

ABSTRACT

An increase in reading competence proceeds in five stages, with the fifth stage being literary competence, in which readers can absorb and evaluate the entire emotional world of the story and all the implicit information it contains. Increasing reading competence has a positive impact on both overall language ability and intercultural competence. One possible method to increase reading literacy is through comics – pictorial or other characters arranged in spatial sequences to convey information and/or create an aesthetic effect on the viewer - which have several advantages such as short texts, context given by pictures or authentic language. Comics offer a direct method of delivery of the emotions contained in the text. To test the effectiveness of comic books in increasing literacy, an experiment was conducted with two adaptations of E.M. Remarque's "All Quiet on the Western Front" - in a linguistically simplified version and in a literature comic form. The study showed that at A2 level, simple language books are more suitable for increasing reading literacy, as the measured increase in reading literacy was 20% higher for the students who worked with the linguistically simplified version than for those who worked with the literature comic.

KEYWORDS

Comics, Graphic Novel, Reading Literacy, All Quiet on the Western Front, German as a Foreign Language