



**Revue Internationale de Langue,
Littérature, Culture et Civilisation**

Actes du colloque international

**Vol. 4, N°1, 25 août 2024
ISSN : 2709-5487**

Revue Internationale de Langue, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation

Actes du colloque international sur le thème :

**« La modélisation de la sécurité et des stratégies de paix pour
une paix durable dans l'Espace CEDEAO »**

“Modeling of security and strategies for sustainable peace in ECOWAS zone”

**Revue annuelle multilingue
Multilingual Annual Journal**

www.nyougam.com
ISSN : 2709-5487
E-ISSN : 2709-5495
Lomé-TOGO

Revue Internationale de Langue, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation

Directeur de publication : Professeur Ataféï PEWISSI, Littérature de l'Afrique anglophone

Directeur de rédaction : Monsieur Paméssou WALLA (MC), Littérature anglaise

Directeur adjoint de rédaction : Professeur Mafobatchie NANTOB, Sociologie

Comité scientifique

Professeur Komla Messan NUBUKPO, Université de Lomé, Littératures africaine et américaine

Professeur Léonard KOUSSOUHON, Université Abomey-Calavi, Linguistique appliquée

Professeur Yaovi AKAKPO, Université de Lomé, Philosophie

Professeur Koffi ANYIDOHO, University of Legon, Littérature orale

Professeur Augustin AINAMON, Université d'Abomey-Calavi, Etudes américaines

Professeur Essoham ASSIMA-KPATCHA, Université de Lomé, Histoire

Professeur Abou NAPON, Université de Ouagadougou, Sociolinguistique

Professeur Martin Dossou GBENOUGA, Université de Lomé, Littérature africaine

Professeur Kossi AFELI, Université de Lomé, Sciences du langage

Professeur Kazaro TASSOU, Université de Lomé, Littérature africaine

Professeur Méterwa A. OURSO, Université de Lomé, Linguistique

Comité de lecture

Professeur Ataféï PEWISSI, Université de Lomé, Littérature de l'Afrique anglophone

Professeur Komlan Essowè ESSIZEWA, Université de Lomé, Sociolinguistique

Professeur Ameyo AWUKU, Université de Lomé, Linguistique

Professeur Laure-Clémence CAPO-CHICHI, Université Abomey-Calavi, Littérature de l'Afrique anglophone

Professeur Dotsè YIGBE, Université de Lomé, Littérature et civilisation allemandes

Professeur Koutchoukalo TCHASSIM, Université de Lomé, Littérature africaine

Professeur Minlipe Martin GANGUE, Université de Lomé, Linguistique

Professeur Essohanam BATCHANA, Université de Lomé, Histoire contemporaine

Professeur Didier AMELA, Université de Lomé, Littératures francophones

Professeur Vamara KONE, Université Alassane Ouattara de Bouaké, Etudes américaines et Littérature comparée
Professeur Akila AHOULI, Université de Lomé, Littérature allemande
Professeur Gbati NAPO, Université de Lomé, Sociologie
Professeur Innocent KOUTCHADE, Université d'Abomey-Calavi, Linguistique anglaise appliquée
Professeur Bilakani TONYEME, Université de Lomé, Philosophie et Sciences de l'Education
Professeur Tchaa PALI, Université de Kara, Linguistique descriptive
Professeur Ayaovi Xolali MOUMOUNI-AGBOKE, Université de Lomé, Littérature africaine
Monsieur Komi KPATCHA, Maître de Conférences, Université de Kara, Littérature
Monsieur Damlègue LARE, Maître de Conférences, Université de Lomé, Littérature de l'Afrique anglophone
Monsieur Paméssou WALLA, Maître de Conférences, Université de Lomé, Littérature anglaise
Monsieur Weinpanga A. ANDOU, Maître de Conférences, Université de Lomé, Etudes hispaniques
Monsieur Hodabalou ANATE, Maître de Conférences, Université de Lomé, Littérature de l'Afrique anglophone,
Monsieur Essobiyou SIRO, Maître de Conférences, Université de Lomé, Littérature de l'Afrique anglophone,
Monsieur Komi BAFANA, Maître de Conférences, Université de Lomé, Littérature anglaise.

Secrétariat

Dr Atsou MENSAH (MA), Dr Akponi TARNO (A), Dr Eyanawa TCHEKI.

Infographie & Montage

Dr Aminou Idjadi KOUROUPARA

Contacts : (+228) 90284891/91643242/92411793

Email : larellicca2017@gmail.com

© LaReLLiCCA, 25 août 2024

ISSN : 2709-5487

Tous droits réservés

Editorial

La *Revue Internationale de Langue, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation* (RILLiCC) est une revue à comité de lecture en phase d'indexation recommandée par le Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement Supérieur (CAMES). Elle est la revue du Laboratoire de Recherche en Langues, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation Anglophones (LaReLLiCCA) dont elle publie les résultats des recherches en lien avec la recherche et la pédagogie sur des orientations innovantes et stimulantes à la vie et vision améliorées de l'académie et de la société. La revue accepte les textes qui cadrent avec des enjeux épistémologiques et des problématiques actuels pour être au rendez-vous de la contribution à la résolution des problèmes contemporains.

