A Corpus-Informed Materials Evaluation of EFL Textbooks and Teachers' Generated Materials in Indonesian Islamic Universities

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Abstract

The importance of vocabulary in the learning of EFL has been an indisputable matter in ELT. The inclusion of vocabulary in ELT materials is often accompanied by questions such as what type of vocabulary and how many words to teach students in diverse ELT contexts. Hence, evaluating the kinds of vocabulary in ELT materials is similarly important. This study demonstrates a considerably unconventional corpus-informed materials evaluation to assess the suitability of the vocabulary content of ELT coursebooks taught at the State Islamic Institute in Manado with its ESP context. Four ELT coursebooks taught at the four schools of the State Islamic Institute were analysed using corpus-based methods. Special software designed for corpus linguistics studies called eAntwordprofiler was used to count the coverage/frequency of occurrence of three types of Nation's vocabulary classification. The results showed that the examined coursebooks contain sufficient English high-frequency words required by theory. They contain 84.14% of high-frequency English words enlisted in the General Service List (GSL). However, in terms of academic and technical vocabulary coverage, these coursebooks content were still considered under the theoretically acceptable coverage of at least 12.4% and 5%, respectively. For ELT coursebooks used in ESP teaching, such as in field-specific Islamic studies programs, the course books should fulfil the minimum coverage threshold of high frequency, academic and technical vocabulary.

Abstrak

Pentingnya kosakata dalam pembelajaran EFL telah menjadi hal yang tak terbantahkan dalam ELT. Pencantuman kosakata dalam materi ELT sering disertai dengan pertanyaan seperti apa jenis kosakata dan berapa banyak kata yang harus diajarkan kepada siswa dalam konteks ELT yang beragam. Oleh karena itu, mengevaluasi jenis kosakata dalam materi ELT juga sama pentingnya. Studi ini menunjukkan evaluasi materi informasi korpus yang sangat tidak konvensional untuk menilai kesesuaian isi kosakata buku pelajaran ELT yang diajarkan di Institut Agama Islam Negeri Manado dengan konteks ESP-nya. Empat buku pelajaran ELT yang diajarkan di empat sekolah Institut Agama Islam Negeri dianalisis menggunakan metode berbasis korpus. Sebuah perangkat lunak khusus yang dirancang untuk studi linguistik korpus yang disebut eAntwordprofiler digunakan untuk menghitung cakupan/frekueni kemunculan tiga jenis klasifikasi kosakata Bangsa. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa buku

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INTRODUCTION

Efforts have been made to ensure that students are exposed to the proper materials in order to enhance their learning in English as a Second Language. There are various methods for determining if materials are suitable for use in ELT programs. It is common practice in English language teaching (ELT) to evaluate materials based on their level of difficulty, compatibility with the program’s goals, and cost (Richards, 2001; Tomlinson, 2008, 2012). In most cases, the evaluation of materials is based on linguistic, ELT, and general learning theories. The coursebook evaluation checklist, for instance, was drafted in part by (Mukundan, Nimechisalem, & Hajimohammadi, 2011).

With the advent of technology and applied linguistics theory, corpus linguistics emerged and made contact with language teaching, specifically ELT. Corpus studies developed its pedagogical wing, and more and more research has shown how corpora contributed to ELT by showing its connection and benefits for the development of ELT syllabus, materials and testing (Campoy, Cubillo, Belles-Fortuno, & Gea-Valor, 2010; I. Nation, 2001; P. Nation, 2016). The contribution of corpora and word lists created based on them in ELT materials development is apparent in their role as the provider of empirically backed vocabulary input for ELT materials. This contribution is a game changer that distinguish traditional materials development that mostly base their selection of vocabulary input for materials by employing more intuitive and subjective measures such as “expert judgement” selection of what vocabulary should go in ELT materials (course books). The vocabulary lists resulting from corpus-based research provide “real language,” i.e. “real words/vocabulary” that occur in natural English texts supported by statistical evidence.

