

Delicate Patterns of Colligations: A Corpus-based Study of Prepositions

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Abstract

The term colligation evidently highlights syntagmatic patterns of language. Basically, it investigates grammatical attractions between different lexical items based on their grammatical category (Firth, 1968). However, the concept collocation only discusses the lexical attraction between different lexicons. The aim of this study is to find out different colligations' patterns of preposition: *to*, *in* and *into* in native corpus of English language; LOCNESS. A quantitative approach has been underpinned in present study to find out grammatical patterns and their distribution. Benson et al. (1986) identified eight different grammatical collocations (colligations) in which the patterns G1, G5, and G8 particularly discussed distinctive colligation patterns of preposition. So, researcher follows this framework and tries to identify different colligation patterns of selected words *to*, *in* and *into* as preposition. For this purpose, corpus has been tagged by MAT tagger. The task of identification of different kind colligation patterns of selected words has been accomplished by corpus analysis toolkit AntConc 3.4.4. The findings notify us about the distribution of different kinds of colligation/grammatical patterns and their delicate offshoots. These colligations can be helpful for pedagogical purpose to teach ESL pupils about grammatical patterns of words rather than only rely on cramming based learning activities in the due to arbitrary nature of lexical collocations.

Keywords: colligation, preposition, grammatical pattern, native language, corpus based

Introduction

Colligation has been collected the considerable attention in the field of language teaching. In past, many researchers tried to investigate the collocation of words and declared it partially or fully arbitrary in nature (Lewis, 1993, 1997, 2000; McCarthy, 1990; Nation, 2001; Thornbury, 2002; Woolard, 2000). The concept collocation was firstly introduced by Firth (1957) to point out the lexical and grammatical relations or attractions between words. The concept of collocation got more attention when he identified in his studies that lexical items (words) always get their meanings and convey their idea with the combination of other words. There are many researchers who explain the idea of collocations and colligation in different ways that overlap with each other at some extent such as Plamer (1974), Gitsaki (1996), Crystal (1992), Sinclair (2003), and Wei (2002).

Palmer (1974) defines the concept of collocations as the combination of more than one word that must be learned as a whole, not in isolation. According to Sinclair (2003) collocation is a combination of two lexical items that follows pattern of native- like language for their usage. Broadly speaking, collocation is considered as a co- occurrence of words that reaches a statistically significant level. It is also defined as ‘the habitual co-occurrence of individual lexical items’ (Crystal, 1992, p. 82). While narrowly the concept of collocation carried two kinds of factors: lexical and grammatical and they both manipulate qualitative and quantitative standards during this study (Benson et al., 1986, p. 20).

Moreover, the former discusses the lexical attraction between words while latter “grammatical collocation” which is also termed as colligation identifies the grammatical attractions between words. (Sinclair, 1966 p. 418; Berry-Roghe, 1973, p.103; Hoey, 2005, p. 6). According to Wei (2002), colligation is co-occurrence of word class and grammar class. Similarly, Gitsaki (1996) emphasizes that both lexical items and grammatical expressions cannot be separated from each other. They are although two distinctive aspects related as one occurrence. Our present research has main focus towards the colligation. So, we explore the place of colligation in corpus linguistics.

Different linguists, lexicographers and scholars provided as well as adapted different kind of categorization about the collocation. They marked this classification with different terminologies such as lexical collocation, grammatical collocation or colligations. Cowie (1986) classifies the collocations into two categories: restricted collocations, and open collocations. The first one highlights the factors of substitution between different linguistic entities without any semantic change. For example, reading book, reading novel, reading letter etc. while in the second category, the words are used in figurative or specific and specialized sense. On the other side, Wood (1981) categorizes the collocations in a continuum according to semantic and syntactic criteria.

There are three major approaches to the study of collocation and colligation which are identified as the lexical approach, the semantic approach (Sinclair, 1966; Halliday, 1966) and the integrated approach (Mitchell, 1971). Hunston & Francis (2000) also investigates the language in domain and built the theory of pattern grammar.

Benson et al. (1986) identified of eight different grammatical collocations during their research. These colligation patterns consisted on different combination between open words class and preposition and grammatical structure such as clause and infinitive. In these colligation patterns, they recognized three different colligation patterns of preposition. This research also follows these patterns as a guiding light.

