# The Prime Machine HD Guide

# *I want to ...* learn more about academic synonyms

If you are an undergraduate or postgraduate student, using English as the language of instruction, you will need to develop your academic writing skills. As well as learning to use academic vocabulary to express your own ideas, the use of academic synonyms is important when paraphrasing and summarizing ideas from others. If you choose words just based on a wordlist or a dictionary entry, or if you try to find similar words using a thesaurus, you will probably discover that your EAP teacher and subject professors find that your expressions seem unnatural or awkward or simply aren't the right word choices. This guide will explain the steps you can take to deepen your knowledge of academic synonyms through game activities and analysis using The Prime Machine HD corpus tool.

Steps to complete:

- 1. Learn how to read concordance lines and other corpus data by playing some games about academic synonyms.
- 2. Learn how to use the search support features to help you find words and word forms to compare.
- 3. Use tPM's corpus tools to explore different aspects of words with similar meanings.

This approach can help you:

- 1. Learn how to notice the typical patterns of usage of different synonyms.
- 2. Discover common collocations of words with similar meanings.
- 3. Find differences in the grammatical patterning associated with different synonyms.

What you'll need to get started:

- The Prime Machine HD for Windows, macOS, iPad, iPhone or Android (available free from <u>https://www.theprimemachine.net/</u>)
- Some words to inspire your exploration after you've tried the games.
- Patience, enthusiasm and an open mind!

## Looking at your use of language through linguistic spectacles

You don't need to be a student of linguistics to be able to analyse the patterns of use of language (but of course if you've studied linguistics you can draw on your linguistic knowledge). When you complete an academic assignment, you are essentially showing to your professors, the institution and the world that you are becoming a member of an academic community – a community which communicates using academic conventions and through academic language. Your use of academic vocabulary and specialist terminology reveals your experience reading and hearing these words and phrases as they are applied in your specialist discipline.

## Are you ready to become a language detective?

To make the most of the approach described here, you will need to try to think about your word choices as a detective might look at clues. As well as being an amazing expert in detection, Sherlock Holmes is also remembered in the stories as being an expert in disguise.

- As a detective, can you look at a hundred examples of a word or phrase and pick out some of the patterns which occur?
- As a detective, can you look at the context and co-text of examples from a corpus to see deeper meanings and typical uses of words?
- As an expert in disguise, can you dress-up your own writing, so as to blend into the norms and expectations of expert language users?

#### **Getting started**

The best place to get The Prime Machine HD (tPM) is from an official store. It is free!



Windows and Android users can also download the App directly from the website: <u>https://www.theprimemachine.net</u>

When you first use tPM, you almost certainly will want to connect to the server to access pre-prepared corpora and resources. There are three modes: Simple Mode, Full Mode and Game Mode. The Full Mode includes additional tabs and features for corpus research and DIY corpus work.

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Try tPM Home Network	menu in the top- right corner allows
Connect	you to connect and change mode.

## **Simple Mode**

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Full Mode					
9	=:_	9, 9, 8=8	X	<b>a</b>	0
Simple Search	Break Down	Compare Two Corpora	Research Tools	DIY Tools	History

## Game Mode



Game Mode provides a different user interface, giving you a list of groups of words to study before you *take a challenge* and try to guess which word matches a set of concordance lines. One of the groups of games is Academic Synonyms.

#### **Step 1: Learn how to read corpus data using tPM Game Mode**

# How to play

1. Choose Game Mode before connecting to the tPM Server. Then Connect.

2. The first time you try it, you will be shown the instructions for the game.

3. Choose a set of words from one of the games listed. In this worksheet, we are interested in academic synonyms, so select one of the words from this first group.

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234 views	; 0 points		
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big/small			
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4. When you have selected a game, you will see a submenu containing the words you have to learn. Open the words in the group one by one, looking at the concordance lines and thinking about the patterns you see. This is your chance to try to notice and remember the patterns of usage for each of the words.

tPM		<ol> <li>(i) ≡</li> </ol>
Back	Choose a game	
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0	proof	
0	phenomenon	
0	grounds	
Ô	justification	
TAKE	A CHALLENGE	
£	View the examples to unlock	

5. When you select each word, 200 examples will be downloaded from the server. The displays for learning the words are the same as when you look the words up in Simple Mode.

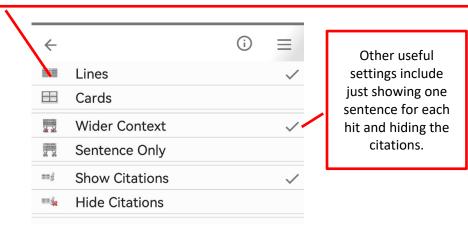
		_	Colloca	tions –	ⓒ ≡		You can sort the lines in different ways to help you notice patterns.
		BN	C: Academic: evider		200		
	/		to the left of node		Text to the right of		
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On a wider display (like this iPad), you can see a concordance card showing more information about the currently selected line.