Referring to the concept of corpora as the provider of a valuable resource for ELT materials development, this particular study attempted to propose a non-traditional way to assess the suitability of vocabulary content of ELT course books used in an Indonesian Islamic university/college. This study is set to check the coverage of high frequency, academic and technical vocabulary in these ELT coursebooks based on their conformity to the corpus of English as used in Islamic studies discipline (academic and professional context). The purposes stated as follows: (1) To identify and evaluate the properties of vocabulary presented in EFL materials (course books) used in Indonesian Islamic universities.; (2) To evaluate these EFL materials in terms of the extent of their conformity (or disconformity) to the General Service List /GSL (West, 1953), Academic Word List/AWL (Coxhead, 2000), and the Islamic Religious Studies Textbooks Vocabulary/IRSTV List (Simbuka, Hamied, Sundayana, & Kwary, 2019); and (3) To examine whether the analyzed ELT textbooks content has met the properties of ‘good materials’, in terms of the vocabulary load or the coverage of the categories in (I. Nation, 2001) vocabulary classification as suggested by theory.

To begin, there are "High-Frequency Words"/HFW (Nation, 2001: 15), which are the words that appear most frequently in all kinds of written material. Although content words may also fall into this category in English, the most common function words are articles and prepositions, which are the most common. The General Service Lists (GSL) is the most widely used high-frequency list (1953). The roughly 2000-word families on this list are considered to be the most common general English words (Nation, 2001). The most commonly used list of high-frequency terms in corpus studies, despite its dated nature, is this one (Lessard-Clouston, 2012). The first 1000 and second 1000 word lists from West’s GSL were used in this study to identify the most frequently occurring words in the examined
target corpus of English language textbooks used by the English language instructors at the IAIN Manado.

METHODS

The data of this study came from one primary and 3 secondary data sources due to the nature of the research questions that specifically target the use of a specific word/vocabulary list in a specific domain, i.e. ELT. The data used in this study comprised four ELT textbooks used in most of the departments of the four schools/faculties at the Manado State Institute for Islamic studies or Institut Agama Islam Negeri (IAIN Manado). Listed below were the four English language textbooks used as the data of this study:

1) Islamic Studies: Readings for the New Millennium was published in 2006 by Pabelan Cerdas Nusantara under the direction of Drs. Giyoto, M.Hum. In the Faculty of Ushuluddin and Dakwah (FUAD), one of the IAIN Manado’s English instructors taught it in the Science of Qur’an and Interpretation (IAT) and the Dakwah Management (Dakwah Management). There were 159 pages in the book, but only 155 pages of that were used as the basis for this investigation. There were a total of 33,525 tokens in the book. Data 001 became the official designation for this textbook.

2) Three English textbooks previously used in Asnidar’s (2021) study on a related topic served as secondary data sources. Thus, in addition to the researchers’ primary data, these English textbooks' data were re-used: a) In 2018, UM Press published Economic English Instructional Material Based on Shariah Economy System, a textbook based on secondary data compiled by Syamsul Huda, et al. b) the second English textbook from the secondary data was Oxford University Press’ 2005 Ready to use Person to Person Student Book 1; c) English textbook book titled Business English composed by E.B. Nikolaenko and published by the Tomsk Polytechnic University in 2008.

The data collection began with selecting textbooks that meet the purpose of this specific study under the purposive sampling frame. Hence, the data in mostly hardcopy English textbooks elaborated in the previous sub-chapter on the data source. The textbooks collected served as the raw data of this present study, therefore they should be processed further by scanning them into pdf formats and further converting them into the text format using a pdf converter program called the Antfile converter. Obeying to the corpus linguistic method, the data was stored as the corpus of English Subject textbooks used at the IAIN Manado that contained 4 sub-corpora that were built from the four English subject textbooks that were obtained from the data collection procedure. Once the hardcopy books had been turned into txt files, then they were ready for analysis.

