

Package ‘writeAlizer’

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Type Package

Title Generate Predicted Writing Quality Scores

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Description Imports variables from 'ReaderBench' (Dascalu et al., 2018)<[doi:10.1007/978-3-319-66610-5_48](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-66610-5_48)>, 'Coh-Metrix' (McNamara et al., 2014)<[doi:10.1017/CBO9780511894664](https://doi.org/10.1017/CBO9780511894664)>, and/or 'GAMET' (Crossley et al., 2019) <[doi:10.17239/jowr-2019.11.02.01](https://doi.org/10.17239/jowr-2019.11.02.01)> output files; downloads predictive scoring models described in Mercer & Cannon (2022)<[doi:10.31244/jero.2022.01.03](https://doi.org/10.31244/jero.2022.01.03)> and Mercer et al.(2021)<[doi:10.1177/0829573520987753](https://doi.org/10.1177/0829573520987753)>; and generates predicted writing quality and curriculum-based measurement (McMaster & Espin, 2007)<[doi:10.1177/00224669070410020301](https://doi.org/10.1177/00224669070410020301)> scores.

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URL <https://github.com/shmercer/writeAlizer/>

BugReports <https://github.com/shmercer/writeAlizer/issues>

Depends R (>= 2.10)

Imports caret, digest, dplyr, glue, magrittr, stats, tidyselect, utils

Suggests caretEnsemble, Cubist, earth, gbm, glmnet, kernlab, pls, randomForest, testthat (>= 3.1.0), withr

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.wa_rb_keep_exclude_from_sample

Internal: derive keep/exclude RB feature names from packaged sample file We read ONLY the header (nrows=0). If the file has a "SEP=," first line, we skip it. Names are made syntactic (check.names=TRUE), so "File name" -> "File.name".

Description

Internal: derive keep/exclude RB feature names from packaged sample file We read ONLY the header (nrows=0). If the file has a "SEP=," first line, we skip it. Names are made syntactic (check.names=TRUE), so "File name" -> "File.name".

Usage

```
.wa_rb_keep_exclude_from_sample()
```

import_coh

Import a Coh-Metrix output file (.csv) into R.

Description

Import a Coh-Metrix output file (.csv) into R.

Usage

```
import_coh(path)
```

Arguments

`path` A string giving the path and filename to import.

Value

A base `data.frame` with one row per record and the following columns:

- ID (character): unique identifier of the text/essay.
- One column per retained Coh-Metrix feature, kept by original feature name (numeric). Feature names mirror the Coh-Metrix output variables.

The object has class `data.frame` (or `tibble` if converted by the user).

See Also

[predict_quality](#)

Examples

```
# Example with package sample data
file_path <- system.file("extdata", "sample_coh.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
coh_file <- import_coh(file_path)
head(coh_file)
```

`import_gamet`

Import a GAMET output file into R.

Description

Import a GAMET output file into R.

Usage

```
import_gamet(path)
```

Arguments

`path` A string giving the path and filename to import.

Value

A base `data.frame` with one row per record and the following columns:

- ID (character): unique identifier of the text/essay.
- One column per retained GAMET error/category variable (numeric; typically counts or rates). Column names follow the GAMET output variable names.

The object has class `data.frame` (or `tibble` if converted by the user).

See Also

[predict_quality](#)

Examples

```
# Example with package sample data
file_path <- system.file("extdata", "sample_gamet.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
gamet_file <- import_gamet(file_path)
head(gamet_file)
```

import_merge_gamet_rb *Import a ReaderBench output file (.csv) and GAMET output file (.csv), and merge the two files on ID.*

Description

Import a ReaderBench output file (.csv) and GAMET output file (.csv), and merge the two files on ID.

Usage

```
import_merge_gamet_rb(rb_path, gamet_path)
```

Arguments

| | |
|------------|--|
| rb_path | A string giving the path and ReaderBench filename to import. |
| gamet_path | A string giving the path and GAMET filename to import. |

Value

A base `data.frame` created by joining the ReaderBench and GAMET tables by ID, with one row per matched ID and the following columns:

- ID (`character`): identifier present in both sources.
- All retained ReaderBench feature columns (`numeric`).
- All retained GAMET error/category columns (`numeric`).

By default, only IDs present in both inputs are kept (inner join). If a feature name appears in both sources, standard merge suffixes (e.g., `.x/.y`) may be applied by the join implementation. The object has class `data.frame` (or `tibble` if converted by the user).

See Also

[predict_quality](#)

Examples

```
# Example with package sample data
rb_path   <- system.file("extdata", "sample_rb.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
gam_path  <- system.file("extdata", "sample_gamet.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
rb_gam    <- import_merge_gamet_rb(rb_path, gam_path)
head(rb_gam)
```

import_rb

Import a ReaderBench output file (.csv) into R.

Description

When available, the function reads the header of the packaged sample (`inst/extdata/sample_rb.csv`) and keeps the first 404 columns by NAME (plus the `File.name`/ID column), excluding any columns with names appearing after position 404 in that header. If the sample is unavailable, it falls back to keeping the first 404 columns by position.

