**Table 1.** Corpora statistics.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Corpus | Tokens | Number of texts | Average number of tokens per text |
| Engineering | 684,743 | 65 | 10,535 |
| Medicine | 308,200 | 67 | 4,600 |
| Linguistics | 636,620 | 80 | 7,958 |

**Table 2.** Lexical items tagged as boosters in the corpora.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Nouns | Verbs | Adjectives | Adverbs | Phrases |
| evidence  fact  majority  assertion conclusion | show  determine  demonstrate  reveal  highlight  confirm  emphasise  assert  hold  underscore  stress  establish  prove  know | significant  extraordinary  extensively  considerable  clear  vast  evident  thrilling  paramount  utmost | constantly  clearly  significantly  generally  largely  particularly  indeed  widely  highly  primarily  consistently  strongly  actually  mostly  especially  entirely  essentially  dramatically  substantially  always  exceptionally  well within | fully  in fact  for the most part  of course  to a large extent  in effect |

**Table 3.** Overall frequencies of all the boosters in the three corpora.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Engineering** | **Medicine** | **Linguistics** |
| Number of occurrences | 2,349 | 951 | 2,777 |
| Normalised frequency per 1,000 words | 3.428 | 3.083 | 4.362 |

**Table 4.** The occurrences and normalised frequencies (per 1,000 words) of booster word forms per corpus.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Booster word form | Engineering | | Medicine | | Linguistics | |
| Noun | 263 | 0.384 | 168 | 0.545 | 483 | 0.759 |
| Verb | 983 | **1.434** | 264 | 0.855 | 964 | **1.516** |
| Adjective | 203 | 0.296 | 95 | 0.308 | 290 | 0.456 |
| Adverb | 860 | 1.256 | 414 | **1.343** | 916 | 1.439 |
| Phrase | 40 | 0.058 | 10 | 0.032 | 124 | 0.195 |
| Total | 2,349 | 3.428 | 951 | 3.083 | 2,777 | 4.363 |

**Table 5.** Normalised frequency per 1,000 words of verb boosters identified per corpus.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Engineering** | | **Medicine** | | **Linguistics** | |
| show | 0.486 | show | 0.282 | show | 0.638 |
| determine | 0.229 | determine | 0.188 | determine | 0.156 |
| demonstrate | 0.150 | demonstrate | 0.110 | demonstrate | 0.140 |
| prove | 0.111 | establish | 0.065 | establish | 0.124 |
| hold | 0.098 | highlight | 0.045 | hold | 0.090 |
| stress | 0.082 | reveal | 0.045 | know | 0.090 |
| establish | 0.074 | know | 0.026 | reveal | 0.074 |
| highlight | 0.064 | prove | 0.019 | confirm | 0.038 |
| conclude | 0.038 | confirm | 0.019 | prove | 0.030 |
| reveal | 0.035 | hold | 0.013 | stress | 0.030 |
| confirm | 0.035 | emphasise | 0.013 | conclude | 0.028 |
| know | 0.015 | stress | 0.010 | emphasise | 0.030 |
| emphasise | 0.010 | conclude | 0.010 | highlight | 0.025 |
| underscore | 0.003 | underscore | 0.010 | assert | 0.017 |
| indicate | 0.003 |  |  | underscore | 0.006 |
| assert | 0.001 |  |  |  |  |
| Total | 1.434 |  | 0.855 |  | 1.516 |

**Table 6.** Nouns used in the subject position with the booster ‘show’.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering | | Medicine | | Linguistics | |
| noun | % | noun | % | noun | % |
| figure | 17.0 | study | 22.22 | we | 10.03 |
| results | 15.61 | data | 9.72 | example | 9.76 |
| we | 11.81 | results | 5.56 | authors | 8.71 |
| study | 5.91 | finding | 4.17 | I | 6.86 |
| authors | 3.38 | research | 4.17 | data | 5.28 |
|  |  | table | 4.17 | study | 5.28 |
|  |  | trials | 4.17 | results | 5.01 |

**Table 7.** Nouns used in the object position with the booster ‘determine’ in the active voice and in the subject position in the passive voice.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering | | Medicine | | Linguistics | |
| noun | % | noun | % | noun | % |
| indices | 23.76 | trends | 9.76 | case | 6.0 |
| value | 5.94 | classifications | 4.88 | value | 5.0 |
| distributions | 3.96 | factors | 4.88 | extent | 4.0 |
| relationship | 3.96 | profile | 4.88 | assignment | 3.0 |
|  |  | variability | 4.88 | direction | 3.0 |
|  |  | association | 4.88 | order | 3.0 |
|  |  |  |  | relationship | 3.0 |
|  |  |  |  | structure | 3.0 |