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3	Collocations			$\mathbf{N}$
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1	anagement Act 1980, but as I have said there is no	evidence	that such drastic and highly unusual proceedings wer	there is no evidence that
2	ed that submission by pointing out that there was no	evidence	that the combination of the two ingredients was comm	Politics, Law and Education
3	trast to many other helminth infections, there is little	evidence	that sheep in endemic areas develop an effective acq	The Weekly Law Reports 1992
4	mean follow up was only 49.9 months, there was no	evidence	to suggest that removal of stones resulted in any impl	Volume 3. u.p.
5	service-sector jobs than others. There is also some	evidence	that cities doing well in manufacturing will also do wel	
6	of the major stages interconnected There is some	evidence	that he received formal academic training at Cambrid	- cannot regard it as involving
7	.5 times the proportion in 1961. There is also some	evidence	that couples are living together in a stable relationship	duress on the part of the revenue The position might be
8	sy though the relationship sounds, in fact there is no	evidence	of overlaps or rivalries.Eventually the Committee was	different if Woolwich had paid
9	its new higher albedo.But there is no independent	evidence	for this, and even if the albedo in the past was zero, a	under threat of the revenue
10	d or inserted, but concludes that there is no reliable	evidence	for 'the present day vulgarism'before the eighteenth c	taking distress proceedings without a court order under
11	berht and the Mercians, after 765 there is no certain	evidence	that Ecgberht was for long, if at all , 'a mere dependar	section 61 of the Taxes
12	If the person who was the victim is prepared to give	evidence	that he experienced harassment, alarm or distress, so	Management Act 1980, but as I
13	more than 15 hours after overdose, but there is now	evidence	that it can safely be given to patients up to 24 hours a	have said there is no evidence that such drastic and highly
14	.34(1)).(b) To determine whether there is sufficient	evidence	to charge him (s.37(1) and Code Para. 17).He must n	unusual proceedings were
15	wed the greater the change of surgery. There is still	evidence	that the young and newly diagnosed patients remain a	either threatened by the revenue or anticipated by
16	s of associative mechanisms.Is there any positive	evidence	that might prompt us to adopt the more complex posit	Woolwich, still less that
17	table offences are tried, and the Police and Criminal	Evidence	Act 1984, stemmed from Royal Commissions or simil	Woolwich had a reasonable
18	e of diabetes. It should be noted that there is some	evidence	from two studies that mean levels of serum cholestere	apprehension of being put out of business by them.
19	I is that she acted to her detrimentThere is some	evidence	, though not very much, of occasions when the plaintif	Nolan J.'s reference to
20	ntive services in the community.There is abundant	evidence	from a number of studies which shows that, apart from $f$	'duress on the part of the
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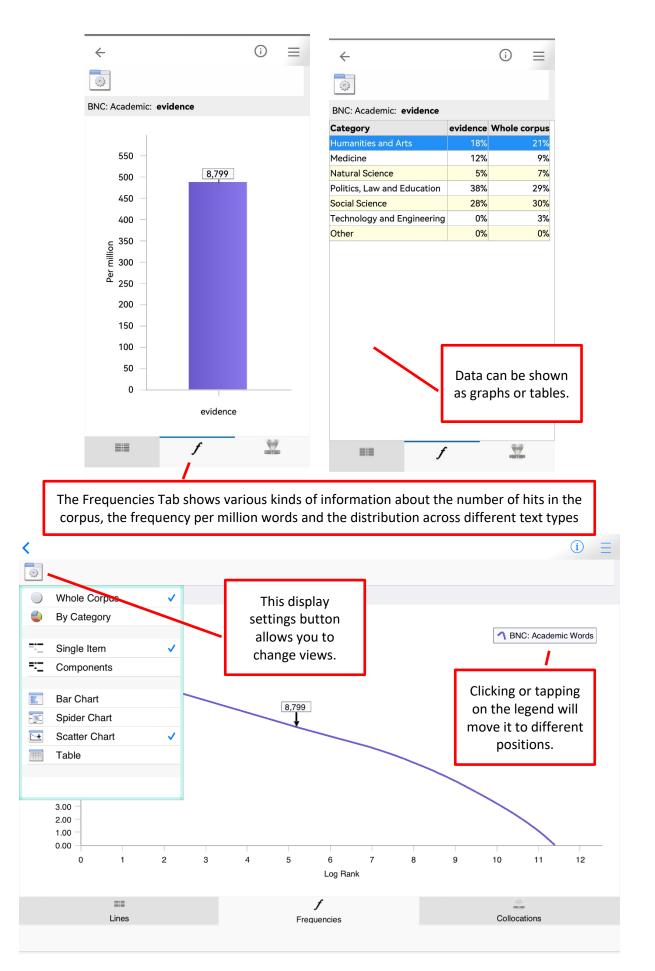
#### Lines +

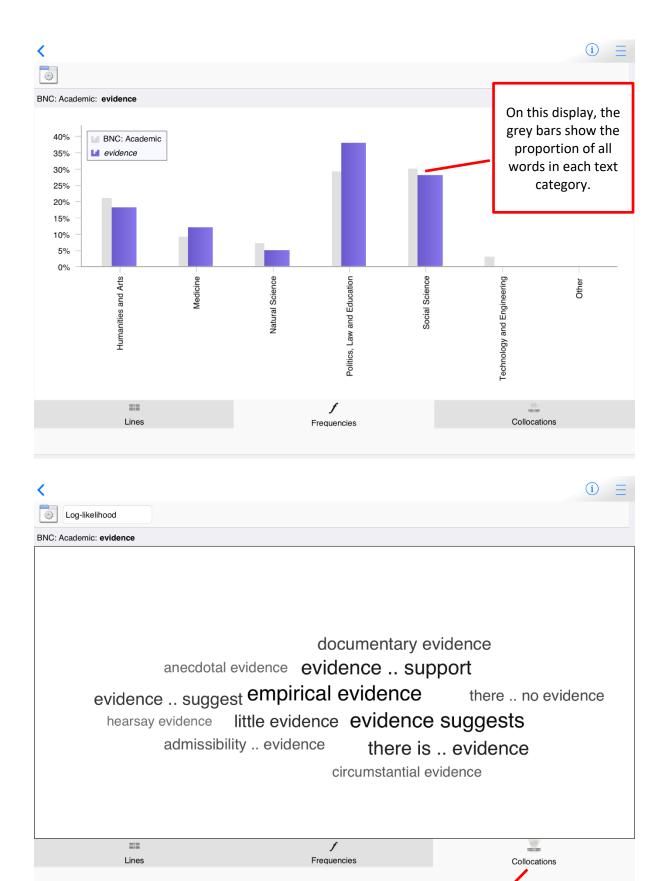
On narrower displays (like this Android phone) you can view either lines or cards. On all devices, switch between Lines + (if space allows), Lines and Cards using these settings.



