









Научный вестник Бухарского государственного университета Scientific reports of Bukhara State University

5/2023

# **BUXORO DAVLAT UNIVERSITETI ILMIY AXBOROTI**



5/2023

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**UDC - 811.111** 

# AN OVERVIEW OF CORPUS LINGUISTICS AND ITS BENEFITS IN LANGUAGE TEACHING

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Abstract: Corpus Linguistics is a subfield of Linguistics that is concerned with the discipline of language through the systematic analysis of language corpora, which are large databases of texts and speech. According to Biber and Conrad (2009), a corpus refers to a collection of texts compiled, annotated, and stored digitally for linguistic analysis.

In recent years, linguistics has seen a significant movement in how language is studied. While traditional approaches to linguistics count heavily on the intuition of scholars and linguists, modern approaches have recognized the importance of data-driven research and computational analysis. One such approach is Corpus Linguistics, which utilizes an extensive assembly of text to explore various aspects of language use and acquisition. Corpus linguistics is an approach to language study that involves the analysis of large amounts of texts, known as corpora. This approach has gained popularity in the last few years due to its opportunity to provide a more accurate and comprehensive understanding of language usage in context. Corpus linguistics can be applied in diversified fields, including language teaching and learning.

This article will provide an overview of the sphere of Corpus Linguistics and discuss its relevance in modern linguistics, history, methodology, and applications of Corpus Linguistics, drawing on a range of credible sources. In addition, we will explore the benefits of using corpus linguistics in teaching and how it can enhance language learning.

**Key words:** corpus linguistics, linguistics, language, systematic analysis, language corpora, datadriven research, language use, acquisition, language teaching, modern linguistics.

# ОБЗОР КОРПУСНОЙ ЛИНГВИСТИКИ И ЕЕ ПРЕИМУЩЕСТВ ПРИ ПРЕПОДАВАНИИ ЯЗЫКОВ

Аннотация. Корпусная лингвистика — это подраздел лингвистики, который занимается дисциплиной языка посредством систематического анализа языковых корпусов, которые представляют собой большие базы данных текстов и речи. Согласно Биберу и Конраду (2009), под корпусом понимается набор текстов, скомпилированных, аннотированных и сохраненных в цифровом виде для лингвистического анализа.

В последние годы в лингвистике произошли значительные изменения в изучении языка. В то время как традиционные подходы к лингвистике в значительной степени полагаются на интуицию ученых и лингвистов, современные подходы признают важность исследований, основанных на данных, и вычислительного анализа. Одним из таких подходов является корпусная лингвистика, в которой используется обширная совокупность текстов для изучения различных аспектов использования и усвоения языка. Корпусная лингвистика — это подход к изучению языка, который включает анализ больших объемов текстов, известных как корпусы. Этот подход приобрел популярность в последние несколько лет благодаря возможности обеспечить более точное и всестороннее понимание использования языка в контексте. Корпусная лингвистика может применяться в самых разных областях, включая преподавание и изучение языков.

В этой статье представлен обзор сферы корпусной лингвистики и обсуждена ее актуальность в современной лингвистике, история, методология и приложения корпусной лингвистики, опираясь на ряд заслуживающих доверия источников. Кроме того, мы изучим преимущества использования корпусной лингвистики в обучении и то, как она может улучшить изучение языка.

**Ключевые слова:** корпусная лингвистика, лингвистика, язык, систематический анализ, языковые корпуса, исследования на основе данных, использование языка, усвоение, преподавание языка, современная лингвистика.

#### KORPUS LINGVISTIKASINING UMUMIY TAHLILI VA UNING TIL OʻQITISHDAGI AFZALLIKLARI

Annotatsiya. Korpus lingvistikasi tilshunoslikning kichik sohasi bo'lib, u matnlar va nutqning katta ma'lumotlar bazasi bo'lgan til korpuslarini tizimli tahlil qilish orqali tilni o'rganish bilan shug'ullanadi. Biber va Konrad (2009) ga ko'ra, korpus deganda lingvistik tahlil uchun raqamli shaklda tuzilgan, izohlangan va saqlanadigan matnlar to'plami tushuniladi.