The data analysis was conducted under the principles of the corpus linguistic method that was mainly conducted under the quantitative tradition. The analysis, however, did not involve any elaborate statistical hypothesis testing using statistical tests like most studies that employ the quantitative research method. Following many studies in corpus linguistics the statistical analysis centred on the descriptive statistic to determine the frequency of occurrence of certain vocabulary categories in the analysed corpus and its sub-corpora. The data analysis procedure was as follows:

Data analysis phase I- Data validity check

This phase was not an actual analysis to obtain the answers for any of the three research questions posed in this study. Rather, the first analysis was conducted in order to check the validity of the data, i.e. to check whether or not there were still words that were not recognized by the Wordprofile software. The process of checking the errors in the data also included editing the data in the txt formats to overcome the errors. Hence the analysis could yield more accurate results. The Antconc software was used to generate a word list of all the words that were contained in each of the sub-corpora. The process of data error checking/data validity checking was conducted by entering the scrutinized data set into
the AntConc software and it was then analyzed/checked using the software’s wordlist tool. This is shown by the following illustration:

Figure 3.1. Data validity /error checking

![Data validity /error checking](image)

It is important that the “token settings” are set to the right measurement as the research questions require. The token setting is a tool that translates the definition of what count as “words” or “token” based on specific research questions. In this specific study, the token definition was set to include all combinations of letters that form English words plus the apostrophe (’) and hyphen that were often used in words inspired by Arabic language. These settings were suitable based on the research questions that seeks for any “Arabic inspired” English words.

This process resulted in a txt format that lists all words in a sub-corpora, and each was stored as ready to be analysed data.

Figure 3.2. Token settings in the Antconc corpus software

![Token settings in the Antconc corpus software](image)
Data Analysis phase II- Word profile of the corpus

In this phase, the actual data analysis was conducted to answer all three research questions in this particular study. This analysis aimed to profile or describe the types of words/vocabulary in a given corpus. The analysis was conducted by uploading all the data onto the Antwordprofiler program and analysed using the GSL, AWL and the IRSTV List as the “filter” or the tools for categorizing the words/vocabulary in the corpus that was being analysed. This is shown in the figure below:

The program was operated by uploading the data under question into the “user file” tab, whilst the “filter” files or the vocabulary list that are used to categorize the words in the examined corpus were uploaded onto the “level list(s)” tab. In the “output settings” tab a researcher could set up the types of information that would be displayed on the result of the word profiler analysis files: the “statistics” button showed the statistical information or frequency of each of the vocabulary types in the analysed corpus. The checked “word types” button provided the result with the list of words types or individual words and their frequencies. Similarly, the “word groups (families)” provided the word groups or families in the corpus and their frequencies. In this present study, however, this feature was not necessary because the focus of this study was not on word families but on words tokens and word types. The result of the analysis would contain a complete frequent list of each of the category of the vocabulary in the analysed corpus, when the “include complete frequency list, which was crucial in this phase of analysis since it describes the detail statistics of the corpus. The result of the analysis would contain full information on which words of the level lists/vocabulary category lists did not existed in the analysed corpus and which did not when the two buttons of “Include words in user file(s) but not in level list(s)” and “Include words in the level list(s) but not in user file(s)” are checked.
Data analysis phase III: -IRSTV checking

The next phase was the analysis for finding the percentage of IRSTV in the data. Again, the Antwordprofiler was used the same way as it was in the previous phase. Following the same procedure, the data was uploaded to the program and analysed using the IRSTV txt file as the additional filter in the “level list” of the program. This process was shown in the figure below:

One important setting that had to be applied in this particular analysis was the “token setting” in the Antwordprof program. In the “token definition setting”, the token must be defined as “user defined class” and the apostrophe mark (’) and the dash mark (–) had to be added to the existing
“token definition”, so that the program could “read” all the words containing these marks, such as in the words and names in Arabic language that existed in the data. Figure 3.6 below showed this setting:

![Figure 3.6. Token settings in the Wordprofiler Program](image)

Once the procedures in the various phases of analysis have been carefully done, the result are ready to be displayed and interpreted. All the results of this analysis are presented and discussed in the following chapter of this report.

**FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

The analysis of profiling the types of vocabulary contained in the corpus of English language textbooks used at IAIN Manado that were conducted with the aid of corpus analysis computer programs and tools could yield a number of results depending on the research questions.