RILLiCC met en éveil son lectorat par rapport aux défis académiques et sociaux qui se posent en Afrique et dans le monde en matière de science littéraire et des crises éthiques. Il est établi que les difficultés du vivre-ensemble sont fondées sur le radicalisme et l'extrémisme violents. En effet, ces crises et manifestations ne sont que des effets des causes cachées dans l'imaginaire qu'il faut (re)modeler au grand bonheur collectif. Comme il convient de le noter ici, un grand défi se pose aux chercheurs qui se doivent aujourd'hui d'être conscients que la science littéraire n'est pas rétribuée à sa juste valeur quand elle se voit habillée sous leurs yeux du mythe d'Albatros ou d'un cymbale sonore. L'idée qui se cache malheureusement derrière cette mythologie est que la littérature ne semble pas contribuer efficacement à la résolution des problèmes de société comme les sciences exactes. Dire que la recherche a une valeur est une chose, le prouver en est une autre. La *Revue Internationale de Langue, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation* à travers les activités du LaReLLiCCA entend faire bénéficier à son lectorat et à sa société cible, les retombées d'une recherche appliquée.

Le comité spécialisé « Lettres et Sciences Humaines » du Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement Supérieur (CAMES) recommande l'utilisation harmonisée des styles de rédaction et la présente revue s'inscrit dans cette logique directrice en adoptant le style APA.

L'orientation éditoriale de cette revue inscrit les résultats pragmatiques et novateurs des recherches sur fond social de médiation, d'inclusion et de réciprocité qui permettent de maîtriser les racines du mal et réaliser les objectifs du développement durable déclencheurs de paix partagée.

Lomé, le 20 octobre 2020.

Le directeur de publication,

Professeur Ataféï PEWISSI,

Directeur du Laboratoire de Recherche en Langues, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation Anglophones (LaReLLiCCA), Faculté des Lettres, Langues et Arts, Université de Lomé.
Tél : (+228) 90284891, e-mail : sapewissi@yahoo.com

Ligne éditoriale

Volume : La taille du manuscrit est comprise entre 4500 et 6000 mots.
Format: papier A4, **Police:** Times New Roman, **Taille:** 11,5, **Interligne** 1,15.

Ordre logique du texte

Un article doit être un tout cohérent. Les différents éléments de la structure doivent faire un tout cohérent avec le titre. Ainsi, tout texte soumis pour publication doit comporter:

- ***un titre en caractère d'imprimerie*** ; il doit être expressif et d'actualité, et ne doit pas excéder 24 mots ;
- ***un résumé en anglais-français, anglais-allemand, ou anglais-espagnol*** selon la langue utilisée pour rédiger l'article. Se limiter exclusivement à objectif/problématique, cadre théorique et méthodologique, et résultats. Aucun de ces résumés ne devra dépasser 150 mots ;
- ***des mots clés en français, en anglais, en allemand et en espagnol*** : entre 5 et 7 mots clés ;
- ***une introduction*** (un aperçu historique sur le sujet ou revue de la littérature en bref, une problématique, un cadre théorique et méthodologique, et une structure du travail) en 600 mots au maximum ;
- ***un développement dont les différents axes sont titrés***. Il n'est autorisé que trois niveaux de titres. Pour le titrage, il est vivement recommandé d'utiliser les chiffres arabes ; les titres alphabétiques et alphanumériques ne sont pas acceptés ;
- ***une conclusion*** (rappel de la problématique, résumé très bref du travail réalisé, résultats obtenus, implémentation) en 400 mots au maximum ;
- ***liste des références*** : par ordre alphabétique des noms de familles des auteurs cités.

Références

Il n'est fait mention dans la liste de références que des sources effectivement utilisées (citées, paraphrasées, résumées) dans le texte de l'auteur. Pour leur présentation, les normes du CAMES (NORCAMES) ou références intégrées sont exigées de tous les auteurs qui veulent faire publier leur texte dans la revue. Il est fait exigence aux auteurs de n'utiliser que la seule norme dans leur texte. Pour en savoir plus, consultez

ces normes sur Internet.

Présentation des notes référencées

Le comité de rédaction exige les NORMCAMES (Initial du/des prénom(s) de l'auteur suivi du Nom de l'auteur, année, page). L'utilisation des notes de bas de pages n'intervient qu'à des fins d'explication complémentaire. La présentation des références en style métissé est formellement interdite.

La gestion des citations :

Longues citations : Les citations de plus de quarante (40) mots sont considérées comme longues ; elles doivent être mises en retrait dans le texte en interligne simple.

Les citations courtes : les citations d'un (1) à quarante (40) mots sont considérées comme courtes ; elles sont mises entre guillemets et intégrées au texte de l'auteur.

