles are *The Little Match Girl*, *Hearts and Hands*, *The Gift of the Magi*, and *What you Want*. The researcher identified kinds of lexical density. The result of analysis showed that: (1) Lexical density of four short stories written by O. Henry have high lexical density, it is because each of short stories have more than forty per cent lexical density. *The Little Match Girl* has 44.9 %, *Hearts and Hands* has 50.2 %, *The Gift of the Magi* has 46.3 %, and *What you Want* has 49.7 %. (2) The lowest lexical density of short stories written by O. Henry is *The Little Match Girl*. It has 44.9 %. The low lexical density in short story is caused more grammatical items than lexical items in the text. Grammatical items (function words) is the word that does not contain information. Because of less of information, the story is hard to understand.

Keywords : *lexical density, lexical items, grammatical items.*

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DWI RAHMA USI

NPM 1402050161

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

The most important skill we need for success in our studies is reading. so many kinds of reading media can read by the people. Start from material book, magazine, novel, newspaper, short story, and etc. Those are absolutely provided some benefits for the reader. For the students in the school, they will read material book to get knowledge about education. But sometimes they need to refresh their brain with reading the other books, such as fiction. Short story can be the best way to read by them.

Maynard (2005) defined story as the way people communicate their experience, the way they understand the experience of others, the way they liberate their imaginations, the way they make sense of the world and their own position within in. The short story is one of reading media, which most people are interested in, especially for the students. Activity in reading the short story is very good for them. Because reading short story make it possible for students to be more interested in practice reading, moreover the topics of short stories relate to their background, such as legend, epic, fiction, love, funny story, etc. Through short story, the students do not only learn about reading but also they can learn about speaking skill, pronunciation, and try to guess story line. Short story is short fictive that is telling about rationally event. It means that the short story is a fictive story and just contains the writer fictive events, by reading short story indirectly

we can comprehend vocabulary, spelling, sentence structure, tenses, type of sentence etc.

The proportion of short story can be known by using lexical density. Lexical density is a condition of the words' proportion in the text. It shows the ratio of lexical items and grammatical items. Lexical items consist of noun, adjective, verb and some adverbs. Grammatical items consist of auxiliary verb, modal, pronoun, determiner, preposition, conjunction, etc.

The high lexical density can help reader to understand short story. Beside that, lexical density also help the author to write the best short story. Lexical density can be used as the measure to make a good short story with balance lexical items and grammatical items. The amount of lexical items in a text can influence the length of a text and measure the level of difficulty of the text. Short story is difficult to understand if the text has a low level of lexical density. The difficulty depends on the less of lexical items that are used in the text. Lexical items are known as the word that contain information. So that, less of lexical items can influence the reader to get the information in the text.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher wanted to analyze short stories by lexical density. So, the researcher choosed four short stories from O. Henry. He is a very popular and exist writer so that researcher interested in. He is also known as the productive writer that has written about 381 short stories and his stories has surprise endings. There are many short stories written by him, some of them are *After Twenty Years*, *A Service of Love*, *The Green Door* etc.

B. The Identification of Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the identifications of problem identified as follow:

1. The low lexical density makes the short story hard to understand.
2. The readers are not interested to read because of the low lexical density.

C. The Scope and Limitation of Study

The study was focused on analyzing lexical density in short stories written by O. Henry. There are many stories written by him but the researcher choosed five short stories, namely *The Little Match Girl*, *Hearts and Hands*, *The Gift of the Magi*, and *What you Want*.

D. The Formulation of Problem

Based on the background of the study, the problems of the study were formulated as follow:

1. How is the lexical density occured in short stories written by O. Henry?
2. What short story has the lowest lexical density found in O. Henry's short stories?

E. The Objective of Study

In line with the research questions, the objectives of the study were:

1. To find out the lexical density is occurred in short stories written by O. Henry.
2. To find out short story has the lowest lexical density in O. Henry's short stories.

F. The Significant of Study

The findings of this research were expected to be useful theoretically and practically.

Theoretically:

1. It is helpful to be a source to help the next researchers who want to investigate the lexical density.
2. The research findings were expected to enrich students' knowledge about lexical density.

Practically:

1. For the short story writers, as consideration to write the best story with balance composition between lexical items and grammatical items of lexical density.
2. The readers can choose the appropriate short story based on the complexity of lexical density in the story.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A. Theoretical Framework

It is important to classify some items which are used in this research in order to avoid confusion in comprehending the ideas. Therefore, the following terms are intended to specify extend of research.

1. Discourse Analysis

According to Flowerdew (2013:2-3), discourse analysis may focus on any sort of text, written or spoken. The term ‘text’, in discourse analysis, refers to any stretch of spoken or written language. Diane Larsen (2003:35) defines the study of discourse has important consequences to society, to education, and to linguistics. It may result in better understanding of how we learn languages; better understanding of how each of us as individuals interact via language; better understanding of classroom discourse, educational curricula, and materials; better understanding of how meaning get attached to sentences; and even better understanding of sentence syntax.

Discourse analysis has traditionally focused on written and spoken text. Halliday (1985:62) classifies the difference between written and spoken language is density. Typically, one kind of complexity of written language is lexical density.

2. Lexical Density

Johansson (2008) states that “Lexical density provides a measure of the proportion of lexical items (i.e. nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs) in a text.” The lexical items absolutely found in a clause. Actually, the words in a clause can be divided into two terms; namely content words (lexical items) and grammatical function words. Halliday in his book (1985:63) explains that lexical items are often called ‘content words’. Technically, they are ITEMS rather than words, for example *stand up, take over, move on*. While grammatical items serve to express relation between content words and are included: Auxiliary verbs, Modals, Pronouns, Prepositions, Determiners and Conjunctions (Alami *et al*: 2013).

By investigating the lexical density in a text, we receive a notion of *information packaging*: a text with a high proportion of content words contain more information than a text with a high proportion of function words (prepositions, interjections, pronouns, conjunctions, and count words), (Johansson: 2013).

For more information about lexical density about how lexical items and grammatical items are formed in the sentence, here are the instances take from Halliday (1985:62); The Lexical items are written in bold and the grammatical items are written in italic.

- a. A **Grey-faced Kevin unlocked** *the door* (L: 5, G: 2)
- b. **Kevin unlocked** *the door*, *and as he did so his face was grey* (L: 5, G: 8)

From the examples above, it shows that the first sentence contains higher lexical items than the second sentence. Both sentences prove that the sentences which consist of higher lexical items are easier to understand than the sentence in form of grammatical items.

The researcher decides to use Ure's method because it is easy to calculate.

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{\text{Number of lexical items}}{\text{The total words}} \times 100$$

Regarding this measurement, if the number surpasses forty per cent, it accounts for higher lexical density. In a text if the number of grammatical words is higher than the number of lexical items, it makes the level of lexical density is low, so the text is difficult to read and influence the understanding of the text. A text in English with high lexical density is easy to understand. On the contrary a text with low lexical density is difficult to understand.

2.1 Lexical Items (Content Words)

Alami, et.al (2013:5366) explains that lexical items are the major content words which carry information. Halliday (1985) defines lexical items as part of an open system rather than closed set because it is possible to new items can be added. The conclusion is lexical items or content words are parts that carry high information in text and called as open classes in which new words can be added. These are the categories of lexical items:

1) Noun

Wren and Martin (2013:3) defines noun is a word used as the name of person, place, or thing. The word thing includes all objects that we can hear, touch, taste or smell and something we can think of, but cannot perceive by the senses. In linguistics, a noun is a number of parts of speech which can occur as the main word in the subject of a clause, the object of a verb, or the object of a preposition.

Based on the meaning, noun can be classified into:

- a) Common noun is the name of a class of objects; it may name a mass of objects or a material.
- b) Proper noun is an individual name.

