

Extra Credit Assignment

This assignment is worth up to 5 extra credit points. You may work on this solo or in pairs. If you take on this assignment, you will submit your work as a .pdf via email by **11:59pm** on Friday, **19 December**.

Instructions

You will be using one of the corpora on english-corpora.org to evaluate the current (21st-century) productivity of a word-formation process of your own choice. The process may involve either derivation or compounding. For inspiration and help, see the slides and our in-class exercise from week 10.

To earn full credit, you will answer the five following questions:

1. What word-formation process did you choose? Why?
 [Make sure to choose a process that might actually be productive. A one-off word, like *yap*, cannot be productive, but a an affix, like *-maxxing*, can be.]
2. Which corpus did you choose to evaluate this process's productivity? Why?
 [Don't say 'english-corpora.org' – there are many corpora to select from on that site.]
3. What query did you enter? Why did you structure your query in this way? In plain English, what sort of results do you expect this query to return?
4. Tell me about your results. Do they indicate that this word-formation process is productive?
5. Show me four words formed using this word-formation process from your results. Include screenshots that show these words and their token counts.

If you work as a pair, you will also answer the following:

6. Write a paragraph describing who did which tasks.

Do not use ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, or any other AI application for assistance in this assignment, even if it's "just" for editing or "fixing grammar." If you are found to have done so, you will receive no extra credit.

Some tips for structuring your query, adapted from english-corpora.org:

Symbol	Explanation	Sample Query	Sample Results
*	Stands in for any number of letters, including zero.	*maxxing	<i>looksmaxxing</i> , <i>jawmaxxing</i> , <i>beardmaxxing</i>
?	Stands in for exactly one letter	burn?	<i>burns</i> , <i>burnt</i> , but not <i>burned</i> or <i>burn</i>
_n	Specifies that results should be nouns	sill*_n	<i>sill</i> , <i>sills</i> , <i>silliness</i> , but not <i>silly</i> or <i>sillier</i>
_v	Specifies that results should be verbs	*ing_v	<i>bring</i> , <i>walking</i> , but not <i>king</i>
_r	Specifies that results should be adverbs	*ly_r	<i>happily</i> , <i>quickly</i> , but not <i>silly</i> or <i>elderly</i>
_j	Specifies that results should be adjectives	*ly_j	<i>silly</i> , <i>elderly</i> , but not <i>happily</i> or <i>quickly</i>

N	An entire noun. Useful for exploring compounds or phrases.	N rot	<i>brain rot, link rot</i>
V	An entire verb. Useful for exploring compounds or phrases.	V to me	<i>run to me, give to me,</i> but not <i>good to me</i> or <i>funny to me</i>
R	An entire adverb. Useful for exploring compounds or phrases.	ran R	<i>ran quickly, ran well,</i> but not <i>ran to</i> or <i>ran from</i>
J	An entire adjective. Useful for exploring compounds or phrases.	I am J	<i>I am fast, I am smart,</i> but not <i>I am foe</i> or <i>I am from America</i>