Résumé :

- ✓ Pour A. Pewissi (2017), le Womanisme transcende les cloisons du genre.
- ✓ M. A. Ourso (2013, p. 12) trouve les voyelles qui débordent le cadre circonscrit comme des voyelles récalcitrantes.

Résumé ou paraphrase :

- ✓ M. A. Ourso (2013, p. 12) trouve les voyelles qui débordent le cadre circonscrit comme des voyelles récalcitrantes.

Exemple de référence

Pour un livre

COLLIN Hodgson Peter, 1988, *Dictionary of Government and Politics*, UK, Peter Collin Publishing.

Pour un article tiré d'un ouvrage collectif

GILL Women, 1998/1990, "Writing and Language: Making the Silence Speak," In Sheila Ruth, *Issues in Feminism: An Introduction to Women's Studies*, London, Mayfield Publishing Company, Fourth Edition, pp. 151-176.

Utilisation de Ibid., op. cit, sic entre autres

Ibidem (Ibid.) intervient à partir de la deuxième note d'une référence

source citée. Ibid. est suivi du numéro de page si elle est différente de référence mère dont elle est consécutive. Exemple : ibid., ou ibidem, p. x.

Op. cit. signifie ‘la source pré-citée’. Il est utilisé quand, au lieu de deux références consécutives, une ou plusieurs sources sont intercalées. En ce moment, la deuxième des références consécutives exige l’usage de op. cit. suivi de la page si cette dernière diffère de la précédente.

Typographie

-La *Revue Internationale de Langue, Littérature, Culture et Civilisation* interdit tout soulignement et toute mise en gras des caractères ou des portions de textes.

-Les auteurs doivent respecter la typographie choisie concernant la ponctuation, les abréviations...

Tableaux, schémas et illustrations

Pour les textes contenant les tableaux, il est demandé aux auteurs de les numérotter en chiffres romains selon l’ordre de leur apparition dans le texte. Chaque tableau devra comporter un titre précis et une source propre. Par contre, les schémas et illustrations devront être numérotés en chiffres arabes et dans l’ordre d’apparition dans le texte.

La largeur des tableaux intégrés au travail doit être 10 cm maximum, format A4, orientation portrait.

Instruction et acceptation d’article

Les dates de réception et d’acceptation et de publication des articles sont marquées, au niveau de chaque article. Deux (02) à trois (03) instructions sont obligatoires pour plus d’assurance de qualité.

Sommaire

Littérature -----	1
<i>Monoko-zohi</i> de Diégou Bailly : une écriture du brassage culturel et de la cohésion sociale	
François Tchoman ASSEKA	3
Le contraste de l'humanitaire dans le théâtre de Tiago Rodrigues	
Amadou COULIBALY	19
La guerre comme négation du vivre-ensemble chez les primates dans <i>Brazzaville Beach</i> (1990) de William Boyd	
Astou Fall DIOP & Aladji Mamadou SANE & El Hadji Cheikh KANDJI	39
Post-Brexit Immigration and the British Welfare State Political Discourse in Douglass Board's <i>Time of Lies</i>	
Ténéna Mamadou SILUE	65
The Representation of Violence in N'gugi wa Thiong'o's <i>Weep Not, Child</i> and <i>A Grain of Wheat</i>	
Komi Séna KPEDZROKU.....	85
Social Justice as a Key Tenet of Security and Sustainable Peace: An Analysis of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Speeches	
Mamadou DIAMOUTÉNE.....	103
Women's Self-Definition and Societal Hardships in <i>The Color Purple</i> by Alice Walker	
Cyriaque SOSSOU & Anne Nathalie Jouvencia Agossi AGUESSY & Casimir Comlan SOEDE.....	115
A Peaceful and Secured Environment in a Shifting and Multiracial World: A Literary Reflection on Rebecca Walker's <i>Black, White and Jewish</i> (2001)	
Seydou CISSÉ	135
American Female Leaders in Peacemaking: A Study of Jeannette Rankin, Jeane Kirkpatrick, and Hillary Clinton	
Agath KOUNNOU	151
Linguistique -----	173
Quels anthroponymes pour la culture de la paix ?	
Assolissim HALOUBIYOU.....	175
Plaisanterie à caractère phonique et lexical entre les parlers nawda	
Djahéma GAWA	191
The Semantic Landscape of "Peace": Exploring Collocational Patterns and Their Prosodic Implications in Corpora	

Albert Omolegbé KOUKPOSSI & Blandine Opêoluwa AGBAKA & Innocent Sourou KOUTCHADE.....	205
Teaching English for Sustainable Peace: Integrating Language and Security Strategies in ECOWAS Education System	
Coffi Martinien ZOUNHIN TOBOULA	219
Sociologie et droit -----	239
Dispositifs de lutte contre la cybercriminalité dans l'espace ouest africain : réflexions pour une lutte beaucoup plus efficace	
Donatien SOKOU.....	241
Les fêtes <i>N'do-biti</i> chez les Akaselem, <i>Assaku</i> et <i>Itchombi</i> chez les Biyobè : des stratégies de la cohésion sociale dans les régions centrale et de la Kara du Togo	
Houéfa Ablavi HOUEDANOU-AKOTCHOLO & Nourou TCHALLA & Atiyihwè AWESSO.....	259
Le Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU face aux défis sécuritaires de l'Afrique Assataclouli BAKOUSSAM.....	275