**The vocabulary categories in the Corpus of English Language Textbooks used**

Addressing to the first research question of this particular study that is “What types of vocabulary group are covered in the EFL textbooks/coursebooks?” an analysis using the Antwordprofiler program was used in order to profile or to describe the kinds of vocabulary in the entire corpus of English Textbooks at the IAIN Manado and next to profile the kinds of vocabulary that exist in each of the sub-corpora or each of the individual English textbooks data files. The result of the first-world profile step analysis resulted in descriptions of words/vocabulary types as shown in table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>FILE</th>
<th>TOKEN</th>
<th>TOKEN%</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TYPE%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1_gsl_1st_1000.txt</td>
<td>80122</td>
<td>77.97</td>
<td>2481</td>
<td>30.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2_gsl_2nd_1000.txt</td>
<td>6343</td>
<td>6.17</td>
<td>1163</td>
<td>14.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3_awl_570.txt</td>
<td>5203</td>
<td>5.06</td>
<td>1015</td>
<td>12.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>IRSTV-RFK-Simbuka et-al.txt</td>
<td>2314</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>1.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8780</td>
<td>8.54</td>
<td>3365</td>
<td>41.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>102762</td>
<td>8160</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Table above contains several information including “the level” which represent the kinds of vocabulary that exist in the examined corpus. “The level” or kinds of vocabulary entered at the Antwordprofiler program as the filter to categorize the vocabulary in the corpus were “level 1” was the first 1000 words of the GSL, “level 2” was the second 1000 words of the GSL, “level 3” was the AWL and
the last level “level 3” was the IRSTV compiled by Simbuka et.al (2019). Other information that existed in the Table were token, token percentage, types and types percentage. “Token” means the number of total words that exist in a sub-corpora or simply in a text, “token% or token percentage” was the percentage of the tokens/total number of words that were categorized according to a specific “level” or kinds of vocabulary in the analysed corpus/sub-corpora. “Types” referred to the number of individual words, and “types% or percentage” referred to the percentage of types or individual words that exist in the examined corpus/sub-corpora.

The analysis resulted in a description of the vocabulary of the corpus of English language textbooks at the IAIN Manado with the size of 102,762 tokens (or a total number of words) as follows:

a) The examined corpus contained 86,465 tokens of the words that belong to the general service list or the list of most frequent English words.

b) The corpus also contained 5,203 tokens of words that belong to the academic word list or the most frequent English academic words.

c) There are 2,314 words that belong to the special word list called the Islamic Religious Studies Vocabulary (IRSTV), as the name suggests, this is a list of words that are specifically high frequency in Islamic Religious studies textbooks.

In detail, the distribution of the vocabulary categories found in each of the four sub-corpora of the corpus of English Language Textbooks is summarized by the table 2.

**Table 2. The result of the vocabulary categories that existed in each of the sub-corpora of the corpus of English language Textbooks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>FILE</th>
<th>DATA 01-</th>
<th>DATA 02</th>
<th>DATA 03</th>
<th>DATA 04</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TOKEN</td>
<td>TOKEN%</td>
<td>TOKEN</td>
<td>TOKEN%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>_1_gsl_1st</td>
<td>26019</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>7830</td>
<td>67.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>_2_gsl_2nd</td>
<td>1929</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>661</td>
<td>5.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>_1000.txt</td>
<td>27948</td>
<td>83.4</td>
<td>8491</td>
<td>73.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>_570.txt</td>
<td>1285</td>
<td>3.83</td>
<td>1116</td>
<td>9.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IRSTV-RFK-Simbuka</td>
<td>1432</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>et-al.txt</td>
<td>2860</td>
<td>8.53</td>
<td>1677</td>
<td>14.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>33525</td>
<td>11561</td>
<td>18636</td>
<td>59040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table above indicated that the total number of tokens of each category of vocabulary in each of the sub-corpora differed in number/percentages. In the first sub-corpora there was 27,948 tokens of words fell into the GSL category (GSL 1st 1000 and 2nd 1000), whilst sub-corpora 02/data 02, sub-corpora-03 sub-corpora-04, contained 8491, 16134, and 338902 tokens of GSL words, respectively. The second category of vocabulary, the AWL, also existed in the corpus of English Language Textbooks at the IAIN Manado. The first sub-corpora of this corpus, the sub-corpora/Data 01 contained 1285 tokens of the AWL, whilst sub-corpora/Data 02, sub-corpora/Data 03 and sub-corpora/Data 04 contained 1116 tokens, 514 tokens and 2288 tokens of AWL in each of them, respectively.