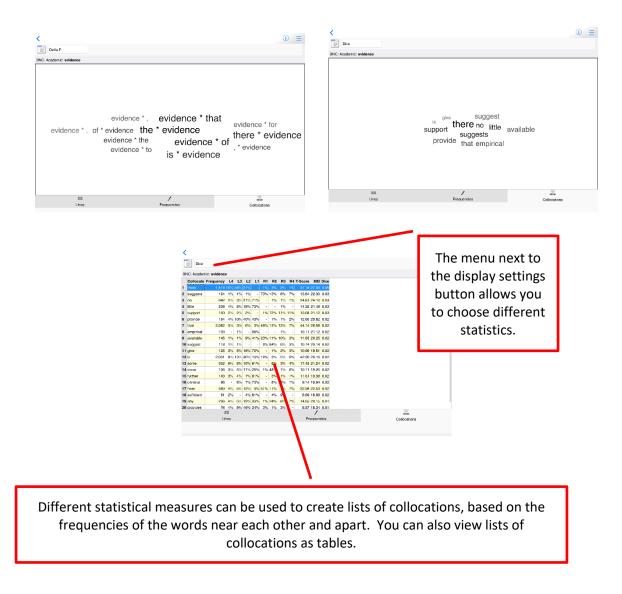
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13   The card shows up     14   to one sentence     15   before and after	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	paid under threat of the revenue taking distress proceedings without a court order under section 61 of the Taxes Management Act 1980, but as I have said there is no evidence that such drastic and highly unusual proceedings were either threatened by the revenue or anticipated by Woolwich, still less that Woolwich had a reasonable apprehension of being put out of business by them. Nolan J.'s reference to 'duress on the part of the revenue' is important —					Woolwich had 1 of the Taxes al proceedings		
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sidebar. with paragraphing.	sidebar. with paragrap					vith paragraphing.			

Cards





The Collocations Tab shows the word partnerships – the combinations of words which go together naturally in the corpus.



6. When you have viewed concordance lines for all the words, the Challenge will unlock.

Back	Choose a game	
EARN THE PATTERNS		(
evidence		<b>~</b>
proof		✓
phenomenon		~
grounds		✓
justification		✓
AKE A CHALLENGE		
New challenge		

7. Each time you take a new challenge, decide how confident you are that you will be able to guess each word correctly.

			th g	e more lines you have, le easier it will be to uess, but the fewer games you can play overall.	
÷			/		
How many li	nes do you	think you ne	ed?		
 25	50	 75	ا 100		
How confide	ent are you?				
evidence					
		3.	/5	If you slide the confide	ence
proof				up to 5/5, you will g	
		3	/5	more points for a corr answer, but face a hea	
phenomeno	n			penalty if this is the	
		3	/5	missing word and yo	bu
grounds				guess incorrectly.	
<b>y</b>					
1		3.	/5	If you slide the confide	
justification				down to 1/5, you will	-
		3.	/5	fewer points for a cor answer when this iter	
				the correct answer, I	out
	Confirm	ı		you won't lose so ma	· ·
				points when you gue incorrectly.	:55
				- ,	

Tips:

- Synonyms often have different collocations; if you learn the strong collocations, you should see some of these in the lines at the top (when the lines are sorted using Collocations the default).
- Synonyms often have different grammatical patterns. Although they may all be the same word class, some nouns may be used with *the* or *this*, while others may be used with *a*, *an* or *some*. You may also find differences in use of modal verbs or prepositions, for example.
- If you find the challenge too hard, go back and read more examples of the words by selecting them from the Learn section. You can continue with the same challenge again later.

# 8. Look at the set of concordance lines and guess the missing word.

Image: Structure       50         Image: Structure       Structure         Imat Breaker Structure       Structur	<				i <b>∏</b> ≡
Text to the left of nodeNode Text to the right of node187. (a) Defences The burden ofof causation under the CPA 19872the way of its business without	3	Collocations			
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	<u></u>				

Lines

Answer

When you are ready to guess, click or tap the Answer button.

#### Step 2: Using search screen support and formulating your own queries

After you have completed some of the games for learning about academic synonyms, you should find that you have become more familiar with how to read and use concordance data. The next step is to make the most of the different ways to search for your own words and phrases.

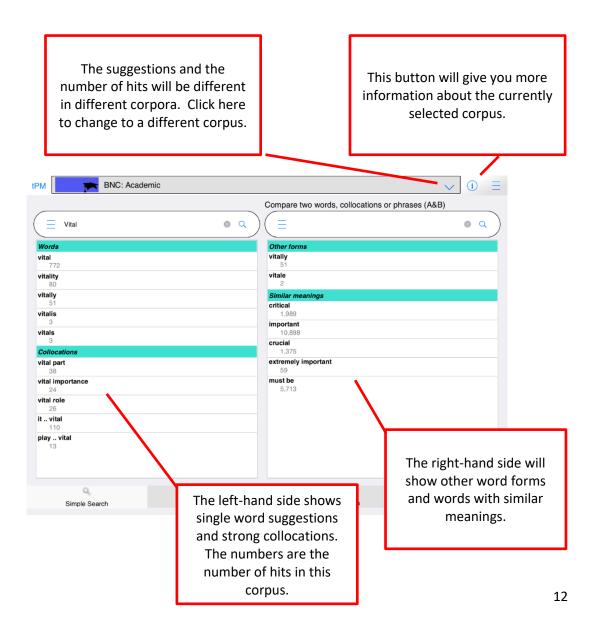
There are four different search screens for you to use: Simple Search, Break Down, Compare Two Corpora and Advanced Search (under Research Tools on Full Mode).

#### When you search with tPM, most of the time you should use specific word forms; don't generalize to the infinitive form of verbs or the singular form of nouns; the hits retrieved will match the string of letters you have entered.

#### **Simple Search**

This is the main search screen and it allows you to enter one or two search queries at a time. If you enter a word or phrase and tap the "hamburger" or 蒸笼 menu inside the search box, suggestions will appear.

You can see the number of examples in the currently selected corpus. You can also see collocations, other word forms and words with a similar meaning.

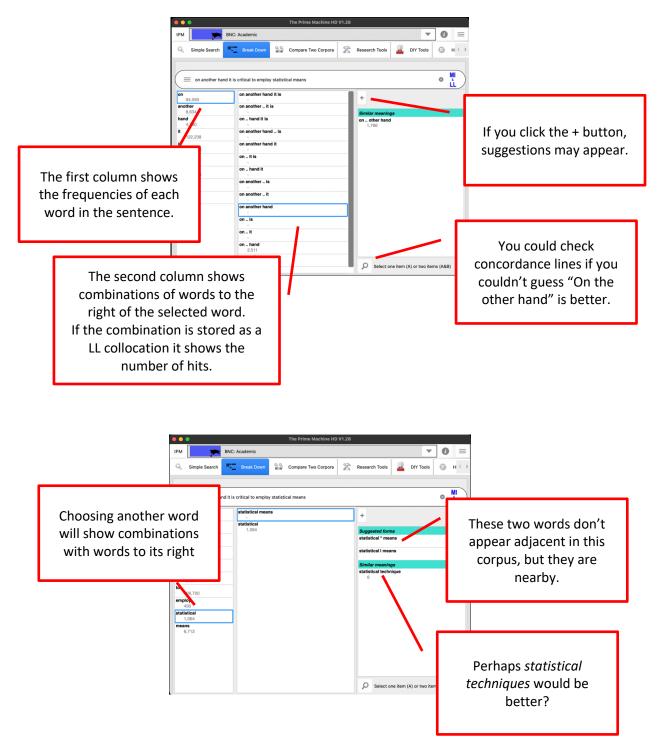


÷	=
Words	
<b>free</b> 3,671	On narrower screens like
freedom 1,610	this Android phone, the
freely 344	suggestions pop up on
freedoms 128 freed	another screen. Select the item you want and
119	then tap the back button.
Collocations	<u> </u>
gluten free diet 59	
stone free 64	
free fall 74	
frame free fall 36	
68 68	