LINGUISTIQUE

The Semantic Landscape of “Peace”: Exploring Collocational Patterns and Their Prosodic Implications in Corpora

Albert Omolegbé KOUKPOSSI

koukpossialbert@gmail.com

University of Abomey-Calavi, English Department

&

Blandine Opêoluwa AGBAKA

kaddine2@yahoo.fr

University of Abomey-Calavi, INMAAC

&

Innocent Sourou KOUTCHADE

koutchade2@yahoo.fr

University of Abomey-Calavi, English Department

Reçu le : 05/01/2024 Accepté le : 09/05/2024 Publié le : 25/08/2024

Abstract

The concept of “peace” has historically been significant in everyday language and, most importantly, in specialised discourses such as literature, politics, and social discourses. It is dynamic because of the context, time period, medium, and region of its usage. By exploring its collocates and their semantic prosody, this research aims to unravel the deeper nuances associated with the term “peace” and how its interpretation may change based on its linguistic environment. The study explores corpora such as British National Corpus (BNC), COCA Sampler, and Presidential speeches, using AntConc, Lextutor, and Sketch Engine as concordancers and Corpus Linguistics toolkits to analyse the collocational patterns surrounding the term “peace” and determine the predominant semantic prosody. For each collocate identified, an evaluation is offered according to its semantic prosody either as positive, negative, or neutral. This process has led to the conclusion that the semantic prosody of the word ‘peace’ is predominantly positive across the corpora examined, reflecting its common associations with harmony, cooperation, and well-being. However, notable variations are evident, particularly in political discourse, where “peace” sometimes collocates with terms reflecting tension or conflict, suggesting a more complex or even ironic usage.

Key words: Collocational patterns, Corpus Linguistics, Interpretation, Peace, Semantic prosody.

Résumé

Le concept de “paix” a toujours été important dans le langage courant et, plus important encore, dans les discours spécialisés tels que la littérature, la politique et les discours sociaux. Il est dynamique en raison du contexte, de la période, du support et de la région de son utilisation. En explorant ses collocations et leur prosodie sémantique, cette recherche vise à démêler les nuances plus profondes associées au terme “paix” et comment son interprétation peut changer en fonction de son environnement linguistique. L'étude explore des corpus tels que le British National Corpus (BNC), COCA Sampler et les discours présidentiels, en utilisant AntConc, Lextutor et Sketch Engine comme concordanciers et outils d'analyse linguistique pour étudier les modèles de collocation entourant le terme “paix” et déterminer la prosodie sémantique dominante. Pour chaque collocation identifiée, une évaluation est proposée en fonction de sa prosodie sémantique, qu'elle soit positive, négative ou neutre. Ce processus a permis de conclure que la prosodie sémantique du mot “paix” est majoritairement positive dans les corpus examinés, reflétant ses associations communes avec l'harmonie, la coopération et le bien-être. Cependant, des variations notables sont évidentes, notamment dans le discours politique, où “paix” se combine parfois avec des termes reflétant la tension ou le conflit, suggérant une utilisation plus complexe voire ironique.

Mots clés: Modèles de collocation, Linguistique de Corpus, Paix, Interprétation, Prosodie sémantique.

Introduction

0.1. Background

Language is not only a medium of communication. It is also a reflection of societal values, beliefs, and historical changes. Within this complex and rich system, few words resonate with such profound and multifaceted meaning as “peace.” The term “peace,” with its widespread use and significance, serves as a fascinating subject for linguistic and semantic analysis. This research dives into the semantic landscape of “peace,” exploring its semantic prosody within various corpora. The basic argument for such an endeavour is that “some words, which do not appear to carry strong evaluation as part of their lexical meaning, have probabilistic tendencies to collocate with either negative, or positive words (P. Stempel, 2019, p. 1).”

The study aims therefore to examine how the interpretation of “peace” shifts across different linguistic environments, thereby offering insights into its multifaceted nature. Through the help of the methodology offered by Corpus Linguistics, three corpora have been taken into account. These are British National Corpus (BNC), Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) and Presidential Speeches.

Moreover, the word “peace” has historically held a central place in human discourse, embodying concepts of harmony, absence of conflict, and positive human relationships. Its significance is evident across various fields, including literature, politics, and social dialogues. However, the interpretation of this word is not static; it evolves with time, context, and culture. This research stems from the need to understand these dynamic interpretations and the linguistic nuances that shape them.

0.2.Statement of the Problem

This paper is centred on the complex and dynamic nature of the term “peace” in various discourses. Despite its widespread usage and apparent simplicity, “peace” embodies a range of meanings and connotations that vary significantly across contexts, time periods, mediums, and regions. This variability poses a challenge to understanding the term’s full semantic scope, especially given its prominence in literature, politics, and social discourses. The problem that this research seeks to address is the multifaceted nature of “peace” and how its interpretation is influenced by its linguistic environment.

