
Review

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Corpus Linguistics: The Basic, Heokseung Kwon, Chae Kwan Jung, Jae-Hoon Kim. Hankook Publishing House, Seoul (2018). 176 pp. ₩14,000 paperback, ISBN 978-89-6817-626-5

Unlike the book's title, *Corpus Linguistics: The Basic* by Heokseung Kwon, Chae Kwan Jung, and Jae-Hoon Kim is not a primer for learning about corpus linguistics. Rather, it's like a practical guidebook for intermediate or advanced undergraduates or postgraduates who want to conduct English vocabulary research, especially collocation.

Divided into seven chapters, the first chapter of the book introduces one of the authors' studies with BNCweb, a web-based corpus tool that enables researchers to access and analyze the British National Corpus (BNC). In detail, the authors explain the research background, purpose, methodology, findings, and implications.

Chapter Two describes the configuration of the BNC, which is widely used as one of the reference corpora, and the BNC baby. The authors point out that when conducting a study using arbitrarily manipulated BNC or BNC baby, a researcher should be careful when interpreting the results. Along with this information, the chapter explains what the BNCweb is and illustrates how to register and log in to it. The authors tried to log in with computer operating systems (Windows and Macintosh) as well as mobile operating systems (iOS and Android) to check whether they could log in through those various operating systems.

Chapter Three and Four are both the informative chapters that focus on BNCweb. Chapter Three is like a step-by-step manual of BNCweb and describes its main menu such as query options, standard query, user-specific functions, additional functions, and information about BNCweb in detail. Before beginning Chapter Four, a researcher should first read Chapter Three, because compared to other chapters, Chapters Three and Four are more closely related.

Chapter Four, as well as Chapter Three, is fully illustrated for a user who does not have any experience with BNCweb. When a user logs in to BNCweb and attempts to query the word 'love,' the user can get the same results from the book. Also, the authors compare the usage of the word 'thank' and 'appreciate,' and explain various considerations for analyzing the results.

Chapter Five covers the definition, characteristics, and types of collocation. Also, it briefly describes the characteristics of some statistical measures such as rank by frequency, mutual information, Z-score, and log-likelihood when conducting 'window collocation' research with BNCweb.

Chapter Six briefly explains the probability and statistical theories used in corpus analysis. More specifically, it focuses on the statistical hypothesis testing and contingency table among statistics. In addition, the chapter covers how to find collocation with frequency, deviation, pointwise mutual information, and three statistical tests (e.g., *t*-test, Pearson's chi-square test, and *LLR* test).

The last chapter of this book provides a historical overview of English for specific purposes (ESP). The authors explain the current situation of ESP research in Korea, and how only recently ESP research has been conducted through a need analysis. Finally, Chapter Seven offers considerable

insights for researchers who want to make a word list through compiling the ESP corpora.

Although this book seems like a kind of practical guidebook for prospective corpus researchers, it has some shortcomings. First, although Chapter Four functions as an easy-to-follow guidebook for corpus research practice, it unfortunately does not have any tasks or exercises included to practice the BNCweb. Second, this book is suitable for researchers who want to conduct practical vocabulary studies with BNCweb, rather than scrutinize the overall framework of the corpus linguistics. That is to say, because it is hard to understand the concept of corpus linguistics, it is not suitable for a novice who wants to learn the outline of the subject. Despite these shortcomings, when a researcher has already read some texts that outline corpus linguistics, and want to conduct practical or sophisticated research with the BNC via BNCweb, this book will help with practical vocabulary research.

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