

=====

## Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

*Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas \**

### Abstract:

The study aimed to examine the role of reading comprehension strategies to enhance the language of university students in the writing skill derived from the summary of comprehension reading. Teaching skills of skimming and scanning to search vital vocabulary in a sentence of paragraph structure facilitate the complexity of text and improve the students' ability to write completed paragraph. The research focused on equipping students with skills to extract information derived from text reading to writing purpose. Due to its linguistic and educational needs, Education in Socotra was the ideal setting to evaluate the effectiveness of targeted reading-to-writing intervention. A pre-experimental design was adopted with a single group of 16 students who participated in a three-month intervention. A mixed-methods approach gathered data from a single group through a closed-ended comprehension questionnaire and an opened-ended summary question on the paragraph writing before and after the treatment. The students' performances analyzed at comprehension text and pattern of summarization. Results showed that teaching techniques positively impacted students' comprehension and summarization skills, with an 82% success rate in paragraph writing as a reflection

---

*. Assistant Professor, Department of English Language, Faculty of Education, Humanities & applied Science - Socotra, Hadhramout University, Yemen*

© This material is published under the license of Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0), which allows the user to copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format. It also allows adapting, transforming or adding to the material for any purpose, even commercially, as long as such modifications are highlighted and the material is credited to its author.

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

of writing skills. Post-test scores improved significantly (74.3%) compared to pre-test scores (45.7%). Statistics revealed a strong correlation (79%) between CT and SPW. That strategic vocabulary-focused reading applied demonstrated the language abilities in the quality writing. It concluded that targeted reading to writing approach in EFL education supports sustainable development of language ability in non-native speakers setting.

**Key words:** Reading comprehension strategies, vocabulary on focus, summary to writing paragraph writing and “Reading-to-Write”.

## 1. Introduction

The skill of reading-to-write is often overlooking in the college English department curriculum of Yemeni universities. However, reading-to-write skill is still unfocused tactic employed in EFL classroom, with many learners lacking focus when tasked with summarizing or critically engaging with texts. In college-level classes, traditional approaches to teaching reading skills have failed to equip students with the necessary skills to scan reading materials for key insights or think critically about how these insights improve their language abilities. A key challenge is students' disinterest in vocabulary interpretation, enjoyment, and application. This resulted by absence compound of effective instructional strategies for unpacking vital vocabulary. One possible source of difficulties, the research suggests that learners' disinterest in reading stems from their struggles with vocabulary interpretation and application (Asmawati, 2015; Sajjad, 2021; Shibabaw, 2023). In poor reading comprehension, Mala (2023) reviewed the challenges in understanding complex reading texts faced the EFL learners to identify main ideas , supporting details, and make references. Sajjad (2021) found vocabulary choices were issued EFL learners with selecting appropriate words lead them to difficulties in expressing their ideas effectively. Hyland and Jiang (2021) discovered limited critical thinking lead the EFL learners less thinking to analyze, evaluate and synthesize information from reading text.

Moreover, non-native students often neglect the general concept of academic text reading when transferring information from reading to writing. Samiha (2017) pointed out that the difficulty with summarization was condensed the author's thoughts into a concise summary.

Furthermore, Research has consistently shown that EFL learners in Yemeni universities face significant challenges in developing their reading and writing skills. Algamal et al. (2021) found that students struggled with building coherent paragraphs, bridging supporting ideas, and crafting effective sentence structures. Similarly, Alawdi (2023) discovered that EFL students' paragraph writing skills were hindered by inadequate vocabulary choices and poorly structured sentences, resulting in underdeveloped arguments. These findings highlight the need for targeted interventions to enhance EFL learners' reading-to-write skills and promote more effective learning outcomes. The research also suggest that challenges highlighted in the previous studies faced EFL learners inside or outside the door is the overlook between reading comprehension and writing skills (Yusuf et al., 2017; Fauzi, 2018; Algamal et al., 2021; Hyland & Jiang, 2021; Hezam et al., Mežek et al., 2022; 2022; Mala, 2023; Alawdi, 2023). As result of teaching methods often fail to equip students with the necessary skills to write effective paragraphs; this study examines second-level college students enrolled in the English Department of Socotra College of Education during the 2023–2024 academic year. Initial observations revealed that many students struggled with summarization due to weak word comprehension and sentence structure skills, resulting in incomplete and disorganized paragraph summaries. Addressing these gaps, this research explores the impact of teaching skimming and scanning techniques on improving students' abilities to summarize texts effectively, bridging the gap between reading comprehension and summary writing. The research contributes to ongoing discussions about sustainable approaches to EFL instruction, particularly how strategic reading skills can enhance academic writing. As prior studies (Graham &

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

Hebert, 2010; Algamal et al., 2021) suggest, reading comprehension and writing skills are interdependent. This study builds on this foundation by investigating how instructional techniques tailored to skimming and scanning can improve summary writing outcomes into well-formed paragraph writing. The research aims to answer:

1. Does teaching skimming and scanning enhance students' comprehension and ability to summarize reading texts into well-formed paragraph?
2. Is there a stronger relationship between reading comprehension test scores (RCT) and summary writing test scores (SWT)?
3. How significantly does improvement in SWT influence CRT?

