

Controllable Text Simplification with Lexical Constraint Loss

Daiki Nishihara, Tomoyuki Kajiwara and Yuki Arase (Osaka University)

nishihara.daiki@ist.osaka-u.ac.jp

Controllable Text Simplification

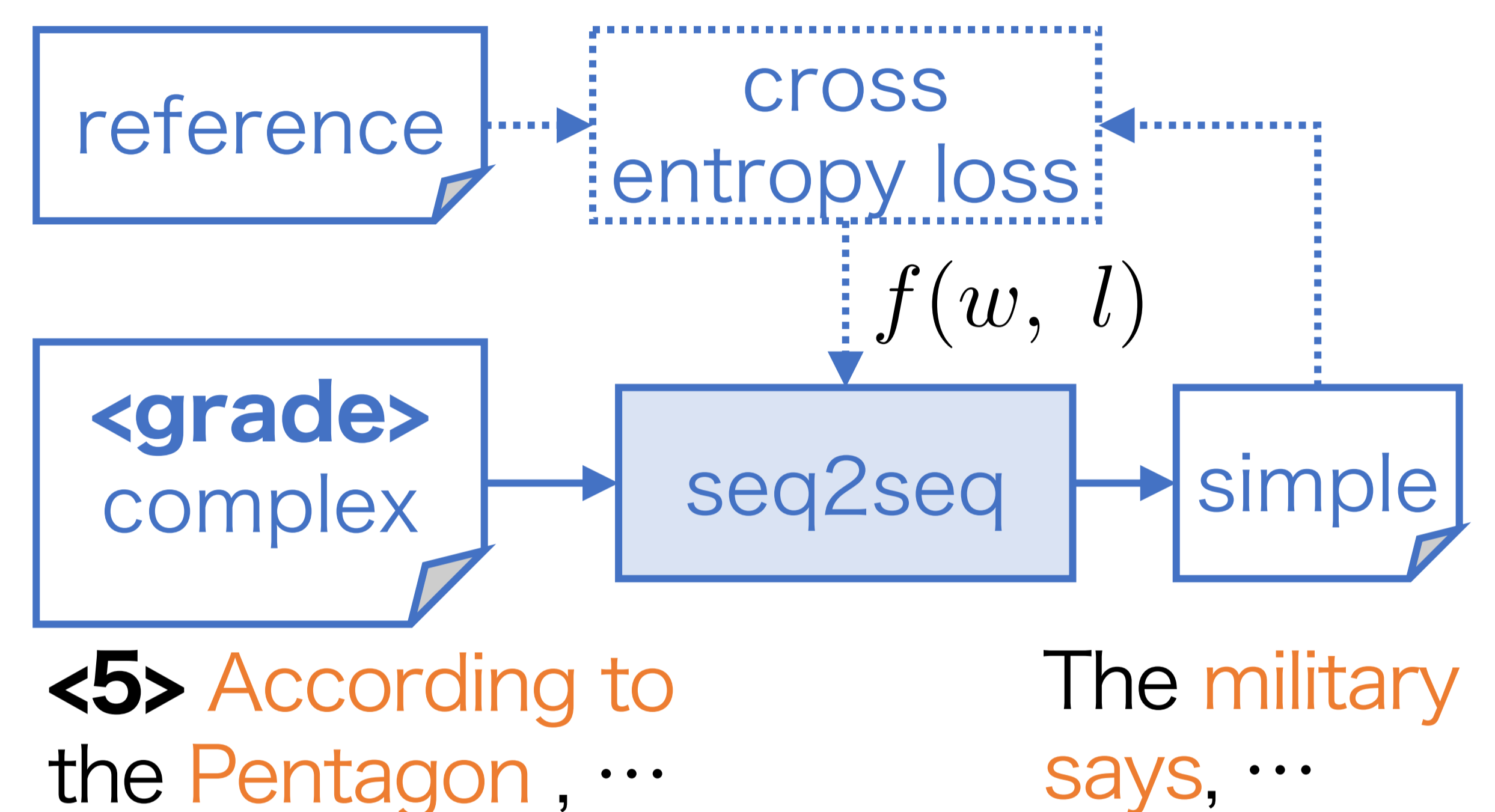
- ◆ Text simplification is a task of rewriting complex text into simpler form for each English learners.
- ◆ The transformation of Text simplification allows **omission** and **replacement**.

Grade	Examples
Source	According to the Pentagon , 152 female troops have been killed while serving in Iraq .
7	The Pentagon says 152 female troops have been killed while serving in Iraq .
5	The military says 152 female have died .

- ◆ Many works have not considered the grade level. We would like to control the grade level.
- ◆ Scarton and Specia (2018) attached special token **<grade>** indicating grade of target sentence for the first time as controllable text simplification.

Proposed Method

- ◆ Controlling word grade as well as sentence grade.
- ◆ Weighing a training loss considering words that frequently appear in sentences of specific grade.
- ◆ Weight $f(w, l)$ corresponds to relevance of word w at grade level l .
- ◆ $f(w, l)$ is Positive PMI: $f(w, l) = \max\left(\log \frac{P(w, l)}{P(w)P(l)}, 0\right)$.



