TSAR 2025

The Fourth Workshop on Text Simplification, Accessibility and Readability

Proceedings of the Workshop

November 4-9, 2025

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Introduction

The organisers are pleased to present the proceedings of the 4th edition of the Workshop on Text Simplification, Accessibility and Readability (TSAR), hosted at The 2025 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2025), in Suzhou, China.

The Text Simplification, Accessibility, and Readability (TSAR) workshop aims at bringing together researchers, developers and industries of assistive technologies, public organizations representatives, and other parties interested in the problem of making information more accessible to all citizens. We will discuss recent trends and developments in the area of automatic text simplification, automatic readability assessment, language resources and evaluation for text simplification, etc. This year the workshop was organised around two key tracks. The main track was of general interest to the audience and covered topics surrounding empirical research on text simplification, accessibility and readability. The second track was in relation to a shared-task. Participants were tasked with generating simplifications of texts that conform to a specified target readability level, balancing reduced linguistic complexity with meaning preservation and fluency. Participants were then encouraged to submitted system description papers. All papers belonging to both tracks are listed below.

Main Track

- Template-Based Text-to-Image Alignment for Language Accessibility: A Study on Visualizing Text Simplifications
- Document-level Simplification and Illustration Generation: Multimodal Coherence
- Medical Text Simplification: From Jargon Detection to Jargon-Aware Prompting
- Readability Reconsidered: A Cross-Dataset Analysis of Reference-Free Metrics
- Evaluating Health Question Answering Under Readability-Controlled Style Perturbations
- A Multi-Agent Framework with Diagnostic Feedback for Iterative Plain Language Summary Generation from Cochrane Medical Abstracts
- Efficient On-Device Text Simplification for Firefox with Synthetic Data Fine-Tuning

TSAR-2025 Shared-Task(*)

- Findings of the TSAR 2025 Shared Task on Readability-Controlled Text Simplification
- OneNRC@TSAR2025 Shared Task: Small Models for Readability Controlled Text Simplification
- GRIPF at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Towards controlled CEFR level simplification with the help of inter-model interactions
- ITU NLP at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: A Three-Stage Prompting Approach for CEFR-Oriented Text Simplification
- STARLING at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Leveraging Alternative Generations for Readability Level Adjustment in Text Simplification
- taskGen at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Exploring prompt strategies with linguistic knowledge
- EasyJon at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Evaluation of Automated Text Simplification with LLM-as-a-Judge

- HULAT-UC3M at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: A Prompt-Based Approach using Lightweight Language Models for Readability-Controlled Text Simplification
- UoL-UPF at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: A Generate-and-Select Approach for Readability-Controlled Text Simplification
- Uniandes at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Multi-Agent CEFR Text Simplification with Automated Quality Assessment and Iterative Refinement
- EhiMeNLP at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Candidate Generation via Iterative Simplification and Reranking by Readability and Semantic Similarity
- OUNLP at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Multi-Round Text Simplifier via Code Generation
- HIT-YOU at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Leveraging Similarity-Based Few-Shot Prompting, Round-Trip Translation, and Self-Refinement for Readability-Controlled Text Simplification
- SQUREL at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: CEFR-Controlled Text Simplification with Prompting and Reinforcement Fine-Tuning
- Archaeology at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Teaching Small Models to do CEFR Simplifications
- HOPE at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Balancing Control and Complexity in Readability-Controlled Text Simplification
- Know-AI at TSAR 2025 Shared Task: Difficulty-aware Text Simplification System

All submissions were peer-reviewed by the members of the program committee which includes distinguished specialists in text simplification, accessibility, and readability.

The workshop is held in-person, with online attendance for authors who were unable to attend due to constraints beyond the organisers control.

We would like to thank the members of the program committee for their timely help in reviewing the submissions and all the authors for submitting their papers to the workshop. We also thank the EMNLP 2025 workshop chairs for their kind support in delivering the workshop and producing these proceedings.

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Organizing Committee

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Keynote Talk

Controllable Text Simplification

Tomoyuki Kajiwara
Ehime University
November 09, 2025 –

Abstract: Text simplification is a task of paraphrasing a given text in an easy-to-understand manner to assist a variety of people in language comprehension. To fully benefit from text simplification, consideration of individual differences in language ability is crucial.

Over the past decade, much effort has been devoted to studying methods for text simplification that adapt expressions according to the target audience. This presentation focuses on approaches to personalizing text simplification, specifically controlling readability and editing operations.

Bio: Tomoyuki Kajiwara received the B.S. and M.S. degrees in engineering from the Nagaoka University of Technology, Japan, in 2013 and 2015, respectively, and the Ph.D. degree in engineering from the Tokyo Metropolitan University, Japan, in 2018. From 2018 to 2020, he was a Specially-Appointed Assistant Professor with the Osaka University. He is currently an Assistant Professor with the Ehime University. His research interests include natural language processing, paraphrasing, and quality estimation.

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