Tips:

- When you enter one word, the suggestions will be for longer strings with the same letters (auto-complete) and strong collocations on the left; and other word forms and words with similar meanings on the right.
- The suggestions for similar meanings use several different resources including English-English resources and words which have the same English translation in a Chinese-English dictionary. You can only search for English words, but some suggestions are based on a Chinese-English dictionary.
- If you click or tap the hamburger/蒸笼 button again, you will be given more suggestions.
- When you enter more than one word, the app will try to find a match in the list of strong collocations in this corpus. If no match is found, it does not mean the combination does not exist.
- From the Simple Search screen, you can force the app to show concordance lines and frequency data for combinations of words not stored as a LL collocation in the database, by using three special symbols:
  - $\circ~$  Putting \_ between words means these words must occur in order with no other words in-between.
  - Putting \* between words means these words must occur in order, but there could be zero or more words in-between (up to a total phrase length of 5 words).
  - Putting | between words means these words can occur in any order but all must occur within a 5 word window.
- More advanced searches can be performed using the Advanced Search tab.

On the Break Down tab, we can click the hamburger or  $\overline{\mathbf{x}}$  button inside the search box and it will split the sentence into words, allowing us to look at combinations of up to five words starting at the currently selected item.



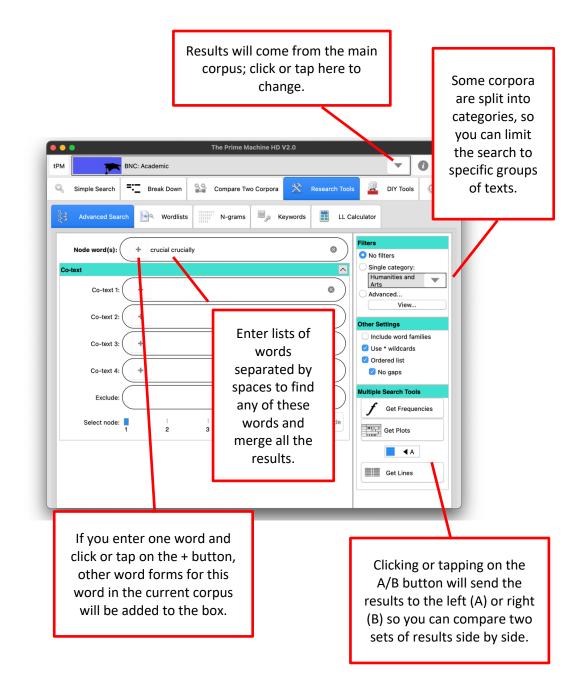
On the Compare two Corpora tab, you can enter one word or a phrase and then retrieve concordance lines and other corpus data from two different corpora in one operation.

Results from the main corpus will be displayed on the left (A).	
1011 The Prime Machine HD V1.28	– 🗆 X
tPM BNC: Academic	✓ (i) =
Simple Search 🗮 Break Down 🎬 Compare Two Corpora	🔀 Research Tools 🧧 DIY Tools 🔘 History
E     crucial     X     Q       Words       crucial     1,375 vs 613       crucially     141 vs 23       Collocations       crucial importance       57 vs 6       crucial role       66 vs 19       crucial question       38 vs 0       played       crucial	Results from the second corpus will be displayed on the right (B).
The suggestions will sho the frequencies in both corpora, with collocatio suggestions based on th strong patterns in the main corpus.	h bon he

On the Advanced Search tab (under Research Tools), you can perform a number of more advanced queries:

- Combining the results of more than one word form by entering multiple words separated by space, using wildcard pattern matching, or selecting the option to include word families;
- Forming patterns for phrases with multiple words in up to 5 slots, with options for the ordering of items and whether or not other words can occur in-between.
- Using filters to get results from one text category or advanced filters based on labels or features such as part-of-speech and position in text.

On the Advanced Search tab as well as getting concordance lines and displaying them on the left (A) or right (B) you can also get frequency tables and plots.



The other settings panel allows you to specify:

- Whether to include all the different word forms in the corpus for each word you have entered. For example, if you tick this option and enter the word *analysis* the results will include *analyses, analyse, analysing, analysed*, etc.
- Whether you want to use \* to represent zero or more letters. For example, *analy*\* would include all words beginning with the letters analy.

#### Other Settings

- Include word families
- 🗹 Use \* wildcards
- 🗹 Ordered list
  - 🗹 No gaps
- Whether the words entered in the co-text boxes need to occur in order or in any order and whether or not other words can occur in-between.

The advanced filters menu has two ways of adding additional requirements for the results. The Priming Filters contains the full list of features which are displayed on the Graphs Tab of the results in Full Mode. You can specify a wide range of requirements as follows:

- Whether or not the hit occurs as a title or heading or not;
- Whether the hit occurs in a sentence or paragraph at the beginning, middle or end of the text;
- Whether the hit occurs in a sentence at the beginning, middle or end of a paragraph;
- Whether the hit occurs in the beginning, middle or end of its sentence;
- Whether the hit occurs in Theme (before the main verb) or in Rheme (the main verb onwards);
- Whether or not the hit occurs inside quotation marks, or before, after or between them;
- Whether the hit occurs in a simple sentence or a sentence with subordination (a projecting or other complex sentence);
- Whether or not the hit occurs after modal verbs;
- Whether or not the sentence containing the hit has passive voice, *to have* or *to be* as the main verb.
- Whether or not the sentence has "not" in it;
- Whether the hit is a noun, verb, adjective, adverb or other part-of-speech;
- Whether the definite article, indefinite article or possessives occur to its left;
- Whether any prepositions occur nearby;
- Whether words with a strong positive or negative meaning occur nearby;
- Whether the hit has another hit (or another word form) within one sentence before or after it.

