Appendix 1A: Pilot Study (Dictation task)

Training sentences
(a) The car was near the house.
(b) The girl went up the hill.
(c) The man looked at the book.
(d) The boy gave a book to me.

Sentences category-wise
Adverbs
1. The girl climbed up.
2. The books fell down
3. Superman flew in
4. The car drove out.
5. The plane took off.
6. The girl sat down.
7. The boy stayed inside.
8. The dog slept outside.
9. The kite soared up
10. The bus turned back

Semi-lexicals
1. The boy swam across the river.
2. The train went through the tunnel.
3. The plane flew over the hills.
4. The cat walked into the room.
5. The boy ran out of the house.
6. The bike was beside the wall.
7. The pen was in the bag.
8. The book was on the desk.
9. The broom was behind the door.
10. The box was under the bed.

Particles
1. The man ate up the cake.
2. The girl wrote out the cheque.
3. The girl finished off the ice-cream.
4. The owners cut down the trees.
5. The boy shut down the computer.
6. The festival went on till Sunday.
7. Raja chopped away at the tree.
8. Police asked us to move along.
9. The bird pecked at his food.
10. Neela ground out the same story.

Functionals
1. Rani bought a book for Mala.
2. Neela gave a pen to Nimal.
3. The boy was keen on chess.
4. Saman was angry with his sister.
5. Mala was proud of her son.
6. The boy was good at cricket.
7. The girl believed in spirits.
8. The girl relied on her family.
9. The broom was behind the door.
10. The man waited for his wife.
Appendix 1B: Changes made to main study

Sentences removed
1. The festival went on till Sunday.
2. Raja chopped away at the tree.
3. Police asked us to move along.
4. The bird pecked at his food.
5. Neela ground out the same story.
6. The girl believed in spirits.
7. The kite soared up.

Added sentences
1. The boy got over his sickness.
2. The girl saved up some money.
3. The man came across a map.
4. The girl looked after her mother.
5. The man ran out of petrol.
6. The girl believed in her doctor.
7. The lift moved up.

Other changes
(a) All the sentences were changed to the past tense.
(b) The time gap between two sentences in the recording was increased from 20 seconds to 35 seconds.
Appendix 2A: Questionnaire

Appendix 1: Learner Questionnaire

General Instructions:
1. Read the given information carefully before you give your response.
2. Please put a tick ✓ in the statement or the question that perfectly describes your situation.

Part One

A. Personal Information:
1. Name __________________________
2. Sex  [ ] Male  [ ] Female
3. Date of Birth ———— Date ———— Month ———— Year
4. School __________________________
5. Class __________________________
6. Father's job __________________________
7. Mother's job __________________________

B. Your home language: __________________________

C. Number of home languages that you speak
1. One:  [ ]
2. Two:  [ ]
3. More than two:  [ ]

D. Language and literacy experience:

1. Number of languages known to the learner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Speaking only</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Sinhala</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) English</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Tamil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. Reading Experience:

1. Do you read newspapers at home?  
   Yes  No
   If yes, do you read them daily?  
   Yes  No

2. Do you read books at home?  
   Yes  No

3. How many books do you read per month?  
   a. One book per month
   b. 2-4 books per month
   c. 5-5 books per month
   d. None

4. What type of books do you read?  
   a. English books
   b. Sinhala
   c. Books in English and Sinhala
   d. None

5. In which language do you watch TV programs?  
   a. In English
   b. In Sinhala
   c. In both languages
   d. None
Appendix 1: Learner Questionnaire

General Instructions:
1. Read the given information carefully before you give your response.
2. Please put a tick in the statement if the question can perfectly describe your situation.