Example: George, Billy (person), Indonesia, Japan (place), May, September (month).

- c) Collective noun is name a group of persons, places, or things gathered together into a unit.

Example: people, audience, number, nationality, class.

2) Verb

Morley (2000:33) defines in meaning terms, verbs may be said to express processes which can be denoted actions, record events and refer to state and which relate to any point in time; past, present, or future. So verbs are used to say what people do that is expressing an action. Verb has some types as follows:

- a) A regular verb is one which forms its past indicative and past participle by adding the suffix –ed, or –d.

Example: want – wanted – wanted

- b) An irregular verb is one that does not form its past indicative and past participle by adding –ed, or –d.

Example: Go – went – gone

- c) Transitive verb is verb that expresses an action and require one or more objects.

Example: The teacher *teaches* the students

- d) Intransitive verb is verb that expresses an action and do not require objects.

Example: I laughed

3) Adjective

Wren and Martin (2013:19) identify adjective as a word used with a noun to describe or point out the person, animal, place, or thing which the noun names, or to tell the number or quantity. So it may define an adjective as a word used with noun to add something for its meaning. Adjective can have many forms as follows:

- a) Positive adjective is used when no comparison is made.

Example: small, brave, happy, courage, beautiful, easy.

- b) Comparative adjective is used when two things (or sets of things) are compared.

Example: little becomes less, sweet becomes sweeter, large becomes larger.

- c) Superlative adjective is used when more than two things (or set of things) is compared.

Example: easy becomes easiest, bad becomes worse, kind becomes kindest.

4) Adverb

Wren and Martin (2013:19) explains that adverb is a word that modifies the meaning of a verb and an adjective. An adverb goes with a verb to tell how, when, or where an action takes place. Johansson (2008:67) gives more detail explanation about adverb. He defines adverb is counted as lexical items are all adverbs that derived from adjectives. The example are:

- a) Adverb of manner

Example: Quickly, beautifully, correctly.

- b) Adverb of place and direction

Example: here, there, Medan.

- c) Adverb of time

Example: Ago, now, today, tomorrow.

- d) Adverb of frequency

Example: always, never, seldom, sometimes.

- e) Adverb of degree

Example: really, too, very.

2.2 Grammatical Items (Function Words)

Gelderen (2002:17) argues “The function of grammatical items is to make the lexical categories fit together.” The main grammatical items are auxiliary verb, modal, pronoun, preposition, determiner, and conjunction. Gelderen (2002:17) said that it is hard to define grammatical categories in terms of meaning because they have very little. It shows that those grammatical items only functioned to complete the lexical items to form a meaningful clause.

1) Auxiliary Verb

According to Wren and Martin (2013:110), an auxiliary is a verb used to form the tenses, moods, voices, etc of other verbs. For instance, ‘be’ (is, am, are, was, were), ‘do’ (does, did), and ‘have or has’, and the modal auxiliary verbs, can, could, shall, should, will, would, may, might, must, or ought to.

2) Modal

Gelderen (2002:99) explains that there are nine modals in English: *can, could, may, might, shall, should, will, would, and must*. Modal expresses uncertainty, as in (a) and (b), necessity (*must, should*), ability as in (c) and permission as in (d):

- a) Roberto could be gone tomorrow
- b) It might snow
- c) I can swim
- d) You may go now

Modal is often used when we ask a favor of someone, as in (e), or when we want to be polite. The past form *could* in (e) is seen as more polite than the present form *can* in (f).

e) Could I borrow some money?

f) Can I borrow some money?

In English, the modal *will* (and *shall* in some varieties of English) is used to express future, as in (g) and (h).

g) He will go to Paris next year

h) She'll walk on London next year

3) Pronoun

Wren and Martin (2013:42) say that pronoun is a word that is thus used instead of a noun. Moreover, Morley (2000:45) says that pronoun used to be thought of a class of word which substituted in place of a noun. In conclusion, pronoun can be defined as words that stand instead of nouns. There are some types of pronouns:

- a) Personal pronoun : I, We, You, He, She, It, They.
- b) Possessive pronoun : mine, yours, hers, its, ours, theirs.
- c) Reflexive pronoun : myself, yourself, herself, themselves.
- d) Demonstrative pronoun : this, that, these, those.
- e) Indefinite pronoun : everybody, anybody, someone, none
- f) Relative pronoun : who, whose, whom, which.

4) Preposition

Wren and Martin (2013:129) mention that preposition is a word placed before noun or pronoun to show in what relation the person or thing denoted by its stands in regard to something else. The types of prepositions are:

- a) Indicating time : on, at, in, since, by, for, during, before.
- b) Indicating place : over, above, under, below, next, beside.
- c) Indicating direction :to-from-into-out-off, up-down, around,through, pass, as far as.

5) Determiner

Determiner category includes the article *a (n)* and *the*, as well as demonstrative occurs with a noun to specify which noun is meant or whose it is. Example of *a (n)* and *the* are given in (a) and (b), while those demonstrative; *this*, *that*, *these*, and *those* occurs in (c) and (d).

- a) *The* man in black hat is my boy.
- b) *An* anecdote is one kind of text genre in English.
- c) *That* fast car must be a polite car.
- d) *Those* gift is yours.

6) Conjunction

Yule (2006:75) states that conjunctions are words (and, but, because, when) used to make connections and indicate relationships between events. Moerly (2008:43) explains that coordinating conjunction also called coordinators or linkers, link units of equal grammatical status, primarily clause with clause and

phrase with phrase such as “and, but, or, yet, nor.” While subordinating conjunction called subordinators or binders, introduce subordinate clauses and join or bind clauses of unequal grammatical such as “because, as, since, if, although.”

3. Short Story

A short story is a short work of fiction. Fiction is process writing about imagined events and character. Short story is one of the literature forms that are a work of fiction that is usually written in prose, often in narrative format. Short story definitions based upon length differ somewhat even among professional writers due somewhat in part to the fragmentation of the medium into genres. Since the short story format included a wide range of genres and styles, the actual is determined by the individual author’s preference and the submission guidelines relevant to the story’s actual market.

According to Jones (1968) short story is an imaginative statement of feeling that feeling is created or imagined. Short story is a short piece of fiction aiming at unity of characterization, theme and effect. The modern English short story, no longer attempt to make daily life more entertaining by inventing exotic plots. Instead, modern short story writers have tended to base their narratives on their own experience; here the focus is much more on the less spectacular aspects of life, on the significance underlying what is apparently trivial. The result of such perceptive writing is perfection of form, harmony of theme and structure, and precision of style to reveal the subtleties of the human mind and of human behavior.

4. O. Henry's Biography

William Sydney Porter also known by his pen name O. Henry, was an American short story writer. His stories are known for their surprise endings. William Sidney Porter was born on September 11, 1862, in Greensboro, North Carolina. He changed the spelling of his middle name to Sydney in 1898. His parents were Dr. Algernon Sidney Porter, a physician, and Mary Jane Virginia Swaim Porter. William's parents had married on April 20, 1858.

O. Henry's stories frequently have surprise endings. In his day he was called the American answer to Guy de Maupassant. While both authors wrote plot twist endings, O. Henry's stories were considerably more playful. His stories are also known for witty narration. Most of O. Henry's stories are set in his own time, the early 20th century. Many take place in New York City and deal for the most part with ordinary people: policemen, waitresses, etc.

O. Henry's work is wide-ranging, and his characters can be found roaming the cattle-lands of Texas, exploring the art of the con-man, or investigating the tensions of class and wealth in turn-of-the-century New York. O. Henry had an inimitable hand for isolating some element of society and describing it with an incredible economy and grace of language. Some of his best and least-known work is contained in *Cabbages and Kings*, a series of stories each of which explores some individual aspect of life in a paralytically sleepy Central American town, while advancing some aspect of the larger plot and relating back one to another.

