**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 |
| evidencefactmajorityassertion conclusion | showdeterminedemonstraterevealhighlightconfirmemphasiseassertholdunderscorestressestablishproveknow | significantextraordinaryextensivelyconsiderableclearvastevidentthrillingparamountutmost | constantlyclearlysignificantlygenerallylargelyparticularlyindeedwidelyhighlyprimarilyconsistentlystronglyactuallymostlyespeciallyentirelyessentiallydramaticallysubstantiallyalwaysexceptionallywell within | fullyin factfor the most partof courseto a large extentin 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 |
| LandslidesIEEE Transactions on Industrial EngineeringJournal of Construction Engineering & ManagementReliability Engineering & System Safety | American Academy of DermathologyAmerican College of CardiologyAmerican College of CardiologyAmerican Journal of Infection ControlAmerican Journal of Preventive MedicineBritish Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial SurgeryBritish Medical JournalCancerCancer EpidemiologyCardiovascular interventionsCardiovascular Radiation MedicineClinical Pediatric Emergency medicine"Immunity (Cambridge)JMIR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SURVEILLANCEJournal of Psychiatric ResearchJournal of Surgical ResearchLancet Public HealthPatient Education and CounsellingPerspectives on Medical EducationThe LancetThe Lancet Oncology | The TranslatorMetaphor and SymbolLanguage, Cognition and NeuroscienceMind & LanguageJournal of LinguisticsApplied LinguisticsLanguage and LiteratureEnglish for Specific PurposesJournal of English for Academic PurposesCognitive 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 |