Part One

A. Personal Information:

1. Name: 

2. Sex: Male [ ] Female [ ]

3. Date of Birth: Day: [ ] Date: [ ] Month: [ ] Year: [ ]

4. School: 

5. Class: 

6. Father's job: 

7. Mother's job: 

B. Your home language: Sinhala, English

C. Number of home languages that you speak:
   1. One: [ ]
   2. Two: [ ]
   3. More than two: [ ]

D. Language and literacy experience:

1. Number of languages known to the learner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Languages</th>
<th>Speaking only</th>
<th>Reading &amp; Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Sinhala</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 / 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) English</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 / 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Tamil</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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D. Reading Experience:

1. Do you read newspapers at home?
   - Yes  |  No
   - Yes  |  No

2. Do you read books at home?
   - Yes  |  No

3. How many books do you read per month?
   a. One book per month
   b. 2-3 books per month
   c. 3-5 books per month
   d. More

4. What type of books do you read?
   a. English books
   b. Sinhala
   c. Books in English and Sinhala
   d. Other

5. In which language do you watch TV programs?
   a. In English
   b. In Sinhala
   c. In both languages
   d. Other

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Appendix 2B: Scoring of questionnaire responses

Home languages

for each language, '1' mark was awarded.

Language and literacy experience

Tick = 2 marks.

If students had shown '1' instead a tick = 1 mark

Reading experience:

Question 1-2: 'yes' = 1; 'no' = 0.

Question 3: '1' book per month = 1; 2-3 books = 2; and so on.

Question 4: only Sinhala books = 1; only English books = 2; both English and Sinhala books = 3.

Question 5: Sinhala only = 1; English only = 2; both English and Sinhala = 3
Appendix 3A: Main Study (Dictation Task)

Training sentences

(a) The box was near the bag.
(b) The boy went down the hill
(c) The girl looked at the map
(d) Rani showed the book to Saman.

Sentences category-wise

Adverbs
1. The girl climbed up.
2. The book fell down.
3. Superman flew in.
4. The car drove out.
5. The plane took off.
6. The girl sat down.
7. The boy stayed inside.
8. The dog slept outside.
9. The lift moved up.
10. The bus turned back.

Semi-lexical
1. The boy swam across the river.
2. The train went through the tunnel.
3. The cat walked into the room.
4. The plane flew over the hills.
5. The boy ran out of the house.
6. The bike was beside the wall.
7. The pen was in the bag.
8. The book was on the desk.
9. The broom was behind the door.
10. The box was under the bed.

Particles
1. The man ate up the cake.
2. The girl wrote out the cheque.
3. The girl finished off the ice-cream.
4. The owner cut down the tree.
5. The boy shut down the computer.
6. The boy got over his sickness.
7. The girl saved up her money.
8. The man came across a map.
9. The girl looked after her mother.
10. The man ran out of petrol.

Functionals
1. Rani bought a book for Mala.
2. Neela gave a pen to Nimal.
3. The boy was keen on chess.
4. Saman was angry with his sister.
5. Mala was proud of her son.
6. The boy was good at cricket.
7. The man believed in his doctor.
8. The girl relied on her family.
9. The man got a call from his son.
10. The man waited for his wife.
Appendix 3B: Sample learner scripts (Dictation task)

Grade 4

Sayani Amasha
20.8. 2005, 09.07

1. The boy was near the bag.

2. The girl look at the mat.

3. The boy went down the hill.

4. Rani shouted the book to me.
1. The girl climb up.
2. The boy sprama cross the river.
4. The man eat up the cake.
5. The Thre went to the thunla.
6. Nila gave a pen to Nimal.
7. The girl root out the cheki.
8. The book fell down.
9. The boy was kee not chek.
10. The girl finished of the ice-cream.
A Super man flew in!