On the other side, few researchers identified and pointed out errors in the used of colligation and collocations. Liu (1999) identified six source errors during study of lexical and colligation pattern in English writings. Yang and Hendrick (2004) pointed out the reasons dueto which non-native learner cannot achieve native like mastery. Previous researcher gave the primary focus toward the non-native writing to explore or identify these grammatical attractions; they did not manipulate this dimension in native corpus as pioneer of this area of study did. So, present study follows the Benson (1986) framework to study the colligation in native student writing corpus. For this purpose, LOCNESS corpus has been selected.

Objective of Study

Researcher exploits the corpus linguistics approach to conduct a systematic analysis of grammatical attractions. Before moving towards further discussion, let's discuss the objective of this study that appears as guideline. These are following:

- Identify the colligation patterns of preposition.
- Distribution of different colligations in corpus.

Research Questions

The aim of this research is to find out the answers of following questions.

- What kinds of colligation patterns of preposition *to*, *in* and *into* have been exploited in native writing?
- What is the distribution of these identified colligation patterns in the corpus?

Literature Review

The main focus of this chapter is to narrate, explain and analyze the literature that has direct or indirect connection with our area of study. In this part of the research pa per, firstly,

we try to provide the conceptual clearance about different terms or notions: collocations and colligations, how these interrelated concepts are different with each other, how the researchers evaluate this feature in different corpus, what kind of findings they get. By manipulating the narrow down approach, secondly, we deal with the prepositions, its different definitions, its different kinds and what kind of studies has been conducted in past to discuss the preposition. Moreover, we also discuss what kind of colligations expression of preposition has been identified and evaluated in previous researches? Lastly, we identify the rationale of our study. Structural Units of Language: Collocation & Colligations The recognition and identification of structurally simple and structurally complex units that considered as linguistic signs are one of the important areas of study in linguistics. The study of structurally simple unit of language leads the researchers towards the study of lexemes and morpheme while structurally complex units can be evaluated under the domain of collocation and colligation (Feilke, 2003 as cited in Lehecka, 2015).

Benson et al. (1986) Grammatical Collocation

Benson et al. (1986) used the term grammatical collocation for colligation. He classified collocation into two types: lexical collocation and grammatical collocation. The term colligation is actually grammatical collocation that studies the co-occurrence of grammatical nature of linguist units (such as a preposition) or grammatical structure (such as to + infinitive) and lexical elements (Benson et al. 1986, 1997; Schmitt, 2000). Benson et al. (1986) demonstrated eight different kinds of grammatical categories or colligation patterns that they designated as G1, G2, and G3 etc.

Table 1

Grammatical Collocation (colligation) according to the Benson et al. (1986)

	Pattern	Example
G1	Noun+ Preposition	She has fondness for flowers.
G2	Noun + to-infinitive	He was a fool to do it.
G3	Noun + that clause	We reached to an argument that we would present
G4	Preposition +Noun	I buy the gift for a friend
G5	Adjective +preposition	She is good in cooking.
G6	Adjective +to-infinitive	It is nice to be here
G7	Adjective + that clause	It was imperative that I would be here
G8	Verb +preposition	Students rely on him.

We are following the of Benson et al (1986) framework in our study to evaluate the colligation patterns because it purely studies the grammatical attraction without the addition of other factors such as contextual or semantic meaning. There is need to discuss that colligation and collocation attractions don't remain same in different language use. It varies according to the varieties of language such as registers, different types of text and different sub-corpora (Biber & Conrad Reppen, 1998; Butler, 2004; Newman & Rice, 2006). For example, words time carries normally the collocates of spent, waste etc (Firth, 1957) but when it was studied by Partington (1998) in sub-corpus of sports journalism, it showed the different results such as half, full, extra and injury. Similarly, colligation patterns of adjectives of Swedish language occurred in subject complementary position with copula verb in informal socio-pragmatic contexts, while in formal context these same adjectives performed the attributive functions within a noun phrase (Lehecka, 2013). To consider all previous discussion, now we are going to put all our attention towards our specific researchable entity preposition and its colligation patterns and its related previous researches.

