

## THE ROLE OF ANNOTATION-TYPE GLOSSARIES IN L2 VOCABULARY ACQUISITION: AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY

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**Abstract.** This article analyzes the role of annotation-type glossaries in enhancing vocabulary acquisition in second language (L2) learning based on an experimental approach. The main objective of the study is to determine how annotation-type glossaries (i.e., glossaries providing brief explanations, translations, or contextual cues) affect learners' ability to acquire, understand, and retain new vocabulary.

The study involved 60 students who were divided into three groups: annotation-type glossary, explanatory glossary, and control group. The results showed that while annotation-type glossaries facilitate quick comprehension, explanatory glossaries are more effective for long-term retention. The highest results were observed with a combined (hybrid) approach.

**Keywords:** L2, vocabulary acquisition, glossary, annotation, experimental study, language learning

**Introduction.** Increasing vocabulary knowledge is one of the key factors in second language learning. Learners are expected not only to understand new words but also to use them actively in communication. In this regard, glossaries—word explanations provided within a text or separately—serve as an important didactic tool.

Glossaries can take various forms:

- Annotation-type glossaries (brief translations or explanations)
- Explanatory glossaries (detailed explanations with examples)
- Hybrid glossaries (a combination of both)

This study focuses on determining the effectiveness of annotation-type glossaries.

### Literature Review

Numerous studies have examined vocabulary acquisition in language learning. Most of them confirm that glossaries support learners in understanding and retaining vocabulary.

### *Annotation-Type Glossaries*

Annotation-type glossaries have the following characteristics:

- Brief and precise translation
- Minimal explanation
- Easy and quick access

### Advantages:

- Fast acquisition
- Low cognitive load

### **Disadvantages:**

- Lack of deep understanding
- Limited contextual explanation

### *Explanatory Glossaries*

Explanatory glossaries include:

- Detailed explanations
- Examples
- Grammatical information

### **Advantages:**

- Deep understanding
- Long-term retention

### **Disadvantages:**

- Time-consuming
- High cognitive load

### *Scholarly Perspectives*

<b>Author</b>	<b>Main Idea</b>
Nation	Vocabulary learning is effective through context
Laufer	Glossaries accelerate learning
Hulstijn	Cognitive load plays a crucial role

### **Methodology**

#### *Research Design*

An experimental method was applied:

- Pre-test
- Treatment
- Post-test

#### *Participants*

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Value</b>
Number of students	60
Age	18–23
Level	Intermediate

## *Group Distribution*

Group	Method
Group 1	Annotation-type glossary
Group 2	Explanatory glossary
Group 3	Control group

## *Procedure*

- Students were given a text
- Each group worked with a different type of glossary
- A test was administered afterward

## **Results**

### *Test Results*

Group	Average Score (%)
Annotation	70%
Explanatory	82%
Control	60%

### *Retention (after 1 week)*

Group	Result
Annotation	58%
Explanatory	75%
Control	50%

## *Analysis*

- Annotation-type glossaries facilitated quick comprehension
- Explanatory glossaries ensured deeper acquisition
- The control group showed the lowest performance

**Discussion.** The results indicate that annotation-type glossaries are effective at the initial stage. They help learners quickly understand new words. However:

- Explanatory glossaries are essential for long-term retention
- The most effective method is a combined (hybrid) approach

## *Pedagogical Implications*

- Glossaries should be mandatory in textbooks
- Teachers should select glossary types based on learners' proficiency level

## *Practical Recommendations*

1. Use annotation-type glossaries at the beginner level

2. Use explanatory glossaries at higher levels
3. Apply a hybrid model for the best results

## **Conclusion**

This study revealed that:

- Annotation-type glossaries are useful for quick learning
- Explanatory glossaries ensure deeper acquisition
- A hybrid approach is the most effective

## **Limitations**

- Limited number of participants
- Single language context

## **Future Research**

- Digital glossaries
- AI-based dictionaries
- Multilingual studies

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