The cat walked into the room.
The corner cut down the tree.
The car drove out.
The plane flew our the door.
A man was angry with his sister.
The boy shut down the computer.
Mala was mad at her son.
The boy ran out of the house.
The plane took off.
21 The bike was visaid the wall.
22 The girl sat down.
23 The boy was good at cricket.
24 The boy got sick.
25 The man believed his doctor.
26 The girl said her money.
27 The boy seksed inside.
28 The thing was in the bag.
29 The man creaber cross.
30 The girl ridde on her family.
31. The book was on the desk.
32. The dog slept outside.
33. The girl looked after her mother.
34. The lift moved up.
35. The broom was behind the bed.
36. The man got a call from his son.
37. The box was underneath the bed.
38. The man waited.
39. The man ran out of petrol.
40. The bus turned back.
1. The box was the near the bag.
2. The girl looked at the girl mat.
3. The boy went down the hill.
4. Roni showed the book to me.
1. The girl climbed up.
2. The boy swam across the river.
3. Rani brought book for Mala.
4. The man ate up the cake.
5. The rain went to the tuver.
6. Neela gave a pen to Nimal.
7. The girl rewrote out the check.
8. The book felled down.
9. The boy was king of chess.
10. The girl finished of the ice-cream.
11. Superman flu win.
12. The cat walked walked in to the room.
13. Bee or no cut on the tree.
14. The car roaded out.
15. The plane flu 00 over the hill.
16. Soman was a angry with sister.
17. The boy shutdown the computer.
18. # Mala was bought up to the Sun.
19. The boy ran out of the house.
20. The plane took off.
21. The bike was bissing the road.
22. The girl sat down.
23. The boy was good at the cricket.
24. The boy got up to his shoulders.
25. The man is ill so he went to the doctor.
26. The girl saved up her money.
27. The boy hit his stunted this instantly.
28. The tell was in the bag.
29. The man caved across the road.
30. The girl didn't like it on her family.
31. The book was on the desk.
32. The dog slept outside.
33. The girl looked after her mother.
34. The lift moaned up.
35. The broom was behind the door.
36. The man got a call with his son.
37. The box was under the bed.
38. The man waited for his wife.
39. The man ran out of petrol.
40. The bus turned to back.
The box was near the bag.

The girl looked at the map.

The boy went down the hill.

Rani showed the book to me.
1. The girl climbed up.
2. The boy swam across the river.
3. Rani bought a book from Mala.
4. The man ate up the cake.
5. The train went through the tunnel.
6. Neela gave the pen to Nimal.
7. The girl got out of the chair.
8. The book fell down.
9. The boy went.
10. The girl finished off the nice-cream.

Poorna Ravinduni
11. Superman flyed

12. The cat walked into the room.

13. The owner cut down the tree.

14. The car broke out.

15. The plane flew over the hills.

16. Saman was angry with his sister.

17. The boy shut down the computer.

18. Mala was proud of her son.

19. The boy ran out of the house.

20. The plane took off.
21. The bike was beside the road.

22. The girl sat down.

23. The boy was good at cricket.

24. The boy got over his sickness.

25. The man believed his doctor.

26. The girl saved up her money.

27. The boy stayed inside.

28. The pen was in the bag.

29. The man came across.

30. The girl relied on her family.
31. The book was on the desk.
32. The dog slept outside.
33. The girl looked after her mother.
34. The lift moved up.
35. The broom was behind the door.
36. The man got a call from his son.
37. The box was under the bed.
38. The man waited for his wife.
39. The man ran out of the breakfast.
40. The bus turned back.
Name: Dumindu Shamika
School: Amantha college
Class: 10

2.03
Date: 03-01-1998

1. The box was near the bag
   ✔
2. The girl looked at the map
   ✔
3. The boy went down the hill
   ✔
4. Rani showed the book to me
   ✔
1. The girl climbed up.

2. The boy swam across the river.

3. Rani brought a book for Mala.

4. The man and

5. The train went through the tunnel.

6. Neela

7. The girl brought out the check.

8. The book fell down.

9. The boy was queen on chess.

10. The girl finished off the ice-cream.
11. Superman flew wings in
12. The cat walked in to the room
13. The owner cut down the tree
14. The car drove out
15. The plane flew over the hills
16. Saman was angry with his sister
17. The boy shutdown the computer
18. Mona was proud of her son
19. The boy ran out of the house
20. The plane took off
21. The bike beside the wall.
22. The girl sat down.
23. The bag was good as cricket.
24. The boy got over his fitness.
25. The man believe his doctor.
26. The girl save up her money.
27. The boy stayed inside.
28. The pen was in the bag.
29. The man.
30. The girl delight on her family.
31. The book was on the desk.