Usage

```
import_rb(path)
```

Arguments

path A string giving the path and filename to import.

Value

A base `data.frame` with one row per record and the following columns:

- ID (character): unique identifier of the text/essay.
- One column per retained ReaderBench feature, kept by original feature name (numeric). Feature names mirror the ReaderBench output variables.

The object has class `data.frame` (or `tibble` if converted by the user).

See Also

[predict_quality](#)

Examples

```
# Fast, runnable example with package sample data
file_path <- system.file("extdata", "sample_rb.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
rb_file   <- import_rb(file_path)
head(rb_file)
```

`model_deps`*Report optional model dependencies (no installation performed)*

Description

Discovers package dependencies for model fitting from the package ‘Suggests’ field. This function **never installs** packages. It reports which packages are required and which are currently missing, and prints a ready-to-copy command you can run to install the missing ones manually.

Usage

```
model_deps()
```

Details

You can add or override discovered packages for testing or CI with ‘options(writeAlizer.required_pkgs = c("pkgA", "pkgB (>= 1.2.3)"))’. Any version qualifiers you include are preserved in the ‘required’ output, but stripped for the availability check in ‘missing’.

Value

A named list:

required Character vector of discovered package tokens (may include version qualifiers), e.g. `c("glmnet (>= 4.1)", "ranger")`. This is the union of the package *Suggests* field and the optional `writeAlizer.required_pkgs` override.

missing Character vector of base package names that are not installed, e.g. `c("glmnet", "ranger")`.

The function also emits a message. If nothing is missing, it reports that all required packages are installed. Otherwise, it lists the missing packages and prints a copy-paste `install.packages()` command.

Examples

```
md <- model_deps()
md$missing
```

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <code>predict_quality</code> | <i>Predict writing quality</i> |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|

Description

Run the specified model(s) on preprocessed data and return predictions. Apply scoring models to ReaderBench, Coh-Metrix, and/or GAMET files. Holistic writing quality can be generated from ReaderBench (model = 'rb_mod3all') or Coh-Metrix files (model = 'coh_mod3all'). Also, Correct Word Sequences and Correct Minus Incorrect Word Sequences can be generated from a GAMET file (model = 'gmet_cws1').

Usage

```
predict_quality(model, data)
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| <code>model</code> | A string telling which scoring model to use. Options are: 'rb_mod1', 'rb_mod2', 'rb_mod3narr', 'rb_mod3exp', 'rb_mod3per', or 'rb_mod3all', for ReaderBench files to generate holistic quality, 'coh_mod1', 'coh_mod2', 'coh_mod3narr', 'coh_mod3exp', 'coh_mod3per', or 'coh_mod3all' for Coh-Metrix files to generate holistic quality, and 'gmet_cws1' to generate Correct Word Sequences (CWS) and Correct Minus Incorrect Word Sequences (CIWS) scores from a GAMET file. |
| <code>data</code> | Data frame returned by import_gmet , import_coh , or import_rb . |

Details

Offline/examples: Examples use a built-in 'example' model seeded in a temporary directory via `writeAlizer::wa_seed_example_models("example")`, so no downloads are attempted and checks stay fast. The temporary files created for the example are cleaned up at the end of the `\examples{}`.

Value

A `data.frame` with ID and one column per sub-model prediction. If multiple sub-models are used and all predictions are numeric, an aggregate column named `pred_<model>_mean` is added (except for "gmet_cws1").

See Also

[import_rb](#), [import_coh](#), [import_gmet](#)

Examples

```
# Fast, offline example: seed a tiny 'example' model and predict (no downloads)
coh_path <- system.file("extdata", "sample_coh.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
coh <- import_coh(coh_path)

mock_old <- getOption("writeAlizer.mock_dir")
ex_dir <- writeAlizer::wa_seed_example_models("example", dir = tempdir())
on.exit(options(writeAlizer.mock_dir = mock_old), add = TRUE)

out <- predict_quality("example", coh)
head(out)

# IMPORTANT: reset mock_dir before running full demos, so real artifacts load
options(writeAlizer.mock_dir = mock_old)

# More complete demos (skipped on CRAN to keep checks fast)

### Example 1: ReaderBench output file
file_path1 <- system.file("extdata", "sample_rb.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
rb_file <- import_rb(file_path1)
rb_quality <- predict_quality("rb_mod3all", rb_file)
head(rb_quality)

### Example 2: Coh-Metrix output file
file_path2 <- system.file("extdata", "sample_coh.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
coh_file <- import_coh(file_path2)
coh_quality <- predict_quality("coh_mod3all", coh_file)
head(coh_quality)

### Example 3: GAMET output file (CWS and CIWS)
file_path3 <- system.file("extdata", "sample_gamet.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
gam_file <- import_gamet(file_path3)
gamet_CWS_CIWS <- predict_quality("gamet_cws1", gam_file)
head(gamet_CWS_CIWS)
```

preprocess

Pre-process data

Description

Pre-process Coh-Metrix and ReaderBench data files before applying predictive models. Uses the artifact registry to load the correct variable lists and applies centering and scaling per sub-model, preserving the original behavior by model key.

Usage

