ANALYSIS OF THE FORM AND THEMES OF READING OUESTIONS IN DELF A1

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Abstract

This research related to the analysis of questions offered by various French language learning websites has not been widely conducted. This research examines the form and themes of questions from reading comprehension (*Compréhension Écrite*) tests in DELF A1, published on the Learn French and DELF website. There are 6 sets of questions with a total of 84 questions. The aim of this analysis is to describe the forms and themes used in DELF A1, particularly in reading comprehension. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative, and the data collection technique is documentation. The analysis results show that there are 43 multiple-choice questions, 36 short answer or essay questions, and 5 simple map drawing questions. The themes used in the test are everyday life. There are 8 advertisement texts, 5 email texts, 4 invitation texts, 3 announcement texts, 1 postcard, newspaper, and magazine text, and one congratulatory card.

Keywords: DELF A1, question forms, reading themes

Introduction

In many countries, including Indonesia, French language education has become an important part of the school curriculum. One of the main goals of it education is to improve students's ability to communicate well in French. Using appropriate and effective learning materials is one way to achieve this goal. One online learning resource that teaches French and offers practice questions to help students learn better is on this website: https://learnfrenchdelf.com/delf-a1-exam-sample-papers/.

Previous studies related to the analysis of French language questions include Sabe (2018) on the analysis of French practice website questions on the www.francaisfacile.com at the A1 level, and Lestari (2019) on the analysis of final semester exam questions in French at SMA Negeri 3 Magelang for the 2017/2018 academic year using classical measurement theory. Hakiki & Widayanti (2024) analyzed the content and form of questions on the Apprendre TV5.com DELF Research related to the analysis of questions offered by various French language learning websites has not been widely conducted. The similarity between this research and the two studies above is the analysis of question forms, but the difference is the website and the object of the study.

This article will analyze the form and themes questions DELF **A**1 found https://learnfrenchdelf.com/delf-a1-examsample-papers/. The aim of this analysis is to describe the forms and themes used in DELF A1, especially in reading comprehension. Thus, this analysis will be useful for teachers learners preparing to familiarize themselves with the test forms and themes that will be tested in the international French language test DELF A1.

The DELF (*Diplôme d'Étude en Language Française*) test is an internationally recognized French language proficiency test issued by the French Ministry of Education. This test has four parts, each testing the ability to listen, read, write, and speak in French. The duration of the DELF test varies depending on the level, ranging from DELF A1, which measures basic ability to use very simple everyday expressions, to DELF B2, which tests upper-intermediate ability.

According to Conseil de l'Europe (2006, p. 24), "Cadre européen commun de référence

por les langues (CECRL)" foreign language skills consist of 6 levels: A1 (débutant), A2 (élementaire), B1 (intérmediaire), (avance), C1 (autonome), C2 (maîtrise). The A1 level (débutant) or (introductif ou découverte) is the simplest or beginner level, for example, introducing oneself, exchanging greetings, or identifying objects around. The DELF A1 level is the basic proficiency level and focuses on basic language skills such as understanding simple messages, basic grammar, and simple pronunciation.

Materials included in the DELF A1 reading comprehension (Compréhension Écrite) for learners consist of advertisement texts, posters, announcements, news articles, and short letters such as emails themed on everyday life. As mentioned in (Conseil de 1'Europe 2006, p. 168), "... Les personnes de ce niveau comprennent des phrases très simples quu ce soit sur des affiches des notices oou dans des revues". That the DELF A1 learner materials are simple sentences like those found advertisements, in announcements, articles in newspapers or magazines, catalogs, or short and simple letters themed on everyday life, usually accompanied by images or other paratexts.

Learners are expected to understand and use familiar everyday expressions and ask simple questions that contain self-introductions or introductions of others, ask questions about the person such as where they live, their relationships, what they have, and can answer similar types of questions, so learners can communicate well.

