An Analysis of Lexical Collocation in King Charles’ Speech

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ABSTRACT
Collocation is quite common to every native speaker. English language is restricted to collocation. It has set its own patterns that occur in natural way. Collocation takes in the form of lexical combination and grammatical combination. Respecting to King Charles III, he starts to deliver speeches on numerous occasion after becoming new monarch. The usage of collocation might differ widely from deeper meaning and context behind. This qualitative research is designed to analyze lexical collocation that exists in King Charles’ speech. The document obtained from speech text was published by website ‘PBS News Hour’. The research results points out that 15 collocation data were produced by King Charles III in his speech. It clearly reflects how he conveyed some collocation form to exact meaning. Those were accepted in its language system, culture, and real life. This research is expected to bring out the best in foreign students’ language proficiency, understanding other language system and culture differences.

1. Introduction

Language and its native speakers exist as complex link. Their vocabulary use and grammatical system are established through interaction process either spoken or written form (Gao, 2016). It simply means that collocation patterns and certain meanings are familiar to English native and becomes their typical (Rahman, 2018; Andini et al., 2021). The lexical items combined can occur together and have close relation in given context (Halliday & Hassan, 1976). The pattern can involve combination of lexical items and grammatical features. It attaches great importance to recognize collocation as multi-word or fixed combination instead of processing word-by-word (Hasnia et al., 2022; Rahman & Weda, 2019).

Many experts had defined collocation in different way. Oxford Collocations Dictionary for Learners of English (Lea et al., 2002) described collocation as a English word combination that assist learners to become native-like and produce their spoken and written naturally. Collocation impacts on the vocabulary and grammar into a meaningful whole (Aswad et al., 2019.). These collocations are formed by group patterns (syntactical). Besides, collocation is combination of two or more lexical items figures out the relation between structural elements and given pattern (Cai, 2017; Andini et al., 2022). In this sense, syntactic structure is influenced by lexical component and collocability relations.

Two types of collocation – lexical collocation and grammatical collocation had been compiled from some certain patterns (Benson et al., 1986). Lexical collocation are constrained by combination of adjective and noun, verb and noun, noun and noun, verb and adverb, noun and verb, and adverb and adjective (Shabani & Rahimy, 2020; Prihandoko et al., 2019). Grammatical collocation highlights patterns of noun and preposition, noun and to-infinitive, noun and that-clause, preposition and noun, adjective and preposition, adjective and to-infinitive, adjective and that-clause, and English verb patterns. In case of lexical collocation, base and collocator lead to determine right combination and set in context (Kimmes & Hoopman, 2011). The following lists base and collocator are represented below:

a. Verb + Noun : express admiration
b. Adjective + Noun : broad implication
c. Noun + Verb : A complication arises
d. Adverb + Adjective : deadly serious
e. Verb + Adverb : care deeply
The base is highlighted in bold type. For instance, collocation ‘express admiration’ is pattern of verb and noun. The noun ‘admiration’ as base is usually collocated with verb ‘express’ and both appropriate combination carries given meaning.

Some studies investigating collocation had been carried out in many forms, such as election campaign, novel, movie, and so on. One of leading figure analyzed was Hillary Clinton’s speech (Gayatri, 2018). In her economic speech, 92 sentences was taken to represent two types of collocation included 61 patterns of grammatical collocation and 31 patterns of lexical collocation. A huge number of grammatical collocations had arisen than lexical collocation. Each type of collocation was divided into particular groups (Hudcovičová et al., 2021). In case of dominant group within grammatical collocation, English verb patterns seem to be selected mostly by Clinton. Pattern of adjective and noun was often used in lexical collocation (Pisitsenakul & Khamnok, 2019; Sukmawaty et al., 2022). From the given data, it could help students to understand collocation as fixed pattern and express themselves as English native-like.

Another research extended to movie extended ‘Hidden Figures’ (Lestari, 2019). It adopted quantitative research method to discover English collocation in Katherine Johnson’s character. Her utterances consisted mostly of lexical collocation, particularly pattern of verb. There were less grammatical collocations. The research was helpful to acquire collocation and vocabulary more in the English ordinary ways, and practice non-native students’ listening skill.

Collocations were likely to appear in English novel, such as great work by Jenny Han (Farida, 2018). The novel entitled ‘P.S. I still Love You’. This revealed English native collocation through written form. In this research, qualitative method was able to analyze patterns of collocation and their senses. First to tenth chapter of English version had been read and all patterns of grammatical collocation were highly frequent. Lexical collocation only occurs in five patterns. Those collocations provide various English expressions that are relevant and touch with their real life.