In everyday language and specialised discourses, “peace” often carries connotations of harmony, cooperation, and well-being. However, the term’s usage is not uniform or static. It can vary, sometimes significantly, depending on the context in which it is used. For instance, in political discourse, “peace” may be juxtaposed with terms that reflect tension or conflict, leading to a more nuanced or even contradictory understanding. Such variations in usage highlight the need for a comprehensive analysis of the term’s collocational patterns and semantic prosody to uncover the deeper nuances and implications of its use.

While “peace” is a widely used and studied concept, there is a notable gap in understanding its semantic prosody - the connotative meaning that words acquire in collocation with it. This study addresses this gap by analysing how “peace” collocates with other words and the resulting semantic implications. It particularly focuses on the complex and, at times, ironic uses of “peace” in various discourses, especially in political contexts.

0.3. Research Objectives

The primary objective of this research is to provide a detailed analysis of the semantic landscape of “peace” across corpora such as BNC, COCA and Presidential Speeches. More specifically, this study seeks to:

- identify the instances of occurrence of the word peace and their concordance lines;
- identify and analyse the collocational patterns of “peace” in selected corpora;
- determine the semantic prosody of “peace” and its collocates as positive, negative, or neutral;
- comment on their variations across different discourses, especially in political contexts.

0.4. Significance of the Study

This study is pertinent for several reasons. Firstly, it contributes to the field of Corpus Linguistics by providing a detailed analysis of a crucial term in human discourse. Secondly, it offers insights into the nuanced interpretations of ‘peace’ in various contexts, which is valuable for discourse analysis, language teaching, and even policy-making. Lastly, by understanding the complexities surrounding the term ‘peace,’ this research can aid in more effective communication and interpretation in various fields, especially in areas dealing with conflict resolution and international relations.

1. Theoretical considerations

The concept of semantic prosody is typically related to the speaker’s communicative purpose and should be analysed from the side of the

continuum made by semantics and pragmatics (J. Sinclair, 1998). The understanding of the concept of semantic prosody requires the full understanding of the concept of collocation. The knowledge linguists have about this concept goes as far back to the famous anthropologist J. R. Firth. He famously said, "You shall know a word by the company it keeps (J. R. Firth, 1957, p. 11)." This idea underscores the significance of collocation in understanding the meaning and usage of a word based on the words with which it frequently appears (In this context, a collocation refers to a sequence of words that appear together more frequently than would be expected by chance. It is not just about two words being next to each other, but about the statistical evidence of their repeated occurrence. In Corpus Analysis, tools like KWIC (Key Words in Context) concordances help to study the immediate words that surround a target word, revealing its frequent partners. Here the target word is called "node" and the word partners are called "collocates" or "colligates" (G. R. Bennett, 2010, p. 17).

Coming to the concept of semantic prosody, J. Sinclair (1998), basing on the premise that the meaning and use of a word could be best understood by analysing its common collocates, identifies four levels of abstraction of the relationship between lexical units: collocation, colligation, semantic prosody, and semantic preference (quoted in R. Xio and T. McEnery, 2006, p. 7). Collocation is the relationship between a node and individual words while colligation is the relationship between a node and grammatical categories. As far as semantic preference is concerned, it is about the semantic sets of collocates. Semantic prosody is about the affective meanings of a given node with its typical collocates. For example, while studying the phrasal verb "set in", J. Sinclair (1987, p. 74), finds out that there is a global tendency for this verbal to appear in contexts that carry negative evaluations. For him, the subjects tend to be the following lexical items: *riot*, *decay*, *malaise*, *despair*, *ill-will*, *decadence*, *impoverishment*, *infection*, *prejudice*, *bitterness*, *vicious circle*, etc. So, "set in" in most contexts has a negative prosody.

In this paper, we consider the word "peace" as the node and analyse it across three corpora in terms of how its contextual environment affect its meaning as either positive, negative or neutral (J. Sinclair, 1998; B.

Louw, 2000; A. Partington, 2004). Semantic prosody is significant in understanding how language use shapes meaning and perception. It is particularly relevant in discourse analysis, lexicography, language teaching, and even translation studies.

2. Research methodology

In this study, the methodology adopted for analysing the semantic prosody of the term “peace” within a larger corpus encompasses several detailed steps, each contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the term's usage and connotations in varied textual environments.

The initial phase of the research involved the careful selection of a corpus that is both large and representative of a wide range of texts. This selection is crucial as it ensures a comprehensive analysis. For this study, the corpora selected include the COCA Sampler and Presidential Speeches, and the British National Corpus (BNC). These corpora provide a diverse and extensive dataset, allowing for a nuanced exploration of the term “peace.”

The next step was identifying the target word for the study. In this case, the word “peace” was selected. The importance of this word in various discourses and its potential semantic richness make it an ideal candidate for this research. The focus here is on examining the statistical values related to the occurrence of “peace” across the chosen corpora, thereby offering insights into its various usages and meanings in different contexts.