So'nggi yillarda tilshunoslikda tilni o'rganish bo'yicha sezilarli harakat kuzatildi. Tilshunoslikka an'anaviy yondashuvlar asosan olimlar va tilshunoslarning intuitsiyalariga tayansada, zamonaviy yondashuvlar statistikaga asoslangan tadqiqot va hisoblash tahlilining muhimligini tan oldi. Bunday yondashuvlardan biri tilni qo'llash va o'zlashtirishning turli jihatlarini o'rganish uchun keng ko'lamli matn yig'ilishidan foydalanadigan Korpus lingvistikasidir. Korpus lingvistikasi - bu korpus deb nomlanuvchi katta hajmdagi matnlarni tahlil qilishni o'z ichiga olgan tilni o'rganishga yondashuvdir. Ushbu yondashuv so'nggi bir necha yil ichida kontekstda tildan foydalanishni aniqroq va to'liqroq tushunish imkoniyati tufayli mashhur bo'ldi. Korpus tilshunosligi turli sohalarda, jumladan, tilni o'qitish va o'rganishda qo'llanilishi mumkin.

Ushbu maqolada Korpus lingvistikasi sohasi haqida umumiy ma'lumot beriladi va uning zamonaviy tilshunoslik, tarixi, metodologiyasi va Korpus lingvistikasining qoʻllanilishidagi ahamiyati, bir qator ishonchli manbalarga tayangan holda muhokama qilinadi. Bundan tashqari, biz oʻqitishda korpus lingvistikasidan foydalanishning afzalliklari va tilni oʻrganishni qanday yaxshilashi mumkinligini oʻrganamiz.

Kalit so'zlar: Korpus tilshunosligi, tilshunoslik, til, tizimli tahlil, til korpusi, statistikaga asoslangan tadqiqot, tildan foydalanish, oʻzlashtirish, til oʻrgatish, zamonaviy tilshunoslik.

#### What is Corpus Linguistics?

Corpus Linguistics is the study of language that is based on the analysis of extensive collections of text, known as corpora. Corpora can be composed of any variety of text, including literary works, academic writing, spoken language transcripts, and even social media posts. The underlying principle of Corpus Linguistics is that language use can be investigated more accurately by studying language in use, as opposed to relying on the intuitions of native speakers or experts in the field.

Corpus Linguistics has been made possible thanks to technological advances, which have led to the digitization of text and the development of software programs that can analyze and manipulate text in multiple ways. Corpora can be searched, sorted, and categorized according to a range of linguistic variables, such as part of speech, word frequency, and syntactic patterns. Research in Corpus Linguistics has been applied to a wide range of linguistic phenomena, including language variation, discourse analysis, and second language acquisition.

# **History of Corpus Linguistics.**

The origins of Corpus Linguistics can be traced back to the study of language corpora in the 1950s and 1960s when early computing technology enabled researchers to store and analyze large amounts of linguistic data. The development of Corpus Linguistics as a distinct field was influenced by the work of scholars such as J.R. Firth, who argued for the importance of studying language in use rather than in isolation.

In the 1960s and 1970s, Corpus Linguistics gained prominence as a tool for linguistic research, with the publication of seminal works such as Sinclair's "Corpus, Concordance, Collocation" (1966) and Firth's "A Synopsis of Linguistic Theory" (1957). In the following decades, Corpus Linguistics continued to evolve as researchers explored new methods for analyzing linguistic data.

# Methodology of Corpus Linguistics.

The methodology of Corpus Linguistics involves the compilation of large corpora of texts or speech, which are then analyzed using diversified computational and statistical techniques. Corpus analysis concerns the identification of patterns and trends in the data, which can be used to draw conclusions about language use and structure.

One of the main advantages of Corpus Linguistics is that it allows for the study of language as it is used in real-world contexts, rather than in artificial linguistic environments. Corpus Linguistics also enables researchers to explore a broad range of linguistic phenomena, from lexico-grammatical patterns to discourse-level features.

**Applications of Corpus Linguistics.** 

Corpus Linguistics has a extensive range of applications in fields such as language teaching, lexicography, and discourse analysis. In language teaching, Corpus Linguistics can be used to develop materials that reflect authentic language use and to identify the most frequent and beneficial vocabulary items for learners (McCarthy and O'Keeffe, 2010).

In lexicography, Corpus Linguistics is used to create more accurate and comprehensive dictionaries and thesauri, by enabling lexicographers to identify the most common collocations and usage patterns for particular words. In discourse analysis, Corpus Linguistics can be used to explore the relationship between language use and social context, by analyzing the patterns of language use in different types of discourse (Stubbs, 2002).

#### **Relevance of Corpus Linguistics in Modern Linguistics.**

Corpus Linguistics provides several advantages over traditional approaches to linguistic research. Firstly, it allows researchers to analyze large volumes of text quickly and efficiently. Such a situation equips them with access to a wealth of language data that may be impossible or impractical to collect through other means. Secondly, Corpus Linguistics can provide a more accurate and representative sample of language use than other research methods, such as surveys or questionnaires. Thirdly, it allows researchers to explore language data transparently and reproducibly.