Materials are closely related to DELF A1 themes that equip learners to meet basic needs in French-speaking countries to measure reading competence, the test forms used are quite diverse. As stated by Nurgiyantoro, there are several effective language test forms for assessing students' language abilities, namely (1) vocabulary tests that assess students' ability to use appropriate vocabulary in context, and (2) structure tests that assess students' ability to

use grammatical and acceptable sentence structures for native speakers.

Methodology

This research focuses on analyzing DELF A1 reading comprehension (*Compréhension Érite*) sample questions on the Learn French & DELF Exam website (https://learnfrenchdelf.com/delf-a1-exam-sample-papers/). The analyzed questions consist of 6 sets with a total of 84 questions.

The data collection technique used in the research is documentation by recording and documenting DELF A1 questions. The collected data is then analyzed using a descriptive qualitative method because the analysis results are presented qualitatively, i.e., described in words (Moelong 2010). The data is triangulated with the theory used (Sugiono 2015). Based on the desired answer forms, the tests are divided into 3 parts: oral tests, action tests, and written tests (Sudjana 2013, p. 35). Oral tests are a series of questions that must be answered orally by students. Action tests require answers in the form of actions in performing work simulations by students. Meanwhile, written tests are answered by writing the answers.

According to (Arikunto 2016, p. 177), written tests in terms of question forms are divided into two, namely subjective tests and objective tests.

a. Subjective Tests

Subjective tests are generally in the form of essays. Essay tests require students to elaborate on their answers themselves. Usually, the questions from subjective tests are words like "explain", "describe", "why", "how", "compare", and so on.

b. Objective Tests

Objective tests are those whose assessment is conducted objectively. They aim to overcome the shortcomings of essay test results. Objective tests are divided into several types, including (1) true-false tests, (2)

multiple-choice tests, (3) matching tests, and (4) completion tests.

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a. Subjective tests

Subjetive tests are generally essay tests. The answers to questions in subjective test forms are answered by explaining in detail, giving reasons, comparing using one's own words. Essay tests are divided into three types:

- 1. Free essay
- 2. Limited essay
- 3. Structured essay

b. Objective tests

Objective tests are those whose answers are definite, so there is only one possible correct answer. Objective tests are divided into several forms:

- 1. Short answer (completion)
- 2. True-false
- 3. Matching
- 4. Multiple-choice

Finding and Discussion

The themes discussed in the DELF A1 exam according to their frequency of appearance are advertisements such as rental or job advertisements, followed by emails about daily activities or upcoming activities, magazine and newspaper texts only appear once in sets 2 and 6. Invitation texts are mostly birthday party invitations, with only 1 parent invitation. Postcard texts appear only once.

Table 1. Reading Competence Themes in DELF A1 Tests

| Topic | Set | | | | | Total | |
|---------------|-----|---|---|---|---|-------|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| Invitation | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Email | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Advertisement | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| Greeting Card | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| News Paper | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Magazine | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

| Announcement | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Notice | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

The analysis of question forms in 6 DELF A1 test sets shows that most question forms are multiple-choice. There are 43 multiplechoice questions out of 84 questions, 36 short answer or essay questions, and 5 simple map drawing questions.

Table 2. Reading Question Forms in DELF A1 Tests

| Question | Set | | | | | | Total |
|--------------|-----|---|----|---|---|---|-------|
| Form | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | Total |
| Multiple | 9 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 43 |
| Choice | | | | | | | |
| Short | 4 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 36 |
| answer | | | | | | | |
| Determine | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| the location | | | | | | | |
| plan | | | | | | | |

From the explanation above, the form and theme of the questions can be analyzed as follows: (1) Analysis of question forms, in the DELF A1 questions, there are 9 multiplechoice questions in set 1 and 4 short answer questions, so the total number of questions in set 1 for the reading skills test is 13 questions.

- 1. Cette lettre est une invitation à : un anniversaire un barbecue.
- 2. Où a lieu la fête ?
 - Au restaurant.
 - Dans une salle des fêtes. Chez Daniel.
- 3. La fête est le :
 - le 14 juillet.
 - le 7 novembre. le 15 octobre.