**Table 8.** Nouns used in the subject position with the booster ‘demonstrate’.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering | | Medicine | | Linguistics | |
| noun | % | noun | % | noun | % |
| authors | 12.90 | study | 28.57 | examples | 23.29 |
| we | 9.68 | data | 9.52 | authors | 12.33 |
| study | 8.06 | analysis | 9.52 | I | 4.11 |
| figure | 4.84 | we | 9.52 | section | 4.11 |
| research | 4.84 | findings | 4.76 | study | 4.11 |
|  |  | recommendation | 4.76 | work | 4.11 |
|  |  | discussion | 4.76 |  |  |
|  |  | research | 4.76 |  |  |
|  |  | results | 4.76 |  |  |
|  |  | benefit | 4.76 |  |  |
|  |  | need | 4.76 |  |  |
|  |  | work | 4.76 |  |  |

**Appendix I**

Corpora journal list

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering corpus | Medicine corpus | Linguistics corpus |
| Landslides  IEEE Transactions on Industrial Engineering  Journal of Construction Engineering & Management  Reliability Engineering & System Safety | American Academy of Dermathology  American College of Cardiology  American College of Cardiology  American Journal of Infection Control  American Journal of Preventive Medicine  British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery  British Medical Journal  Cancer  Cancer Epidemiology  Cardiovascular interventions  Cardiovascular Radiation Medicine  Clinical Pediatric Emergency medicine"  Immunity (Cambridge)  JMIR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SURVEILLANCE  Journal of Psychiatric Research  Journal of Surgical Research  Lancet Public Health  Patient Education and Counselling  Perspectives on Medical Education  The Lancet  The Lancet Oncology | The Translator  Metaphor and Symbol  Language, Cognition and Neuroscience  Mind & Language  Journal of Linguistics  Applied Linguistics  Language and Literature  English for Specific Purposes  Journal of English for Academic Purposes  Cognitive Linguistics |

**Appendix II**

Nouns combining with the booster ‘show’ in the subject position.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering | % | Medicine | % | Linguistics | % |
| figure | 17.30 | study | 22.22 | we | 10.03 |
| results | 15.61 | data | 9.72 | example | 9.76 |
| we | 11.81 | results | 5.56 | authors | 8.71 |
| study | 5.91 | finding | 4.17 | I | 6.86 |
| authors | 3.38 | research | 4.17 | data | 5.28 |
| model | 2.95 | table | 4.17 | study | 5.28 |
| table | 2.95 | trials | 4.17 | results | 5.01 |
| analysis | 2.53 | analysis | 2.78 | analysis | 3.17 |
| data | 2.53 | authors | 2.78 | languages | 2.37 |
| tests | 2.53 | BMMNCs | 2.78 | figure | 2.11 |
| orientation | 2.11 | burns | 2.78 | model | 2.11 |
| mass | 1.69 | drugs | 2.78 | research | 2.11 |
| example | 1.27 | figure | 2.78 | table | 1.85 |
| research | 1.27 | network | 2.78 | experiments | 1.58 |
| section | 1.27 | tracts | 2.78 | interaction | 1.58 |
| values | 1.27 | we | 2.78 | speakers | 1.58 |
| comparison | 0.84 | amitriptyline | 1.39 | evidence | 1.32 |
| evidence | 0.84 | approach | 1.39 | findings | 1.32 |
| estimates | 0.84 | care | 1.39 | participants | 1.32 |
| experiment | 0.84 | cells | 1.39 | comparisons | 1.06 |
| literature | 0.84 | diagram | 1.39 | excerpt | 1.06 |
| measurements | 0.84 | doctors | 1.39 | section | 1.06 |
| method | 0.84 | information | 1.39 | system | 1.06 |
| proof | 0.84 | injection | 1.39 | work | 1.06 |
| sensors | 0.84 | interventions | 1.39 | form | 0.79 |
| simulations | 0.84 | investigation | 1.39 | line | 0.79 |
| validation | 0.84 | irregularities | 1.39 | pronouns | 0.79 |
| application | 0.42 | movements | 1.39 | relativization | 0.79 |
| approach | 0.42 | papers | 1.39 | situation | 0.79 |
| calculation | 0.42 | patients | 1.39 | contrast | 0.53 |
| cluster | 0.42 | ratios | 1.39 | effects | 0.53 |
| computation | 0.42 | sucrose | 1.39 | English | 0.53 |
| contrast | 0.42 | test | 1.39 | nouns | 0.53 |
| correlation | 0.42 | therapy | 1.39 | questions | 0.53 |
| curve | 0.42 | transplantation | 1.39 | recording | 0.53 |
| ellipticity | 0.42 |  |  | responses | 0.53 |
| failures | 0.42 |  |  | tokens | 0.53 |
| findings | 0.42 |  |  | variables | 0.53 |
| indicator | 0.42 |  |  | variation | 0.53 |
| inspection | 0.42 |  |  | accents | 0.26 |
| investigations | 0.42 |  |  | account | 0.26 |
| mass | 0.42 |  |  | adjectives | 0.26 |
| matrix | 0.42 |  |  | agreements | 0.26 |
| mechanisms | 0.42 |  |  | argument | 0.26 |
| module | 0.42 |  |  | assumption | 0.26 |
| paper | 0.42 |  |  | clauses | 0.26 |
| plot | 0.42 |  |  | conversation | 0.26 |
| probabilities | 0.42 |  |  | co-occurrence | 0.26 |
| problem | 0.42 |  |  | diagnostics | 0.26 |
| projects | 0.42 |  |  | differences | 0.26 |
| proof | 0.42 |  |  | element | 0.26 |
| records | 0.42 |  |  | explanation | 0.26 |
| researchers | 0.42 |  |  | expressions | 0.26 |
| samples | 0.42 |  |  | features | 0.26 |
| scenarios | 0.42 |  |  | females | 0.26 |
| solution | 0.42 |  |  | inspection | 0.26 |
| stability | 0.42 |  |  | interface | 0.26 |
| transformations | 0.42 |  |  | judgments | 0.26 |
| treatment | 0.42 |  |  | manipulation | 0.26 |
| trend | 0.42 |  |  | males | 0.26 |
| variables | 0.42 |  |  | marker | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | measures | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | men | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | nasals | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | observations | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | patterns | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | plot | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | processes | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | production | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | proficiency | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | projects | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | prompts | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | ratio | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | researchers | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | script | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | sibilant | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | simulation | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | status | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | stops | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | structure | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | support | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | tests | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | transcript | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | understanding | 0.26 |
|  |  |  |  | words | 0.26 |