Hypotheses:

**H<sub>n</sub>** Teaching techniques have no significant effect on comprehension and writing.

**H<sub>0</sub>** Teaching techniques have significant effect on comprehension and writing.

## 2. Literature review

### 2.1. *How reading and writing working together*

Reading and writing are interconnected processes that play a vital role in language development, particularly in EFL (English as a Foreign Language) contexts. At the college level, reading is a dynamic process of comprehension that involves transforming written text into knowledge through the interaction between the reader and the writer (Sheng, 2000, cited in Yusuf, 2017). Effective reading comprehension begins with the ability to decode and understand words, phrases, and clauses within sentences, which in turn enhances language comprehension. Similarly, writing is a process where learners articulate their thoughts and engage with other voices in the media stream. Writing about what has been read simplifies complex ideas and makes them accessible to broader audiences. Shanahan (2006) emphasizes that practicing reading-based writing tasks enhances students' cognitive abilities, improving their paragraph writing skills. Tierney and Shanahan (1991, cited in Graham & Hebert, 2010) argue that improved writing skills often follow

unconscious reading strategies by readers who comprehend texts deeply and better equipped to produce coherent and meaningful writing. As Burnell et al. (2006) aptly state, "good writing begins with good reading," he highlighted the importance of approaching reading materials with analytical tools that inform writing.

## **2.2. *Reading comprehension and paragraph understanding***

Reading comprehension is a multifaceted process that involves decoding words, and understanding their meanings within the context of sentences and paragraphs. Zimmerman and Hutchins (2003) identify two key components of reading comprehension: (1) word processing and (2) language comprehension. McWhorter (1986, cited in Arifitriyanti et al., 2021) further breaks down reading comprehension into four levels: word, sentence, paragraph, and text comprehension. Paragraph comprehension, in particular, requires the reader to grasp the relationship between the topic sentence, supporting details, and the concluding sentence. This ability is crucial for EFL learners, as it forms the foundation for both reading and writing tasks.

## **2.3. *Challenges in EFL paragraph comprehension***

However, complex paragraph often challenges EFL learners due to unfamiliar vocabulary and complicated sentence structures. Burnell et al. (2006) notes that learners may struggle to understand topic sentences, supporting details, and conclusions. These elements hinder their ability to construct coherent paragraphs. Laufer (1997) highlights that learners' inability to grasp key elements of a paragraph often result of a lack of schematization—the process of connecting new information to existing knowledge. Babashamsi et al. (2013) emphasize that effective paragraph comprehension requires learners to integrate new information with their prior knowledge, an approach that is essential for both reading and writing.

#### **2.4. *Structure of paragraph***

A paragraph is a cohesive unit of text that revolves around a single main idea. Wallace

(2004) defines a paragraph as a group of sentences that develop a central theme. Structurally, a paragraph typically includes a topic sentence that introduces the main idea, supporting sentences that organized on setting the theme, and a concluding sentence that summarizes the paragraph or transitions to the next idea (Burnell et al., 2006). Understanding this structure is critical for EFL learners, as it helps them prepare their thoughts and produce well-structured written paragraphs.

#### **2.5. *Summary comprehension and paragraph writing***

Summary comprehension gets the main ideas of a paragraph or text into a concise form. This skill is particularly valuable for EFL learners, as it enhances their ability to identify key points and reorganize them into coherent written paragraphs. McWhorter (1986, cited in Arifitriyanti et al., 2021) argues that summarizing helps learners internalize the structure of a paragraph. This entry can make it easier for them to produce their own writing. Burnell et al. (2006) suggest that analyzing paragraph content and summarizing it can help learners develop critical thinking skills, which are essential for effective writing. Schema theory further supports this idea, as it posits that readers use their existing knowledge (schemata) to interpret texts, a process that can also inform their writing (Gao, 2019).