Cabbages and Kings was his first collection of stories, followed by *The Four Million*. The second collection opens with a reference to Ward McAllister's "assertion that there were only 'Four Hundred' people in New York City who were really worth noticing. But a wiser man has arisen the census taker and his larger estimate of human interest has been preferred in marking out the field of these little stories of the 'Four Million.'" To O. Henry, everyone in New York counted.

He had an obvious affection for the city, which he called "Bagdad-on-the-Subway", and many of his stories are set there while others are set in small towns or in other cities.

His final work was "Dream", a short story intended for the magazine *The Cosmopolitan* but left incomplete at the time of his death.

B. Relevant Studies

In composing this proposal, these are some previous reseachers related to this study which become the references in composing this proposal.

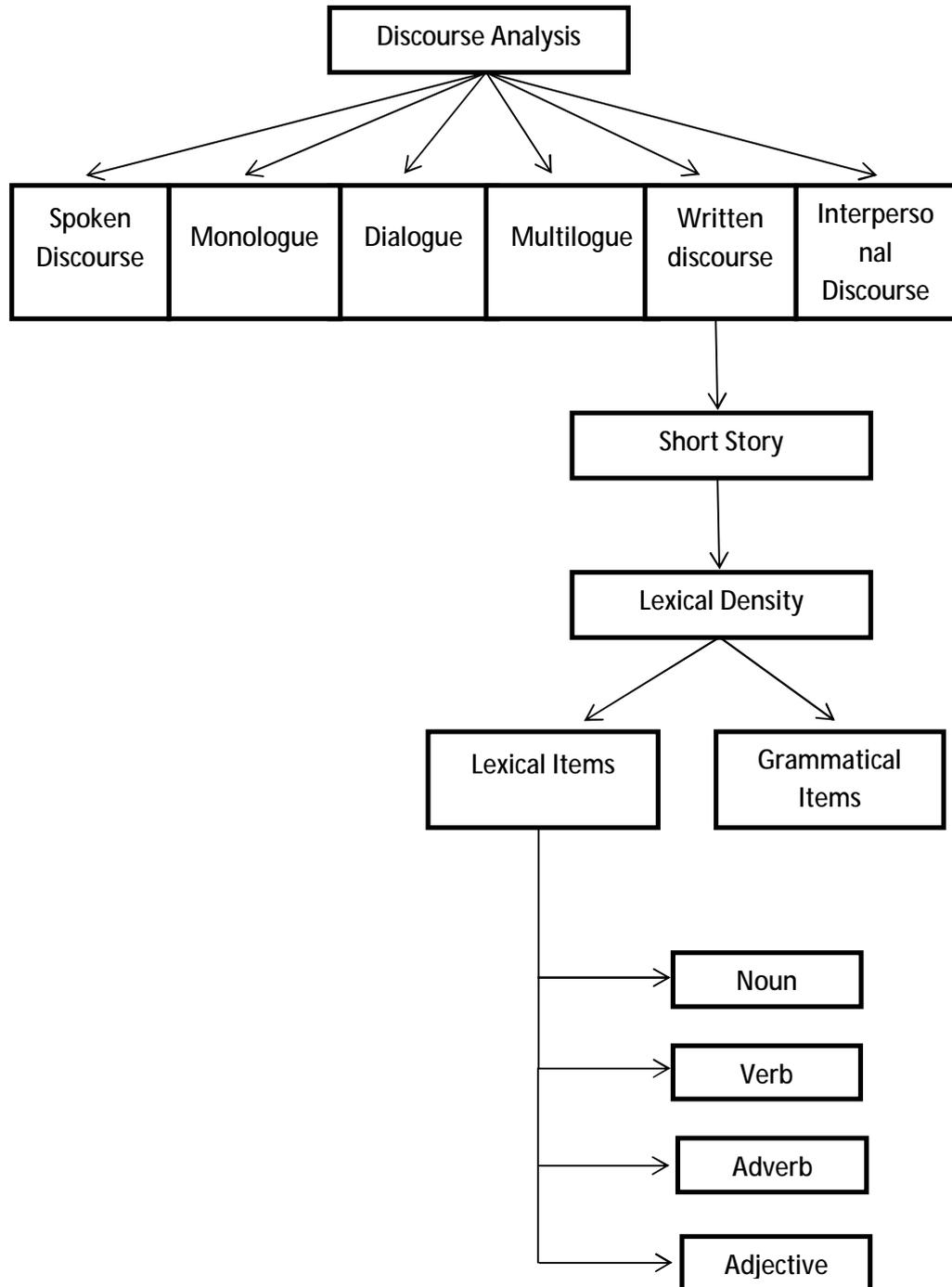
The first is “ Lexical Density of Reading Text In English Textbook of Junior High School” by Desi Ariska. This study is aimed at identifying the lexical density of 11 reading texts. The researcher used descriptive qualitative method. She described the chosen data and analyzed it based on Halliday’s theory of the lexical density. The data of this research was taken from English in Focus Textbook for Ninth Grade of Junior High School published by National Education Department in which it is used in two semester directly. It consisted of 11 reading

texts which are divided into 4 procedure texts, 5 report texts, and 2 narrative texts that have been made in the textbook. The result of this study showed that: (1) The lexical density of procedure texts are 5.90, 5.08, 5.5, and 4.69, report texts are 5.92, 4.22, 4.06, and 3.64 and narration texts are 2.92 and 2.90. It means the texts are not difficult and suitable for students of junior high school. (2) The highest lexical density of the reading texts is report text entitled “ The Chinese Influence in Indonesian Visual Art”. (3) Report text has the highest lexical density because the high proportion of lexical items in the text and it also because of the generic structure, language features and the style of writing report text.

The second relevant study is “Lexical Density and Grammatical Intricacy of Reading Materials to The Tenth Grade Students of Senior High School” by Rini Lestari. This study finds out the lexical density and grammatical intricacy which formed in the reading texts of English Alive Textbook and type of genre which has the highest both of lexical density and grammatical intricacy. The research was conducted by descriptive method with qualitative approach. The data of the research were the English Reading Text of English Alive Textbook for Senior High School Grade Tenth published by Yudhistira. The result of the analysis showed that: (1) lexical density is formed by unification of both lexical items and grammatical item while grammatical intricacy is formed by unification of both simple clauses and complex clauses in text. (2) Lexical density influences the difficulty of reading texts if it has higher proportion of lexical items, while grammatical intricacy also influences the difficulty of reading texts if it has higher proportion of complex clauses in comparison with simple clauses.

From the explanation above, this study is different from the relevant studies. This study will be expected to give explanation of lexical density in the short stories written by O. Henry and the researcher will use Ure's theory to analyze the data.

C. Conceptual Framework



Discourse analysis refers to a general term for a number of approaches to analyze written, vocal, or sign language use, or any significant semiotic event. Spoken discourse, monologue, dialogue, multilogue, written discourse, and interpersonal discourse are kinds of discourse. Written discourse is often read by people because it use larger words and more complex sentences to make the message more interesting. One of the written discourse is short story.

Short story is short fictive that is telling about rationally event. It means that short story is afictive story and just contains the writer fictive event, by reading short story indirectly we can comprehend vocabulary, spelling, sentence structure, tenses, type of sentence etc. It has the purpose to learnt, to be entertained or enlightened, and to simply appreciate a work of literature for its own sake. People can get short story easily not only in the magazine or story book, but they can get it through certain app that is providing various short stories in there.

