Research Revolution

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Research Papers

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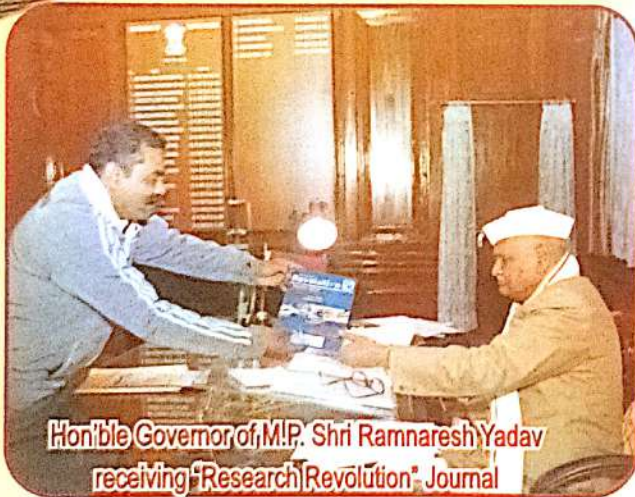
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SPECIAL SECTION with this issue - Research papers of conference organised in Global Institute of Management & Technology West Bengal

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Special Section

Comprehending Technical Texts
Dr. Sadhan Kumar Dey

Our success in academics & professional fields depends on our proficiency in reading Technical and non-technical texts. Especially for comprehension of Technical Texts we need a systematic and scientific approach. We need to apply few strategies to get over the basic problems like lack of steady concentration, lack of energy and motivation and poor reading skill due to less exposure or lack of schemata.

Technical Texts – Definition & Scope

Technical Texts refer to such texts that are governed by fixed rules and exclusive parameters. Examples: Process of controlling Electrical Grid, and Laws and Acts;

We can provide a longer list that will help us to recognize Technical Texts and to understand their scope. Technical Texts include topics and issues that are:

* Technical issue / Topic-based ;
* Science-based ; (know- what)
* Laws and Process- based;
* Technology-based ; (know-how)
* Discipline – Specific Information-based ;
* Factual Description & Instructions-based;

Linguistic Features of Technical Texts: An analytical study shows that Technical Texts have developed the following linguistic features:

* Use of Passive Voice structure for object – specific focus ;
* Use of Short Sentences for easy retention ;
* Use of Unequivocal Terms for guaranteeing mono-meaning ;
* Use of Technical Jargons & Technical Terms for universal understanding ;
* Use of exemplification & Illustration for wide understanding ;
* Use of different Charts, Graphs & Diagrams for encoding information
* Use of repetitive devices like:

As a matter of fact, As a whole, In short, Apropos, since and hence. This is why we need specific sub skills of Reading for easy comprehension of Technical Texts. Types of Technical Texts: The following types of Texts can be called Technical Texts.

* Books on Science, Medicine, Engineering and allied fields
* Articles, published in Science and Technology Journal
* Cricket Commentary (Few non-technical informal talk- allowed)
* Radio Commentary (Few non-technical informal talk-allowed)
* Software User's Manual
* Hardware User's Manual
* Medicine Pamphlets / Medical Guide / Medical Literature
* Non-Fictional writings on any Discipline;
* Laboratory Manuals;