```
preprocess(model, data)
```

Arguments

| | |
|-------|--|
| model | Character scalar. Which scoring model to use. Supported values include: Reader-Bench: 'rb_mod1','rb_mod2','rb_mod3narr','rb_mod3exp','rb_mod3per','rb_mod3all','rb_mod3narr_v2','rb_mod3exp_v2','rb_mod3per_v2','rb_mod3all_v2'; Coh-Metrix: 'coh_mod1','coh_mod2','coh_mod3narr','coh_mod3exp','coh_mod3per','coh_mod3all'; GAMET: 'gmet_cws1'. Legacy keys for RB mod3 (non-v2) are mapped to their v2 equivalents internally. |
| data | A data.frame produced by import_rb , import_coh , or import_gamet , with an ID column and the expected feature columns. |

Details

Offline/examples: Examples use a built-in 'example' model seeded in a temporary directory via `writeAlizer::wa_seed_example_models("example")`, so no downloads are attempted and checks stay fast.

Value

A list of pre-processed data frames, one per sub-model. For models with no varlists (e.g., 'rb_mod1','coh_mod1'), returns six copies of the input data. For 'gmet_cws1', returns two copies (CWS/CIWS). For 1-part/3-part models, returns a list of length 1/3 with centered & scaled features plus the ID column.

Examples

```
# Minimal, offline example using the built-in 'example' model (no downloads)
rb_path <- system.file("extdata", "sample_rb.csv", package = "writeAlizer")
rb <- import_rb(rb_path)

pp <- preprocess("example", rb)
length(pp); lapply(pp, nrow)
```

`wa_cache_clear` *Clear writeAlizer's user cache*

Description

Deletes all files under `wa_cache_dir()`. If `ask = TRUE` and in an interactive session, a short preview (item count, total size, and up to 10 sample paths) is printed before asking for confirmation.

Usage

```
wa_cache_clear(ask = interactive(), preview = TRUE)
```

Arguments

| | |
|---------|--|
| ask | Logical; if TRUE and interactive, ask for confirmation. |
| preview | Logical; if TRUE and ask is TRUE, show a brief listing/size summary before asking. |

Value

Invisibly returns TRUE if the cache was cleared (or already absent), FALSE if the user declined or deletion failed.

See Also

[wa_cache_dir](#)

Examples

```
# Safe demo: redirect cache to tempdir(), create a file, then clear it
```

`wa_cache_dir`

Path to writeAlizer's user cache

Description

Returns the directory used to store cached model artifacts. By default this is a platform-appropriate user cache path from `tools::R_user_dir("writeAlizer", "cache")`. If the option `writeAlizer.cache_dir` is set to a non-empty string, that location is used instead. This makes it easy to redirect the cache during tests or examples (e.g., to `tempdir()`).

Usage

`wa_cache_dir()`

Value

Character scalar path.

See Also

[wa_cache_clear](#)

Examples

```
# Inspect the cache directory (no side effects)
wa_cache_dir()
```

```
# Safe demo: redirect cache to a temp folder, create a file, then clear it
```

wa_download*Download artifact into cache with optional checksum*

Description

Internal helper used by writeAlizer to fetch an artifact into the cache. Returns the absolute path to the cached file.

Usage

```
wa_download(file, url, sha256 = NULL, quiet = TRUE)

download(file, url) # deprecated
```

Arguments

| | |
|--------|---|
| file | Character scalar; filename to use in the cache (e.g., "rb_mod1a.rda"). |
| url | Character scalar; source URL. May be a 'file://' URL for local testing. |
| sha256 | Optional 64-hex SHA-256 checksum for verification. If provided, the downloaded/cached file must match it (or re-download is attempted). |
| quiet | Logical; if 'TRUE', suppresses download progress messages. |

Value

A character scalar: the absolute path to the cached file.

Examples

```
# Offline-friendly example using a local source (no network):
src <- tempfile(fileext = ".bin")
writeBin(as.raw(1:10), src)
dest <- wa_download("example.bin", url = paste0("file:///", normalizePath(src, winslash = "/")))
file.exists(dest)
```

writeAlizer*writeAlizer: An R Package to Generate Automated Writing Quality and Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM) Scores.*

Description

Detailed documentation on writeAlizer is available in the [GitHub README file](#) and [wiki](#)

Details

The writeAlizer R package (a) imports ReaderBench, Coh-Metrix, and GAMET output files into R, and (b) uses research-developed scoring models to generate predicted writing quality scores or Correct Word Sequences and Correct Minus Incorrect Word Sequences scores from the ReaderBench, Coh-Metrix, and/or GAMET files.

The writeAlizer package includes functions to do two types of tasks: (1) importing ReaderBench, Coh-Metrix, and/or GAMET output files into R; and (2) generating predicted quality scores using the imported output files.

1. Import output files

```
import_rb  
import_coh  
import_gamet  
import_merge_gamet_rb
```

2. Generate predicted quality scores

```
predict_quality
```

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