Recent Researches Related to Preposition and its Colligation Patterns

Few most recent studies also try to study the grammatical collocations (colligation) in different corpus. Mohamed & Mustafa (2012) studied the grammatical collocational competence of the students by manipulating the Benson et al. (1986) framework of colligations. They put all their focus on the preposition and identified different kinds of errors in their corpus that based on student's writings. Yunus and Awab (2011) conducted a study based on need analysis to find out the colligation competence of Malaysian law students. They collected the data in the form of interview and essay writings. The result pointed out the colligation's errors in students discourse due to effect of L1 interference and drilling method of teaching.

Similarly, Yunus and Rashid (2016) also tried to investigate different colligational patterns of preposition in legal discourse. Pisitsenakul & Khamnok (2019) investigated the grammatical collocation of preposition and learner attitude towards their utilization. They collected the learner corpus of Thai students in form of cloze test. Their methodology to investigation the grammatical prepositions through cloze test, raises some objections just like authenticity of the data. Alsulayyi (2015), also conducted a comparative study on grammatical collocation of preposition. For this purpose, he collected the corpus of Saudi EFL learner KSA as well as corpus of Saudi students who were learning in the UK. UK based students made fewer errors as compared to the students who belonged to KSA and were doing majoring in English. Yusuf (2009), conducted a precise but explanatory kind study of colligation patterns of preposition to and in student writing. Study demonstrated more than 12 colligations pattern of each word but study also revealed the list of errors. Similarly in Pakistani context, Hussain (2019) conducted the research on propositional phrase expression (lexical bundles) in Pakistani textbook that highlighted numbers of lexical bundles. It shows that the focus of contemporary

researchers has been diverted towards the L2 learner corpus. They are conducting the comparative studies. But researcher decided to do study on L1 learner corpus to find out different grammatical patterns of preposition. In the light of previously conducted researches, we able find out the space for our research. We conduct our research by utilizing the Benson's (1986) framework of colligation patterns to find out the grammatical attractions of prepositions in modern age native learner corpus LOCNESS that has not been utilized previously in this domain.

Research Methodology

Type of Study

To study the colligation patterns and their distribution in native writings, the framework of quantitative research has been employed on LONESS Corpus to find out the answer of research questions. It is also a corpus-based study.

Data Collection

To study the colligation in native writing, LOCNESS corpus has been exploited in this study. This corpus consisted of native English essays that were written by British A level student, British university student and American university students. The total numbers of words are 324304. This present study uses this whole corpus collectively that has not been exploited in any previous study in this dimension to study the colligations.

Tools

This research has been conducted by manipulating the two tools: MAT and AntConc.

Research Procedure

To find out the colligations of selected prepositions, the following systematic research procedure has been followed:

- Firstly, corpus (LOCNESS) has been selected and collected
- Secondly, data has been tagged with the help of MAT tagger
- Thirdly, to identify the colligation patterns, AntConc. tool has been used.
- With the help of concordance, colligation patterns of words in, to and into have been identified as well as their distribution.
- Analysis of all findings

Findings and Results

The questions show their main concern with the finding of different colligation patterns of preposition to, in and into and their distribution. For this purpose, Benson's (1986) framework of colligation patterns especially with the reference to prepositions has been manipulated throughout the research. Furthermore, to study the colligations, our main focus is to find out the preceded co-occurred grammatical word with prepositions. This pattern was basically followed by Sinclair (1991) during the study of collocation and can also be identified in few colligation patterns proposed by Benson et al (1986) such as G1, G5, and G8 during the study of colligation patterns of preposition. We employed two tools for this purpose: MAT tagger for tagging the data and Antconc. Tool to find out the grammatical patterns and their distribution. These are following list of colligation patterns and their distribution. Here, we will narrate and explain the colligation patterns of to, in and into individually and respectively.

Colligation Pattern of Preposition "TO"

The following Table 2 is illustrating the colligation patterns of preposition to with nouns. The numbers of concordance hits show that combination of noun+to has been identified 942 times in our targeted corpus that is consisted of 324,304 words. While concordance hits of grammatical attractions: nominalization + to and Gerund+ to be comparatively low almost 200 and 13 hits. Although, these two linguistic categories have been generalized in the framework of Benson et al. (1986) and marked as noun due to their functional role but we try studying them as individual/distinctive linguistic units. We distinguish them with pure nouns due to their functional and grammatical / linguistic features that have been identified by Biber (1988). We will explain this point in detail in our next chapter "discussion and analysis".