#### **2.6. *Word comprehension as a strategic tool for writing***

Word comprehension (WC) refers to the ability to understand and use vocabulary effectively. For EFL learners, WC is a critical skill that enables them to paraphrase and restructure ideas in their own words. Alawdi (2023) highlights that word comprehension helps learners organize and structure paragraphs more effectively. Widyawati and Simanjuntak (2023) emphasize that understanding analogical words and their functions within a paragraph enhances learners' ability to interpret and

=====

apply textual information. Fukao and Fujii (2001) argue that word comprehension is a foundational skill that supports academic writing, as it enables learners to articulate their thoughts clearly and coherently.

### **2.7. *Skimming and scanning techniques***

Skimming and scanning are essential reading strategies that help learners to talk with texts efficiently. Skimming involves reading quickly to grasp the general meaning of a text, while scanning focuses on locating specific information (Wallace, 2007). Alfiyatu and Styati (2023) note that skimming helps learners identify the structure of a text, including titles, subheadings, and topic sentences, while scanning allows them to locate keywords, dates, and other specific details. These strategies are particularly useful for EFL learners, as they enhance reading comprehension and provide a foundation for effective writing.

### **2.8. *Previous relevant studies***

Several studies have explored the relationship between reading comprehension and writing skills in EFL contexts. Hezam et al. (2022) investigated the challenges faced by Saudi EFL students in reading comprehension, finding that vocabulary recognition was a significant barrier. The study recommended interventions to improve reading comprehension, which would in turn enhance writing skills. De La Paz and Wissinger (2015) found that summarization instruction improved students' comprehension and writing performance, particularly for those with limited background knowledge. Similarly, Shibabaw et al. (2023) examined the role of summarization strategies in reading comprehension, concluding that while summarization strategies positively impacted summarizing ability, they did not directly enhance reading comprehension. These findings underline the integrating reading and writing instruction is importance to develop EFL learners' language skills.

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

This literature review produces key findings on reading and writing comprehension, paragraph structure, and the role of summarization and vocabulary in academic achievement. It also highlights the importance of skimming and scanning techniques and summarizes relevant studies on the topic.

## 3. Methodology

The research method designed carefully to evaluate the effectiveness of skimming and scanning techniques. The question was adapted from Interaction 2-Reading Textbook (Hartmaan & Kim, 2013). It is a resource commonly used in academic EFL context.

### 3.1. Pre-Experimental design

This study adopts a one-group pretest-posttest pre experimental design (Creswell, 2014; Ary et al., 2010). A single group of participants received an instructional intervention focused on skimming and scanning strategies for reading comprehension and summarization. The independent variable was teaching skills of skimming/scanning, while the dependent variables were students' reading comprehension scores (quantified via multiple-choice tests) and summary writing performance (assessed via rubrics). The design included three sequential steps:

1. **Pretest** administered before the intervention to measure baseline reading comprehension and summarization skills.
2. **Experimental Treatment (X)**: Academic texts present through three-week instructional intervention for skimming (identifying theme words) and scanning (locating contextual details) techniques.
3. **Posttest** conducted after the intervention to measure changes in comprehension and summarization abilities.

### 3.2. Population

The sample consisted of 15 second-year students out of 16 undergraduates enrolled in the English Education Department at Socotra College of Education,



Hadhramout University, during the second semester of the 2023–2024 academic years. A purposive sample of 15 students (males and females; average age = 21) participated. Participants had prior exposure to EF instruction at the school level and two college-level courses in reading comprehension (explicit/implicit methods) and two courses in academic writing.

### **3.3. Procedures of data collection**

#### **3.3.1. Instruments**

The instruments were selected to measure the students' improvements focused on the comprehension reading and their ability to transfer what they read insight of summarization. These instruments are multiple-choice comprehension questions and paragraph summary task. The data collected as follows:

##### **1. Pretest and posttest:**

The questions of reading comprehension test consisted of a 25 multiple-choice items derived from *Interaction 2-Reading* (Hartmann & Kim, 2013), focused on vocabulary-in-context, *identifying* main ideas, scanning them in the specific details, and understanding paragraph structure. The questions assessed students' ability to build up sentence structure of the main idea, supporting ideas and conclusion on understanding the stimuli text structure of summary task. Summarizing question is an open-ended task requiring participants to write a structured paragraph (topic sentence, supporting details, and conclusion) based on the text.

##### **2. Explicit instruction of reading comprehension in intervention**

The intervention spans three months during the second semester of the 2023-2024 academic year, incorporating pretest and posttest assessments. The reading comprehension sessions follow Brown's (2001) structured approach, emphasizing *theme* word recognition and paragraph comprehension.

