Taking Flight with MACAWS: Learner Corpus Data from and into the Classroom

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Corpora & Corpus-Based Pedagogy

- Corpus:
  - a collection of texts, spoken or written (plural = corpora)
  - representative of a particular domain of language use
  - balanced across genres or registers

- Learner corpus:
  - corpus of learner production, defined broadly (students, L2 writers, etc.)
Corpora & Corpus-Based Pedagogy

- Corpus-based pedagogy--Use of corpus or corpus findings to:
  - Inform curriculum
  - Create materials (e.g., textbook or by teachers)
  - Engage students directly in examining corpus data
Corpora & Corpus-Based Pedagogy

- Finding corpora:
  - Appropriate to your learner’s level
  - Appropriate to your learner’s needs/goals
  - An advantage of learner corpora
  - List of corpora ([bit.ly/corpora_list](bit.ly/corpora_list))
Corpora & Corpus-Based Pedagogy
What is MACAWS?

**Multilingual Academic Corpus of Assignments: Writing & Speech**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second Language (L2)</th>
<th>Number of files</th>
<th>Number of tokens</th>
<th>Number of students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russian</td>
<td>812</td>
<td>111,705</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>536,168</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accessing, Searching, and Filtering MACAWS
Accessing MACAWS

Please contact collaborate@writecrow.org for access to the MACAWS corpus.

Click on “Search corpus”
MACAWS demonstration
Data-Driven Learning

Incorporation of **authentic examples** of language use into classroom activities

**Main goal:** Pattern noticing

**Pedagogical approach:** Inductive learning

**Concordance lines:** a line of text that shows a search term highlighted with its surrounding context

What is iDDL?
iDDL demonstration
Questions?
Write your question in the “Q&A”
Your turn!

What other searches would you implement for your classroom?

Write your answers in the chat to share your ideas. Examples:

- “todos os” for intermediate Portuguese
- “учиться” vs “изучать” for beginner’s Russian
- “important” vs. “significant” for academic English writing
List of Resources

How to embed iDDL into LMS, sample materials, webinars, tutorials: http://macaws.flock.group

How to embed iDDL to Google Sites: https://youtu.be/Lo1Mz5LiElQ

Corpus and Repository of First Year Writing in English: http://crow.corporaproject.org

List of Corpora: bit.ly/corpora_list

iframe generator to embed Google Docs & others: https://www.iframe-generator.com/

Fill in the blanks activity generator: https://bit.ly/fill_in_the_blank_generator

Articles


Thank you! Questions?

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https://macaws.corporaproject.org/