

## TIME COLLOCATIONS AND THEIR TRANSLATIONAL PROBLEMS

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**Abstract:** *The purpose of the article is to illustrate collocations and their importance in the speech. Moreover, the article demonstrates some problematic points of translation of the collocations.*

**Key words:** *time collocation, translation issues, phraseme, phraseology, cultural difference, syntagmatic level.*

**INTRODUCTION**

A word is the smallest part of a text while it is the most essential portion of the whole passage as it gives the main idea of the given text. Moreover, selecting a correct word or a phrase in the written or oral speech, a writer or a speaker should be really careful in order to select a right version of the word. Most of times words are used together aiming of a sentence however, a single word can be a good sentence too. On the other hand, words might have their direct and indirect meaning. When a word gives it's direct meaning it can be considered as a simple sentence, when it has got indirect meaning it illustrates collocation.

The present study employed a frequency-based approach to identify the collocations of verb + time and time + noun in the English language because it provides more certain criteria of collocation identification. Using this approach, the co-occurrences of the two words must be remarkably frequent to be categorized as collocations. However, the frequency cannot measure the strength of association between word combinations. As a consequence, a specific association measure (AM) that may combine frequency information with additional collocational qualities should be used (Gablasova et al., 2017). In addition, frequency is not the best tool to show regularity and predict language use [7; 4].

List of Common Collocations about Time:

- Dead on time;
- Free time;
- From dawn till dusk;
- Make time for;
- Great deal of time;
- Past few weeks;
- Right on time;
- Run out of time;
- Save time;
- Spare time;
- Spend some time;
- Take your time;
- Time goes by;
- Time passes;
- Waste time.

For example:

- *I do a lot of reading in my **free time**.*
- *He worked **from dawn till dusk**.*
- *She **makes time** for her scheduler, her cabinet and her closest advisers.*
- *John began spending a **great deal of time** in China*
- *The trial lawyer was **right on time** for his next case.*
- *Only once did I start pondering **nuances** and **run out of time**.*
- *As **time goes by**, you get more and more heirs.*
- *As **time passes**, it becomes more difficult to raise funds.*
- *I left **dead on time** at 11.50pm [8]*

Oxford Collocations Dictionary gives the definition of collocations as follows: “Collocation is the way words combine in a language to produce natural-sounding speech and writing” (2002:7) “waste time” and “right on time” are given as examples for collocation in English. It would not be normal to say “waste time” or “right on time”. As for collocations, we can give English collocations; “by accident”, “strong tea”, “feel well”, “work hard” and Uzbek collocations; “achchiq choy” (translation is “chilly tea” however tea is never chilly), “yo‘lning boshi” (translation is “head of the way” however a way has never a head, it means the beginning of the way) and many other examples can be given.

The examples of collocations in these two languages illustrate the fact that words having different meanings have come together and form group of words having totally different meanings than their own isolated forms, however, when it is compared to the idioms (kick the bucket used to describe dying) collocations still retain their lexical meaning thus can be labeled as decipherable.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The origin of collocations goes far and the term “collocation” was first introduced and used by Firth, who considered that meaning by collocation is lexical meaning “at the syntagmatic level” (Firth 1957:196).

In 1933, Harold Palmer’s Second Interim Report on English Collocations highlighted the importance of collocation as a key to producing natural-sounding language, for anyone learning a foreign language [1.54]. Thus from the 1940s onwards, information about recurrent word combinations became a standard feature of monolingual learner’s dictionaries. As these dictionaries became “less word-centred and more phrase-centered”, [2.318] more attention was paid to collocation. This trend was supported, from the beginning of the 21st century, by the availability of large text corpora and intelligent corpus-querying software, making it possible to provide a more systematic account of collocation in dictionaries. Using these tools, dictionaries such as the Macmillan English Dictionary and the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English included boxes or panels with lists of frequent collocations [3.1].

## RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION

Collocations can be considered important because they make our language sound natural. Moreover, they flourish and fulfill the text as well as speech. If a speaker master’s collocations, his English will be more idiomatic, that is, more similar to the way it is spoken by native speakers. On the one hand, all languages around the world have their own sentence

structure as well as the functions of them. Collocations are helpful to give literal meaning to the sentence. On the other hand, mostly, collocations have several problems to translate from one language into another as they lose their own meaning and have figurative meaning. Therefore, a speaker should be aware of the culture and linguistics in order to translate correctly. Since the collocations refer to the cultural linguistics in its origin.

Many collocations can be given as an example of collocation and their translation cannot be translated automatically.

- adverb + adjective. Invading that country was an utterly stupid thing to do...
- adjective + noun. The doctor ordered him to take regular exercise. ...
- noun + noun. ...
- noun + verb. ...
- verb + noun. ...
- verb + expression with preposition. ...
- verb + adverb.

### CONCLUSION

All in all, collocation is the concept of words co-occurrence, where certain words appear predictably next to or within a certain number of words from each other. In corpus linguistics, a collocation is a sequence of words or terms that co-occur more often than would be expected by chance. In the sphere of phraseology, collocation is a sub-type of phraseme. As mentioned above, an example of a phraseological collocation, as propounded by Michael Halliday, is the expression “strong tea”. In other words, a collocation is a familiar grouping of words, especially words that habitually appear together and thereby convey meaning by association. Collocational range refers to the set of items that typically accompany a word. The size of a collocational range is partially determined by a word’s level of specificity and number of meanings. In simpler terms, we can say that collocation can be defined as “the company that words keep”, or it is “a marriage contract between words”

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