**Appendix III**

Nouns combining in the object position with the booster ‘determine’ in the active voice and in the subject position in the passive voice

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering | % | Medicine | % | Linguistics | % |
| indices | 23.76 | trends | 9.76 | case | 6.0 |
| value | 5.94 | classifications | 4.88 | values | 5.0 |
| distributions | 3.96 | factors | 4.88 | extent | 4.0 |
| relationship | 3.96 | profile | 4.88 | assignment | 3.0 |
| hazards | 2.97 | variability | 4.88 | direction | 3.0 |
| parameters | 2.97 | association | 4.88 | order | 3.0 |
| clusters | 1.98 | content | 2.44 | relationship | 3.0 |
| effect | 1.98 | course | 2.44 | structure | 3.0 |
| emissions | 1.98 | cycles | 2.44 | agreement | 2.0 |
| flux | 1.98 | degree | 2.44 | axes | 2.0 |
| magnitude | 1.98 | differences | 2.44 | behaviour | 2.0 |
| mass | 1.98 | duration | 2.44 | decision | 2.0 |
| performance | 1.98 | growth | 2.44 | effect | 2.0 |
| strength | 1.98 | instances | 2.44 | expressions | 2.0 |
| threshold | 1.98 | level | 2.44 | form | 2.0 |
| volume | 1.98 | progress | 2.44 | impact | 2.0 |
| weights | 1.98 | proliferation | 2.44 | marking | 2.0 |
| analysis | 0.99 | rate | 2.44 | position | 2.0 |
| area | 0.99 | reduction | 2.44 | position | 2.0 |
| attribute | 0.99 | relationships | 2.44 | properties | 2.0 |
| behaviour | 0.99 | results | 2.44 | allomorphy | 1.0 |
| characteristics | 0.99 | significance | 2.44 | architecture | 1.0 |
| choice | 0.99 | source | 2.44 | association | 1.0 |
| coefficient | 0.99 | stability | 2.44 | clusters | 1.0 |
| cohesion | 0.99 | standards | 2.44 | conditions | 1.0 |
| combination | 0.99 | stenosis | 2.44 | curve | 1.0 |
| competition | 0.99 | studies | 2.44 | degree | 1.0 |
| conditions | 0.99 | types | 2.44 | differences | 1.0 |
| conductivity | 0.99 | variables | 2.44 | domain | 1.0 |
| constants | 0.99 | evidence | 2.44 | elements | 1.0 |
| correction | 0.99 | calculations | 2.44 | exponence | 1.0 |
| costs | 0.99 | receipt | 2.44 | factors | 1.0 |
| datasets | 0.99 | cities | 2.44 | features | 1.0 |
| deviation | 0.99 |  |  | frame | 1.0 |
| dimensions | 0.99 |  |  | function | 1.0 |
| direction | 0.99 |  |  | groups | 1.0 |
| discrimination | 0.99 |  |  | head | 1.0 |
| duration | 0.99 |  |  | inputs | 1.0 |
| efficacy | 0.99 |  |  | involvement | 1.0 |
| equipment | 0.99 |  |  | mean | 1.0 |
| error | 0.99 |  |  | meaning | 1.0 |
| function | 0.99 |  |  | messages | 1.0 |
| growth | 0.99 |  |  | mismatches | 1.0 |
| impact | 0.99 |  |  | models | 1.0 |
| increase | 0.99 |  |  | movement | 1.0 |
| influence | 0.99 |  |  | nature | 1.0 |
| interfaces | 0.99 |  |  | novelty | 1.0 |
| lengths | 0.99 |  |  | outcome | 1.0 |
| level | 0.99 |  |  | outputs | 1.0 |
| likelihood | 0.99 |  |  | pattern | 1.0 |
| location | 0.99 |  |  | phasehood | 1.0 |
| mechanisms | 0.99 |  |  | phrasings | 1.0 |
| nature | 0.99 |  |  | placement | 1.0 |
| patterns | 0.99 |  |  | predicate | 1.0 |
| possibility | 0.99 |  |  | processes | 1.0 |
| potential | 0.99 |  |  | productions | 1.0 |
| ratio | 0.99 |  |  | pronoun | 1.0 |
| reproduction | 0.99 |  |  | realisation | 1.0 |
| resources | 0.99 |  |  | reduplication | 1.0 |
| scale | 0.99 |  |  | relation | 1.0 |
| sequence | 0.99 |  |  | rule | 1.0 |
| significance | 0.99 |  |  | scope | 1.0 |
| sizes | 0.99 |  |  | selection | 1.0 |
| states | 0.99 |  |  | sets | 1.0 |
| subsystems | 0.99 |  |  | way | 1.0 |
| surface | 0.99 |  |  | word | 1.0 |
| term | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |
| time | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |
| timing | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |
| trade-offs | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |
| transition | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |
| variation | 0.99 |  |  |  |  |