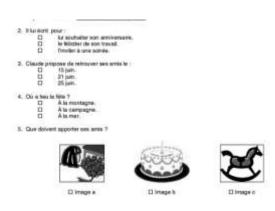
Picture. 1 Example of multiple-choice questions set 1

1. À quel numéro téléphonez-vous ? _

2. Quel est le prix d'un mois de location ? _

Picture. 2 Example of short-answer questions set 1

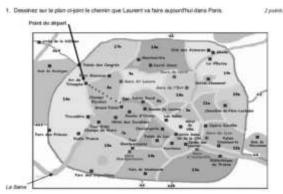
In set 2, there are 5 multiple-choice questions, 7 short answer questions, and 1 simple map drawing question, so the total number of questions in set 2 is 13 questions.



Picture. 3 Example of multiple-choice questions set 2

| Le jeu : « Guestions pour un champion. Spéciale Célébriés. » | Date : | DITE | Cochez is che | D Frence 3 |
|---|-------------------------|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| La série - Clara Sheller- | Houre: | - arri | Cochez la che El France 2 | ilte : Cl Prance 3 |
| Quel jour a law filmission de spoit. | au 791.7 | 7.1 | | 7.pu |
| Convert s'appelle le magazine pr | descript rate Pleasures | Personal 1 | | 7,00 |

Picture. 4 Example of short-answer questions set 2.



Picture. 5

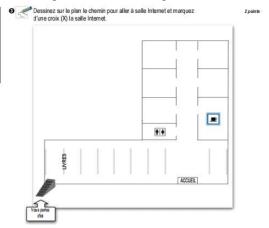
Example of questions describing a short map. There are 9 multiple-choice questions in set 3, 10 short answer questions, and 1 map drawing question, so the total number of comprehension questions in set 3 is 20 questions.



Picture. 6 Example of multiple-choice questions set 3.



Picture. 7 Example of short-answer questions set 3.



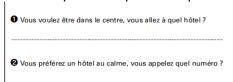
Picture. 8

Example of questions describing a short map set 3. In set 4, there are 7 multiple-choice questions, 5 short answer questions, and 1 simple map drawing question, so the total number of questions in set 4 is 13 questions.

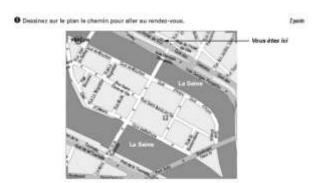


2 Cette carte, c'est pour :

Picture. 9
Example of multiple-choice questions set 4

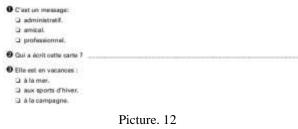


Picture. 10 Example of short-answer questions set 4.



Picture. 11

Example of questions describing a short map set 4. In set 5, there are 7 multiple-choice questions, 5 short answer questions, and 1 simple map drawing question, so the total number of questions in set 5 is 13 questions.



Picture. 12 Example of multiple-choice and short-answer questions set 5.



Picture. 13

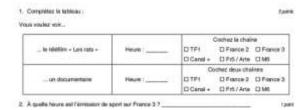
Example questions illustrate a brief map of set 5. There are 6 multiple-choice questions in set 6, 5 short answer questions, and 1 simple map drawing question, so the total number of questions in set 6 is 12 questions.

2. C'est:

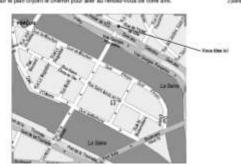
un message administratif.
un message amical.
on ne sait pas.

3. Pourquoi est-ce qu'elle a écrit cette carte?
Pour accepter une invitation.
Pour inviter une amie.
Pour remercier son amie.

Picture. 14 Multiple-choice example questions from set 6.



Picture. 15 Short-answer example questions from set 6

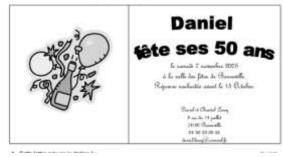


Picture. 16 Example questions depict a simple map of set 6.