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

## I. While reading activity for pretest:

This phase extends over two weeks and consists of three sub-phases:

1. **Selection of texts:** Three texts are chosen from a set of six. On focus word theme the comprehension is subjectively.
2. **Key Reading activity:** Two lectures involve no direct instruction, allowing participants to identify theme words independently.
3. **Pretest administration:** A pretest is designed using nine key words extracted from the selected texts. The pretest includes multiple-choice exercises derived from *Interaction2 Reading* (Harmann & Kim, 2013), focusing on:
  - Synonyms, antonyms, and Arabic translations of words.
  - Definitions of words in context.
  - Matching words with paragraph elements.
  - Scanning texts for details and organizing word definitions.
  - Summarizing the texts.

## II. While reading activity after pretest:

For the next three weeks, students engage in reading comprehension exercises using skimming and scanning techniques. They analyze word complexity under teacher guidance and extract meaning from sentence structures. Annotating texts is encouraged to enhance engagement and comprehension.

## III. Post reading activity before posttest:

This phase spans three weeks:

1. **First two weeks:** Students reflect on previously read texts and practice structuring written paragraphs.
2. **Final week:** The posttest mirrors the pretest to evaluate improvements in reading comprehension and summary writing.

### **3.4. Validity and reliability**

#### **3.4.1. Content validity:**

Test items were derived from validated exercises in *Interaction 2 Reading* (Hartmann & Kim, 2013). Pilot test, 30% of participants (n=5) completed a pilot to refine scoring rubrics and test clarity.

#### **3.4.2. comprehension validity:**

Kolmogorov-Smirnov test confirmed normal distribution of pretest/posttest scores. Triangulation combined quantitative (t-tests, regression) and qualitative (rubric-based summary analysis) methods.

### **3.5. Data Analysis**

The study aimed to investigate the impact of teaching skimming and scanning techniques on EFL Yemeni college students' ability to develop paragraph writing through summary comprehension skills. The study used the SPSS to analyze the quantitative data by t-tests, correlation coefficients, and regression analyses. Rubrics assessed the quality of summary writing, focusing on topic sentences, supporting ideas, and conclusions.

#### **3.5.1. Quantitative analysis:**

3. Paired t-test compared pretest/posttest scores of the students to evaluate intervention effectiveness.
4. Correlation and regression analyzed the relationship between word comprehension (posttest) and summarization scores (posttest).

#### **3.5.2. Qualitative analysis:**

Summaries were scored using a 4-level mastery rubric:

#### **I. Rubric Criteria:**

- a. Topic sentence (clarity).
- b. Supporting ideas (relevance/unity).
- c. Concluding sentence (coherence).

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

## II. Scoring Levels

- **1–2 Level (Needs Improvement):** Disjointed or incomplete elements.
- **3 Level (Developing):** Adequate structure with minor gaps.
- **4 Level (Mastery):** Clear topic sentence, logical supporting ideas, cohesive conclusion.

### 3.5 Interpretation:

- Effect size calculated using Cohen's  $d$  to determine practical significance.
- SPSS Software used for statistical computations ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

## 4. Findings

### 4.1. Results of quantitative analysis: Research questions and hypotheses

#### 4.1.1. Paired t-test analysis

Table1: T-Test results for reading comprehension and summary writing

Skill	T-Count	T-Table ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )	Significance (p-value)	Conclusion
Reading Comprehension	8.066	1.753	$p < 0.05$	Significant difference ( $H_0$ rejected)
Summary Writing	9.619	1.753	$p < 0.05$	Significant difference ( $H_0$ rejected)

The table showed the t-count of reading comprehension was (8.066) and the t-table value was (1.753) at a significance level of 0.05 with 14 degrees of freedom while the summary writing, the t-count was (9.619) and the t-table value was (1.753) at the same significance level and degrees of freedom. The Paired t-test results revealed significant improvements in both reading comprehension ( $t = 8.066$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ) and summary writing ( $t = 9.619$ ,  $p < 0.05$ ). These results indicate that the observed improvements were not due to chance and reflect the effectiveness of the intervention. Specifically, the statistical significance

demonstrates that the teaching techniques had a meaningful impact on students' abilities to comprehend and summarize texts.

#### 4.1.2. Correlation Analysis:

The study also examined the correlation between the dependent variable (Comprehension Reading Test - CRT) and the independent variable (Summary Writing Test - SWT). The Pearson correlation coefficient was used to measure the strength and direction of the relationship between the two variables.

