Outline

1. Corpus Linguistics in Chinese contexts
2. Corpus-based Chinese learning at XJTLU
3. Online Chinese learning at Coventry

Definitions

- Corpus
  - 语料库
  - Searchable database of authentic language
- Corpus linguistics
  - 语料库语言学
  - Tools and approaches for searching a corpus

Corpus Linguistics in Chinese contexts

- 9 chapters by different authors
- 2 different “contexts”
- 6 on corpus analysis of English from China
  - e.g. Liang Maocheng, He Anping
- 3 Chinese corpus studies

Chinese corpus studies

- M Hoey & J Shao
  - Lexical priming theory
    - links corpus linguistics with psycholinguistics
    - applied to Chinese
- R Xiao
  - Passives and classifiers in Chinese and English
- A Kilgarriff, S Smith, N Keng
  - Sketch Engine in Chinese learning

Classifiers in Chinese

- aka “measure words” 量词
- English sometimes uses classifiers
  - A sheet of paper
  - A piece of paper
  - A ream of paper
- But normally not
  - A bank
  - A gun
  - A car
- Chinese (almost) always uses classifiers
Classifiers in use

- 一 件
yi zheng jian
1 MW paper
A piece of paper

- 一条
yi tiao yi tiao
1 MW road
A road

Challenge for students!

Please find usual measure word for X

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency list</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>块石头</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>个石头</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>粗石头</td>
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<td>块石头</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Two levels of collocation

- Inter-word, as English
  - ? Strong/powerful car/tea
  - ? 造成/后果/结果

- Intra-word
  - 结果/后果/成果/果然/如果
  - 水果/苹果/糖果/果酱/果冻
  - Level of analysis unavailable in English

- We want to teach:
  - What is possible?
  - What is frequent?
Please find frequent words which include character X

Please identify the verb in these verb+object constructions

Concordance

Query Type: Character

Characters:

Make Concordance Clear All

Expert options:

Query Type

List

Page 1

Save

Email

Sample

Filter

Frequency

Modal

Morphology

Doc. Type

Collocation

Context

Web

More options
Please identify the verb in these verb+object constructions

Problems encountered

- Tasks were optional
- Too few students
- Corpus-based approach assumes literacy
- But many Mandarin students only listen and speak
- Not enough take-up to evaluate quantitatively
  - Although positive feedback received

Online dictionary use in class

Moodle forum use in class

Chinese teaching at Coventry Uni

- School of Humanities
  - credit bearing, 4 skills
- Add+Vantage scheme
  - Three levels
- Institution wide language programme (IWLP)
- Chinese for Business
  - Y1 module
- Staff Chinese language/culture course
- Centre for Global Engagement
  - Linguae Mundi scheme
  - non-credit bearing
  - speaking and listening skills