Results

	BLEU	SARI	BLEU _{ST}	MAE _{LEN}	MPMI
Source	21.37	2.82	100.0	10.73	0.08
Reference	100.0	70.13	18.30	0.00	0.23
s2s	20.43	28.21	37.60	4.38	0.12
+grade	20.82	29.44	31.96	3.77	0.15
+grade+PPMI	21.86	29.59	31.38	3.69	0.19

Results on Newsela Dataset.

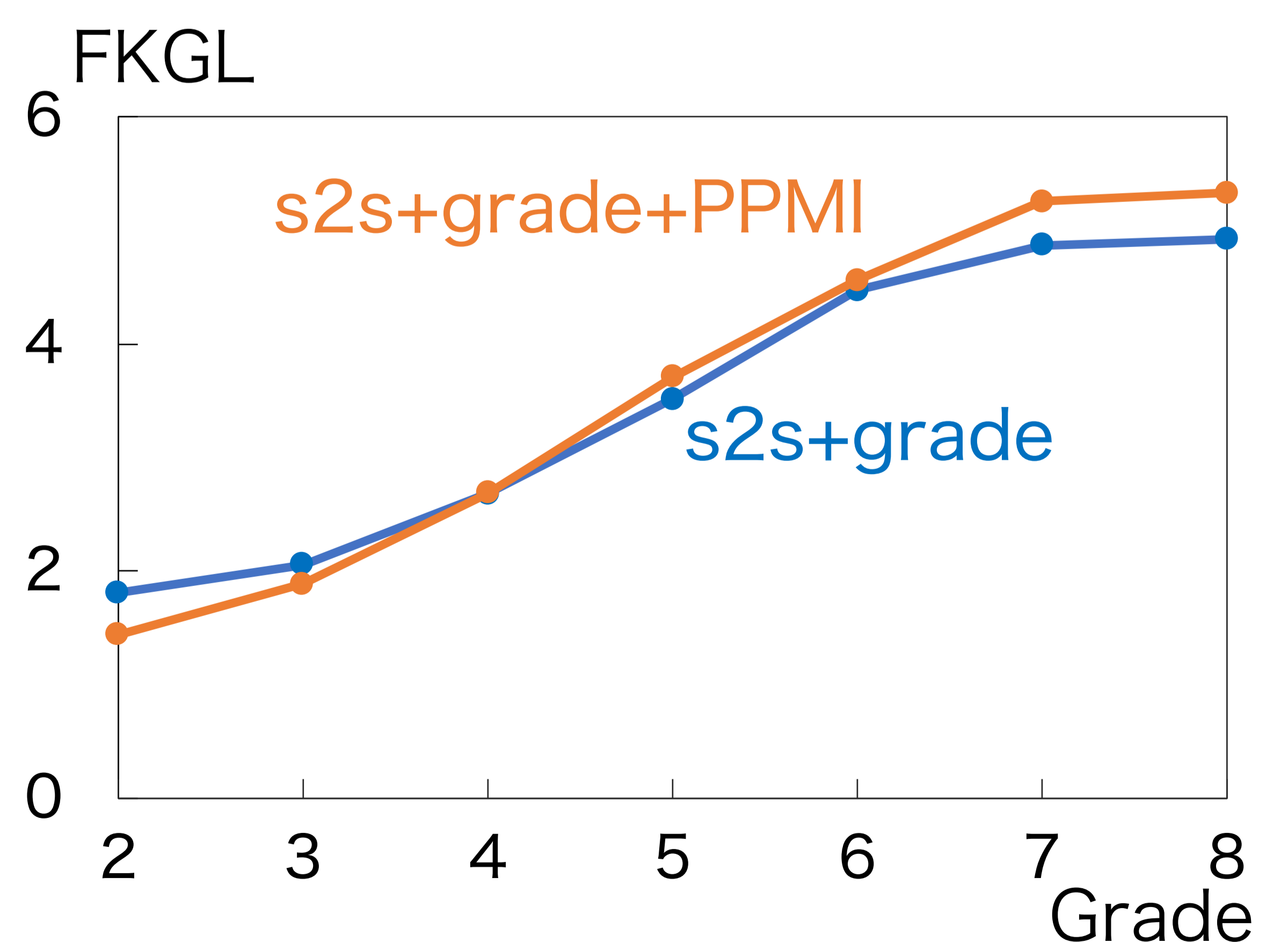
BLEU_{ST} computes a BLEU score by taking source and output. Model with low BLEU_{ST} rewrites more.

MAE_{LEN} is MAE of sentence length. Model with low MAE_{LEN} outputs sentences with appropriate length.

MPMI evaluates to how outputs words difficulty match with the target grade. Model with high MPMI outputs appropriate words.

Grade	Examples
Src	In its original incarnation during the '60s , African-American " freedom songs " aimed to motivate protesters to march into harm 's way and , on a broader scale , spread news of the struggle to a mainstream audience .
7	s2s+grade: In the1960s , African-American " freedom songs are aimed to motivate protesters to march into harm 's way . s2s+grade+PPMI: In its original people in the1960s , African-American " freedom songs are aimed to inspire protesters to march into harm 's way .
4	s2s+grade: In the1960s , African-American " freedom songs are aimed to motivate protesters to march into harm 's way . s2s+grade+PPMI: African-American " freedom songs are aimed to inspire protesters to march into harm 's way .

Output example. s2s+grade+PPMI successfully **replaced** some words and **omitted** the phrases.



FKGL for each Grade. s2s+grade+PPMI output simpler sentence for simpler target grade, and vice versa.