

ABSTRACT

This final report examines how children represent conflict in the winning essays of the 2024 International Essay Contest for Young People organized by the Goi Peace Foundation under the theme “My Experience in Overcoming Conflict.” The study aims to identify the lexical choices and semantic patterns used in the essays and to analyze how they function as representations of conflict. Employing a descriptive qualitative research design, the data were analyzed using lexical semantics and semantic field analysis. The findings reveal four semantic fields: Interpersonal Conflict, Internal Conflict, Conflict Escalation, and Conflict Resolution. The analysis also shows that children represent conflict through action verbs, evaluative language, and metaphorical representations, constructing conflict as a progression from external confrontation to reconciliation. These findings contribute to lexical semantics and discourse studies by providing insights into how children conceptualize and communicate conflict through language.

Keywords: *conflict representation, essay contests, qualitative research, semantic analysis*