One key area in which Corpus Linguistics has been applied is the study of language variation and change. Corpora can be used to investigate the linguistic features of specific regional, social, or cultural groups, as well as to analyze how these features change over time. For example, a study by Tagliamonte and Denis (2008) used a corpus of American English to determine whether regional dialects were becoming more similar as a result of increased mobility and communication. The study found that while there were some patterns of convergence, there was still a significant amount of regional variation.

Another area of interest in Corpus Linguistics is discourse analysis, which focuses on the structure and function of language in social contexts. Corpora are functional for examining the use of language in specific domains, such as politics, business, or social media. Discourse analysis can reveal patterns of language use, that are related to power, ideology, or identity, and can uncover the underlying assumptions and attitudes that shape communication in different contexts. For example, a study by Biber et al. (2004) analyzed a corpus of spoken and written academic English and figured out, that there were significant differences in the use of particular linguistic features depending on the discipline and genre of the text.

Finally, Corpus Linguistics has contributed to our understanding of second language acquisition, particularly to the development of various language skills, such as vocabulary, grammar, and pragmatics. Corpus-based research has been used to identify common errors and patterns in the language production of second language learners, as well as to investigate the interaction between language use and language proficiency.

Such research has important implications for language teaching and learning, in terms of identifying areas where learners may need extra support or practice.

#### Benefits of Corpus Linguistics in Teaching.

# 1. Authenticity

One of the primary benefits of using corpus linguistics in language teaching is that it provides authentic language data. Corpora are collections of language used in real-life situations, which can provide learners with a more accurate and authentic representation of language use. This is particularly important for learners who are preparing to use the language in practical settings, such as in business or academic contexts. By exposing learners to authentic language use, they can develop a more nuanced understanding of the language and use it more effectively.

#### 2. Learner-Centered Instruction

Corpus linguistics can also provide a learner-centered approach to language instruction. By analyzing the language that learners are exposed to in their daily lives, teachers can tailor their instruction to the specific needs of individual learners. For example, teachers can use corpus data to identify common errors made by learners and develop targeted instruction to address those errors. This approach can help learners to overcome specific challenges and improve their language proficiency more quickly and effectively.

#### 3. Vocabulary Acquisition

Another benefit of using corpus linguistics in teaching is that it can enhance vocabulary acquisition. By analyzing the frequency and collocations of words in corpora, teachers can identify the most important and useful vocabulary for learners to focus on. That can help learners to expand their vocabulary more quickly and effectively, as they are exposed to the words that are most relevant to their needs.

4. Grammar Instruction

Corpus linguistics can also be used to enhance grammar instruction. By analyzing the frequency and usage patterns of grammatical structures in corpora, teachers can develop a more comprehensive and accurate understanding of how the language is used in context. That can help teachers to identify common errors made by learners and develop targeted instruction to address those errors. Additionally, corpus linguistics can help teachers to identify more natural and idiomatic ways of using grammar, which can enhance learners' ability to use the language in authentic settings.

### 5. Cultural Understanding

Finally, corpus linguistics can also enhance cultural understanding in language teaching. By analyzing the language used in different cultural contexts, teachers can help learners to develop a deeper understanding of the cultural nuances of the language. That can help learners to use the language more effectively and appropriately in different cultural settings, which is particularly important for learners who plan to use the language in international business or academic contexts.

#### Conclusion.

In conclusion, Corpus Linguistics is a valuable tool for the analysis of language, which has a wide range of applications in linguistics and other fields. Its value lies in the ability to study language in use, in a range of real-world contexts, and to identify patterns and trends through computational and statistical analysis of large corpora of texts and speech. Corpus linguistics offers many benefits for language teaching and learning. By providing authentic language data, tailoring instruction to individual learners, enhancing vocabulary and grammar instruction, and promoting cultural understanding, corpus linguistics can help learners to develop a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the language. As corpus linguistics continues to gain popularity, it will likely become an increasingly important tool for language teachers and learners alike.

Corpus Linguistics offers linguists a powerful tool for investigating language use and acquisition. Its advantages in terms of efficiency, accuracy, and transparency make it a highly relevant approach in modern linguistics. The ability to analyze large volumes of text provides researchers with access to a wealth of data that can be used to explore a wide range of linguistic phenomena. Given its potential for uncovering insights into the nature of language, it is likely that Corpus Linguistics will continue to be a valuable area of linguistic research for the foreseeable future.

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