Research Strategies of English Linguistics from the Perspective of English Corpus

Nan Yang*

School of Foreign Languages, Baotou Teacher's College, Baotou, China
*Corresponding author

Abstract: The study of English linguistics is a relatively difficult problem of the times, and corpus plays a decisive role in its research. In the process of building a sound corpus, it is usually done by means of topic. This paper is based on the research method of literature. Looking at the current construction of English corpus, there are still a series of problems such as incomplete corpus, poor construction system, and isolation of disciplines. Therefore, the study of English linguistics should promote the intersection between different disciplines, effectively integrate different types of corpora with unified specifications, and scientifically analyze relevant theories and specific data information of linguistics. In the position of building a multilingual corpus, we should strengthen the effective research of English linguistics, expand the scope of translation and oral application of the English corpus, and enhance the use effect of the corpus. This paper discusses the characteristics of English corpus, the development trend of linguistics and research strategies, hoping to promote the development of English linguistics for a long time.

Keywords: English, corpus, English linguistics

1. Introduction

English language teaching plays a very important role in modern English teaching. English linguistics has always been the focus and difficulty of English teaching in schools[1]. In the talent training programs for English majors at all levels in China, its role and position have never been shaken. In the in-depth study of English linguistics, corpus and linguistics are two important parts, which involve both language storage and language application[2]. Corpus and linguistics have gone through a long period of development, and have collected different kinds of words with different meanings to facilitate linguistic research. Therefore, in order to promote the study of English linguistics, we should focus on the corpus as the research object, promote the integration of different disciplines, and learn from the beneficial elements of other disciplines, so as to provide more academic support and help for the education field.

2. Analyze the basic situation of English corpus research

2.1 Respect the dominant position of English learners

In some native English speaking countries and regions in the West, the study of English corpora has broad significance and value[3]. The study of English in China is still at a relatively backward stage and lacks natural advantages in the process of building a corpus. In some native English speaking countries, the study of English not only focuses on the development of lexical corpora, but also deeply studies the traditional culture behind English[4]. Therefore, when studying English, Chinese English learners should be good at using English flexibly and strengthening the study of English culture. Educators should respect the dominant position of English learners and know how to carry out English teaching in a scientific way.

2.2 There is a close relationship between English corpus and English test

At this stage, the Chinese Research English Corpus has always been dominated by the research institutes of major universities, and most of the researchers are school teachers and other professional scholars[5]. These teachers and researchers mainly collect all kinds of vocabulary in English tests when building English corpora. In addition, the establishment of English corpus mainly serves students, so students' mastery of different English vocabulary and grammar will also provide some inspiration and ideas for the construction of English corpus. Therefore, there is an inseparable relationship between the
construction of English corpus and different kinds of English tests.

2.3 Building English corpus in the form of topic

At this stage, most universities in China have taken the establishment of corpora as the core content in the process of studying English linguistics, and they mainly apply for projects, hoping to obtain research funding for projects, so as to promote the rapid and good research of corpora. However, as far as the actual development is concerned, there are still various problems in the application, approval and subsequent management and supervision of English research projects, which lead to various obstacles in the process of advancing the project and limit the long-term development of English research projects[6]. If there is not enough maintenance strategy for the corpus, or even completely ignore the maintenance process, the quality of the final English corpus will be affected. For example, the English corpus in some Chinese universities has been in an undeveloped state since its construction. After users log on to the English corpus website, they often cannot find valuable content.

3. The development direction of English linguistics research based on English corpus

3.1 English corpus will continuously expand vocabulary capacity

With the continuous development of modern education and teaching and the continuous expansion of English subject capacity, students' learning tasks have been deepened. Therefore, the capacity and coverage of English corpus should also be expanded. First of all, the amount of English vocabulary students need to master is growing. In the context of the new curriculum reform, the innovation of English subject model will increase the amount of English vocabulary that students need to master[7]. The establishment of English corpus should follow the relevant standards of the new curriculum reform and expand the vocabulary capacity of the English corpus. Secondly, the establishment of English corpus should focus on the key content of the subject. Students should not only learn English vocabulary, but also understand the knowledge of English grammar and various traditional cultural connotations behind English. Therefore, in the process of building a corpus or learning to study linguistics, teachers should expand the basic content of English subjects and constantly enrich the connotation of English.