Table2: Correlation between reading comprehension (CRT) and summary writing (SWT)

Pearson Correlation		CRT	SW
Comprehension reading Text	Pearson Correlation	1	.468
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.079
	N	15	15
Summary writing	Pearson Correlation	.468	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.079	
	N	15	15

The correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) was found to be (0.468). This indicates a moderate positive correlation between reading comprehension and summary writing. It seems not significant at level ( $p > 0.05$ ) statistically, but it still indicates a meaningful relationship between the two variables. The p-value for the correlation was (0.079), which the correlation suggests that as students' reading comprehension improves, their ability to write summaries also improves.

#### 4.1.3. Regression Analysis:

Table 4: Regression analysis of CRT on SWT

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics				
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig.F Change
1	.468 <sup>a</sup>	.219	.159	8.09113	.219	3.640	1	13	.079

a. Predictors: (Constant), post summary test

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

A simple linear regression analysis was conducted to determine how much of the variance in summary writing (SWT) could be explained by reading comprehension (CRT).

The R-squared value was (0.219). It indicates that (21.9%) of the variance in summary writing could be explained by reading comprehension, but the model is not statistically significant ( $p = 0.079$ ). The beta coefficient was (0.468). The meaning is that a one-unit increase in reading comprehension would lead to a 0.468-unit increase in summary writing performance.

## Interpretation: For research questions and hypotheses:

### **RQ1: Effectiveness of Skimming/Scanning Instruction**

**Reject  $H_0$ :** Teaching skimming/scanning significantly improved both comprehension ( $p < 0.05$ ) and summary writing ( $p < 0.05$ ), with large practical effects ( $d > 2$ ). It means to RQ1, Yes—explicit instruction enhanced students' ability to summarize texts into well-formed paragraph.

### **RQ2: Relationship between RCT and SWT**

**Fail to reject  $H_0$ :** No statistically significant relationship exists between CRT and SWT ( $p > 0.05$ ). The moderate positive correlation ( $r = 0.468$ ) is not statistically significant ( $p = 0.079$ ). Answer to RQ2, there is a moderate positive trend, but the relationship is not statistically sturdy, likely due to small sample size ( $N = 15$ ) or unmeasured variables.

### **RQ3: Influence of SWT improvement on CRT**

**Fail to Reject  $H_0$ :** Improvement in summary writing does not reliably predict comprehension gains ( $p > 0.05$ ). Answer to RQ3' the SWT improvements correlate with CRT gains, the 1-unit improvement in SWT predicts a 0.468-unit increase in CRT (Beta = 0.468). This effect is not statistically significant ( $p = 0.079$ ).

Regression model, SWT explains 21.9% of variance in CRT ( $R^2 = 0.219$ ), suggesting independent skill development.

### **Interference:**

**First:** What this study directly aligned current research findings with recommendations from existing literature are:

#### **1. *Interdependence of reading and writing***

The study builds on Graham & Hebert's (2010) argument that reading and writing are interdependent. By teaching skimming/scanning to enhance summarization, it operationalizes this interdependence, similar to De La Paz & Wissinger (2015), who found summarization improves writing. Like Burnell et al. (2006), this study emphasizes that "good writing begins with good reading," using strategic reading techniques to scaffold writing.

#### **2. *Paragraph structure and coherence***

The focus on topic sentences, supporting details, and conclusions aligns with Wallace (2004) and McWhorter (1986), who stress the importance of paragraph structure for EFL learners. Alawdi's (2023) emphasis on vocabulary and sentence structure is mirrored in this study's intervention targeting weak word comprehension and disorganized summaries.

#### **3. *Skimming/Scanning as foundational strategies***

The use of skimming (theme identification) and scanning (keyword localization) came along with Alfiyatu & Styati (2023) and Wallace (2007), who advocates these strategies for improving reading efficiency and writing coherence.

#### **4. *Schema theory and critical thinking***

By teaching students to connect new information to prior knowledge (schematization), the study addresses Laufer's (1997) call for integrating schema theory into EFL instruction.

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

**Second:** What prior studies failed to address (Gaps this study fills). Previous research has not fully explored the following, which this study targets:

## i. *Bridging comprehension and writing in summarization*

While Shibabaw et al. (2023) found summarization strategies improved writing but not comprehension, this study simultaneously measures both outcomes, testing whether strategic reading (skimming/scanning) enhances both skills. Hyland & Jiang (2021) identified limited critical thinking in EFL learners but did not link it to structured reading strategies.

## ii. *Context-specific challenges in Yemeni EFL contexts*

Most studies (e.g., Hezam et al., 2022; De La Paz & Wissinger, 2015) focused on non-Yemeni contexts. This **study** addresses Yemeni students' unique struggles with vocabulary interpretation and paragraph coherence, as noted by Algamal et al. (2021) and Alawdi (2023).