Recently, King Charles III becomes leading figure and will be new monarch or Head of State for United Kingdom. He owes a duty to serve people and the country faithfully. He made and delivered his heartfelt speech about the loss of Queen Elizabeth II. Collocation might be generated from his speech. Many of his language use have dealt with English collocation because it is his native language. Thus, this research intends to found and explain lexical collocation in King Charles’ first speech as new monarch.

2. Methodology

Qualitative research was employed to describe a phenomenon and its characteristics. The text of King Charles III speech had been posted on website ‘PBS News Hour’. It was on September 9, 2022. It entitled ‘King Charles’ full 1st speech to Britain as the new monarch’. The transcript was from document analysis. It was conducted by reading entire data sources and determining lexical collocation. Oxford Learner’s Dictionary and Cambridge Dictionary were necessary and worth to identify lexical collocation and provide meaning of each lexical and another possible combination.

3. Result and Discussion

Datum 1. Profound sorrow

This lexical collocation derives from combination of adjective and noun. The sentence is “I speak to you today with feelings of profound sorrow”. The noun ‘sorrow’ is defined as a feeling of sadness. It corresponds to word ‘profound’. This adjective ‘profound’ emphasizes how very great the feeling is. It also can be substituted with adjective ‘great’ and ‘deep’. The Royal Family was mourning the death of Queen Elizabeth II and experienced deep feeling of sadness.

Datum 2. Owe debt

The King Charles III stated that The Queen Elizabeth II have expressed great affection and love, given guidance, and set example for all members of family. It makes them owe a debt to the Queen. The sentence is “…we owe her the most heartfelt debt …”. Collocation occurs in combination of verb ‘owe’ and noun ‘debt’. The noun ‘debt’ appears to be gratitude for someone’s kindness. The verb ‘owe’ is about feeling grateful when someone do a favour. This is fixed combination and often used.

Datum 3. Deep sense

Noun ‘sense’ includes a feeling about something. This is appropriate to adjective ‘deep’. It implies a very strong feeling. This adjective is most frequently combined with some sorts of emotion, such as empathy, regret, sadness, and so on. The sentence is “… a deep sense of gratitude for the more than 70 years …”. The Royal Family expressed a deep sense of gratitude towards the service of The Queen Elizabeth II during 70 years.
Datum 4. Make sacrifice

Cambridge English Dictionary explains the meaning of delexical verb ‘make’ to be collocated with certain nouns. It refers to outcome of an action. The noun ‘sacrifice’ means giving up something for something else that is considered more important. In King Charles III speech, the sentence is “She made sacrifices for duty”. When The Queen Elizabeth II has devoted herself and her entire life to serve many people and the United Kingdom, she has made big sacrifice.

Datum 5. Pay tribute

This combination of verb ‘pay’ and noun ‘tribute’ can be identical in losing of someone. The sentence is “I pay tribute to my Mother’s memory...”. The verb ‘pay’ is in secondary meaning. It deals with giving or doing something and only have limited nouns to provide this particular context. There are ‘pay visit’ and ‘pay attention’. The noun ‘tribute’ is attributed to a statement from King Charles III to show his respect and love for The Queen Elizabeth II.

Datum 6. Care deeply

The sentence is “... and issues for which I care so deeply”. The verb ‘care’ is feeling of affection or taking on importance to someone or something. Adverb ‘deeply’ is constructed from adjective ‘deep’. This is applied more widely in terms of modifying verbs or any adjectives. Collocations ‘deeply religious’ and ‘deeply regret’ exemplifies the usage of the adverb ‘deeply’. Its meaning is similar to adverb ‘very’.

King Charles delivered his major speech when he was still mourning Queen Elizabeth’s death and would carry out his royal duties as new monarch. His collocation uses explicitly represent the natural use of language in certain specific context. Such collocation ‘pay tribute’ is frequent occurrence especially for dead person. Besides, collocation ‘care deeply’ illustrates that one of his duties is taking care of society’s problem and running charity. The data are considered well-known collocation that can communicate King Charles’ ideas clearly and his depth of feeling. Those have fitted into appropriate meaning and collocates, and high frequency on its English native use.

4. Conclusion

This research is designed to analyze lexical collocation that found on King Charles III first speech after losing of The Queen Elizabeth II. Those data often occur in particular context and are commonly used by English natives. Each lexical has multiple meaning. Its combination constituent is likely to contribute much to determine whole exact meaning as a unit and restricted collocation. As foreign language students, they should consider collocation as multi-words and vocabulary knowledge in order to use English language naturally and raise their awareness to communicate efficiently to be native-like.

References


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