PM BNC: Academic	
Simple Search	
Advanced Search Filters 🗐 ۷	
Select all Clear all	Click or tap on Select all if you need to reset all these priming
Priming Filters	filters.
Title 2/2	
Heading 3/3	
Text Position (S)	
Text Position (P)	
Paragraph Position 3/3 Sentence Position 5/5	
Theme/Rheme 2/2	
Quotations 5/5	
Complexity 3/3	
Modality 4/4	
Voice	Click or tap on a group of
Polarity 2/2	settings to reveal a list of
Part of Speech 8/8	possible options.
Definite/Indefinite	P
Prepositions 2/2	
Meanings 5/5	

Clear all	
Priming Filters 🖒 Label Fil	ters
Back	
Noun	In this example, all the other options for part-of-speech
Proper Noun	have been unticked, meaning the results will only show
Pronoun	those where our node word is a noun.
Number	
Adjective	
Verb	
Adverb	
Other/Unknown	

Note: In Full Mode you can filter the concordance lines you have already downloaded according to these same criteria. If you filter before you search, you will get up to 200 hits matching the specific filters. If you filter after you have retrieved the results, the app will just look inside the results you have already downloaded.

Label filters can be based on the Category or metadata about the text, section, producer (author or speaker), or semantic tags (word meanings).

Select all     Clear all     Priming Filters     Label Filters	To find possible label filters, enter the first few letters and click the hamburger / 蒸笼 button.
Label ritters       Search for Labels         Image: the selected label to the list of filters.       Search for Labels         Image: the selected label to the list of filters.       Image: the selected label to the list of filters.	ice of human geography. Johnston, R J phy.

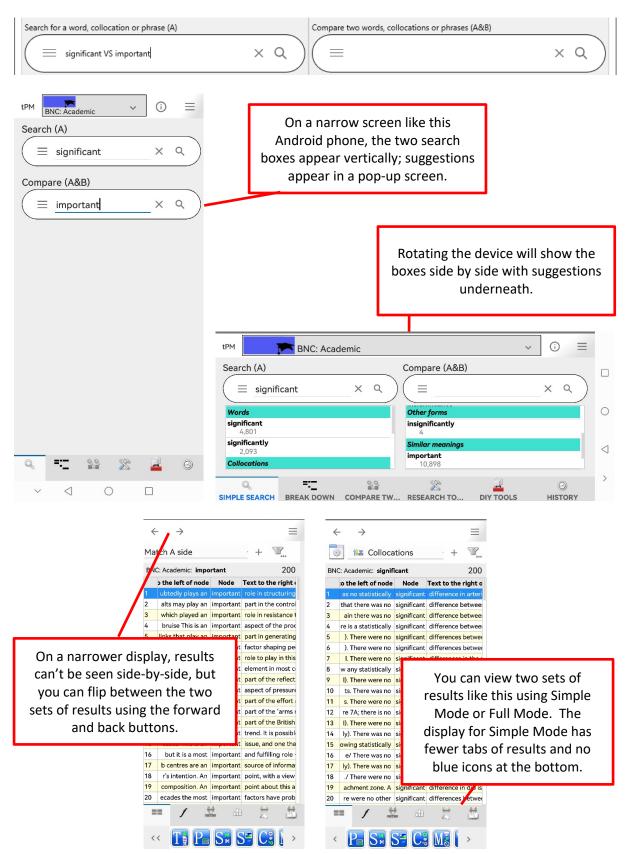
If you enter words in the co-text boxes, it is possible that the Node(s) slot contains a very high frequency item such as *this* or *the*. It is much more efficient for the server to use a lower frequency word as the node because it will find all the hits of the node first and then filter out results which do not match the pattern. The Optimize Node button will light up and you can click it to adjust which search box is used as the node. Or you can ignore it and just click Get Lines, Frequencies or Plots a second time... but this could mean a delay in getting the results.

#### Step 3: Analysing the differences between two different words

For this example, Simple Search will be used to compare two words with a similar meaning: *significant* and *important*. These words are quite closely related in meaning, so when you enter either one in the first search box and click the hamburger / 蒸笼 button, the other one appears on the right as a suggestion. Select *important* to put it in the second box.

The Prime Machine HD V1.28	-	
tPM BNC: Academic	$\checkmark$	() ≡
Simple Search 🗮 Break Down 🎬 Compare Tv	wo Corpora 🕺 Research Tools 📮 DIY Tools 🔘 Histo	ory
earch for a word, collocation or phrase (A)	Compare two words, collocations or phrases (A&B)	
significant X C	a = 2	x Q)
Words	Other forms	
significant	significance 2,170	
4,801 significantly	significantly	
2,093	2,093	
Collocations	158 insignificant	
statistically significant 170	insignificance	
significant difference	33	
232	insignificantly 4	
significant differences 216	Similar meanings	
there significant	important	
519 most significant	10,898 considerative	
251	3,031	
	major 5,844	
	thought - provoking	
	15	
	meaningful 404	
	-4 U-4	
Simple Search 📰 Break Down 🎬 Compare Tu	wo Corpora 🖹 Research Tools 🚊 DIY Tools 🎯 Histo	ory
earch for a word, collocation or phrase (A)	Compare two words, collocations or phrases (A&B)	
$\equiv$ significant $\times$ (	Q = important	×Q

If you already know the two words you want to compare, you can just type them into the boxes and click or tap the magnifying glass in the second search box. Another shortcut is to enter two words separated by VS (in capital letters); when you press enter the two words will be compared.