As the reader, they sometimes cannot understand the line of the story they read because they found the difficulty in the text. Short story is difficult to understand if it has the low lexical density. One way to measure that short story is readable or not is by measuring the percentage of lexical items within the story. Parts of lexical items are noun, verb, adverb, and adjective. The way to measure those lexical items is called as lexical density. To know the percentage of lexical density, we must identify lexical items and then we count with Ure's formula. The lower lexical density in the story shows that the story is less of information, it shows that the story is more difficult to understand. On the other hand, the higher

lexical density shows that the story is easy to understand because the text contains more information. The measures of lexical items are really important to do to find out short story goes with the ability of readers or not.

One of the best short story writers is by O. Henry. He has written many popular short stories as long as he lives. So, the researcher wanted to analyze the lexical density of short stories written by O. Henry. The researcher hoped that this research were useful for the readers to know the lexical density in short stories and for the other authors, it was useful to consider writing the good story with the balance of lexical items and grammatical items

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A. Research Design

This study was conducted by applying a qualitative research design. Qualitative design attempted to describe what is going on and what data shows. The type of this research is content analysis where the researcher analyzes lexical density of short stories written by O. Henry. Content or document analysis is a research method applied to written or visual materials for the purpose of identifying specified characteristics of the material.

B. Data and the Source of Data

The source of data was conducted of short stories written by O. Henry. It consists of 4 short stories, namely *The Little Match Girl*, *Hearts and Hands*, *The Gift of the Magi*, and *What you Want*.

C. The Technique for Collecting Data

The data in this study were collected from short stories written by O. Henry and were conducted by using documentary data. The procedures of collecting data are:

1. Collecting O. Henry short stories.
2. Selecting O. Henry short stories.

3. Reading O. Henry short stories.
4. Finding out the lexical density in short stories.

D. Technique of Analyzing Data

After the data were collected, they were analyzed by performing descriptive analysis. The researcher used this technique to collect the data. The data were analyzed through the following procedures:

1. Identifying the lexical items and grammatical items.
2. Labelling the lexical items in bold written and grammatical items in unbold written.
3. Counting the number of lexical items and grammatical items.
4. Determining the lexical density (LD) of the short stories by applying the Ure's Method.,

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{\text{Number of lexical items}}{\text{The total words}} \times 100$$

5. Analyzing the data to know the lexical density of the short stories written by O. Henry.
6. Drawing conclusions based on the result of the lexical density in short stories written by O. Henry.
7. Finding out which short story has the lowest lexical density in short stories written by O. Henry by classifying the result of lexical density analysis by using Ure's formula.

CHAPTER IV

DATA AND DATA ANALYSIS

A. Data

The chapter is going to deal with the finding and analysis of the research. There are four short stories which were analyzed in this chapter. All of the short stories were taken from O. Henry's short stories. The title of short stories are *The Little Match Girl*, *Hearts and Hands*, *The Gift of the Magi*, and *What you Want*.

B. Data Analysis

The data was analyzed based on the technique of collecting data in the chapter 3. There are four short stories written by O. Henry which were analyzed in terms of lexical density. The content words (lexical items) were marked in bold and the unbold words are function words (grammatical items). Lexical Density was calculated by using Ure's formula. It can be known by dividing the lexical items to the total number of words and multiplied by one hundred. The result of analysis are:

Table 4.1

Data of Short Stories Written by O. Henry

1. The Little Match Girl

Sentences	Content Words	Function Words
Most terribly cold it was; it snowed , and was nearly quite dark , and evening- the last evening of the year .	10	10
In this cold and darkness there went along the street a poor little girl , bareheaded , and with naked feet .	11	8
When she left home she had slippers on , it is true ; but what was the good of that? They were very large slippers , which her mother had hitherto worn ; so large were they; and the poor little thing lost them as she scuffled away across the street , because of two carriages that rolled by dreadfully fast .	25	31
One slipper was nowhere to be found ; the other had been laid hold of by an urchin , and off he ran with it; he thought it would do capitally for a cradle when he some day or other should have children himself.	12	30
So the little maiden walked on with her tiny naked feet , that were quite red and blue from cold .	11	8
She carried a quantity of matches in an old apron , and she held a bundle of them in her hand .	8	12
Nobody had bought anything of her the whole livelong day ; no one had given her a single farthing .	6	12
She crept along trembling with cold and hunger- -a very picture of sorrow the poor little thing!	10	7
The flakes of snow covered her long fair hair ,	13	14

which fell in beautiful curls around her neck ; but of that, of course, she never once now thought .		
From all the windows the candles were gleaming , and it smelt so deliciously of roast goose , for you know it was New Year's Eve ; yes, of that she thought .	12	17
In a corner formed by two houses , of which one advanced more than the other, she seated herself down and covered together .	8	14
Her little feet she had drawn close up to her, but she grew colder and colder , and to go home she did not venture , for she had not sold any matches and could not bring a farthing of money : from her father she would certainly get blows , and at home it was cold too , for above her she had only the roof , through which the wind whistled , even though the largest cracks were stopped up with straw and rags .	32	47
Her little hands were almost numbed with cold .	5	3
Oh! a match might afford her a world of comfort , if she only dared take a single one out of the bundle , draw it against the wall , and warm her fingers by it.	13	20
She drew one out .	2	2
"Rischt!" how it blazed , how it burnt ! It was a warm, bright flame , like a candle , as she held her hands over it: it was a wonderful light .	10	18
It seemed really to the little maiden as though she were sitting before a large iron stove , with burnished brass feet and a brass ornament at top .	14	13
The fire burned with such blessed influence ; it warmed so delightfully .	6	5
The little girl had already stretched out her feet to warm them too ; but-the small flame went out , the stove vanished : she had only the remains of the burntout match in her hand .	18	15
She rubbed another against the wall : it burned brightly , and where the light fell on the wall , there the wall became transparent like a veil , so that she could see into the room .	14	19
On the table was spread a snow-white tablecloth ; upon it was a splendid porcelain service , and the roast goose was steaming	16	15

famously with its stuffing of apple and dried plums .		
And what was still more capital to behold was, the goose hopped down from the dish , reeled about on the floor with knife and fork in its breast , till it came up to the poor little girl ; when--the match went out and nothing but the thick, cold, damp wall was left behind.	24	29
She lighted another match .	2	2
Now there she was sitting under the most magnificent Christmas tree : it was still larger , and more decorated than the one which she had seen through the glass door in the rich merchant's house .	14	20
Thousands of lights were burning on the green branches , and gaily-colored pictures , such as she had seen in the shop-windows , looked down upon her.	13	13
The little maiden stretched out her hands towards them when--the match went out .	8	6
The lights of the Christmas tree rose higher and higher , she saw them now as stars in heaven ; one fell down and formed a long trail of fire .	16	12
"Someone is just dead !" said the little girl ; for her old grandmother , the only person who had loved her, and who was now no more, had told her, that when a star falls , a soul ascends to God .	16	22
She drew another match against the wall : it was again light , and in the lustre there stood the old grandmother , so bright and radiant , so mild , and with such an expression of love .	15	18
" Grandmother! " cried the little one .	3	2
"Oh, take me with you! You go away when the match burns out ; you vanish like the warm stove , like the delicious roast goose , and like the magnificent Christmas tree! "	15	15
And she rubbed the whole bundle of matches quickly against the wall , for she wanted to be quite sure of keeping her grandmother near her.	10	15
And the matches gave such a brilliant light that it was brighter than at noonday : never formerly had the grandmother been so beautiful and so tall .	11	15
She took the little maiden , on her arm , and both flew in brightness and in joy so high , so very	14	21

high , and then above was neither cold , nor hunger , nor anxiety --they were with God .		
But in the corner , at the cold hour of dawn , sat the poor girl , with rosy cheeks and with a smiling mouth , leaning against the wall--frozen to death on the last evening of the old year .	19	18
Stiff and stark sat the child there with her matches , of which one bundle had been burnt .	8	9
"She wanted to warm herself," people said .	4	3
No one had the slightest suspicion of what beautiful things she had seen ; no one even dreamed of the splendor in which, with her grandmother she had entered on the joys of a new year .	12	23
Total :	460	563

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{\text{Number of lexical items}}{\text{The total words}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{460}{1023} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = 44.9 \%$$

Based on the result above, *The Little Match Girl* has 44.9 % lexical density. Regarding to Ure's explanation, if number surpasses 40 %, it accounts for high lexical density. So, this short story has high lexical density.