(2) Analysis of the themes in the DELF A1 exam, in each set of questions there is the same theme which is daily life. In set 1 there are 2 texts, a birthday invitation and a parent's invitation to students, as well as 2 short advertisement texts.



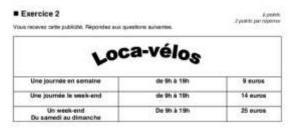
Picture. 17 Text invitation for parents of students.



Picture. 18 Text of birthday invitation.



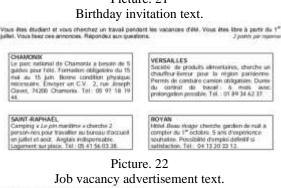
Picture. 19 Apartment rental advertisement text.



Picture. 20 Bicycle rental advertisement text. The second set includes an invitation text, an email, a magazine, and an advertisement.



Picture. 21



Lisez de message et répondez aux questions suivantes Seletanne Chi Your fitnesses upo a te consella pour victor as monorant, la Pour aux arthu-Arc de Triomphe -> Trocadêro -> Tour Elffel -> Grand Palais -> Palais Royal -> Musée du Louvre Comme convent, on se netrouve to poir vers, 16 h 00 pour aller au restaurent, Je connet un endrostites syntoe - On se dome nerdeb vous devient l'armée principale de Masse de Lucine ? qui le ver? Je to guita pour aller travailler. Bonne visite. A ce sen Zann (5-7)

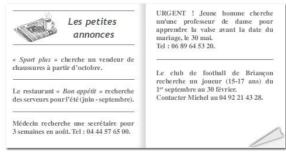
Picture. 23 Email text regarding upcoming activities.



Picture. 24 Text on magazine.

In set 3, there are advertisement texts, announcements, job vacancy advertisements, and emails.

Vous êtes en France. Vous cherchez du travail. Vous lisez ces annonces dans le journal.



Picture. 25 Job vacancy advertisement text. Vous êtes en France, dans une bibliothèque. Vous lisez le panneau suivant.



Picture. 26 Announcement text in the library.



Picture. 27 Job vacancy advertisement.



Picture. 28 Email about things to do in Paris.

In set 4, there are birthday greetings, advertisements, emails, and announcement texts

Vous venez de recevoir cette carte. Répondez aux questions suivantes.

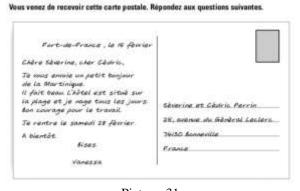


Picture. 29 Birthday greeting card.

HORAIRES DU CABINET DOCTEUR LEGRAND Médecin généraliste Consultations le matin de 9 h à 12 h L'après-midi sur rendez-vous Du lundi au samedi Fermé le mercredi Tél. 03.42.33.45.00

Picture. 30

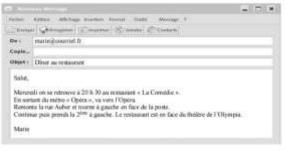
Doctor schedule announcement text. In set 5, there are postcards, advertisements, emails, and advertisements.



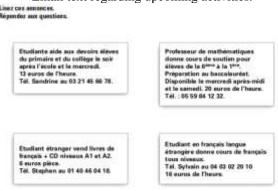
Picture. 31 Text in the form of a postcard.



Picture. 32 Advertisement text for house rental.



Picture. 33
Email text regarding upcoming activities.



Picture. 34
Advertisement text about job vacancies.
In set 6, there are invitation texts, advertisements, emails, and newspapers.



Picture. 35



Picture. 36 Advertisement text for house rental.



Picture. 37 Email text regarding upcoming activities.



Text about the movie schedule in the newspaper.

Conclusion

Out of 84 questions in Compréhension Écrite DELF A1, the most common themes are advertisements, emails and invitations. The forms of questions in the DELF A1 reading test are: multiple choice, short answer, and describe or match a place on the map according to the theme of the text. This gives teachers and students a clear understanding of the format and theme of the text in the DELF A1 reading skills section.

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