

Graded assignment 2: -ic/-ical adjectives in English

1. Study questions for Kaunisto (1999)

1. What do you think about the choice of corpus? Why?
2. Comment on the last sentence of p. 345 in terms of hypothesis formulation and testing.
3. How useful does the value judgment component appear to be for distinguishing between *-ic* and *-ical* adjectives?
4. Why is the differentiation of collocates treated separately from the ways of semantic differentiation further up in the text?
5. How would one go about to test (corpus-linguistically) Marchand's claim that *-ical* forms are in wider common use?
6. In what way does Kaunisto's characterization of *electric/electrical* go beyond the accounts of Greenbaum and Whitcut (1988) or contemporary dictionaries (as mentioned in the text)? Same for *classic/classical*?

2. Pseudocode assignment

In the <files> folder of this course, there are four files representing the SGML format of the British National Corpus. Write pseudocode and note down function names to

- search for *electric* and/or *electrical* as well as *historic* and/or *historical* when any of these adjectives precedes something tagged as a noun (<w N); so that we can
- compare for each adjective pair which collocates are distinctive for which adjective;

and submit it to Albert at <aventayolboada@ucsb.edu> by 21 Feb 2023, 08:00 PST.