Your Corpus Analysis Worksheet

OK, good people, your purpose is to do a simple corpus analysis over the next two weeks and then hand in a short report with your Cause & Effect paper.

**Details of this assignment:**

1. First, you will pose a question that you want (or need) to answer using an analysis of a corpus.
2. You then will use a corpus (e.g., COCA, BNC, or a similar corpus) to find an answer to your question.
3. Finally, you will write up your findings in a one-page report to be handed in with your C&E paper on June 27.

For example, in your paper you’re not sure how to convey the idea of 認める. Should your sentence use *admit*, *recognize*, *acknowledge*, *accept*, or something else? Of course, you can guess, or you can check a corpus for information. Please don’t guess.

To answer this question, you could visit either COCA (at BYU) or the Compleat Lexical Tutor (links are on our class webpage). On COCA, you can use the **KWIC** function, and on the Compleat Lexical Tutor you should go to **Concordance**. Then you would search for examples of recognize, admit, and so forth.

Corpus Analysis Addendum

The topic of my cause-and-effect paper is the causes of global warming. I chose this topic because I am concerned about the ongoing changes even I sense are occurring and that scientists regularly tell us are happening. In my paper I want to express the idea that some people (notably US President Trump) do not agree that global warming and climate change are real. In Japanese this would be expressed by *mitomeru* (認める). My dictionary lists several possible lexical items: acknowledge, admit, recognize, and

To clarify this, I used the Concordance of Contemporary American English, COCA, which can be found at <https://www.english-corpora.org/>. I found the following examples.

It appears that *recognize* is used to classify things into groups, as in the following:

Attempting to classify the vertebrates would fail to *recognize* the *Anura* as a group.

It is harder to *recognize* the vertebrates as a natural group.

Some taxonomists argue that we should only recognize monophyletic groups.

*Recognize* is also used to show that a country has official standing among other nations. For example,

Only some five years ago was South Sudan recognized as an independent country.

China has never recognized Taiwan as a separate country, always claiming that it remains simply one more part of the China.

However, *admit* is used for negative things such as a disappointment or a mistake. For example,

Now they *admit* they were wrong.

It was time to *admit* defeat.

Furthermore, *acknowledge* is used for ....

...

Thus, in your cause and effect paper, accept or acknowledge would be appropriate for my sentence:

Some people, however, simply refuse to accept that global warming has been progressing and is caused by ...