Concordance analysis forms a significant part of this methodology. The major concordance software utilised is “Lextutor,” renowned for its effectiveness in linguistic analysis. Additional software such as AntConc or Sketch Engine are employed to cross-verify the statistics obtained. Using Lextutor, all instances of the word “peace” are extracted from the different corpora. This extraction process generates concordance lines, which are instrumental in showing the target word in its immediate textual context, providing a clear view of its usage in real language situations.

Following the concordance analysis, the next step involves the identification of collocates of the word “peace.” This is achieved through corpus linguistic tools, focusing on the words that frequently occur in close proximity to “peace” within the concordance lines. Typically, this proximity is defined within a span of four to five words from “peace.” This analysis is pivotal in understanding the associations and typical combinations that occur with the target word in natural language use.

After identifying the collocates, the research methodology advances to categorising these collocates. This categorisation is based on their nature – are they predominantly positive, negative, or neutral? This step is essential in determining the overall semantic prosody of the word “peace.” By categorizing the collocates, the research sheds light on the connotative meanings of “peace” as reflected in the corpus.

One of the aspects of this research is contextual analysis. In corpus linguistics, the context in which a word appears is key to understanding its semantic implications. By reviewing the concordance lines, the study explores the various contexts in which “peace” appears. This is a crucial step, as the semantic prosody of a word can vary significantly based on its contextual usage (J. Sinclair, 2000).

The final phase of the methodology integrates both quantitative and qualitative analyses. The quantitative analysis involves counting the frequency of different types of collocates associated with “peace.” This approach provides a statistical basis for understanding the term's semantic prosody. Concurrently, the qualitative analysis goes beyond mere numbers. It explores how these collocates influence the interpretation or connotation of “peace” in the different texts. This dual approach ensures a comprehensive understanding of the term's usage, capturing both its frequency and the nuances of its connotations in various contexts.

The methodology employed in this study is meticulous and multi-faceted, combining corpus selection, target word identification, concordance and collocate analysis, categorization of collocates, contextual examination, and both quantitative and qualitative analyses. This approach allows for a

thorough investigation into the semantic prosody of the word “peace,” highlighting its various uses and meanings in a range of texts and contexts.

3. Results and Discussion

The detailed examination of the prosodic features of the word “peace” across the selected large corpora of BNC, COCA and Presidential Speeches in this study has taken into account two levels of analysis: the reading of the concordance lines and the looking at the collocational displays (P. Stempel, 2019). Several key aspects of corpus analysis were involved, each offering a unique perspective on this word’s usage and connotations. These aspects are the frequencies of collocates. The Mutual Information (MI) score, the contextual and constructional analysis that extends beyond mere collocates, and finally the examination of these contexts and constructions as positive, negative or neutral.

The frequency of each collocate’s occurrence with “peace” is the primary focus of the analysis. This frequency tells about the degree of the association between “peace” and its collocates. Collocates that appear more frequently with “peace” are likely to have a stronger connection with this word, showing that they have a significant role in shaping the term’s meaning in common usage. The Mutual Information (MI) score has also been taken into account for the analysis. It quantifies the strength of the association between “peace” and its collocates. A high MI score suggests a more unique or significant association, indicating that the collocate is not just commonly used with “peace,” but it also contributes meaningfully to its semantic profile. For example, a high MI score for a word like ‘lasting’ when paired with “peace” would imply that durability is an important aspect of peace as conceptualised in the corpus.

The contextual and constructional analysis of the word “peace” have yielded important findings which are essential for understanding the nuances of “peace”, basically in the framework of this study, to understand the semantic prosody, and reveal how it is situated in different discourses and genres.

Table 1: Collocates of peace in BNC (top 40)

Rank		Freq	All	%	MI	Rank		Freq	All	Freq	MI
1	Breach	192	3166	6.06	7.86	21	Keeping	25	6420	0.39	3.90
2	East	164	16830	0.97	5.22	22	Relative	24	5763	0.42	3.99
3	Middle	162	12447	1.30	5.64	23	Promote	23	3091	0.74	4.83
4	Justice	123	7134	1.72	6.04	24	Progress	23	7964	0.29	3.46
5	War	111	26881	0.41	3.98	25	Preserve	21	1665	1.26	5.59
6	Keep	105	26546	0.40	3.92	26	Signed	21	5709	0.37	3.81
7	International	98	21690	0.45	4.11	27	Restore	20	1603	1.25	5.58
8	Nobel	76	365	20.82	9.64	28	Joy	20	2821	0.71	4.76
9	Bring	74	14848	0.50	4.25	29	Maintenance	20	3923	0.51	4.28
10	Un	61	4462	1.37	5.71	30	Maintain	20	5349	0.37	3.84
11	Justices	53	752	7.05	8.07	31	Paris	20	5844	0.34	3.71
12	Leave	42	19614	0.21	3.03	32	Negotiated	19	1176	1.62	5.95
13	Lasting	40	1253	3.19	6.93	33	Search	19	6991	0.27	3.38
14	Rest	40	15432	0.26	3.31	34	Regional	19	7664	0.25	3.24
15	Live	39	16595	0.24	3.17	35	Vance-Owen	18	49	36.73	10.46
16	Zone	35	2446	1.43	5.77	36	Uneasy	18	915	1.97	6.23
17	Inner	28	4366	0.64	4.62	37	Signing	18	1620	1.11	5.41
18	Peace	28	8396	0.33	3.67	38	Arab	18	2486	0.72	4.79
19	Threat	26	5490	0.47	4.18	39	Bringing	18	4727	0.38	3.86
20	Ec	25	6405	0.39	3.90	40	Ongoing	17	671	2.53	6.60