Table 2

Colligation Patterns Noun +TO (G1)

Colligation Pattern	Tag	Concordance Hits	Example
Noun and To	*_NN to_PIN	942	The biggest worry to the system is.....
Nominalization +To	*_NOMZ to_PIN	200	Our roads reduce pollution to the environment
Gerund +To	*_GER to_PIN	13	Proportion of its earning to charity.

Secondly table 3 also shows the colligation patterns of preposition to and verb. This colligation pattern is identified as G8 (verb +to) in the studies of Benson et al (1986). The total numbers of concordance hits of colligation pattern (verb+ to) are 919 in the corpus. In this table,

we also highlight the different forms of verbs that have been modified by native users in their writings according to the kind of tense and sentence. During the study of colligation pattern V+to, we identified that the infinitives (to + simple form of verb) also show their grammatical attractions with preposition. Previous researchers such Kennedy (1991) and Benson et al. (1986) studied and identified them as verb generally. So, we marked the distinction between them and studied colligation pattern of infinitive and preposition (to+verb+to) separately. It shows almost 249 concordance hits in whole corpus.

Table 3

Colligation Patterns Verb+ to (G8)

Colligation Pattern	Tag	Concordance Hits	Example
Verb + To		919	This leads to an increase in number
Present participle form of verb + To	*_VBG to_PIN	109	Costumers are turning to other form
Present tense verb +To	*_VPRT to_PIN	190	This leads to an increase in Number
Past from of the verb+ To	*_VBD to_PIN	115	The argument came to the fore again
Past participle form of the verb +To	*_VBN to_PIN	256	Smaller demands need led to less frequent services
To +Simple verb form (infinitive) +To	*_VB to_PIN	249	This would lead to a reversal...

Thirdly, we move towards the table 4 in which we reported the colligation patterns of adjective and preposition to. This colligation pattern (adj+to) shows the 465 concordance hits. We divide adjective into two further categories: attributive adjective and predicative adjective. It is identified that percentage of JJ+TO grammatical pattern is 60 that is comparatively high than the grammatical pattern Pred. +to.

Table 4*Colligation Patterns: Adjective +to (G5)*

Colligation Pattern	Tag	Concordance Hits	Example
Adjective + To		465	He feels superior to others
Attribute Adjective +to	*_JJ to_PIN	282	As cyclic to certain extent
Predicative Adjective + To	*_PRED to_PIN	183	They are very ready to attack.

Colligation Patterns of Preposition “IN”

Now, we are going to discuss the colligation patterns of our second preposition in. Table 5 reveals the colligation patterns of Noun and in and the number of concordance hits. This pattern has been identified by Benson et al. (1986) as G1. The finding shows the colligation pattern noun and preposition in has a comparatively high ratio in the corpus as compared to another colligation pattern such as Nominalization+ in and gerund+ in. It is also identified that noun shows more attraction with preposition in as compared to other prepositions.

Table 5*Colligation Pattern Verb + in (G1)*

Colligation Patterns	Tag	Concordance Hits	Example
Nouning	*_NN in_PIN	2739	..transport system in the United Kingdom
Nominalization+ in	*_NOMZ in_PIN	410	Further reduction in the number...
Gerund +in	*_GER in_PIN	37	..burning in the mid-west

Similarly, table 6 narrated the same grammatical pattern that we identified in table 2 but with a different frequency. Colligation pattern Verb +in has 1033 concordances hits. It also shows its colligation pattern with infinitive that generally marks as verb but researcher studies it as and distinguish pattern. This pattern almost covers the 11% of whole V+in colligation patterns. See the following table 6.

Table 6*Colligation Patterns Verb+ in (G8)*

Colligation Patterns	Tag	Concordance Hits	Example
Verb +in		1033	Information stored in computer
Present participle form of verb + in	*_VBG in_PIN	75	..now occurring in America.
Present tense verb +IN	*_VPRT in_PIN	194	..partake in fox huntings
Past from of the verb+ IN	*_VBD in_PIN	86	..Stayed in power.
Past participle form of the verb +IN	*_VBN in_PIN	437	..Stuck in traffic...
Simple verb +In	*_VB in_PIN	120	Economic up set will occur
To +Simple verb+In	*_VB in_PIN	121	To make in vitro

Table 7 represents the distribution of Benson's (1986) colligation pattern G6 like table 2 but findings are different. Adjective + in has been identified in the corpus with total 359 concordance hits. Attributive adjective shows almost 45% grammatical attractions with preposition in while predicative adjective has comparatively high percentage, that's almost 55 %.