•	•	The Prime M	Machine HD V1.29
<	>		=
===	Lines <b>f</b> Frequencies Colloca	ations 🕕 Graphs 🔣 La	Labels Associates
١	Collocations	+	Match A side + T
BNC	: Academic: significant	200	BNC: Academic: important 200
	Text to the left o Node Text to the right s no statistically significant difference in arte	There was statistically sigr	Text to the left of Node Text to the right o
	at there was no significant difference betwee	Medicine	2 salts may play an important part in the control Politics, Law and Education
	in there was no significant difference betwee	The Lancet. The Lancet Ltd	3 , which played an important role in resistance t Nuclear weapons, the peace
	is a statistically significant difference betwee	London 1993-06/19	4 bruise This is an important aspect of the proc movement and the law. Dewar, laber Biagister Sel Buster M
	There were no significant differences betwee		5 links that play an important part in generating Paliwala, A Macmillan
	There were no significant differences betwee	This was a mean	6 isability will be an important factor shaping pec Publishers Ltd Basingstoke
	There were no significant differences in the	difference in change of 1.2 kPa (CI=0.45 to 2.03, p <	7 ers also have an important role to play in this
	any statistically significant difference betwee	0.01). There was no	8 breaks, is also an important element in most or
	There were no significant differences in the	statistically significant difference in arterial blood gas	9 y can become an important part of the reflectiv differentiation of legal systems
)	. There was no significant difference, however	measurements between the	10 within a flow./ An important aspect of pressure is also borne out if we take a
	There were no significant differences in wa	two groups during the rest of	11 nal data sets. An important part of the effort at undoubtedly plays an important
2	7A; there is no significant difference in mot	the admission, although the values of the control group	12 tle'(1982: 60), an important part of the 'arms ra
	There were no significant differences relativ	tended to be more variable for	13 wners owned an important part of the British r capitalist and socialist societies;
ŀ	. There was no significant change in the me	both pH and PaCO 2. Symptoms and nursing	14 nevertheless an important trend. It is possible comparative analysis, however, shows significant differences in
;	wing statistically significant differences and e	care	15 cases. This is an important issue, and one that the relative importance of law in
3	/ There was no significant association betwee		16 - but it is a most important and fulfilling role - societies organised along similar economic lines. The
'	. There was no significant change in any of		17 b centres are an important source of informat question again is whether we
3	/ There were no significant correlations betw		18 er's intention. An important point, with a view i
,	hment zone. A significant difference in dip i		19 composition. An important point about this an
)	e were no other significant differences betwee		20 ecades the most important factors have proba
<		🕷 🔛 D9 R 🔹 🔻	

On a wider display, the two sets of results can be viewed side-by-side. As noted on pages 4-6, the display settings can allow you to change between Lines + (above), Lines and Cards (below).

••	The Pri	me Ma	thine HD V1.29		• •	The	Prime M	lachine HD V1.29		
<	*			= <	>					=
-	Lines 🖌 Frequencies 🔛 Collocations 🕀 Oraphs 🐰	Lab	els 🚡 Associates		Lines	🖌 Frequencies 🔛 Collocations 🕀 Graphs	R u	abels 🚡 As	rociates	
۲	Collocations	+	Match A side • + 🖫	2	i (12	Collocations	+	Match A side		$\mathbb{T}_{\!$
BNC:	Academic: significant	200	BNC: Academic: Important	200	INC: Academic	;; significant	200	BNC: Academic:	important	200
	Text to the left of node Node Text to the right of node		Text to the left of node Node Text to the right of node							
1	p < 0.01). There was no statistically significant difference in arterial blood gas meas		1 enspective. Law undoubtedly plays an important role in structuring modern capitalist a	arc						
2	is analysis shows that there was no significant, difference between active treatment		2 gs suggest that bile saits may play an important part in the control of colonic endocrin	ne 1		There was _ statistically significant difference in			plays an important role	
3	set of the meal Again there was no significant, difference between the morbidly obe		3 Namibian churches, which played an important role in resistance to the South Africa	n r		Medicine			Politics, Law and Education	
4	countability. There is a statistically significant difference between teachers' attitude		4 ow coming out like a bruise This is an important aspect of the process I have called h	his		The Lancet. The Lancet Ltd London 1993-06/19		2	Nuclear weapons, the peace movement and the law. Dewar,	
5	respectively (figure). There were no significant differences between mean latencies		5 establish associative links that play an important part in generating the changes in bel	han				3	John Picciotto, Sol Ruete, M Paliwala, A Macmillan Publishers Ltd Basinostoke 1986 1-46	
6	t at the 95th centile). There were no significant differences between the two treatme		6 Prior experience of disability will be an important factor shaping people's perceptions	of i		This was a mean difference in change of 1.2 kPa		4		
7	mg bd in this model. There were no significant differences in the serum lactate, pyri		7 actitioners/ Researchers also have an important role to play in this process. They sho	ouk a		(CI=0.45 to 2.03, p < 0.01). There was no statistically significant difference in arterial blood gas measurements		5	This analysis of the differentiation of legal systems is also	
8	ever, failed to show any statistically significant difference between the patients and	c	8 ional purpose of windbreaks, is also an important element in most conservation schem	nes		between the two groups during the rest of the admission,		6	borne out if we take a comparative perspective. Law	
9	s (2.5 (0.1) mmol/l). There were no significant differences in the glucose thresholds		9 herwise abstract; they can become an important part of the reflective process, making	git		although the values of the control group tended to be more variable for both oH and PaCO 2 .		7	undoubtedly plays an important role in structuring modern capitalist and socialist societies: comparative analysis.	
10	pancreatitis patients. There was no significant difference, however, in the time take	n	10 ressure fluctuations within a flow / An important aspect of pressure measurements, a	151		Symptoms and nursing care		8	however, shows significant differences in the relative	
11	us consider wages. There were no significant differences in wage levels across the		11 ost widely used national data sets. An important part of the effort at each centre will b	20 (		-, -, -,		9	importance of law in societies organised along similar economic	
12	is is shown in Figure 7A; there is no significant difference in mobility of the primary p		12 ual relations as a battle'(1982: 60), an important part of the 'arms race' all genes cond	duc 1	0			10	lines. The question again is whether we can develop a satisfactory theory —	
13	n of saline (Table II). There were no significant differences relative to ip saline, but the		13 It war, Tyneside ship owners owned an important part of the British merchant marine. I	Ho	1			11		
14	ostures respectively). There was no significant change in the median transit time aft	< 1	14 been in the 1950s it is nevertheless an important trend. It is possible that this increase	em 1	2			12		
15	he difficulties of showing statistically significant differences and establishing a normal		15 mismanagement of cases. This is an important issue, and one that teams deal with I	by	3			13		
16	teaching experience/There was no significant association between teachers' years		16 If the teacher can do - but it is a most important and fulfilling role - is to encourage	50	4			14		
17	ostures respectively). There was no significant change in any of the indices of oeso	P	17 termediaries in the job centres are an important source of information about employer	TIOF	5			15		
18	ghout each tumour./ There were no significant correlations between enzyme expres	6	18 ation as to the offender's intention. An important point, with a view to interpreting the	Act	6			16		
19	e fundamental detachment zone. A significant difference in dip is apparent between		19 e same phonological composition. An important point about this analysis is that #man	ny i				-		
20	ears; p-0.01). There were no other significant differences between these two group	2	20 If duties. In recent decades the most important factors have probably been the incre	185	Ψ			Ŧ		
<	P= S= S= C= M= V4 🔛 🔛 D= R=	>	11 P. S. S. C. M. V. K. M. D.	>	< 📔 🕻	55 55 C3 M3 V4 🚾 📟 D3 R	>	< 👔	P= 55 55 C3 M3 V2 💀 🔛 I	<b>D</b> ; →

There are many things you can do when you look at concordance lines.