2. Hearts and Hands

Sentences	Content Words	Function Words
At Denver there was an influx of passengers into the coaches on the eastbound B. & M. express .	9	9
In one coach there sat a very pretty young woman dressed in elegant taste and surrounded by all the luxurious comforts of an experienced traveler .	15	10

Among the newcomers were two young men , one of handsome presence with a bold, frank countenance and manner ; the other a ruffled, glum-faced person, heavily built and roughly dressed .	17	13
The two were handcuffed together .	2	3
As they passed down the aisle of the coach the only vacant seat offered was a reversed one facing the attractive young woman .	13	10
Here the linked couple seated themselves.	4	2
The young woman's glance fell upon them with a distant, swift disinterest ; then with a lovely smile brightening her countenance and a tender pink tingeing her rounded cheeks , she held out a little gray gloved hand .	22	14
When she spoke her voice, full, sweet, and deliberate, proclaimed that its owner was accustomed to speak and be heard .	10	10
"Well, Mr. Easton , if you will make me speak first, I suppose I must.	6	8
Don't you ever recognize old friends when you meet them in the West ?"	6	7
The younger man roused himself sharply at the sound of her voice, seemed to struggle with a slight embarrassment which he threw off instantly , and then clasped her fingers with his left hand .	17	16
"It's Miss Fairchild ," he said , with a smile .	4	4
"I'll ask you to excuse the other hand ; "it's otherwise engaged just at present ."	5	9
He slightly raised his right hand, bound at the wrist by the shining "bracelet" to the left one of his companion .	10	11
The glad look in the girl's eyes slowly changed to a bewildered horror .	8	5
The glow faded from her cheeks .	3	3
Her lips parted in a vague, relaxing distress .	5	3
Easton , with a little laugh , as if amused , was about to speak again when the other forestalled him.	7	11
The glum faced man had been watching the girl's countenance with veiled glances from his keen, shrewd eyes .	11	7
"You'll excuse me for speaking, miss , but, I see you're acquainted with the marshall here .	7	8

If you'll ask him to speak a word for me when we get to the pen he'll do it, and it'll make things easier for me there .	10	17
He's taking me to Leavenworth prison .	3	3
It's seven years for counterfeiting .	2	3
"Oh!" said the girl , with a deep breath and returning color .	6	5
"So that is what you are doing out here ? A marshal! "My dear Miss Fairchild, " said Easton, calmly, "I had to do something.	11	12
Money has a way of taking wings unto itself, and you know it takes money to keep step with our crowd in Washington .	11	12
I saw this opening in the West , and-- well, a marshalship isn't quite as high a position as that of ambassador , but--" "The ambassador, " said the girl, warmly, "doesn't call any more.	14	18
He needn't ever have done so.	3	3
You ought to know that.	1	4
And so now you are one of these dashing Western heroes , and you ride and shoot and go into all kinds of dangers .	9	14
That's different from the Washington life .	3	3
You have been missed from the old crowd ."	3	5
The girl's eyes , fascinated , went back , widening a little , to rest upon the glittering handcuffs .	10	5
"Don't you worry about them, miss, " said the other man .	4	6
"All marshals handcuff themselves to their prisoners to keep them from getting away .	6	7
Mr. Easton knows his business ."	4	1
"Will we see you again soon in Washington ?" asked the girl .	6	5
"Not soon, I think, " said Easton .	4	2
"My butterfly days are over , I fear ."	4	3
"I love the West, " said the girl irrelevantly	5	3
Her eyes were shining softly .	3	2
She looked away out the car window .	4	3
She began to speak truly and simply without the gloss of style and manner : "Mamma and I spent the summer in Denver .	11	11
She went home a week ago because father was slightly ill .	7	4
I could live and be happy in the West .	3	6
I think the air here agrees with me.	4	4

Money isn't everything, but people always misunderstand things and remain stupid-- "	7	4
" Say, Mr. Marshal, " growled the glum faced man.	7	1
"This isn't quite fair.	2	2
I'm needing a drink , and haven't had a smoke all day.	4	7
Haven't you talked long enough? Take me in the smoker now , won't you? I'm half dead for a pipe.	8	11
" The bound travelers rose to their feet, Easton with the same slow smile on his face.	9	7
"I can't deny a petition for tobacco, " he said, lightly.	5	5
"It's the one friend of the unfortunate.	2	5
Good bye, Miss Fairchild.	4	0
Duty calls, you know."	3	1
He held out his hand for a farewell.	4	4
"It's too bad you are not going East, " she said, reclothing herself with manner and style.	8	8
"But you must go on to Leavenworth, I suppose?" "Yes," said Easton, "I must go on to Leavenworth."	9	9
The two men sidled down the aisle into the smoker.	5	5
The two passengers in a seat near by had heard most of the conversation.	4	10
Said one of them: "That marshal's a good sort of chap.	5	6
Some of these Western fellows are all right."	3	5
" Pretty young to hold an office like that, isn't he?" asked the other.	5	8
" Young! " exclaimed the first speaker, "why--Oh! didn't you catch on? Say-- did you ever know an officer to handcuff a prisoner to his right hand? "	13	13
Total :	439	435

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{\text{Number of lexical items}}{\text{The total words}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{439}{874} \times 100$$

Lexical Density = 50.2 %

Based on the result above, *Hearts and Hands* has 50.2 % lexical density.

Regarding to Ure's explanation, if number surpasses 40 %, it accounts for high lexical density. So, this short story has high lexical density.

3. The Gift of The Magi

Sentences	Content Words	Function Words
One dollar and eighty-seven cents .	2	4
That was all.	0	0
And sixty cents of it was in pennies .	2	6
Pennies saved one and two at a time by bulldozing the grocer and the vegetable man and the butcher until one's cheeks burned with the silent imputation of parsimony that such close dealing implied.	16	18
Three times Della counted it.	3	2
One dollar and eighty-seven cents .	2	4
And the next day would be Christmas .	2	5
There was clearly nothing left to do but flop down on the shabby little couch and howl .	9	8
So Della did it.	2	2
Which instigates the moral reflection that life is made up of sobs , sniffles , and smiles , with sniffles predominating .	11	7
While the mistress of the home is gradually subsiding from the first stage to the second, take a look at the home .	8	14
A furnished flat at \$8 per week .	3	4
It did not exactly beggar description , but it certainly had that word on the lookout for the mendicancy squad .	8	12
In the vestibule below was a letter-box into which no letter would go , and an electric button from which no mortal finger could coax a ring .	11	16
Also appertaining thereunto was a card bearing the name " Mr. James Dillingham Young ."	9	4
The " Dillingham " had been flung to the breeze during a former period of prosperity when its possessor was being paid \$30 per week .	9	14