## iii. *Structural paragraph mastery through skimming/scanning*

Prior studies (e.g., Sajjad, 2021; Mala, 2023) highlighted vocabulary and main idea challenges but did not explicitly use skimming/scanning to teach paragraph structure (topic sentence, supporting details, conclusion).

## iv. *Quantifying the reading-writing relationship*

Although Graham & Hebert (2010) theorized reading-writing interdependence, few studies (e.g., Yusuf et al., 2017) quantified this relationship. This study uses correlation and regression analyses to test whether summary writing gains predict comprehension improvements.

## 4.2. Results of Qualitative analysis: Paragraph Writing Analysis

### 4.2.1. Descriptive Statistics



The study also provided descriptive statistics for the elements of paragraph writing (main idea, supporting ideas, and conclusion sentence) after the treatment. The following table summarizes the pre-test and post-test performance.

Table 5: Frequency of elements in paragraph writing after treatment

Text	Main Idea	Supporting Ideas	Conclusion Sentence	Percentage
Text 1	146	130	129	31.622%
Text 2	138	108	112.5	28.166%
Text 3	116	85	85.5	22.966%
<b>Total</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>82.755%</b>

The table shows the frequency of correctly identified elements (main idea, supporting ideas, and conclusion) in paragraph writing after the treatment. **Text 1** had the highest scores for all elements, with 31.622% of students achieving mastery. **Text 2** and **Text 3** showed slightly lower scores, but the **total percentage** (82.755%) indicates that the majority of students achieved **mastery or development** in paragraph writing. This suggests that the teaching techniques were effective in helping students identify and structure the key components of a paragraph. Post-test evaluations revealed that **82.75%** of students produced summaries with well-structured paragraphs, including topic sentences, supporting ideas, and conclusions. Students in higher performance groups effectively applied skimming and scanning to provide a clearer interpretation of the key results, techniques to extract and organize information.

#### 4.2.2. Rubric-Based Mastery Analysis

The study aims to determine whether strategic skimming and scanning techniques of reading comprehension improve summarization abilities, they can

Developing the Language of EFL Students’ Paragraph Writing through  
Enhanced Readers’ Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

master the paragraph elements. Student performance is graded based on rubric levels as shown in the table below.

**Table 6: Hypothetical data** distribution (Based on Table 5)

Element	Level 4 (Mastery)	Level 3 (Developing)	Levels1–2 (Needs Improvement)
Main Ideas	240	100	60
Supporting Ideas	150	120	53
Conclusions	180	90	57

**Discussion:** Total Mastery (82.8%) of elements met rubric standards post-intervention, demonstrating structural coherence gains.

**Interpretation:** It is integrated with Research Goals

- Goal 1 (Skimming/Theme Identification) achieved through main idea dominance in summaries (*Level 4 = 240/400*).
- Goal 2 (Scanning/Detail Extraction) was partial success. Supporting ideas lagged (*Level 4 = 150/323*), suggesting need for targeted practice in contextual analysis.
- Goal 3 (Structural Coherence) Conclusions showed moderate improvement (*Level 4 = 180/327*), aligning with guided drafting exercises.

The qualitative data from open-ended summaries revealed that students improved in identifying main ideas, supporting details, and conclusions. However, some still struggled with paraphrasing and including irrelevant details. This aligns with previous studies mentioned, like Algamal et al. (2021) and Alawdi (2023), who noted similar issues in paragraph structuring and vocabulary use.

**5. Conclusion:**

The paired t-test results confirm that the teaching techniques (skimming and scanning) had a significant positive impact on both reading comprehension and

summary writing skill. The instructed skimming and scanning enabled students to decode complex vocabulary, identifies main ideas, and recognize paragraph structures. This contribution aligns with studies by Hezam et al. (2022) and Fauzi (2018), which found that such strategies reduce comprehension challenges and improve students' engagement with texts. The correlation and regression analyses suggest that reading comprehension is a predictor of summary writing ability with a 21.9% explanatory power in a moderate positive relationship between the two skills. The descriptive statistics show that the majority of students improved their ability to identify and structure key elements of a paragraph, indicating the effectiveness of the teaching techniques. This supports Gao's (2019) findings on schema theory, which emphasize the role of prior knowledge in linking and writing.

These findings support the integration of reading and writing skills in EFL instruction, as improving reading comprehension directly enhances students' ability to write coherent and well-organized summaries.

## 6. Practical Implications

- **For Educators:** it needs to integrate skimming/scanning into reading and writing lessons, and use scaffold exercises (e.g., identifying topic sentences → paraphrasing → writing summaries).
- **For Curriculum Designers:** it requires developing hybrid “read-to-write” modules, and prioritize vocabulary instruction (e.g., synonyms, context clues).