The default sorting method in tPM is using Collocations. This means the lines with the strongest collocations will appear at the top.

Concordance lines and cards can be copied, saved or shared. Double-click, right click or long tap on the lines or the cards to open the menu.

Concordance lines are very useful when comparing the patterns of use of synonyms. When you get used to looking at the Lines displays, you should find you can notice patterns in the use of words to the left and the right of the node. The Cards are useful if you find it hard to

understand the context or the likely meaning of a concordance line – it gives you up to one sentence before and one sentence after the sentence containing the node.

For *significant* and *important* we can see:

Patterns to the left		Patterns to the right
<ul> <li>Past tense <i>was</i> and <i>were,</i> often used with <i>There was/were</i></li> <li>Often used with <i>no,</i> with the indefinite article <i>a</i> in several examples visible near the bottom of the screen.</li> <li>It occurs with <i>statistically.</i></li> </ul>	significant	Occurs immediately before these nouns: <i>difference</i> <i>differences</i> <i>change</i> <i>association</i> <i>correlations</i>
<ul> <li>Present tense <i>plays</i>, <i>play</i> as well as <i>have</i> and <i>has</i>. Fewer cases seem to be in past tense.</li> <li>Occurs as subject as well as with <i>This is an</i></li> <li>Occurs with indefinite article <i>an</i> but also with premodifier <i>most</i>.</li> </ul>	important	Occurs immediately before these nouns: • role • part • aspect • factor • element • point • issue • source • difference

In the top 24 lines sorted using Collocations, only *difference* occurs in both, but it has a stronger collocation with *significant*.

Patterns to explore to the left		Patterns to explore to the right
Whether the adjective is used in noun phrases or as a predicate.	Adjectives	When used in a noun phrase, other adjectives and nouns immediately following the adjective.
In noun phrases whether nouns pre- modified by the adjective are usually used with the definite article, indefinite article, negatives, etc.		Tonowing the adjective.
When a predicate, the kinds of noun (e.g. people, things, problems, processes) being described; and the kinds of linking verb ( <i>seemed</i> or <i>was</i> ), etc.		
Are words of degree used with the adjective (e.g. <i>quite</i> or <i>very</i> )?		
Whether other adjectives or adverbs occur.		
Tenses (past or present) and modality.		
In noun phrases whether the noun is pre-modified by certain kinds of adjectives or other nouns; is it usually used with the definite article, indefinite article, negatives, etc.	Nouns	If used as subject, what kinds of verb are used?
If used as an object, what kinds of verb are used?		
What kinds of subjects are used (people, things, problems, processes, etc.)?	Verbs	If there are objects, what kinds of objects?
Are modal verbs used ( <i>can, could, may,</i> etc.)?		Is it a verb often used with or without <i>that</i> ?
Is it used as the main verb?		Are any prepositions used? Do different prepositions have different meanings?
		Are there any adverbs?
If it follows a verb, what kinds of verbs and which tenses are common?	Adverbs	Is the adverb used with an adjective or verb?
Are modal verbs used?		
Are words of degree used with the adverb (e.g. <i>quite</i> or <i>very</i> )?		

You may also be able to notice differences between the kinds of texts in which these two words occur, the section (abstract, introduction, method, results, conclusion), the position in text, paragraph and sentence, and the overall sense of whether it is used with words that have a positive or negative meaning.

Remember to scroll down and look at more than just the top screenful of results. Hopefully, the Collocation ranking method will be useful, but you can also try sorting the results in other ways to reveal other patterns or to work through a fixed random sample. The Frequencies and Collocations tabs were briefly introduced on pages 7-9. These should give you helpful summaries for all the hits in the corpus (not just the sample of lines that have been downloaded).

The list of differences to look for in the patterns of use for different kinds of words is rather overwhelming. However, reading several examples from the concordance lines should help you not only become aware of differences, but remember them too! The app does the work of fetching and arranging the examples, but you need to use your brain to really find useful differences and to reflect on how these can help you in your own writing. The mental exercise of making discoveries for yourself should help ensure you have a deeper engagement with the examples and lead to better retention than if you were merely given a list of patterns to memorize.

However, in Full Mode, tPM can also help prompt you to look for certain patterns, based on statistical processes which are completed on all the hits of the words in the corpus. The blue icons at the bottom of the screen, and the Graphs Tab can show you some of the strong patterns of usage.



It would take a long explanation to introduce the meaning of all these icons. Some of the letters seen prominently in the icons give a clue as to their meaning – **T**ext, **P**aragraph, and **S**entence for tendencies to occur in different positions, M stands for **M**odals and D for **D**eterminers. The green elements in each icon indicate the patterns which are statistically significant for the word or collocation used in your query.

But an easier way to use these icons is to click or tap on them, particularly if you can spot differences between the two words you are comparing. In the images above, we can see that the green of the block of text for P is towards the end of the block for *significant*, but towards the beginning for *important*. Clicking or tapping on the P icon will show a graph of the proportion of hits in the first sentence, last sentence and middle of paragraphs. The key symbol on the M icon is green in both cases – showing *can, could, may* and *might* are associated with the patterns for both words in the entire corpus. The Y/N icon shows the tendency of *significant* to be used with *not*. And if the screen is wider or we scroll to the right, we could see both words have a tendency to be used with indefinite articles.