Now, when the income was shrunk to \$20, the letters of " Dillingham " looked blurred , as though they were thinking seriously of contracting to a modest and unassuming D .	13	15
But whenever Mr. James Dillingham Young came home and reached his flat above he was called " Jim " and greatly hugged by Mrs. James Dillingham Young , already introduced to you as Della .	18	13
Which is all very good .	2	3
Della finished her cry and attended to her cheeks with the powder rag .	7	6
She stood by the window and looked out dully at a grey cat walking a grey fence in a grey backyard .	12	9
Tomorrow would be Christmas Day , and she had only \$1.87 with which to buy Jim a present .	7	10
She had been saving every penny she could for months , with this result .	4	9
Twenty dollars a week doesn't go far .	4	3
Expenses had been greater than she had calculated .	3	5
They always are.	1	2
Only \$1.87 to buy a present for Jim .	4	4
Her Jim .	1	1
Many a happy hour she had spent planning for something nice for him.	4	8
Something fine and rare and sterling - something just a little bit near to being worthy of the honour of being owned by Jim .	9	14
There was a pier-glass between the windows of the room .	4	7
Perhaps you have seen a pier-glass in an \$8 Bat .	4	7
A very thin and very agile person may, by observing his reflection in a rapid sequence of longitudinal strips , obtain a fairly accurate conception of his looks .	16	11
Della , being slender , had mastered the art .	4	3
Suddenly she whirled from the window and stood before the glass .	5	6
Her eyes were shining brilliantly , but her face had lost its colour within twenty seconds .	7	8
Rapidly she pulled down her hair and let it fall to its full length .	8	6
Now , there were two possessions of the James	9	9

Dillingham Youngs in which they both took a mighty pride.		
One was Jim's gold watch that had been his father's and his grandfather's .	5	8
The other was Della's hair	2	3
Had the Queen of Sheba lived in the flat across the airshaft , Della would have let her hair hang out of the window some day to dry just to depreciate her Majesty's jewels and gifts .	18	17
Had King Solomon been the janitor , with all his treasures piled up in the basement , Jim would have pulled out his watch every time he passed , just to see him pluck at his beard from envy .	18	18
So now Della's beautiful hair fell about her, rippling and shining like a cascade of brown waters .	9	6
It reached below her knee and made itself almost a garment for her.	5	8
And then she did it up again nervously and quickly .	5	5
Once she faltered for a minute and stood still while a tear or two splashed on the worn red carpet .	8	12
On went her old brown jacket ; on went her old brown hat .	8	4
With a whirl of skirts and with the brilliant sparkle still in her eyes , she clattered out of the door and down the stairs to the street .	11	16
Where she stopped the sign read: 'Mme Sofronie. Hair Goods of All Kinds .'	7	6
One Eight up Della ran, and collected herself, panting .	4	5
Madame , large, too white, chilly, hardly looked the ' Sofronie .'	8	1
"Will you buy my hair ?" asked Della .	4	3
"I buy hair ," said Madame .	4	1
" Take yer hat off and let's have a sight at the looks of it."	6	8
Down rippled the brown cascade .	3	2
"Twenty dollars ," said Madame , lifting the mass with a practised hand.	7	4
" Give it to me quick " said Della .	4	3
Oh, and the next two hours tripped by on rosy wings .	4	7
Forget the hashed metaphor.	3	1

She was ransacking the stores for Jim's present .	4	4
She found it at last .	2	3
It surely had been made for Jim and no one else .	4	6
There was no other like it in any of the stores , and she had turned all of them inside out.	3	17
It was a platinum fob chain simple and chaste in design , properly proclaiming its value by substance alone and not by meretricious ornamentation - as all good things should do .	16	13
It was even worthy of The Watch .	2	5
As soon as she saw it she knew that it must be Jim's .	4	9
It was like him.	0	0
Quietness and value - the description applied to both.	4	4
Twenty-one dollars they took from her for it, and she hurried home with the 78 cents.	5	12
With that chain on his watch Jim might be properly anxious about the time in any company .	7	10
Grand as the watch was, he sometimes looked at it on the sly on account of the old leather strap that he used in place of a chain .	12	16
When Della reached home her intoxication gave way a little to prudence and reason .	9	5
She got out her curling irons and lighted the gas and went to work repairing the ravages made by generosity added to love .	14	9
Which is always a tremendous task dear friends - a mammoth task .	7	4
Within forty minutes her head was covered with tiny, close-lying curls that made her look wonderfully like a truant schoolboy .	12	9
She looked at her reflection in the mirror long, carefully , and critically .	6	6
"If Jim doesn't kill me," she said to herself, "before he takes a second look at me, he'll say I look like a Coney Island chorus girl . But what could I do - oh! what could I do with a dollar and eighty-seven cents ?"	15	29
At 7 o'clock the coffee was made and the frying-pan was on the back of the stove hot and ready to cook the chops .	11	14
Jim was never late .	3	1
Della doubled the fob chain in her hand and sat	11	12

on the corner of the table near the door that he always entered .		
Then she heard his step on the stair away down on the first flight , and she turned white for just a moment .	8	14
She had a habit of saying little silent prayers about the simplest everyday things , and now she whispered : "Please, God, make him think I am still pretty ."	15	12
The door opened and Jim stepped in and closed it.	5	5
He looked thin and very serious .	4	2
Poor fellow , he was only twenty-two - and to be burdened with a family ! He needed a new overcoat and he was with out gloves .	9	15
Jim stepped inside the door , as immovable as a setter at the scent of quail .	7	8
His eyes were fixed upon Della , and there was an expression in them that she could not read , and it terrified her.	6	16
It was not anger , nor surprise , nor disapproval , nor horror , nor any of the sentiments that she had been prepared for.	6	15
He simply stared at her fixedly with that peculiar expression on his face .	6	7
Della wriggled off the table and went for him.	5	4
" Jim, darling ," she cried , "don't look at me that way . I had my hair cut off and sold it because I couldn't have lived through Christmas without giving you a present ."	13	18
It'll grow out again - you won't mind , will you? I just had to do it.	6	9
My hair grows awfully fast.	4	1
Say 'Merry Christmas!' Jim , and let's be happy .	6	2
You don't know what a nice-what a beautiful, nice gift I've got for you."	6	9
"You've cut off your hair ?" asked Jim , laboriously , as if he had not arrived at that patent fact yet, even after the hardest mental labour .	12	13
" Cut it off and sold it," said Della .	5	3
"Don't you like me just as well , anyhow? I'm me without my hair , ain't I?" Jim looked about the room curiously .	7	14

"You say your hair is gone ?" he said, with an air almost of idiocy .	7	7
"You needn't look for it," said Della.	4	3
"It's sold , I tell you - sold and gone , too.	5	4
It's Christmas Eve , boy.	3	1
Be good to me, for it went for you.	2	7
Maybe the hairs of my head were numbered ," she went on with a sudden serious sweetness , "but nobody could ever count my love for you.	11	14
Shall I put the chops on , Jim?"	4	3
Out of his trance Jim seemed quickly to wake .	5	4
He enfolded his Della.	2	2
For ten seconds let us regard with discreet scrutiny some inconsequential object in the other direction .	8	8
Eight dollars a week or a million a year - what is the difference ? A mathematician or a wit would give you the wrong answer .	10	14
The magi brought valuable gifts , but that was not among them.	4	7
This dark assertion will be illuminated later on.	4	4
Jim drew a package from his overcoat pocket and threw it upon the table .	7	7
"Don't make any mistake , Dell," he said.	4	3
"About me. I don't think there's anything in the way of a haircut or a shave or a shampoo that could make me like my girl any less.	8	21
But if you'll unwrap that package you may see why you had me going a while at first.	4	14
" White fingers and nimble tore at the string and paper .	6	4
And then an ecstatic scream of joy ; and then, alas! a quick feminine change to hysterical tears and wails , necessitating the immediate employment of all the comforting powers of the lord of the flat .	16	18
For there lay The Combs - the set of combs , side and back , that Della had worshipped for long in a Broadway window .	12	10
Beautiful combs , pure tortoise-shell , with jewelled rims - just the shade to wear in the beautiful vanished hair .	13	5
They were expensive combs , she knew , and her heart had simply craved and yearned over them without the least hope of possession .	9	13