32. The dog slept outside.

33. The girl looked after her mother.

34. The lift moved up.

35. The group was behind the door.

36. The man got a call from his son.

37. The box was under the bed.

38. The man waited for his wife.

39. The man ran out of the patrol

40. The bus turned back.
Appendix 3C: Scoring and Analysis of the Dictation task

Sample analysis of a script from Grade 6 (typed for the sake of convenience)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence</th>
<th>Score ‘2’</th>
<th>Score ‘1’</th>
<th>Score ‘0’</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The girl climbed up.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. The boy swam across the river.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Rani brought book for Mala.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The man ate up the cake.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. The rain went to the tuver.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Neela gave a pen to Nimal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. The girl wrote out the check.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. The book fell down.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. The boy was a king of chess</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. The girl finished up the ice-cream</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Superman flew win</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12. The cat walked into the room.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Bee or no cut on the tree.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. The car roaded out.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. The plane flew over the hill.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16. Saman was angry with sister.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. The boy shutdown the computer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. Mala was bought up to the sun.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. The boy ran out of the house.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. The plane took off.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21. The bike was bissy's the road.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. The girl sated down.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23. The boy was good at the cricket.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. The boy boy got or vo his sikitans.</td>
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<tr>
<td>25. The man is illeved doctor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26. The girl saved up her money.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27. The boy his stynte his istyt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28. The tell was in the bag.</td>
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<tr>
<td>29. The man cavied cross the road.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. The girl inlided on her family.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. The book was on the desk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>32. The dog slept out side.</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. The girl looked after her mother.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. The lift mooded up.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35. The broom was behind the door.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36. The man got a call with his son.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37. The box was under the bed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38. The man waited of his wife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39. The man ran out of petrol</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40. The bus turned to back.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Prepositions omitted**

- Adverbs: 2
- Semi-lexicals: 2
- Particles: 2
- Functionals: 1

**Prepositions Substituted:**

- Adverbs: 0
- Semi-lexicals: 0
- Particles: 2
- Functionals: 4

**Prepositions Added**

- Semi-lexical-1

**Nature of substitution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adverbs</th>
<th>Semi-lexicals</th>
<th>Particles</th>
<th>Functionals</th>
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<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Functionals</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 4A: Picture story

‘The Monkey Story’

[1] The treehouse scene
[2] The tree-sliding scene

[3] The (first) bridge scene
[4] The (first) rock scene

[5] The (first) hollow trunk scene
[6] The (first) river scene

[7] The (first) uphill scene
8] The (first) downhill scene

9] The cave entrance scene
[10] The dark cave scene

The Monkey and the Banana

1. One day a monkey got a banana.
2. Then a parrot came and got the banana.
3. He came out of the window and
4. He slept and fell.
5. Then he ran away.
6. He ran and ran.
7. But he couldn't catch the parrot.
8. He ran fast.
9. When he was running, he saw a rock.
10. And he jumped.
11. And he fell.
12. He sees a log.
13. And he came out of the log.
14. When he saw the parrot fly fast.
15. He swimm and swimmmed.
16. The parrot fly and fly.
18. The Monkey sees a Mountain
19. He climbed the Mountain
20. The parrot fly up and up
21. He fell and fell
22. He fell and rolling down the
23. The parrot fly up the sky
24. He ran to the Cave
25. He ran and ran
26. The parrot and the Monkey
27. The Monkey got the banana
and ran away.
The Monkey and the Banana

One day a monkey got a banana. [\textit{Parrot}] is [\textit{angry}]. [\textit{Parrot}] got a banana. Monkey was very angry. [\textit{Parrot}] jumped out. [\textit{Parrot}] was flown away. [\textit{Monkey}] ran, followed the monkey. Then the parrot flew up the bridge. The monkey saw it. And monkey ran down the bridge. Monkey ran again for his banana. It was ran away and the parrot flew up the rock. Monkey jumped up the rock and [\textit{he}] saw the parrot flew far. The parrot flew up the hollow trunk. The monkey was in a hollow tree trunk. [\textit{He}] but he can't got his banana. After that the parrot flew across the river. [\textit{He}] jumped across the water and [\textit{he}] flew across the river. The monkey was very sad. But he want to his...
bana...Mankey...saw...the...parrot...was...on...the...hill...[Mankey...went...uphill]...but...the...bird...was...flew...away. The...mankey...was...very...angry...He...jumped...far...caught...the...parrot...

[Mankey...fell...fall...down...the...hill...]

and...started...to...ran...away. The...parrot...was...flew...to...cave...and...mankey...was...followed...the...parrot. The...cave...was...very...dark...

