

Helping EAP Students Improve *Lexical* Competence with Online Reference Resources

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## Challenges for EAP students

#### • C (50 - 59):

Isolated lexical chunks and gaps can still cause confusion, as can incorrect word choice, word formation and collocation

#### • B (60 -69):

Minor errors with word choice, word formation and collocation *may* occur but do not detract from

#### • A (70 -100)

Word choice, word formation and collocations are *rarely* inaccurate

#### Lexical Competence

# *mis-collocations, unnatural word partnerships*

e.g. according to a research, made a large research through, concerns have been aroused, poses urgent condition, development and research

Linguistic Independence









Online Monolingual Dictionaries e.g. Macmillan Dictionary Online www.macmillandictionary.com

Collocation Dictionaries e.g. <u>www.ozdic.com/collocation-dictionary</u>

Concordancers e.g. <u>www.lextutor.ca</u>

## Macmillan Dictionary Online

http://www.macmillandictionary.c

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### **Collocation Dictionaries**

e.g. www.ozdic.com



search in the Oxford Collocation Dictionary....

### Concordancers www.lextutor.ca

#### Home > Concordancers

#### Online concordancers

A concordance gives a list of several words, phrases, or distributed structures along with immediate contexts, from a corpus or text collection...

- 1. Corpus-based concordances: English | French | German | Spanish Clean Sentence Concs (English + French)
  - Entry is user's word, phrase or structure, output all instances of this in context throughout a sizeable corpus
  - o English corpora include Brown, BNC spoken & written samplers (1,000,000 words) + text collections
  - o French corpora include LeMonde, de Maupassant (1,000,000 words) + collections
  - o MAJOR UPGRADE July 08 (new algo, single interface, no-chop contexts, user-extractable)
  - MAJOR SPEED-UP July 09 (One-second concordances from main routine)
  - o MAJOR SORT SORT-OUT Jan 011 (Conc Re-Sorts on output page with stay-put menus)
  - + Multi\_Concordance Build 05, update 08 + 09, English
    - o Input is words, families, or multi-word units; output is multiple for easy comparison
    - o Plus task-builder option (worksheet or interactive)
    - o New randomizations 08; speed-up through dedicated conc server 09
- 2. Text-based concordances: English | French
  - o Entry is user's text, output is concordance-linked frequency index for entire text
  - Same-screen right-left collocate sort options Significant Tune-Up, July 09 + Locus for Step 1 in Homoforms Experiment

#### 3. Story concordancers: English | French

- o Every word in a full length story is click-linked to concordances from rest of the story + other works by author
- 4. Related: Range (En |Fr) and Phrase extractor (Eng, Fr) are types of concordances; Concord Writer is a concord-based writing assistant

#### <u>Seck</u> to full output Extract for **RESEARCH** With <u>no associate</u> on EITHER side sorted 1 wds left of key

8 user selected lines from 391 hits (normalized to 198 per million for comparison) Click keyword for more context 022. Delete the secure precise measurements of these frequencies, a RESEARCH program in free radical microwave spectroscopy has 023. Delete the research students involved in the study had a RESEARCH area embraced by computing on its own or in combina 024. Delete earted ... despite the creation of a salary potential for a RESEARCH scientist commensurate with that of men in top mana 025. Demployers of IT specialists. The other is of concern from a RESEARCH viewpoint. The first hypothesis is that employers a 026. Delete g data have been collected. The Okapi projects arose from a RESEARCH proposal entitled "Micro-computer networking in lib 027. N. This development builds on technology that came out of a RESEARCH project sponsored by the Ministry of International 028. Delete on appeal stations has increased 30 per cent, according to a RESEARCH man quoted by Sponsor. A year ago the Negro Radio A 029. Tion which has salary possibilities equivalent to that of a RESEARCH engineer. Above this point there is no generally us

Built by Lextutor on 2012/11/1



## Corpus

#### • What is a Corpus?

a large collection of samples of a language held on computer (from speech and writing)

#### What is it used for?

helps us to understand how language works and how people use it when they speak and when the write.

### Advantages

- Help students reflect on their own use of language
- Enhance noticing techniques
- Build collocational competence
- Recycle Lexis
- Promote independent learning

## **Practical Applications**

Error Correction and treatment

- Selective vs comprehensive correction (EAP writing)
- Lexical Notebooks (Lewis 1993)



### Lexical Notebooks

• **Definition** 

**Collocations** 

#### Research



## Other useful links

- www.just-the-word.com
- <u>www.ldoceonline.com</u>

#### • Thank You.

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