And now , they were hers, but the tresses that should have adorned the coveted adornments were gone .	6	11
But she hugged them to her bosom , and at length she was able to look up with dim eyes and a smile and say : "My hair grows so fast, Jim! " And then Della leaped up like a little singed cat and cried , "Oh, oh!"	20	24
Jim had not yet seen his beautiful present .	4	4
She held it out to him eagerly upon her open palm .	5	6
The dull precious metal seemed to lash with a reflection of her bright and ardent spirit .	9	7
"Isn't it a dandy, Jim? I hunted all over town to find it.	5	8
You'll have to look at the time a hundred times a day now .	6	7
Give me your watch . I want to see how it looks on it."	5	8
Instead of obeying , Jim tumbled down on the couch and put his hands under the back of his head and smiled .	11	10
" Dell, " said he, " let's put our Christmas presents away and keep 'em a while.	8	6
They're too nice to use just as present .	5	3
I sold the watch to get the money to buy your combs .	6	6
And now suppose you put the chops on."	4	4
The magi , as you know , were wise men - wonderfully wise men - who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger .	11	9
They invented the art of giving Christmas presents .	5	3
Being wise , their gifts were no doubt wise ones, possibly bearing the privilege of exchange in case of duplication .	10	9
And here I have lamely related to you the uneventful chronicle of two foolish children in a flat who most unwisely sacrificed for each other the greatest treasures of their house .	13	18
But in a last word to the wise of these days let it be said that of all who give gifts these two were the wisest .	9	17
Of all who give and receive gifts , such as they are wisest .	4	8

Everywhere they are wisest.	2	2
They are the magi .	1	3
Total :	964	1118

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{\text{Number of lexical items}}{\text{The total words}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{964}{2082} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = 46.3 \%$$

Based on the result above, *The Gift of the Magi* has 46.3 % lexical density.

Regarding to Ure's explanation, if number surpasses 40 %, it accounts for high lexical density. So, this short story has high lexical density.

4. What You Want

Sentences	Content Words	Function Words
Night had fallen on that great and beautiful city known as Bagdad-on-the Subway.	8	7
And with the night came the enchanted glamour that belongs not to Arabia alone .	6	8
In different masquerade the streets, bazaars and walled houses of the occidental city of romance were filled with the same kind of folk that so much interested our interesting old friend, the late Mr. H. A. Rashid .	22	15
They wore clothes eleven hundred years nearer to the latest styles than H. A. saw in old Bagdad; but they were about the same people underneath .	14	12
With the eye of faith, you could have seen the Little Hunchback, Sinbad the Sailor, Fitbad the Tailor, the Beautiful Persian, the one-eyed Calenders, Ali Baba and Forty Robbers on every block, and the Barber and his Six Brothers, and all the old Arabian gang easily .	23	24
But let us revenue to our lamb chops .	4	4
Old Tom Crowley was a caliph .	4	2
He had \$42,000,000 in preferred stocks and	7	5

bonds with solid gold edges.		
In these times , to be called a caliph you must have money .	5	7
The old-style caliph business as conducted by Mr. Rashid is not safe .	8	5
If you hold up a person nowadays in a bazaar or a Turkish bath or a side street , and inquire into his private and personal affairs , the police court'll get you .	16	15
Old Tom was tired of clubs, theatres, dinners, friends, music, money and everything.	9	4
That's what makes a caliph - you must get to despise everything that money can buy , and then go out and try to want something that you can't pay for.	11	18
"I'll take a little trot around town all by myself," thought old Tom , "and try if I can stir up anything new ."	11	11
Let's see - it seems I've read about a king or a Cardiff giant or something in old times who used to go about with false whiskers on, making Persian dates with folks he hadn't been introduced to.	18	19
That don't listen like a bad idea .	3	4
I certainly have got a case of humdrumness and fatigue on for the ones I do know .	6	11
That old Cardiff used to pick up cases of trouble as he ran upon 'em and give 'em gold - sequins , I think it was - and make 'em marry or got 'em good Government jobs .	17	16
Now , I'd like something of that sort .	3	4
My money is as good as his was even if the magazines do ask me every month where I got it.	6	15
Yes, I guess I'll do a little Cardiff business to- night , and see how it goes ."	8	8
Plainly dressed , old Tom Crowley left his Madison Avenue palace , and walked westward and then south .	12	4
As he stepped to the sidewalk , Fate , who holds the ends of the strings in the central offices of all the enchanted cities pulled a thread , and a young man twenty blocks away looked at a wall clock , and then put on his coat .	23	21
James Turner worked in one of those little hat-cleaning establishments on Sixth Avenue in	18	19

which a fire alarms rings when you push the door open , and where they clean your hat while you wait - two days .		
James stood all day at an electric machine that turned hats around faster than the best brands of champagne ever could have done .	13	10
Overlooking your mild impertinence in feeling a curiosity about the personal appearance of a stranger , I will give you a modified description of him.	11	13
Weight , 118; complexion , hair and brain , light ; height , five feet six; age , about twenty-three; dressed in a \$10 suit of greenish-blue serge ; pockets containing two keys and sixty-three cents in change .	18	16
But do not misconjecture because this description sounds like a General Alarm that James was either lost or a dead one.	8	13
<i>Allons!</i> . James stood all day at his work .	3	4
His feet were tender and extremely susceptible to impositions being put upon or below them.	6	9
All day long they burned and smarted , causing him much suffering and inconvenience .	7	6
But he was earning twelve dollars per week , which he needed to support his feet whether his feet would support him or not.	8	15
James Turner had his own conception of what happiness was, just as you and I have ours.	8	9
Your delight is to gad about the world in yachts and motor-cars and to hurl ducats at wild fowl .	10	10
Mine is to smoke a pipe at evenfall and watch a badger , a rattlesnake , and an owl go into their common prairie home one by one.	11	15
James Turner's idea of bliss was different ; but it was his.	5	6
He would go directly to his boarding-house when his day's work was done .	7	7
After his supper of small steak , Bessemer potatoes , stooed (not stewed) apples and infusion of chicory , he would ascend to his fifth-floor-back hall room .	15	11
Then he would take off his shoes and socks , place the soles of his burning feet against the cold bars of his iron bed , and read Clark Russell's sea yarns .	17	13

The delicious relief of the cool metal applied to his smarting soles was his nightly joy .	9	7
His favorite novels never palled upon him; the sea and the adventures of its navigators were his sole intellectual passion .	10	10
No millionaire was ever happier than James Turner taking his ease .	7	4
When James left the hat-cleaning shop he walked three blocks out of his way home to look over the goods of a second-hand bookstall .	14	12
On the sidewalk stands he had more than once picked up a paper-covered volume of Clark Russell at half price.	10	11
While he was bending with a scholarly stoop over the marked-down miscellany of cast-off literature , old Tom the caliph sauntered by.	13	10
His discerning eye , made keen by twenty years' experience in the manufacture of laundry soap (save the wrappers!) recognized instantly the poor and discerning scholar , a worthy object of his caliphanous mood .	20	12
He descended the two shallow stone steps that led from the sidewalk , and addressed without hesitation the object of his designed munificence .	11	10
His first words were no worse than salutatory and tentative .	4	6
James Turner looked up coldly , with " Sartor Resartus " in one hand and " A Mad Marriage " in the other.	10	8
" Beat it ," said he.	2	2
"I don't want to buy any coat hangers or town lots in Hankipoo, New Jersey ."	8	7
Run along, now , and play with your Teddy bear ."	5	4
" Young man ," said the caliph , ignoring the flippancy of the hat cleaner , " I observe that you are of a studious disposition ."	11	10
Learning is one of the finest things in the world .	4	6
I never had any of it worth mentioning , but I admire to see it in others.	6	10
I come from the West , where we imagine nothing but facts .	4	7
Maybe I couldn't understand the poetry and allusions in them books you are picking over , but	12	16

