

Where are the texts in Corpus Linguistics?

Corpus linguistics is an empirical approach to the analysis of real-world, authentic patterns of language use in a representative collection of target texts. Corpus methods have led to hugely important and impactful results not only in linguistics but also in other fields such as literature studies, environmental studies, business studies, and law. The importance of analysing representative texts in corpus linguistics is a widely understood and accepted concept. However, quite bizarrely, many data collections and analytical methods used in the field completely ignore the concept of “text” giving priority instead to words in isolation or in sentence or sub-sentence level contexts. In this talk, **Dr Laurence Anthony (Waseda University, Japan)** will first introduce this unusual phenomenon and then describe some old and also some very new research methods and tools that (re)focus attention on the importance of texts in corpus work.