Table 1 lists the top 40 collocates for “peace” from the British National Corpus, showing their frequencies, total occurrences, percentages, and Mutual Information (MI) scores. This data is key to understanding how “peace” is used and perceived in various contexts.

Starting with frequency and occurrence data, it is seen how often each collocate appears with “peace” and in the corpus overall. For example, “breach” appears 192 times with “peace,” indicating a strong association. The percentage column provides insight into the proportion of these occurrences relative to the total occurrences of the collocate in the corpus. The use of “breach” as a collocate of “peace” in various contexts predominantly aligns with legal and law enforcement discourses. Here are some examples:

- (1) Dennett admitted causing a **breach** of the **peace**.
- (2) As we shall see presently, ' **breach** of the **peace**' is a notoriously imprecise notion.
- (3) If we think that what anyone says is likely to cause a **breach** of the **peace**

- (4) The police arrest us for **breach** of the **peace** for horn blowing, but never the huntsmen for doing the same thing.'

It is observable that—the word “breach” frequently appears in scenarios where “peace” is legally defined and regulated, such as in descriptions of actions that disrupt public order or tranquillity. The term “breach of the peace” often refers to situations where individual or collective actions are deemed to threaten or disturb public calm. This suggests that “peace” in these contexts is closely associated with societal order and legal frameworks governing conduct. The notion of “breach” in relation to “peace” thus reveals a perspective where peace is viewed not just as a state of non-conflict but also as a condition maintained by legal and societal norms, the disruption of which necessitates legal intervention.

MI scores are particularly revealing, as they indicate the strength of the association between “peace” and each collocate. Higher MI scores suggest a more specific or unique relationship. For instance, “Nobel” has a high MI score of 9.64, suggesting a unique association with “peace,” likely reflecting its use in the context of the Nobel Peace Prize.

The analysis of the word “peace” in the COCA Sampler revealed 104 hits, translating to 69.38 per million words, which is lower compared to 198.67 per million in the reference corpus. A detailed examination of the concordance lines across various genres, including magazines, news, speeches, academic texts, and literature, reveals diverse contextual uses of “peace.” A snap shot of the concordance lines is presented as follows:

001. Torre-Bueno, a psychotherapist and the author of [PEACE](#) After Abortion, says most of the women who c **magazines**
 002. to psychotherapists. Both The Healing Choice and [PEACE](#) After Abortion provide exercises to help wom **magazines**
 003. r, who, through VVAF, .), which shared the Nobel [PEACE](#) Prize in 1997 with ICBL Coordinator Jody Wil **magazines**
 004. ff? J.B. Flankowski Hartford, Conn. Deterrents to [PEACE](#) Regarding the question " Can Science Make Us **magazines**
 005. e Us Safer? " Sept.: There is no security without [PEACE](#) , no peace without justice, no justice without **magazines**
 006. ? " Sept.: There is no security without peace, no [PEACE](#) without justice, no justice without caring c **magazines**
 007. the greatest, if not the greatest, deterrents to [PEACE](#) is the enormous profit that industrial natio **magazines**
 008. ncern is having electricity and jobs. Harmony and [PEACE](#) ? Not exactly what happens in Argentina when **speech**
 009. n Iraq. So, Ron was just building a bridge to the [PEACE](#) movement in the U.K. by personally going ove **speech**
 010. k Ron is being used. I think he has applauded the [PEACE](#) movement in Europe. Back in March, before th **speech**
 011. e've just settled a contract. We have a period of [PEACE](#) , if you will, for the next two-and-a-half ye **speech**
 012. pulls the wool over some eyes and hopes to pay a [PEACE](#) dividend ANNOUNCER From ABC News, this is Bu **speech**
 013. all the children around the world working toward [PEACE](#) . I thought that was a fitting way for the ch **academic**

The contextual and constructional analysis of each use of the word reveals interesting information about its prosodic features. There are three major sentiments associated with peace in different contexts in COCA. They are positive, negative, and neutral or context-dependent.

Positive evaluations

- “Nobel PEACE Prize”: Symbolizing a prestigious award, reflecting a highly positive connotation.
- “PEACE After Abortion”: Suggesting resolution or solace, indicating a healing or comforting notion.
- “PEACE movement”: Associated with activism for peace, showing a positive connotation.
- “PEACE treaty”: Indicating the successful resolution of conflict, a positive implication.

