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TRANSLATION EXERCISE AIDED BY DATA-DRIVEN LEARNING IN ESP CONTEXT

Abstract

This paper studies the possibility of using a combination of a simple translation exercise with a small-scale concordance exercise with students enrolled in the English for Tourism course at the Faculty of Economics in Split, Croatia. It explains the rationale behind such a combination of exercises which focus on lexical items and explores how efficient the students were in dealing with the proposed exercises. Although teaching subject-related terminology is an important aspect of teaching an ESP course, the paper presents the case of teaching and practising the semantically light verb *take* in its frequent subject-related meanings and usages. To cater for this need, a small specialised corpus was used as a starting point and the British National Corpus was queried for verification and comparison. Overall, a simple lexical corpus-based exercise provided useful targeted information concerning the predicted pitfalls in students' translations. Although only some students actually used this information to improve their initial translations, they were highly successful. The feedback collected in the questionnaires shows that students were generally very satisfied with the experience.

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Key words

English for Tourism, lexis, translation, concordance, specialised corpus.

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