The...lion...was...in...the...cave. The...lion...saw...the...parrot...and...monkey. The...lion...roared...and...the...monkey...and...parrot...was...very...afraid...and...ran...out...to...th...The...parrot...has...fallen...to...the...banana...monkey's...hand...and...They...ran...away.

Word 5= 216 24

preg 24
The Monkey and the Bananas

One day a monkey got a banana, and a parrot was a near by...

And the parrot stole the banana. The parrot flew...

for a while. But the monkey was not give it...

And the parrot flew over the bridge. The monkey ran under the bridge, and there was a rock. The monkey jumped over the rock. And from a hollow trunk, the...

Parrot flew over the...hollow trunk. The monkey, go inside...the...hollow trunk, and monkey also...

...flew over...the...river. The...monkey jumped into the river, and swam very fast. the...parrot...resting on a...

uphill. The...monkeys...got very angry with...parrot...

The monkey believed the hill and...fly away...

The monkey fell downhill. the parrot...fly to a...
cave. The...monkey...also...go...to...the...cave...to...take...the...banana. The...cave...was...very...dark. And the...

was...lonely. Monkey took the banana from the parrot...
and... x lost away.
The Monkey and the Bananas

One day a monkey got a banana... and he was... so happy... that he... took it and ran... to the forest... and the parrot... flew... away... from the monkey... then the parrot flew... away... from the monkey's house... and the monkey... jumped... from the... house... and he... fell down... then he chased the parrot... and he went through... a bridge... to reach the parrot... after that he ran... very fast... from his... house... and he jumped over... rock... and the parrot... flew... away... to the... ground... now the monkey... was very angry... at this... parrot... then he saw the... monkey... climbed the... hill... to catch the... parrot... after that he missed the... parrot... again... then the monkey... fell down... from the... hill... the... monkey... chased the... parrot... to a... cave... then the... parrot... went... inside... and the monkey... was also... went...
inside the inside of the cave is very dark. He couldn't find the parrot either. Then he saw large eyes. Something is looking at him. After that, he recognized it was a lion. He saw the parrot also. He took the banana from the parrot and ran out from the lions' cave and never came back.
Appendix 4C: Scoring and analysis of the picture story (Grade 6)

**Colour-code**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sentence</th>
<th>Correct</th>
<th>Prep. Context</th>
<th>MLU count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Parrot is [red] the monkey</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) and parrot got a banana.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Monkey was very angry</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) and monkey jumped [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Parrot was flew [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Monkey ran followed the parrot.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(7) Then the parrot flew [green] the bridge</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) The monkey saw it</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) and monkey ran [red] the bridge</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) Monkey ran again [red] for his banana.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(11) It was ran [red] and</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(12) the parrot flew [green] a rock.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(13) Monkey jumped [blue] the rock and</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(14) it saw the parrot flew far.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(15) The parrot flew [green] the hollow trunk</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(16) The monkey gone [green] a hollow trunk</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(17) but he can’t got his banana.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(18) After that the parrot flew [green] the river.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(19) The monkey jumped [blue] water and</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(20) swam [red] the river.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(21) The monkey was very cold.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(22) But he want [red] his banana.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(23) Monkey saw the parrot was [red] the hill.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24) Monkey went uphill</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(25) but the bird was flew [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(26) The monkey was very angry.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(27) He jumped [red] for caught the parrot.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(28) Monkey fell [red] the hill.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(29) And started to ran [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(30) The parrot was flew [blue] cave</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(31) and Monkey was followed [green] the parrot</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(32) The cave was very dark.</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(33) The lion was [red] the cave</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(34) The lion roared and the monkey and parrot was very afraid</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(35) and ran [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(36) The parrot was very afraid</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(37) and ran [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(38) The parrot was fell the banana to monkey’s hand ✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(39) and they ran [red]</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentence</td>
<td>Correct</td>
<td>Score '1'</td>
<td>Score '0'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(40) Parrot is the monkey</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(41) and parrot got a banana.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(42) Monkey was very angry.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(43) and monkey jumped</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(44) Parrot was flew</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(45) Monkey ran followed the parrot.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(46) Then the parrot flew the bridge.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(47) The monkey saw it</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(48) and monkey ran the bridge.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(49) Monkey ran again for his banana.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(50) It was ran and</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(51) The parrot flew up the rock.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(52) Monkey jumped the rock and</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(53) it saw the parrot flew far.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(54) The parrot flew the hollow trunk.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(55) The monkey gone a hollow trunk.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(56) but he can't got his banana.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(57) After that the parrot flew the river.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(58) The monkey jumped water and</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(59) swam the river.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(60) The monkey was very cold.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(61) But he want his banana.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(62) Monkey saw the parrot was on the hill.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(63) Monkey went uphill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(64) but the bird was flew</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(65) The monkey was very angry.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(66) He jumped for caught the parrot.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(67) Monkey fall the hill.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(68) And started to ran</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(69) The parrot was flew the cave.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(70) and Monkey was followed the parrot.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(71) The cave was very dark.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(72) The lion was in the cave.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(73) The lion roared and the monkey and parrot was very afraid -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(74) and ran</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(75) the parrot was very afraid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(76) and ran</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(77) The parrot was failed the banana to monkey's hand</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(78) and they ran</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 4D: MLU count