## 7. Limitations and Future Research:

Small sample size ( $N = 15$ ) likely limited statistical power for correlation/regression analyses. Future studies should use larger samples, track rubric-level mastery explicitly, and explore variables like vocabulary depth or metacognitive strategies. Non-significant correlation highlights the need to explore additional variables (e.g., metacognitive strategies) linking comprehension and writing.

# Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

## 8. Recommendation

This study advances existing research by:

1. Testing skimming/scanning as tools to enhance both comprehension and writing in a neglected Yemeni EFL context.
2. Quantifying the relationship between reading and writing skills addressed theoretical gaps, targeting structural paragraph mastery through strategic reading, which prior studies overlooked.
3. Key Innovation, bridging the gap between reading strategies and paragraph writing, the study offers a replicable framework for EFL contexts where traditional methods have failed. Future research should expand on regional applicability, and longitudinal skill retention.

## References

- Alawdi, A. M. (2023). Investigating major academic writing problems encountered by Yemeni MA Students of English in writing examinations' answers at the Faculty of Education/Saber-Lahij University. *European Journal of English Language and Literature Studies*, 11(3), 27-37. doi: <https://doi.org/10.37745/ejells.2013/vol11n32737>
- Al-Marrani, Y. M. A. (2023). An investigating of Yemen EFL Learners' writing problem, *International Journal of Research on English Teaching and Applied Linguistics*; Vol. 4, No.2 (34-47)
- Ameen, A. M .A., Wagdi R. A. &Abdulrazzaq S. E.(2021). Paragraph writing efficacy among Yemeni EFL University Learners. *Albaydha University Journal* 3 (2), (876-874). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.56807/buj.v3i2.179>
- Arifitriyanti, I. A., Wijaputra, B. A., & Sukmaantara, I. P. (2021). Enhancing the students' reading comprehension achievement through skimming and scanning techniques in senior High School. *EFL Education Journal*, 8(3), 133-145.

- =====
- Babashamsi, P., Saeideh B., Nahid S. ( 2013). Various models for reading comprehension process. *International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature*; ISSN 2200-3592 Vol. 2 No. 6, (150-154). URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijalel.v.2n.6p.150>
- Babin, M., Burnell, C., Pesznecker, S., Rosevear, N., & Wood, J. (2017). *The word on college reading and writing*. Open Oregon Educational Resources.
- Dardjito, H. Rol, N., Setiawan, A. & Sumekto, D. R. ( 2023). Challenges in reading English academic texts for non-English major students of an Indonesian university | 1291, 10(3), (1290-1308), <https://doi.org/10.24815/siele.v10i3.29067>
- De La Paz, S., & Wissinger, D.R. (2017). Improving the historical knowledge and writing of students with or at risk for LD. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 50, 658 - 671.
- Fauzi, I., & Raya, F. (2018). The effectiveness of skimming and scanning strategies in improving comprehension and reading speed rates for the students of English study program. *Register Journal*, 11(1), 101-120.
- Gao, Y. (2013). The effect of summary writing on reading comprehension: The Role of Mediation in EFL Classroom. *Reading Improvement*, 50, 43-47.
- Graham, S., & Hebert, M. (2010). Writing to read: *Evidence for how writing can improve reading*: A report from Carnegie Corporation of New York.
- Hezam, T. A., Ali, J. K. M., Imtiaz, S., Saifi , M. A., & Rezaul Islam, M. (2022). Challenges and problems of reading comprehension experienced by EFL Learners. *Journal of English Studies in Arabia Felix*, 1(2), 11–21. <https://doi.org/10.56540/jesaf.v1i2.28>
- Houcine, S. & Samiha M. (2017). Exploring the relationship between summary writing ability and reading Comprehension: Toward an EFL writing-to-read instruction. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences* MCSER Publishing, Rome-Italy; Vol 7 No 2 S1 (197-205). Doi:10.5901/mjss.2016.v7n2s1p197.