3.2 Improve the comprehensive connotation of English linguistics

English linguistics mainly studies the theoretical knowledge of English subjects. In the context of the establishment of English corpus, we will continue to integrate information technology, computer technology, big data and other cutting-edge technologies, promote the effective research of English linguistics in the future, and break through the shackles of traditional single subjects. Based on corpus, linguistics is constantly integrated with other technologies, other subjects, emerging media and other different fields. It can be said that the establishment of English corpus has promoted the cross development between English corpus and different disciplines. In this case, it greatly increases the comprehensiveness of English corpus and linguistics, and makes the research direction of English subject more diversified.

3.3 The construction of English language corpus is more professional and the number continues to increase

At present, the research of English linguistics has made good achievements[8]. The discipline construction has changed from macro research to micro research, and the specialized English field will play a greater role. As far as the subject research content is concerned, modern English language research pays more attention to the amount of information at the micro level and the expansion of the scope of English majors. However, despite the deepening of English major research, the development of English corpora is still relatively weak, and some English corpora can't even meet the needs of professional English research. In the future, more specialized English corpora should be established in English corpus and linguistic research.

3.4 Corpus support is indispensable for English linguistics research

The study of English language in China is not only limited to English subjects, but also focuses on English teaching. As far as the current construction of English corpus is concerned, the application of
linguistics in practical teaching is not flexible enough, and the research results of English linguistics can't be directly and effectively applied in practical teaching. With the continuous development of English corpus, the research achievements of English linguistics will continue to increase. Corpus should be closely linked with English teaching to ensure the effective application of English linguistics research achievements in practical teaching.

4. Main strategies of English linguistics research based on English corpus

4.1 Promote interdisciplinary research and improve the comprehensiveness of linguistic research

To build an English corpus, we should not only integrate the external form with computers and information technology, but also diversify the content of the corpus, such as integrating English grammar knowledge, English culture, English psychological knowledge and other related theories. English linguistics will pay more attention to comprehensive research in its future development[9]. Therefore, the construction of linguistics should promote the intersection of different disciplines and conduct linguistic research from multiple dimensions. First of all, linguistics should be good at making use of the useful elements in the corpus to expand the scope and perspective of research. Secondly, we should effectively integrate the linguistic achievements we have developed into the corpus, establish and improve the content framework of the corpus, and provide reliable materials for the continuous development of linguistics.

4.2 Integrate multiple corpora and unify standardization

At this stage, some colleges and universities have made great achievements in the process of studying linguistics, and have established different kinds of English corpora. However, at present, many college corpora are relatively short of funds, lack of unified standards, and occupy a large number of technical resources such as the network, so that they do not play the real role of corpora, but consume a lot of resources[10]. Therefore, colleges and universities should integrate English corpora in accordance with unified standards to make English linguistics develop towards a unified direction. For example, we should standardize the corpus building system and clarify the standards. We should strengthen management and supervision in the process of researching corpus topics. Once we find that the corpus construction deviates from the standards, we should adjust and maintain it in a timely manner. The university can establish a harmonious cooperation relationship with scientific research institutes and relevant enterprises, introduce diversified teaching resources, promote the effective transformation of academic achievements in the corpus, and improve the utilization rate of achievements. On the basis of respecting academic research achievements and patent rights, colleges and universities should integrate corpora according to the prescribed procedures, "remove the dross and take the essence" from the relevant content in different corpora, so as to ensure that the content in the corpus is high quality and valuable enough to build a more reliable corpus for promoting the long-term development of linguistics.