Negative or Complex evaluations:

- “Deterrents to PEACE”: Pointing towards obstacles in achieving peace, suggesting a complex or slightly negative connotation.
- “PEACE with Serbs”: Highlighting the challenges or a long journey to peace, implying a nuanced or potentially negative connotation.

Neutral or Context-Dependent:

- “Period of PEACE”: A neutral usage, referring to a time without conflict.
- “PEACE of mind”: Depicting tranquillity or mental well-being, potentially neutral or positive.
- “PEACE dividend”: Benefits derived from peace, contextually dependent (positive or utilitarian).
- “Make PEACE not war”: A slogan emphasizing peace over conflict, seen as positive but in response to negative circumstances.

Associations with Conflict or War:

- “War and PEACE treaty”: Despite the context of war, peace is seen as the positive, desired state.

From these examples, the semantic prosody of “peace” in the COCA Sampler leans towards positive connotations, often linked with harmony, resolution, and well-being. However, complexities of usage are evident, especially when discussed in relation to challenges or in contrast with conflict.

In Presidential Speeches, the occurrence of “peace” is significantly higher with 2300 hits, equating to 1,031.30 per million words. The analysis in this corpus mirrors the three connotative categories found in COCA but adds a nuanced dimension of irony, particularly evident in the following example quoted from president Theodore Roosevelt’s annual message to Congress, December 6, 1904:

The peace of tyrannous terror, the peace of
craven weakness, the peace of injustice.

Here, Roosevelt used “peace” in an ironic context, ostensibly describing peaceful situations but underpinned by negative attributes like “tyrannous terror,” “craven weakness,” and “injustice.” This usage underscores the complexity of “peace,” suggesting that not all peaceful conditions are desirable or just. The irony is pronounced as “peace,” typically associated with positive, harmonious states, is contrasted with oppressive, unjust, or weak conditions.

These findings highlight the multifaceted nature of the word “peace,” suggesting that its semantic prosody is context-dependent and can range from unequivocally positive to complexly ironic, particularly in political discourse.

Conclusion

This study has explored the semantic landscape of “peace” by analysing its collocates and prosodic implications in various corpora such as British National Corpus, COCA and Presidential Speeches corpus. First, the collocates of this node are identified in each corpus with a specific focus on aspects such as their frequencies of occurrence with the node word, the MI scores that denote the strength of the link with the colligate. Then a contextual and constructional analysis has been carried out through the

concordance lines to highlight the environments and the collexemes (constructions) in which the word “peace” occurs. The findings reveal that the word’s meaning is highly context-dependent, ranging from positive connotations associated with harmony, resolution, and well-being to complex and even ironic interpretations, particularly in political discourse. While “peace” often carries positive connotations, the study highlights the need to consider contextual nuances and potential complexities when interpreting its usage.

These findings hold valuable implications for various fields. In language teaching, they emphasize the importance of teaching vocabulary in context and considering the diverse connotations of words like “peace.” In Discourse Analysis, they highlight the need for careful attention to linguistic features that shape the meaning and interpretation of texts. In policy-making, they underscore the importance of clear and precise language when communicating about peace-related issues.

Reference List

- BENNETT, Gena R., 2010, *Using Corpora in the Language Learning Classroom: Corpus Linguistics for Teachers*. Michigan: [University of Michigan Press ELT](#). Retrieval date 15/01/2023.
- British National Corpus (BNC)*. Available at <https://www.english-corpora.org/bnc/> Retrieval date 15/01/2023.
- DAVIES Mark, 2008, *The Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA)*: 520 million words, 1990-present. Available online at <http://corpus.byu.edu/coca/>. Retrieval date 15/01/2023.
- FIRTH John Rupert, 1957, *Papers in Linguistics, 1934-1951*. London: Oxford University Press.
- LOUW Bill, 2000, Contextual prosodic theory: Bringing semantic prosodies to life. In Sauntson, C. H. H., editor, *Words in Context*. A tribute to John Sinclair on his Retirement, University of Birmingham. Pp. 48-94.
- PARTINGTON Alan, 2004, “Utterly content in each other’s company”. Semantic prosody and semantic preference. *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*, 9 (1), Pp. 131-156.
- Presidential Speeches*. Available at <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches>.

- SINCLAIR, John McHardy, 1998, *Towards the Analysis of Discourse: Corpus-Based Approaches*. Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Press.
- SINCLAIR John, 1987, *Looking up: An Account of the COBUILD Project in Lexical Computing*, London: HarperCollins.
- STEMPEL Philipp, 2019, *A Constructional Reanalysis of Semantic Prosody*. Unpublished PhD Dissertation, Rice University, Houston, Texas.
- XIAO Richard, & MCENERY Tony, 2006, Collocation, Semantic Prosody, and Near Synonymy: A Cross-Linguistic Perspective. *Applied Linguistics*, 27, 103-129. Retrieval date 15/01/2023, <https://doi.org/10.1093/applin/ami045>.