

Using Word Clouds and Corpora in our Research

Two other assignments will be to create some word clouds based on words from Websites which deal with various aspects of our controversial issue and to use key words related to your issue in some quick “corpus research.”

1. Find Web pages connected to both (or multiple) sides of your controversial issue.
2. Copy and paste text from the home pages of these sites in the "cloud creation" box of a Word Cloud system of your choice from among the option you find at: http://www.cl.aoyama.ac.jp/~dias/EsllinksTag_Clouds.html .
3. Try to see patterns in the data and write about your observations. See examples on my blog at: <http://vegetarianjodias.blogspot.jp/2011/06/making-discoveries-through-using-word.html> .
4. Post images of your word clouds along with your commentary about them (i.e., what you noticed as patterns) on your blog.
5. Also, I will ask you to do a search for some of the keywords related to your issue in the COCA Corpus (Corpus of Contemporary American English— <https://corpus.byu.edu/coca/>) to see what sorts of words collocate with them. Dias will demonstrate to you how to do this in class. Find an example of the sort of analysis (and blog posting) you can do related to your issue's key words at: <http://vegetarianjodias.blogspot.com/2018/06/i-searched-on-coca-corpus-of.html>.