Table 7*Colligation Patterns Adjective + In (G5)*

Colligation Patterns	Tag	Concordance Hits	Example
Adjective +in		359	effective in the prevention.
Attributive Adjective +in	*_JJ in_PIN	163	Impossible in the fact
Predicative Adjective + in	*_PRD in_PIN	196	..significant in employment

Colligation Patterns of Preposition “INTO”

After discussing the colligation pattern of preposition to and in, let's move towards our last preposition into. The following table 8 provides us the finding of colligation pattern noun+into. It has 151 concordance hits while ratios of colligation pattern of nominalization and

into and gerund and into are comparatively too low. As, we can see in table 10, Gerund +into has only 1 hit in whole corpus.

Table 8

Colligation Patterns Noun+ into (G1)

Colligation Patterns	Tags	Concordance Hits	Example
Noun+into	*_NN into_PIN	151	man into society
Nominalization+into	*_NOMZ into_PIN	19	Action into our hands
Gerund +into	*_GER into_PIN	01	Digging into the background

On the other hand, Table 9 also quantifies the colligation pattern verb and into that has 226 concordance hits. Similar to others, preposition into also shows the grammatical attraction with infinitive, although it has only 14 hits in our targeted corpus.

Table 9

Colligation Patterns Verb +into (G8)

Colligation Patterns	Tags	Concordance Hits	Examples
Verb + into		226	Kids came into school
Present tense verb +Into	*_VPRT into_PIN	34	This leads to an increase in the number
Past from of the verb+ Into	*_VBD into_PIN	29	Actually, came into existence...
Past participle form of the verb +into	*_VBN into_PIN	92	It has developed into extremely lucrative.
Past participle form of the verb +into	*_VBG into_PIN	14	...coming into the world
Simple verb +Into	*_VB into_PIN	37	Enter into the treaty.
To+Simple verb +Into	*_VB into_PIN	20	Enter into the treaty.

The last table 10 discusses the colligation pattern: Adjective + into. It shows only 2 hits in the corpus. Both kinds of adjectives show the single hit with preposition into. It can be said that the concept of generalizing the finding is not acceptable in the language studies especially

in the case of colligation.

Table 10

Colligation Pattern Adjective +into (G)

Colligation Patterns	Tag	Concordance Hits	Examples
Adjective +into		02	develop the criminal into a more successful
Predicative Adjective+into	*_PRED into_PIN	01	You can be led into gambling
Attributive adjective +Into	*_JJ into_PIN	01	..develop the criminal into a more successful ...

Comparative Study

All three prepositions show the same kind of colligation patterns but the distribution of these patterns in corpus is varied according to preposition. Some prepositions have the strong attraction with verb and noun such as in the case of preposition to.

While some colligation patterns identify the strong connection between preposition in and attributive adjectives. On the other side, few colligation patterns show very limited grammatical attraction between adjective and preposition such as in the case of adjective and preposition within. This pattern (adj+ within) shows only 2 concordances hits in the corpus. Before doing this, findings have been normalized. See the following table 11.

Table 11

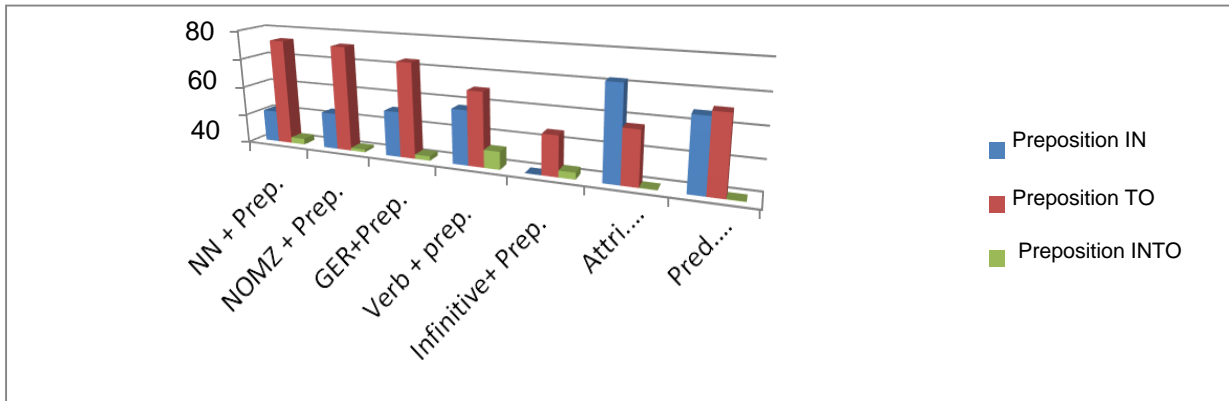
Comparison between G1, G5 and G8 Colligation Pattern Preposition

