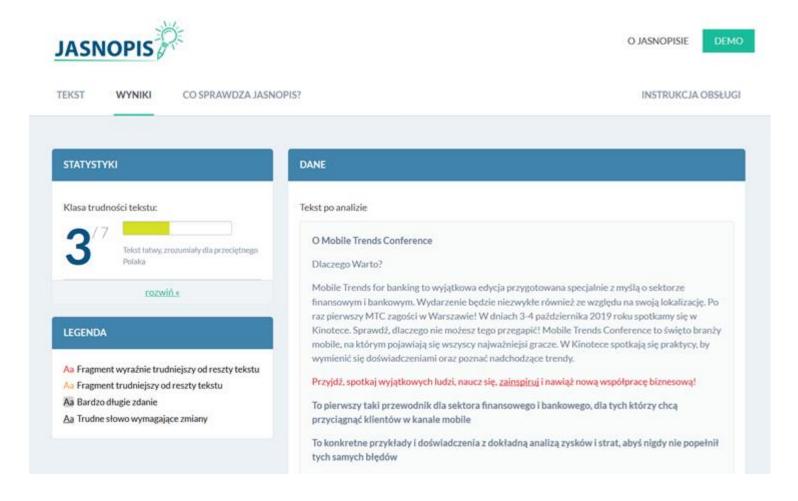
JASNOPIS — Measuring readability in Polish

Włodzimierz Gruszczyński Maciej Ogrodniczuk

What is Jasnopis?

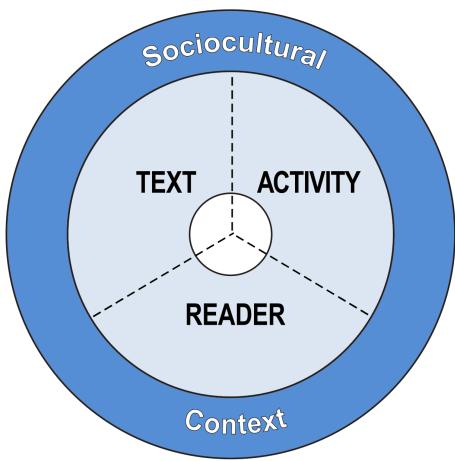
An IT tool for assessing linguistic difficulty of text, available free of charge in a demo version on the Internet at:

https://jasnopis.pl



What influences reading comprehension?







Reading for Understanding:
Toward an R&D Program in Reading Comprehension

Rand Reading Study Group, 2002

We usually overestimate our readers!

Ideally:

- educated
- with good memory
- knowledgeable
- terminology-aware
- interested
- physically and mentally capable

less than secondary education: 51,45%

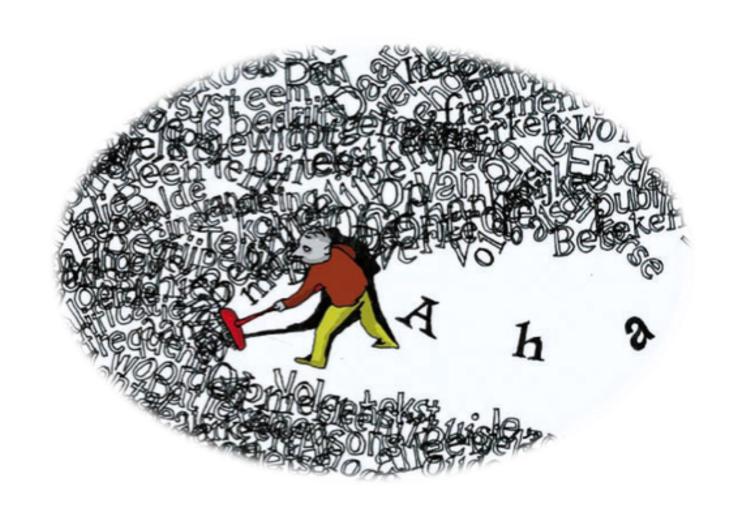
Most likely:

- poorly educated
- 10% of readers feature a certain dysfunction influencing reading comprehension

What can we do?

We can influence how the text, is constructed, that is, its:

- graphical form
- composition
- language

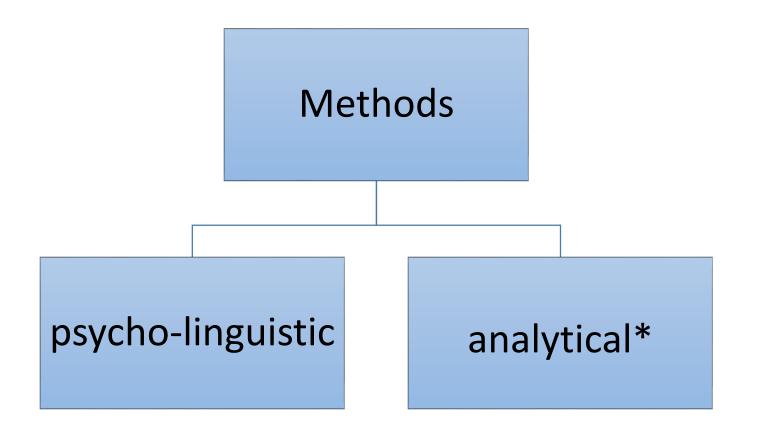


How syntax hinders understandability?

- Sentences in the passive voice.
- Negation, e.g. It is not true that there are no obstacles.
- The time needed to assess the truthfulness of a sentence depending on its structure:

Sentence type	Response time	Number of errors
Affirmative and active	4,5 sec.	58
Affirmative and passive	9,4 sec.	55
Negative and active	9,5 sec.	88
Negative and passive	11,1 sec.	117

How to check if the text isn't (too) difficult?



* Analytical methods can be automated and programs can be developed to assess the difficulty of the text.

Our method

- Psychological research:
 A series of surveys on how texts of varying difficulty are understood by potential readers
- 2 Identification of linguistic variables presumably correlated with the difficulty of the text
- 3 Calculating the values of these variables for our data
- 4 Calculating the formula predicting readability



TEKST WYNIKI CO SPRAWDZA JASNOPIS? INSTRUKCJA OBSŁUGI