I like to see somebody else seem to know what they mean .		
I'm worth about \$40,000,000, and I'm getting richer everyday .	5	4
I made the height of it manufacturing Aunt Patty's Silver Soap .	7	4
I invented the art of making it.	3	4
I experimented for three years before I got just the right quantity of chloride of sodium solution and caustic potash mixture to curdle properly .	14	10
And after I had taken some \$9,000,000 out of the soap business I made the rest in corn and wheat futures .	8	13
Now , you seem to have the literary and scholarly turn of character ; and I'll tell you what I'll do .	9	10
I'll pay for your education at the finest college in the world .	5	7
I'll pay the expense of your rummaging over Europe and the art galleries , and finally set you up in a good business .	11	11
You needn't make it soap if you have any objections .	5	5
I see by your clothes and frazzled necktie that you are mighty poor ; and you can't afford to turn down the offer .	10	12
Well , when do you want to begin ?"	3	4
The hat cleaner turned upon old Tom the eye of the Big City , which is an eye expressive of cold and justifiable suspicion , of judgment suspended as high as Haman was hung , of self-preservation , of challenge , curiosity , defiance , cynicism , and, strange as you may think it, of a childlike yearning for friendliness and fellowship that must be hidden when one walks among the " stranger bands ."	34	32
For in New Bagdad one, in order to survive , must suspect whosoever sits , dwells , drinks , rides , walks or sleeps in the adjacent chair , house , booth , seat , path or room .	17	12
" Say, Mike ," said James Turner , "what's your line , anyway - shoe laces ? I'm not buying anything."	9	6
You better put an egg in your shoe and beat it before incidents occur to you.	7	9

You can't work off any fountain pens, gold spectacles you found on the street , or trust company certificate house clearings on me.	13	9
Say , do I look like I'd climbed down one of them missing fire-escapes at Helicon Hall ? What's vitiating you, anyhow?"	10	11
" Son ," said the caliph , in his most Harunish tones , "as I said , I'm worth \$40,000,000.	7	8
I don't want to have it all put in my coffin when I die .	5	9
I want to do some good with it.	3	5
I seen you handling over these here volumes of literature , and I thought I'd keep you.	7	9
I've give the missionary societies \$2,000,000, but what did I get out of it? Nothing but a receipt from the secretary .	7	14
Now , you are just the kind of young man I'd like to take up and see what money could make of him."	11	11
Volumes of Clark Russell were hard to find that evening at the Old Book Shop .	9	6
And James Turner's smarting and aching feet did not tend to improve his temper .	8	6
Humble hat cleaner though he was, he had a spirit equal to any caliph's .	8	6
" Say , you old faker ," he said , angrily , "be on your way ."	6	5
I don't know what your game is, unless you want change for a bogus \$40,000,000 bill .	6	10
Well , I don't carry that much around with me.	2	7
But I do carry a pretty fair left-handed punch that you'll get if you don't move on ."	9	9
"You are a blamed impudent little gutter pup ," said the caliph .	7	4
Then James delivered his self-praised punch ; old Tom seized him by the collar and kicked him thrice ; the hat cleaner rallied and clinched ; two bookstands were overturned , and the books sent flying .	20	13
A copy came up , took an arm of each, and marched them to the nearest station house .	8	9
" Fighting and disorderly conduct ," said the cop to the sergeant .	6	4
"Three hundred dollars bail ," said the sergeant at once, asseveratingly and inquiringly .	7	5

"Sixty-three cents," said James Turner with a harsh laugh.	6	4
The caliph searched his pockets and collected small bills and change amounting to four dollars.	9	6
"I am worth," he said, "forty million dollars, but."	4	5
"Lock 'em up," ordered the sergeant.	4	2
In his cell, James Turner laid himself on his cot, ruminating.	6	5
"Maybe he's got the money, and maybe he ain't.	4	5
But if he has or he ain't, what does he want to go 'round butting into other folks's business for? When a man knows what he wants, and can get it, it's the same as \$40,000,000 to him."	10	29
Then an idea came to him that brought a pleased look to his face.	6	8
He removed his socks, drew his cot close to the door, stretched himself out luxuriously, and placed his tortured feet against the cold bars of the cell door.	16	12
Something hard and bulky under the blankets of his cot gave one shoulder discomfort.	7	7
He reached under, and drew out a paper-covered volume by Clark Russell called "A Sailor's Sweetheart."	11	6
He gave a great sigh of contentment.	4	3
Presently, to his cell came the doorman and said: "Say, kid, that old gazabo that was pinched with you for scrapping seems to have been the goods after all.	13	16
He 'phoned to his friends, and he's out at the desk now with a roll of yellowbacks as big as a Pullman car pillow.	10	14
He wants to bail you, and for you to come out and see him.	5	9
"Tell him I ain't in," said James Turner.	4	4
Total :	994	1005

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{\text{Number of lexical items}}{\text{The total words}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = \frac{994}{1999} \times 100$$

$$\text{Lexical Density} = 49.7 \%$$

Based on the result above, *What you Want* has 49.7 % lexical density. Regarding to Ure's explanation, if number surpasses 40 %, it accounts for high lexical density. So, this short story has high lexical density.

Table 4.2

The Percentage of Lexical Density in Short Stories

No.	Title of Short Stories	Content Words	Function Words	Total words	Lexical Density
1	The Little Match Girl	460	563	1023	44.9 %
2	Hearts and Hands	439	435	874	50.2 %
3	The Gift of the Magi	964	1118	2082	46.3 %
4	What you Want	994	1005	1999	49.7 %

C. Research Findings

After analyzing all of the data, there were some findings that explained below:

1. *The Little Match Girl* has 44.9 %, *Hearts and Hands* has 50.2 %, *The Gift of the Magi* has 46.3 %, and *What you Want* has 49.7 %. Four short stories written by O. Henry have high lexical density because it surpasses forty per

cent. According to Ure, if the number of lexical density surpasses forty per cent, it accounts for higher lexical density.

2. The lowest lexical density was found in short story entitled *The Little Match Girl*. It has 44.9 %. It has low lexical density because the text has more grammatical items than lexical item

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusions

Based on the research findings, it was obtained some conclusions as follows:

1. The researcher found that the lexical density of four short stories written by O. Henry have high lexical density, it is because each of short stories have more than forty per cent lexical density. According to Ure, if the number of lexical density surpasses forty per cent, it accounts for higher lexical density. *The Little Match Girl* has 44.9 %, *Hearts and Hands* has 50.2 %, *The Gift of the Magi* has 46.3 %, and *What you Want* has 49.7 %.
2. The lowest lexical density of short stories written by O. Henry is *The Little Match Girl*. It has 44.9%. The lowest lexical density means less of information within the text. So, it is difficult to understand.

B. Suggestions

Based on the conclusions above, there are some suggestions which can be used as consideration:

1. For the authors, they should consider how the lexical density of the short story should be made for the readers. They can use this study to present short story with balance composition between lexical items or content words and grammatical items or function words. Because the easy text was formed with

more lexical items than grammatical items while a difficult text is formed with more grammatical items than lexical items.

2. For the readers, they can choose the appropriate short story based on the complexity of lexical density. It can help them to decide the easiest short story when they want to read.

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