Publications, peer review, and finding sources

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Overview

1. Different sorts of publications
2. Peer review
3. Finding sources
4. Activity
5. Assignment

1. Different sorts of publications

Different sorts of publications

You will want to find two main types of sources:

1. **Data:** Linguistic materials for you to work with. Carvings, letters, newspaper articles, radio transcripts, etc. What you may know as "primary sources." The raw materials for your own research.

2. **Analysis:** Papers, chapters, etc. written by other scholars. What you may know as "secondary sources." The results of others' research.

Different sorts of publications > Data

Some of these were built with linguistics in mind. Others were not, but happen to be useful for linguistic research.

- Linguistic corpora

- Newspaper corpora

- Other print material corpora

- General online archives

Corpora is the plural form of the word *corpus*, which refers to a body of texts.

Different sorts of publications > Data

- Linguistic corpora
- Newspaper corpora
- Other print material corpora
- General online archives

Some examples: *Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA)*, *British National Corpus*, *Dictionary of Old English Web Corpus*

- Have tools meant to help with linguistic research, e.g. browsable frequency lists and searching for words by their type, like "got VERB-ed"

- Free to use, but may have some restrictions (e.g. DOE web corpus can only be used 20 times)

Links to these corpora can be found on our course site, on the "Resources" page.

Different sorts of publications > Data

- Linguistic corpora

- Newspaper corpora

- Other print material corpora

- General online archives

Some examples: *New York Historic Newspapers*, *Chronicling America, Burney 17th and 18th Century Newspapers*

- Extremely useful, but can be hard to search, especially when OCRed poorly.

- Include scans of articles, letters, advertisements, and sometimes direct quotations. Mostly pre-1920s.

- Some require library login, but some do not.

Links to these corpora can be found on our course site, on the "Resources" page.

Different sorts of publications > Data

- Linguistic corpora

- Newspaper corpora

- **Other print material corpora**

- General online archives

Some examples: *AAS Historical Periodicals Collection 1684-1912, Eighteenth Century Collections Online*

- Scanned texts, usually pre-1920s.

- Extremely useful, but can be hard to search, especially when OCRed poorly.

- Library login is typically required.

- I recommend avoiding transcribed corpora like Project Gutenberg. (They often have errors.)

Links to these corpora can be found on our course site, on the "Resources" page.

Different sorts of publications > Data

- Linguistic corpora

- Newspaper corpora

- Other print material corpora

- **General online archives**

Some examples: *Google Books*, *Archive.org*

- Abundance of scanned texts, mostly (but not exclusively) public domain.

- Extremely useful, but can be hard to search, especially when OCRed poorly.

- Free to access. (Membership may be needed for some sources on Archive.org.)

Links to these corpora can be found on our course site, on the "Resources" page.

Peer-reviewed publications are optimal!

- Journals
- Preprint archives
- Conference proceedings
- Books
- Dictionaries

NYPL: Articles & Databases
https://www.nypl.org/collections/articles-databases

CSI Library: Search Library Resources
https://library.csi.cuny.edu/home

Links to these archives can be found on our course site, on the "Resources" page.

Different sorts of publications > Analysis

- Journals
- Preprint archives
- Conference proceedings
- Books
- Dictionaries

Some examples: *Language*, *American Speech*, *Notes & Queries*

- Articles (including review articles and original research), book reviews, short communications
- Journals are often accessible through online archives, such as those offered through CSI's library or the NYPL.
- Beware of predatory, non-peer reviewed journals.

Different sorts of publications > Analysis

- Journals

- **Preprint archives**
- Conference proceedings
- Books
- Dictionaries

Some examples: *arXiv, LingBuzz*

- Places where authors post the manuscripts that they have submitted to peer review (accepted manuscripts) but which have not yet been peer reviewed.

- Some people use other places, like academia.edu or their personal website, to host their preprints.

- Harder to establish quality – can try to figure out reputation of the repository as well as of the researcher & their lab.

Different sorts of publications > Analysis

- Journals
- Preprint archives
- **Conference proceedings**
- Books
- Dictionaries

- Compile the papers presented at a given conference or workshop.
- Sometimes peer reviewed, sometimes just approved by an editor/editorial team.
- Proceedings are afforded different value depending on the field. Usually fairly low reputation in linguistics.

Different sorts of publications > Analysis

- Journals
- Preprint archives
- Conference proceedings
- **Books**
- Dictionaries

- Often published as part of a series by academic publishers, but also published by commercial publishers.
- Some compile chapters by various authors, others are written by a single author.
- Don't usually introduce brand new information.
- Lower reputation than journal articles.

Different sorts of publications > Analysis

- Journals
- Preprint archives
- Conference proceedings
- Books
- **Dictionaries**

Some examples: *Urbandictionary.com*, *Oxford English Dictionary (OED) online*, Brill's *Indo-European Etymological Dictionaries Online*, *Dictionary of Old English (DOE)*

- Web-based dictionaries are often updated fairly frequently, and are somewhat interactive.

- May require a login.

- Try searching Archive.org and Google Books for scanned print dictionaries. For example, Archive.org has a *lot* of old slang dictionaries.

Links to these sources can be found on our course site, on the "Resources" page.

