Solving the challenge of locating, preparing, displaying, and reusing academic reading texts for learners with ADAPS

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Summary (max. 50 words)

ADAPS (Academic Document and Presentation Schema) is a system for annotating the linguistic features of academic texts and displaying them in a highly customizable manner via web pages on desktop or mobile devices. This talk will introduce and demonstrate the features of ADAPS and describe plans for its future development.

Abstract (max. 200 words, excluding references)

Authentic texts have been argued to be necessary in academic reading skills development (cf., Carver 1983, Gilmore 2011, Hudson 1991). This poses several problems for teachers. Locating suitable or timely texts may be challenging. Once a suitable text is found, analyzing and preparing it for pedagogical presentation is time-consuming. Finally, once prepared, the texts may be unable to be shared widely because of licensing restrictions on the source texts and thus cannot be easily reused.

ADAPS (Academic Document and Presentation Schema) is designed minimize these problems. ADAPS incorporates a schema for the annotation of various linguistic features of academic texts (e.g., academic vs. general service vocabulary, technical terms and abbreviations, anaphoric relations, and logical connectors). It further allows customized display of these features as the user desires through a web interface. All of the texts are selected from open license sources, so they are freely accessible to anyone over the Internet.

ADAPS was recently released in a beta form and comprises a selection of 96 texts (32,433 words total). It is freely accessible via the Internet in desktop or mobile formats. This talk will introduce and demonstrate the features of ADAPS and describe plans for its future development.

References

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