

Creating Exercises for Developing Skills in Using Business Keywords

Montri Tangpijaikul

Kasetsart University (Thailand)

newmontri@gmail.com

Abstract

This corpus-based research aims to create a list of keywords or words that are frequently used in financial English as appeared in the Thai context. There are three steps in conducting this research. Firstly, the Thai corpus of English for Business and Economics (Thai-EBE Corpus) is created. The corpus consists of business and economic news from a variety of sources in Thailand. Secondly, computer concordancing program AntConc 3.2.1 is used to make a list of running words in the corpus. The list is then compared with that from the British National Corpus (BNC), using the log-likelihood statistical test, to result in a list of keywords in the Thai-EBE Corpus. Grammatical words, non-academic words, and words that are not related to financial English are screened out by a word-profiling software Antwordprofiler 1.200, based on the research by Paul Nation (2001). These keywords are analyzed manually how they are used in their linguistic environments using Word Sketch Engine to investigate what words usually co-occur with them and the context in which they appear. The result of this lexical analysis will be developed into vocabulary exercises, based on the Michael Lewis' (2002) Lexical Approach and the sentences from the Thai-EBE corpus. The exercises will be experimented and evaluated by the students who enroll in English for Economics (ENG01355224) at Kasetsart University, Bangkok. The findings from this research, i.e. list of keywords and vocabulary exercises, will be useful for (1) teachers of English for business and economics (2) students who study financial English for specific purposes and (3) English teaching professionals and researchers in linguistics who would like to use the Thai-EBE Corpus for their teaching and further study of financial English used in Thailand.