Colligation Patterns	Preposition in	Preposition to	Preposition into
Noun+Prep.	73	22	4.0
Nominalization +Prep.	72	25	1.9
Gerund +Prep.	65	31	3.0
Verb +Prep.	50	37	12
Infinitive +Prep	27	67	4.5
Attributive Adj. +Prep.	36	63	0.22
Predicative Adj. +Prep.	51	48	0.26

There is a graphical representation of table 13. See the following Graph 1.

Graph 1

Comparative Study of Colligations



Discussion

The study of colligation patterns with the help of lexical items leads us towards the lexico-grammatical approach. No doubt, these are two distinctive but interlinked notions. Our research shows its main concern with grammatical aspect of the language. Each lexical item of any language carries a specific grammatical feature that basically represents the language learning rules and syntactic patterns (Thornbury 2002, 122; Lewis 2008, 142). Lexical units are representative of specific grammatical profiles and information that follow the specific pattern to show the attraction between different grammatical entities such as verb + preposition (come into). Hence, Swan (2005) claimed that “every word in a language is involved in a complex and unique network of patterns and relationships”. In our study, we also tried to identify and study these grammatical relations and patterns with the reference to prepositions: in, to, and into as well as their distribution in LOCNESS corpus. Like many other studies and previous researches, it also affirmed that language follows the limited sets of grammatical patterns to produce the unlimited meaningful linguistic expression (Chomsky, 2000). It is known as discrete “infinity” principle. In the case of Benson’s colligation framework, there are only three kinds of colligation patterns for prepositions in preceding position: G1, G5 and G8.

By manipulating these patterns, we studied bundles of linguistics expression and their distribution in corpus that we have been discussed in previous chapter with the help of MAT tagger and AntConc. tool.

G1- Noun + Preposition

The table 2, 5 and 8 expressed the G1 colligation pattern of all three prepositions (to, in and into) and their distribution in the whole corpus. The result reveals that these prepositions show more attraction with noun as compared to other grammatical units in preceding position. The finding of our research also reclaimed the grammatical and functional role of preposition as a linking unit between different parts of sentences such as nouns pronouns and adjective etc. (Huddleston, 1984) Furthermore, during the study of colligation patterns of noun + preposition, we identified number of lexical items such as smoking and improvement that are grammatically identified as gerund and nominalization, show their grammatical co-occurrence with the prepositions. At this point, we took our study one step ahead to the Benson's framework (1986).

We tagged the corpus with the help of MAT tagger that helped us to identify the grammatical and linguistic features of lexical items more closely, correctly and exactly as compared to UCREL CLAWS5. This study reveals the grammatical attraction between prepositions and nominalization and gerund. Gerunds are linguistic entities that are verbs by nature but play the role of noun such as smoking, cycling etc. (Martin, 1935). On the other hand, nominalizations are nexus substantives (Jespersen, 1924 and 1937). According to Biber (1998), nominalizations are those nouns that created from other grammatical class of words such as verb and adjective. In simple words these words play the role of nouns like other pure nouns such as pen, country, chair but these are transformed or converted nouns such as examination and goodness. In our study, we tried to manipulate these linguistic units individually and did not combine them with other nouns. It would be helpful for the future L2 learner to understand this distinction between different linguistic entities. They can also easily understand and identify the grammatical attraction between two different lexical items that have been individualized due to their linguistic feature (Biber, 1988; Halliday et al., 1964). Being a second language researcher, the finding also realized that the concept of generalizing the finding of linguistic entities sometimes led the L2 learner towards ambiguity and became the reason of error.