4.3 Promote the effective combination of English linguistic theories and corpus data

There are two main ways to study English linguistics: first, to strengthen the study of English theory, mainly through scientific analysis of English sentence patterns, English vocabulary and other language elements; Second, analyze the specific data and relevant information in the corpus, and comprehensively study English linguistics from the perspective of big data. The above two research paths have promoted the continuous research and development of English linguistics, and at the same time, they have certain deficiencies. The first way focuses more on the specific situation of language elements, which easily leads to the problem of biased theory over application; The second way is more focused on practical research, which is easy to lack theoretical depth. Therefore, in the current specific research work of linguistics, colleges and universities should effectively integrate theory and data, never ignore any aspect of English linguistics and databases, innovate research models, base on English corpus, take language theory as guidance, and strengthen the combination of theory and practice. We should not only tap the depth of theory, but also pay attention to the strength of practice.

4.4 Promote the combination of English and other corpora, and strengthen English language research

Although English occupies a key position in the world, there are different languages in other countries besides English and Chinese. Therefore, in the study of English linguistics, building a corpus should also
learn the strengths of other languages and promote the construction of the corpus of "English+Other Languages". By integrating different nationalities, languages and cultures, we can enrich the connotation of research theories, optimize the research methods of English linguistics, and expand the vocabulary capacity of the corpus. At present, for the study of English linguistics, China's research in this subject started relatively late, so the research level is not high enough, especially in English translation, oral English and other aspects of the study is relatively weak. From the perspective of students' learning situation, English translation and oral English are often the weak links in their English learning. Some students can only cope with English exams, but they do not have enough knowledge of English content with strong specialty, such as English translation and oral English. Therefore, the research of English linguistics should aim at English translation, oral English and other fields, establish a corpus of English translation and oral English, widely collect materials related to translation and oral English, use these corpora from the perspective of English linguistics major, and explore the rules suitable for Chinese students to master English translation and oral English from these materials and the current learning situation of Chinese students. In order to find the key to solve the problem and apply the research results to practice, it will play a deepening role in the construction of English prediction library and the research of English linguistics.

5. Discussion

Corpus linguistics has gone through many stages of research and development. The earliest stage is a small corpus, which contains about millions of words and focuses on how language should be studied. The later stage is a corpus characterized by large size. In this stage, computer technology has begun to be applied in it, making the construction and development of the corpus more technical. In this stage, the vocabulary included in the corpus is tens of millions, and its research focus is also on how to use language. In the third stage, the corpus construction at this time is characterized by dynamics, and its scale has also increased from tens of millions of words to hundreds of millions of words. Corpus pays attention to the construction of coding system, which is more standard and standardized at the same time. At present, it has entered the fourth stage, which is characterized by electronic network. This stage is synchronized with the development of computer, big data and other technologies, and is connected with the computer in the construction of corpus. Moreover, the content in the current corpus can be updated and changed, and has a very broad search space.

Since 1980, China has begun to study corpus linguistics, focusing on three aspects: first, it attaches importance to the construction of interlanguage corpora. In order to facilitate China's learning of other countries' languages, it introduces other countries' languages into the corpus as an important interlanguage. Secondly, we should attach importance to the matching between Chinese and other languages. The Chinese language does not exist in isolation, but integrates with the languages of other countries. Therefore, the matching between the Chinese language and the languages of other countries is emphasized in the construction of the corpus. Third, build a language corpus related to teaching. When studying linguistics, China attaches great importance to its development in the field of teaching. By building a corpus, it will help teachers and students in their teaching and learning. At present, teaching corpora have become an important aspect of the teaching and research of Chinese corpus linguistics.

6. Conclusion

In order to promote the long-term research of English linguistics, colleges and universities should reasonably tap the intrinsic value of English corpora and lay a solid foundation for English corpora. At present, the subject of English language has been developing and making progress, and the requirements for the language library have been rising. Therefore, the establishment of the English corpus should be steadily promoted according to certain standards, especially in the social context of the continuous development of English linguistics, it is necessary to innovate the application function of the corpus, promote the diversified development of the corpus, connect English linguistics with the corpus, expand the research achievements of English linguistics, ensure that linguistic research can keep pace with the times, and constantly create more projects beneficial to academic research.

References

[1] Chen W. Exploration on the innovation path of college English teaching reform from the perspective of formative evaluation [J]. Journal of Inner Mongolia University of Finance and Economics, 2022,
20(3):57-60.