Based on the category of “types” that existed in the examined corpus of English Language Textbooks that are used in IAIN Manado, there were 3644 “types” or “individual kinds of words. The result also revealed that there were also different numbers of “types” in each of the sub-corpora. Table 4.3. below indicated the number of the “types” that existed in the sub-corpora examined in this
particular study. Indicated below, there were 2320 types of the sub-corpora/Data 01, 986 types of GSL in the sub-corpora/Data 02, 1344 types of GSL in sub-corpora/Data 03 and 2556 types of GSL existed in the fourth sub-corpora/Data 04.

Table 3. The GSL, AWL in the Sub-corpora

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>FILE</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TYPE%</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TYPE%</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TYPE%</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TYPE%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1_1gsl_1.txt</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>41.18</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>40.83</td>
<td>1001</td>
<td>48.06</td>
<td>1883</td>
<td>42.51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2_1gsl_2.txt</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>15.02</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>8.33</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>16.47</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>15.19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3_awl_570.txt</td>
<td>2320</td>
<td>56.2</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>49.16</td>
<td>1344</td>
<td>64.53</td>
<td>2556</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRSTV-RFK-Simbuka et-al.txt</td>
<td>466</td>
<td>11.29</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>16.40</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>3.98</td>
<td>671</td>
<td>15.15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 -</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>2.62</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1.84</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>1234</td>
<td>29.89</td>
<td>654</td>
<td>32.60</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>30.96</td>
<td>1161</td>
<td>26.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4. The Table of IRSTV Percentage in Each of The Sub-Corpora/Each Textbook

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IRSTV-RFK-Simbuka et-al.txt</th>
<th>TOKEN</th>
<th>TOKEN%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data 01</td>
<td>1432</td>
<td>4.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATA 02</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATA 03</td>
<td>162</td>
<td>0.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATA 04</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>1.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The result presented in the previous section of this report is discussed in the following section. To begin the discussion, it is beneficial to revisit the concept of “coverage” of a vocabulary list in a certain corpus. Coverage is often defined as the total amount of a specific vocabulary category in a corpus. Coverage is often calculated and presented in terms of the percentage of the vocabulary category under question in an examined corpus. The statistic showing the percentage of each vocabulary category produces, a general picture of these categories’ coverage to which IAIN Manado students’ were exposed through the investigated ELT textbooks.

First to be discussed is the coverage of the GSL in the corpus of ELT textbooks taught to IAIN first-year students. As stated in the result section, the examined corpus of ELT textbooks contained 86,465 tokens or 84.14 % of GSL. This result fell in the acceptable coverage of GSL as suggested by major research in corpus linguistics literature that general English words that occurs in high frequency with the highest frequency should occupy the most space in any corpus, with at least 78.4% (Sutarsyah et al., 1994) to 90.6 % in a study by Hirsh (as cited in Nation & Waring, 1997). This also confirmed Zipf’s (1949) law that corpora should comprise of a small number of words with a high frequency of occurrence, in which they are the majority of the corpora content (Weisser, 2016).

In a closer examination, each sub-corpora’s content should also display the same or at least similar result with the main corpus explained above. The result showed that the first sub-corpora/Data 1 contained 83.36%, the second sub-corpora/Data 2 contained 73.45%, the third sub-corpora/Data 3 contained 86.57% and the last sub-corpora/Data 4 contained 86.82% of combined GSL 1st 1000 and 2nd 1000 lists. This result showed that almost all but the first sub-corpora/Data 1 confirmed the abovementioned theory. Each of the sub-corpora showed a confirmative percentage of GSL to the required coverage of GSL in theory. The result also showed that the sub-corpora/data 4 contained the highest coverage of GSL of all the sub-corpora examined in this particular study. Meanwhile, the second sub-corpora seemed to fall a little below the popular coverage range mentioned earlier, having only 73.45% tokens of GSL. These findings might seem unmatched with the book’s title that suggests that it is meant for teaching ESP on business discipline.