2. Peer review

Peer review

- What is peer review? What do you know about it?
- Any decent journal will have a peer review process.
- How does it work?
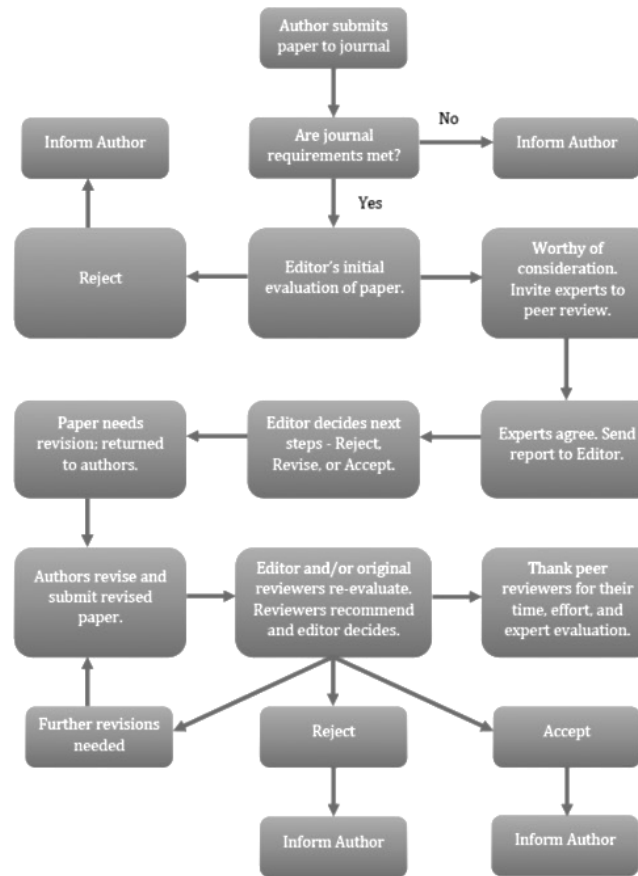- Why is it anonymous?

Peer review

Image from Elsevier's "What is peer review?" page. (https://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/what-is-peer-review)

3. Finding sources

Finding sources

- NYPL

- CSI's Library

- Google Scholar

- Archive.org & Google Books

You should:
- Know your CSI library login credentials.
- Have & know your NYPL login credentials.

Finding sources

- NYPL
- CSI's Library
- Google Scholar
- Archive.org & Google Books

New York Public library has tons more than just books.

- Need a library card to access. These are free and available to anyone in NY state.

- Must have library barcode & password.

- Go to https://www.nypl.org/ and click "Research." From there, click "Articles & Databases" or "Academic E-Books."

You should:
- Know your CSI library login credentials.
- Have & know your NYPL login credentials.

Finding sources

- NYPL

- **CSI's Library**

- Google Scholar

- Archive.org & Google Books

A really good, often-overlooked resource.

- Access the list of databases here (https://library.csi.cuny.edu/az.php)

- Log in with SLAS username or student email address.

- Default password is Csi + emplid (e.g. Csi12345678).

- Try using the password for your CSI wifi if this doesn't work.

You should:
- Know your CSI library login credentials.
- Have & know your NYPL login credentials.

Finding sources

- NYPL
- CSI's Library
- Google Scholar
- Archive.org & Google Books

Find lots of sources this way, but make sure they're trustworthy by seeing if they've been cited a lot.

- Access at https://scholar.google.com/
- Who did this work cite?
- Who is this work cited by?
- Allows you to visualize a network of research.

You should:
- Know your CSI library login credentials.
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Finding sources

- NYPL

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No login necessary!

Finding sources

- NYPL
- CSI's Library
- Google Scholar
- Archive.org & Google Books

Login optional, but recommended for Archive.org. (Free and easy to set up.)

Two incredible resources.

- Access at https://www.archive.org/ and https://books.google.com/
- Mostly contain public domain (i.e. pre-1925) works.
- Archive.org – Can search metadata or text contents. Be sure to select texts (rather than images, software, etc.). Making an account will allow access to more sources.
- Google Books – Will show you results you can't view, by default. Click "Tools" > "Any Books" > "Free Google eBooks."

Finding sources > Evaluating sources

- Evaluating sources: any ideas?
- Does the science make sense?
- Are they indexed by a dependable aggregator?
- Are they cited in other research?
- Is it full of errors?
- Is the journal junk? Does it engage in peer review?

4. Activity

Activity

- In groups of 5–6, find two sources about a randomized topic.

- One source should be **data**; a primary source.

- Another should be **analysis**; a secondary source. Make sure it's reputable.

- Identify and briefly summarize these sources.

- You have 15 minutes to do this.

Topics assigned by breakout room.

1. Sexism in English
2. African American Vernacular English (AAVE)
3. Early Modern English
4. Slang in America
5. Slang in England
6. Australian English

Places to look:
- CSI Library
- NYPL
- Google Scholar
- Archive.org
- Google Books

Activity: Report back

1. Sexism in English

2. African American Vernacular English (AAVE)

3. Early Modern English

4. Slang in America

5. Slang in England

6. Australian English

For each source:
- Identify it: author(s), title, publication
- Briefly summarize it.
- Where did you find it?
- Is it reputable? Yes or no?
- How can you tell?

5. Assignment

Assignment

- Blog post #2
- Due by 6:30pm next Wednesday, 7 October
- **300 words minimum**
- Find at least two sources that you will use for your research paper. Use them to explore your topic at greater depth. Look at this as a mini-essay, using the sources you find, to address a particular element of your topic. This may become a subsection in your final research paper, or may serve as a brief first draft.
- Cite your sources using the format found in the Unified Style Sheet for Linguistics (linked on our website).