1. Suffixes/ prefixes are counted as a separate morpheme. for e.g., *walked* has two morphemes.
2. Irregular pasts/ plurals are counted as one morpheme. for e.g., *went* has one morpheme. and plural word *sheep* has one morpheme.
3. Compound nouns are a morpheme. For example, *blackboard*
4. Words like *and, but, so* are separate morphemes.

Utterances

1. Only utterances (i.e. those that contain a subject and verb) are counted. However, utterances in which the copula verb is omitted (e.g., *She nice to me*), and commands in which *you* is understood (e.g., *Sit down and eat your dinner*) are counted.
2. Simple utterance with one main verb is considered an utterance.
3. Main clause with one subordinate clause is an utterance.
4. A complex sentence is treated as one utterance.
5. Unintelligible utterances. elliptical utterances without subject and verb are not counted.
6. False starts, revisions, repetitions are not counted.

(adapted from Miller & Leadholm 1992)
Appendix 5A: Extra tables for the dictation task

Substitutions for each preposition category (Frequency)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Semi-lexical</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Semi-lexical adverbs</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Semi-lexical Particles</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Semi-lexical Functionals</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs bParticles</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Functionals</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Particles</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs Functionals</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mean score for each preposition in each category (Maximum score for each sentence is 2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preposition Category</th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The girl climbed up.</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>1.20</td>
<td>1.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The lift moved up.</td>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The book fell down</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The girl sat down.</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>1.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>Superman flew in.</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The car drove out.</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The plane took off.</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>1.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverbs</td>
<td>The boy ran out of the house.</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.78</td>
<td>1.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preposition Category</th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The boy swam across the river.</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The train went through the tunnel.</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The cat walked into the room.</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The plane flew over the hills.</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>0.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The boy ran out of the house.</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>1.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The bike was beside the wall.</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The pen was in the bag.</td>
<td>0.85</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The book was on the desk.</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The broom was behind the door.</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexicals</td>
<td>The box was under the bed.</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>1.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Particles
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ate up the cake</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wrote out the cheque</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>1.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finished off the ice-cream</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>1.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cut down the tree</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.82</td>
<td>1.39</td>
<td>1.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shut down the computer</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>got over his sickness</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>1.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saved up her money</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>1.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>came across a map</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>0.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>looked after her mother</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>1.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ran out of petrol</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>1.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Functionals
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bought a book for Mala</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.58</td>
<td>1.08</td>
<td>1.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gave a pen to Nimal</td>
<td>0.46</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keen on chess</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>angry with his sister</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>1.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>proud of her son</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>1.17</td>
<td>1.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>good at cricket</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>1.03</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>1.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Believed in his doctor</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>0.42</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The girl relied on her family</td>
<td>0.29</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The man got a call from his son</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>1.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The man waited for his wife</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1.12</td>
<td>1.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Appendix 5B: Extra Tables for picture story task

### Substitutions for each preposition category (Frequency)

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<th></th>
<th>Grade 4</th>
<th>Grade 6</th>
<th>Grade 8</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semi-lexical</td>
<td>1.88</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>3.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functional</td>
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<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>functional</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>