In relation to ELT materials, this result means that most of the sub-corpora or ELT coursebooks examined in this study have met the requirement as good resources for teaching general EFL courses due to their theoretically sufficient GSL coverage. Therefore, the sub-corpora/Data 4, which is an ELT textbook entitled “Business English” is the best ELT coursebook to be used for teaching general English courses because of its highest coverage of GSL.

The next point of discussion is the coverage of AWL or the academic words, the one that is labelled as specialized vocabulary in Nation’s (2001) classification. The results showed that the overall coverage of AWL in the examined corpus was 5.06%. Each of the sub-corpora contained different coverage: sub-corpora/Data 1 has a 3.83% of AWL, sub-corpora/Data 2 contained 9.65% AWL, sub-corpora/Data 3 has an AWL coverage of 2.76%, and sub-corpora/Data 4 contained 5.86% AWL. The coverage of AWL in the examined ELT coursebooks used as the sub-corpora of this particular study fall slightly under the usual coverage of AWL found in other corpus studies, which ranges from 12.04% (Kwary & Artha, 2017) to as much as 27.8% Shabani, and Tazik (2014). The reason for the higher coverage of AWL these corpora of these previous studies can be traced to the differences of the source of texts used in those studies that were solely academic research articles, whilst this current study examined texts from more general ones, not entirely academic texts such as research reports.

On the last filter or stop list, the IRSTV is the marker of technical vocabulary /the third in Nation’s (2001) category of vocabulary. The results indicated that the number of technical words in the examined ELT coursebooks was only 2.25%. This coverage may be relatively small compared to the required minimum coverage of technical vocabulary in any text, which is at least 5% (Nation, 2001, 2016).

In general, the content of the corpus of ELT coursebooks used to teach English at IAIN Manado has confirmed the suggested content of “acceptable/normal” English texts, in that it contains acceptable coverage of each of the high-frequency English words measured by the coverage of the GSL, specialized vocabulary represented by the coverage of AWL and technical vocabulary represented by the coverage...
of the IRSTV in the corpus and its sub-corpora. The discrepancy in the coverage of each of the vocabulary categories, especially the GSL and the IRSTV in the sub-corpora, is unavoidable due to the fact that the goals of each of these course books as the sub-corpora were also different. In terms of the learning aim and the topic as suggested by the title of each of the course books, one can easily understand that sub-corpora/Data4/coursebook 4 is by nature a coursebook to be used for teaching general English. The other three sub-corpora/data/course books are naturally suitable for ESP contexts. This follows the notion that when a corpus is compiled based on a generic source, it was expected that it has “normal” coverage high coverage of GSL, rather than other types of vocabulary. Similarly, the lower coverage of IRSTV in sub-corpora of general ELT coursebooks sounded ‘normal’ for this genre in to have very little coverage of technical vocabulary compared to the other sub-corpora.

Problems might arise when the attention is turned to the other sub-corpora/data/ELT coursebooks bearing ESP titles such as “Business English” or even more field-specific ones, i.e. the two ELT coursebooks that bear the title of specific ELT in Islamic university or Syariah Economy context. These two ELT coursebooks contained technical vocabulary content that are considerably lower than the theoretically suggested technical vocabulary content thresh-hold. This means that for these course books to be deemed less suitable for use as text sources for the learning of technical vocabulary in Islamic Religious Studies because it contained insufficient coverage of the IRSTV list word families

**CONCLUSION**

There are several points that can be concluded from the analysis of this study: First, to be considered acceptable texts of English, the examined ELT coursebooks should fulfill the theoretically required coverage of high frequency and academic vocabulary for the coursebooks to be deemed useful for general academic Programs (EAP). Furthermore, course books that are designed to be used in the context of field-specific, such as in the context of Islamic studies, the context of ELT in state Islamic universities where the examined ELT course books are used should fulfill the theoretically suggested coverage of technical vocabulary. Thus, to be considered suitable for ELT in Islamic studies major, these coursebooks should contain at least 5% of technical vocabulary in the Islamic studies field, represented by the content of the Islamic Religious Studies Textbook List.

**REFERENCES**