Lines <b>f</b> Frequencies	Collocations II Graphs 🚬 Labels 🔂 Associates	
Select all features         Title       22         Heading       33         Text Position (S)       30         Text Position (P)       30         Paragraph Position       33         Sentence Position       55         Complexity       33         Modality       44         Voice       44         Polarity       22	Mark A Mark B Mark B Mark B Mark Both A&B	The graphs show data for the current set which means the lines already downloaded. This random sample may have weaker tendencies than the entire corpus; the icons light up according to results for all hits in the corpus.
Part of Speech > 8/8	10% -	
Definite/Indefinite	0%	
Prepositions > 2/2	nite Article Possessive nite Article	
Meanings 5/5	te A ssse	
Repetition > 3/3	Definite Artici Possessiv Indefinite Artici	
	Definite/Indefinite	

The graphs tab can also be used to filter the results. This might be useful if one of your search terms can be a noun or a verb, for example. It can also allow you to filter down the long list of results to focus on a particular pattern, such as use with possessives or occurrences in the Rheme of the sentence.

Clicking or tapping on one group of features on the left of the graphs tab (or using the blue button on a narrower screen), takes you to the same kind of menu seen on page 18. If you wanted to only see hits which have been automatically tagged as a noun, for example, you would click or tap on Part of Speech and then untick the other options. Once you have removed the ticks from the features you do not want to include, click Mark A to select matching instances on the left set of results (A), Mark B for the right set or Mark Both. Check boxes will appear with ticks marking lines which match your requirements. You can then use the filter menu (the top-right funnel icon on the Lines tab) to filter out the unselected hits.

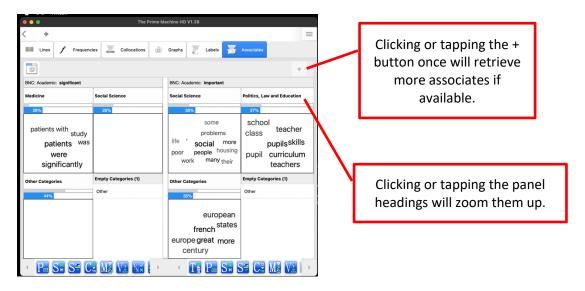
The other two tabs on Full Mode can also give you clues about the contexts in which the word often occurs. The Labels tab shows information about the Texts, Sections, Producers (authors or speakers), and the Neighbourhood – the meanings of words occurring nearby the word. This tab can show a lot of information and clicking on one element will zoom up the cloud so you can see more labels for Text, Section, Producer or Neighbourhood.

	The Prime N	lachine HD V1.28		
÷			=	
Lines 🖌 Frequence	ies Collocations d	Graphs 🔀 Labels 🕌	Associates	
0			< 2 >	
BNC: Academic: significant		BNC: Academic: important		
Text	Section	C Text	Section	
28-74% of 4801	12-22% of 4801	38-41% of 10898	2% of 10898	
	results discussion	Social Science CE1.xml		
Producer	Neighbourhood	Producer	Neighbourhood	
1-2% of 4801	49-100% of 4801 (2 links)	1-2% of 10898	100% of 10898 (2 links)	
	Evaluation:- Good/Bad	Sklair, Leslie Scrutton, Steve		
Summerfield, Michael A	Health And Disease	Northant	Being	
Beaton, Alan	Quantities	Finch, J Anderson, M S	Grammatical Bi	
< P= S# S= C				

These panels may give you clues as to whether one synonym is more or less associated with a particular text type - something you can also glean from the frequencies tab. It may also show particular sections of the text, especially if it is an academic corpus. The Producer panel is probably less important for analysing academic synonyms. The Neighbourhood panel, on the other hand, may show some of the topics (semantic tags) associated with each word.

The Associates tab on Full Mode provides an overview of some other words which occur frequently in texts where the search terms are also repeated. The text for each hit in the entire corpus is checked to see whether the word or collocation you have searched for occurs as a key word, and then the other key words in those texts are tallied up to give clues about some of the important topics or language used in these texts.

The panels below, show the word *significant* is prominent in Medicine texts where clinical trials are being reported (*patients*). In Social Science texts, *important* may be prominent in texts about social *problems, housing* and *work*, while in Politics, Law and Education, it may be associated with words related to teaching and *curriculum*. Of course, these are only possible interpretations... it would be better to use these results as a starting point for analysing the concordance lines we can see on the Lines tab.



We often find that collocations have different patterns of use from the patterns of the individual words they contain... it could be very useful to take some of the strong collocations for our two synonyms and look these collocations up in tPM. For example, we can compare *significant difference* with *important difference* or *significant* with *significant difference*. If the combination of words is stored in the database as a LL collocation, frequency charts, extended collocations, graphs, labels and associates will be available.

•••	he Prime Machine I	ID V1.28			
< >					=
Lines <b>Frequencies</b> Collocatio	ns 🔒 Graph	s 🔣 Labels	Associate	s	
BNC: Academic: significant difference	BNC:	Academic: importar	nt difference		
80% - 70% - 60% - 40% - 10% -		Humanites and Arts		BNC: Academic important difference social social other Generations Other Butter Composition Compositio	
< P S V M D P	> <	S¤ S=	VI DŞ		>

Finally, we often find that words and collocations have different patterns of use in different kinds of texts. If you are wanting to explore academic synonyms and also compare them with their uses in other kinds of texts (newspapers, speech, fiction, etc.), you can use the Compare two corpora option, or start by exploring words using a more general corpus like the whole of the British National Corpus.

•••	The Prime Machine HD V1.28
tPM	BNC: Academic 🚺 🗐
The British Nat	ional Corpus
-	BNC: Academic
6	BNC: Fiction
()P)	BNC: Newspapers
	BNC: Non-Academic
a	BNC: Other Publications
	BNC: Spoken
	RNC: Lippublished
	The British National Corpus
Literatur <del>e</del>	
	Fiction Collection 12x7
	Fiction Collection 12x7 USA
	Fiction Collection 37x1
	Fiction Collection 37x1 USA
	Gothic Fiction Collection
Non Literary	
	Non Literary Collection
Children	
	Children's Collection

tPM is a powerful tool for comparing synonyms. Even by following just a few of these clues, you should be able to use your detective and reasoning skills to learn more about the contexts in which writers prefer one word over another, and the co-texts that are formed through collocation and grammatical patterns.

For some of the background to these methods and approaches, please see the tPM Help Selected Bibliography available from <u>https://www.theprimemachine.net/help.html</u>.



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