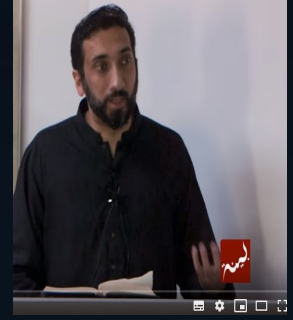




Developing a corpus of Islamic sermons on YouTube

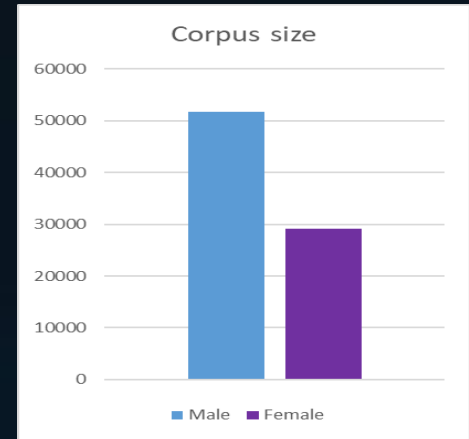


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Corpus output: key terms

Multi-word	Score	F
<input type="checkbox"/> quranic verse	W 1,038.16	83
<input type="checkbox"/> alaihi wasalam	W 607.71	47
<input type="checkbox"/> salahu alaihi	W 581.89	45
<input type="checkbox"/> salahu alaihi wasalam	W 556.08	43
<input type="checkbox"/> happy home	W 294.29	25
<input type="checkbox"/> prophetic tradition	W 236.34	19



Introduction

YouTube has started to play an important role in religious teaching, with Islamic preaching on YouTube becoming a popular phenomenon among Muslim communities.

Van Noppen (2015) suggests that oral ritual activities such as praying and preaching are primarily linguistic behaviours which can be analysed by speech act theory. This project aims to investigate how these preachers deliver advice to their audience. To do so, I decided to use corpus linguistics as a methodology and so have a systematically compiled corpus of English Islamic preaching.

Corpus linguistics as method

Corpus linguistics is an essential method for investigating naturally occurring language (Gardner 2009: 449).

Three advantages of using this method:

1. It can help identify frequency and usage trends of speech acts.
2. It allows us to investigate linguistic features, grammatical structure and discourse patterns
3. It provides information on the situation, the topic and the context

(McAllister 2015: 29-30).

See 2 sample outputs - key terms and *should* concordance.

Corpus output: concordance of *should*

to honor the objectives of a culture that **should** never supersede the objectives of our Sharia.

forced to succumb to circumstances that they **should** not be forced to succumb to. And because we don't get them married to people that he thinks they **should** get married to, not people that they want to is happening to her daughter's, he says that we **should** not oppress Qaila and her daughters and force against their will. every faithful Muslim **should** help them in this cause, and the most one should should help them in this cause, and the most one **should** n't a Muslim should do good deeds and not evil this cause, and the most one shouldn't a Muslim **should** do good deeds and not evil ones. what more do we and they modelled for us the way of father's **should** treat his offspring. Fatimah radiallahu taala are honoring the objectives in the culture that **should** not supersede the objectives of our Sharia of their children what are the qualities we **should** look for his father's and for some of you maybe subhana wa ta'ala Allah Quran shows us that we **should** be so invested as fathers in our children that

Composition of corpus

Sermons of ten male and ten female global preachers were chosen on the topic of family. Sermons were transcribed from YouTube. The transcription results were saved, then mistakes and misspellings were corrected manually.

The files were uploaded to Sketch Engine for analysis. The texts will be analysed qualitatively using pragmatics analysis and analysed quantitatively using corpus tool software.

References

Gardner, S. (2009) 'Geoff Thompson and Susan Hunston (eds): System and Corpus: Exploring Connections'. *Applied Linguistics*, 30(3), 449-453

McAllister, P.G. (2015) 'Speech acts; a synchronic perspective'. In K. Aijmer and C. Rühlemann, *Corpus pragmatics: a handbook*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 29-51

van Noppen, J.P. (2015) *Developing Pragmastic Competence*. Brussels: Université Libre de Bruxelles