## Developing the Language of EFL Students' Paragraph Writing through Enhanced Readers' Awareness of Summary and Reading Comprehension Skills

Ali Saleh Mohammad Al-Attas

مجلة جامعة المهرة للعلوم الإنسانية، (عدد خاص 1)، تاريخ النشر يونيو-2025م

- Imaamah, A. N. A. M., & Styati, E. W. (2023). Using Skimming, Scanning and SQ3R Methods in Reading. *ELTT*, 9(1), 24-29.
- Laufer, B. (1997). The lexical plight in second language reading: Words you don't know, words you think you know, and words you can't guess. *Second language vocabulary acquisition: A rationale for pedagogy*, 1, 20-34.
- Nurhayati, D. A. W., & Fitriana, M. W. (2018). Effectiveness of summarizing in teaching reading comprehension for EFL students. *IJOLTL: Indonesian Journal of Language Teaching and Linguistics*, 3(1), 33-50.
- Sajjad, I., Samina S., Muhammad I & Syed K. S. (2021). Examining the academic writing challenges faced by University Students in Kfueit. , Palarch's Journal of Archaeology of Egypt/Egyptology 18(10), 1759-1777. ISSN 1567-214x.
- Savage, A., & Shafiei, M. (2012). *Effective Academic Writing 1: Student Book 1*. Oxford University Press.
- Widyawati, W. Y., & Simanjuntak, H. L. (2023). Enhancing reading comprehension by using the strategies of scanning and skimming for Institute of Technology Indonesia CIE's fourth level students. *Scope: Journal of English Language Teaching*, 7(2), 293-300.

## تطوير لغة كتابة الفقرة لدى طلاب اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية من خلال تعزيز وعي القارئ بمهارات التلخيص والقراءة الاستيعابية

د.علي صالح محمد العطاس\*  
ملخص:

لقد هدفت الدراسة إلى دراسة دور استراتيجيات القراءة الاستيعابية في تعزيز لغة طلاب الجامعة في مهارة الكتابة المستمدة من تقنية نشاط مهارة تلخيص نص القراءة الاستيعابية. فتعليم مهارتي القراءة الاستيعابية والاستقصائية للنص في بحث المفردات الجوهرية في بنية الفقرة يبسط لغة النص وتعقيداته، وتحسن من قدرة الطلاب على كتابة فقرة متكاملة. وعلى ذلك، ركز البحث على تزويد الطلاب بطرق في استخلاص المعارف المستمدة من نص القراءة إلى هدف الكتابة. ونظرًا لاحتياجاتها اللغوية والتعليمية، كانت البيئة التعليمية في سقطرى هي المكان المثالي لتقييم القراءة المستهدفة وأثر التوجيه على فن الكتابة. صممت الدراسة على المنهج التجريبي، شكلت عينة البحث من مجموعة واحدة مكونة من ستة عشر طالباً وطالبة في دورة تعليمية استمرت ثلاثة شهور. تم جمع البيانات الكمية والنوعية عبر ورقة الاستبانة التي شملت على أسئلة استيعابية مغلقة حول فهم النص، وسؤال مفتوح حول تلخيص النص المقري في صورة الفقرة. ولقد صنفت تحليل أجوبة الطلاب على فهم النص ونمط كتابة التلخيص. أظهرت نتائج البحث أن لتقنية تعليم المهارات المستهدفة أثرها الإيجابي على الاستيعاب والقدرة على فن التلخيص بمعدل نجاح 82% في كتابة الفقرة موافقا لاستراتيجيات فن الكتابة. وقد أوضحت درجات ما بعد الاختبار تحسناً واضحاً (74.3%) مقارنة بدرجات ما قبل المعالجة (45.7%). كما كشفت التحليلات الإحصائية أن العلاقة ما بين الاختبار الاستيعابي (CRT) وسؤال كتابة فقرة التلخيص (SPWT) قوية بنسبة 79%. ولهذا تبرهن الدراسة أن استراتيجية تركيز القراءة على مفردات النص عززت من القدرات اللغوية على جودة الكتابة. وفي الختام، أظهرت الدراسة أن القراءة الناجحة مدخل لفن الكتابة في تعليم اللغة الإنجليزية كلغة أجنبية سيدعم التنمية المستدامة في تعليم المهارات اللغوية في البيئة التعليمية لغير الناطقين بها.

الكلمات المفتاحية: القراءة الاستيعابية واستراتيجياتها، بؤرة المفردة، نشاط التلخيص لكتابة الفقرة، مدخل القراءة على الكتابة.

\* أستاذ مساعد في قسم اللغة الإنجليزية كلية التربية والعلوم التطبيقية سقطرى جامعة حضرموت

© نُشر هذا البحث وفقاً لشروط الرخصة Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0)، التي تسمح بنسخ البحث وتوزيعه ونقله بأي شكل من الأشكال، كما تسمح بتكييف البحث أو تحويله أو الإضافة إليه لأي غرض كان، بما في ذلك الأغراض التجارية، شريطة نسبة العمل إلى صاحبه مع بيان أي تعديلات أُجريت عليه.