G8-Verb +Preposition

Similarly, during the study of colligation pattern of verb and preposition (V+to) we also identified that verbs appeared in different grammatical forms. The MAT tagger provides us the distinction between different kinds of verbs. Although, forms of verb modified according to the tense in the case of English language but don't create impact and witness the variation in the use of preposition like Māori language (Buarce 1997). Furthermore, there are few cases when verbs play the role of more than verb such VB. It shows the simple form of verb in text but it is mostly preceded by (for example) to go to school. In this grammatical condition, both lexical items i.e., *to* and *go* are collectively playing the role of infinitive. The findings reveal that prepositions *to*, *in* and *into* show their grammatical attraction with infinitive too at some extent that we highlighted in the table 4, 7, 11 distinctly with other the colligation patterns.

G5-Adjective+ Preposition

Now, we discuss our last colligation pattern G5 that shows the grammatical attraction between adjective and preposition (Adj + Prep.) (Benson et al., 1988). Although, we studied G5 pattern explicitly like previous studies but we tried to study it in more detailed and organized way. For this purpose, we recognized adjective into two kinds: attributive adjective and predicative adjective with the help of MAT tagger. Ledeska (2013) also studied the colligation patterns of adjectives: attributive and predicative of Swedish language. Undoubtedly, we are not studying the colligation patterns of adjective in our study but we are trying to find out colligation of preposition in which attraction between adjective and preposition is one the key grammatical patterns. So, we take some rays from Lehecka (2013) studied and identified the colligation pattern between preposition and both kind of adjectives.

The study reveals that percentage of colligation pattern: Adjective+ Preposition varies according to the preposition *to*, *in* and *into* as well as with kinds of adjective such as preposition *to* shows comparatively less grammatical attraction with predicative adjective as compared to attributive adjective. On other hand, grammatical attraction between adjective and preposition *into* is comparatively very less. Corpus shows only 1 concordance hits for this grammatical pattern.

Conclusively, we can say that findings of colligation patterns can't be generalized. Each lexical item carries the different grammatical and functional role and shows the different kind of grammatical attractions. Benson's (1986) identified three kinds colligation patterns of preposition that can be further sub-divided as we identified in the case of gerund, infinitive and adjectives etc.

Conclusion

Although research started by following the Benson et al. (1986) three colligation patterns G1, G5 and G8 to study them and their distribution in native student corpus but study identified the more different kinds of colligations that can be marked as sub-type of G1, G5 and G8. For example, according to Benson's et al. (1986) G8 that carries the Adjective + Preposition pattern. In present research, the further two types of adjectives: predicative adjective and attributive adjective have been identified and their grammatical attractions with prepositions have been studied. The study reveals that all three prepositions show the different kind of grammatical attraction with both kinds of adjectives such as preposition *into*. It shows almost one concordance hit in whole corpus in the case of both kinds of adjectives as compared to other preposition *to* and *in*. Similarly, G1 discusses the grammatical attraction between noun and preposition. This study with the help of MAT tagger marks the distinction between different lexical items that play the role of the noun but by nature these words belong to or have been

derive from different grammatical class and have different linguistics features such nominalization and gerund. These grammatical units and their grammatical attractions can be considered offshoots of the same stem; noun and its colligation. Furthermore, in the case of G8 that represents the grammatical attraction between verb and preposition. During the study of this grammatical pattern, verb has been identified as participle with two in previous position. So, it marks as an individual grammatical pattern participle + preposition that are basically a kind of offshoot of the primary colligation patterns verb + Preposition.

After identifying all colligations patterns with the help of Antconc Tool, the distribution of each colligation has been noted by concordance hits with the help of AntConc tool. Preposition *in* shows the comparatively higher grammatical attractions with all other determined grammatical units expect with attributive adjective. While preposition *into* has comparatively lowest kind of grammatical attraction. Distinctly preposition *to* shows the strong grammatical attraction with adjectives that is 63 % and 48% respectively as compared to other two prepositions as well as with other grammatical items. The findings of this study can be used in pedagogical dimension when teachers use the bottom – up approach in their classroom. With the help of colligations, L2 learners can understand and become familiar with the grammatical and syntagmatic patterns of language that can be helpful to compose the grammatically correct sentences and reduce number the errors in the production (writing and speaking) of L2.

The present study gives all its focus and attention towards the native students' writing to find out the grammatical attraction of prepositions with different grammatical units but future researchers can conduct the comparative study in which native and non – native corpus can be studied. This study is limited to the study of prepositions but future researchers can study the other grammatical units such as that clause or infinitive.

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