

[www.americancorpus.org](http://www.americancorpus.org)

1. Is “corpus” a common word? Search for CORPUS using the CHART option. Click on the bars to see examples.
2. What adjectives can I use to describe a corpus? Use the LIST option to search for [j\*] corpus  
Use the POS (part of speech) list to find the correct code: [j\*] = any adjective  
Select the ACADEMIC section.
3. What prepositions come after research? Search for research [i\*]  
Click on the entries to see examples of the different prepositions.
4. What about a word like “researches”? Is it a correct plural noun? Use the CHART option to search for RESEARCHES.[nn\*]  
The period tells the computer to look only for the word researches when used as a noun.  
Click SEE ALL SECTIONS, and sort by the SECTION header to see that it’s more common in some fields than others.
5. But what verbs can you use with the noun RESEARCH? You don’t want to repeat “do research” all the time.  
RESEARCH  
CONTEXT: any verb [v\*]  
2 / 0 (=2 words to the left of research; 0 to the right)  
ACADEMIC section  
AND in extra options at the bottom, GROUP by LEMMAS (related word forms)
6. But what if you’re bored with the word RESEARCH. What synonyms can you use? Search for [=RESEARCH]  
in the ACADEMIC section
7. Comparing two words: – search and seek.  
COMPARE      search    seek  
CONTEXT      [nn\*] 0 3  
Turn off min freq (minimum frequency)
8. So, how do we use *seek*? Use the CHART option and enter seek  
CONTEXT      [nn\*] 0 3  
This looks for nouns used after the verb seek.  
Look at the sub-sections to see which fields of academic writing it is used in.  
Now, change to list mode and look at the nouns.
9. For more information, go back to the home page of the corpus and read the introduction at the bottom of the page. Take the “5-minute guided tour”!