**Appendix IV**

Nouns combining with the booster ‘determine’ in the subject position.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Engineering | | Medicine | | Linguistics | |
| **noun** | **%** | **noun** | **%** | **noun** | **%** |
| authors | 12.90 | study | 28.57 | examples | 23.29 |
| we | 9.68 | data | 9.52 | authors | 12.33 |
| study | 8.06 | analysis | 9.52 | I | 4.11 |
| figure | 4.84 | we | 9.52 | section | 4.11 |
| research | 4.84 | findings | 4.76 | study | 4.11 |
| paper | 3.23 | recommendation | 4.76 | work | 4.11 |
| illustration | 3.23 | discussion | 4.76 | data | 2.74 |
| data | 3.23 | research | 4.76 | facts | 2.74 |
| results | 3.23 | results | 4.76 | patterns | 2.74 |
| examples | 3.23 | benefit | 4.76 | speakers | 2.74 |
| analysis | 3.23 | need | 4.76 | we | 2.74 |
| sample | 3.23 | work | 4.76 | agreement | 1.37 |
| literature | 1.61 | authors | 4.76 | aim | 1.37 |
| section | 1.61 |  |  | analysis | 1.37 |
| abnormality | 1.61 |  |  | attitudes | 1.37 |
| investigation | 1.61 |  |  | cases | 1.37 |
| technology | 1.61 |  |  | cluster | 1.37 |
| report | 1.61 |  |  | constructions | 1.37 |
| topography | 1.61 |  |  | derivations | 1.37 |
| method | 1.61 |  |  | figure | 1.37 |
| test | 1.61 |  |  | metrists | 1.37 |
| theorem | 1.61 |  |  | outputs | 1.37 |
| ratio | 1.61 |  |  | paper | 1.37 |
| initiation | 1.61 |  |  | polling | 1.37 |
| development | 1.61 |  |  | possibility | 1.37 |
| table | 1.61 |  |  | processes | 1.37 |
| practices | 1.61 |  |  | report | 1.37 |
| procedure | 1.61 |  |  | research | 1.37 |
| efficacy | 1.61 |  |  | results | 1.37 |
| detection | 1.61 |  |  | selection | 1.37 |
| group | 1.61 |  |  | speaker | 1.37 |
| methodology | 1.61 |  |  | structures | 1.37 |
| omission | 1.61 |  |  | subjects | 1.37 |
| program | 1.61 |  |  | teenager | 1.37 |
| probabilty | 1.61 |  |  | tests | 1.37 |
|  |  |  |  | utility | 1.37 |