Abstract

Using the Gramulator, we analyzed the linguistic features of ESL texts and fairy tales. Our goal was to determine if fairy tales had the potential to be used as reading material for English language learners. The results of our analyses suggest that there are significant similarities between fairy tales and ESL texts, but that differences lie in the content of the text types with fairy tales appearing significantly more narrative in style and ESL texts appearing more expository.

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A fairy tale is a story which involves folkloric features such as fairies, goblins, princes and princesses. The fairy tales is a sub-class of the folk tale. The oldest fairy tales were told and retold from generations before they were written down. Moral lesson and happy endings became common features. In the modern era violence is usually removed from the fairy tales that they could be read for the children. The stories tend towards an optimistic moral structure, with justice fairy done, wickedness punished and goodness rewarded (Kerven, 2008, Hallett & Karasek, 2009). Kristopher Harris English 550 Chaucer the Time Traveler; An Analysis of Canterbury Tales and Modern English As the English language ages, certain literary works capture linguistic history like snapshots in time. These works portray a convergence of historical language traditions, and provide similarities and stark contrasts to Modern English. In particular, Geoffrey Chaucer’s Canterbury Tales is an accurate representation of Middle English, displaying Anglo-Nordic and French beginnings. Even though Canterbury Tales captures the essence of Middle English, many current individuals can read the