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| Journal Name: | [**Asian Journal of Education and Social Studies**](https://journalajess.com/index.php/AJESS) |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_AJESS\_137744** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **PERCEIVED READING COMPREHENSION DIFFICULTIES AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF GRADE 5 PUPIL'S IN WILLIAM JOYCE SR. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL** |
| Type of the Article | **Original Research Article** |

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | **Author’s Feedback** (It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here) |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | This manuscript provides valuable insights into the relationship between perceived reading comprehension difficulties and academic performance among Grade 5 pupils at William Joyce Sr. Elementary School. By addressing a critical issue in education—students’ struggles with reading comprehension—the study highlights how these difficulties impact academic success. The findings contribute to the understanding of the challenges students face in early education, particularly in reading. This research is important for the scientific community as it informs educational interventions and strategies that can be implemented to improve both reading comprehension and academic performance, potentially leading to better educational outcomes for future generations.  For improvement, it would be helpful to provide further exploration of intervention strategies that could address the reading difficulties identified. Additionally, expanding the study to include a larger sample size and considering other influencing factors, such as socio-economic background, might offer a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by students. | Noted |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | The title is clear and reflects the core focus of the study. | Noted with thanks. |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | The abstract of the article provides a good overview of the study’s aim and findings, but it can be improved for better clarity and flow. First, it would be helpful to make the research objective more concise. For example, instead of saying “The purpose of the study was to determine the relationship between perceived reading comprehension difficulties and academic performance,” a more straightforward approach could be, “This study examines the relationship between perceived reading comprehension difficulties and academic performance among Grade 5 pupils.” Additionally, mentioning key statistical results, such as the correlation analysis result (r = 0.59), would give readers a clearer picture of the study’s findings. Rephrasing certain parts can also improve readability and eliminate redundancies. For instance, the statement “the respondent’s academic performance was satisfactory, which implied that the pupil’s at this level developed fundamental knowledge” could be simplified to “the academic performance of respondents was satisfactory, indicating that students had developed foundational skills and knowledge.” Finally, adding a brief mention of the practical implications of the findings would strengthen the abstract. For example, highlighting the need for interventions to support students’ reading comprehension could add value. By consolidating these points, the abstract will be clearer, more direct, and more impactful. | Noted |
| Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here. | The manuscript is scientifically correct, using a suitable descriptive correlational research design and appropriate statistical tools like Pearson correlation analysis. However, the explanation of the methods, particularly the reading comprehension survey and the Phil-IRI results, could be clearer. Additionally, linking the findings more directly to practical educational interventions would strengthen the manuscript’s impact. Overall, the study is solid, but more detail and connection to real-world applications would enhance its scientific rigor. | Noted |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.** | The references are generally sufficient but could benefit from more recent sources, particularly from 2020 onward, to reflect current trends in reading comprehension research. Adding studies on newer interventions or digital tools, especially in the context of online learning, would strengthen the manuscript and make it more relevant to today’s educational challenges. | Noted |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | The language quality is generally suitable for scholarly communication but could benefit from refinement. Some sentences are a bit wordy, and there are minor grammatical errors. A thorough proofreading would help enhance clarity and ensure a more polished, professional tone throughout the manuscript. | Noted |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | **Reviewer’s comment** | **Author’s comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)* |  |