

Computer Corpora - What relevance do they have for ELT?

Chris Tribble, Cyprus 2001

SOME EXAMPLES

1. How many meanings of fine can you find in this concordance?

e grid usually consists of a network of fine wire surrounding the cathode. The c
or the capacity of the image to show fine details or small objects. In televi
t measured the rise in temperature of a fine wire when radio waves are passed th
ple meters the current can be passed through the fine wire of a galvanometer coil. When l
hicles. At the same time car firms were fined if they did not increase the avera
athways weave together, but many of the finer intricacies are still only partly
hows that metabolic processes are under fine control. Cells and entire tissues a
s was the woodpecker's beak and tongue, finely engineered for excavating insects
e forces carry vital information, often finely detailed information, about the s
More recently, occupational exposure to fine powders and some organic chemicals
the century many basic facts about the fine structure of organisms were discove
may include death, imprisonment, exile, fines, forfeiture of property, removal f
rs, men will still say: 'This was their finest hour'." By successful collaborati

2. Over and above mean the same thing - don't they?

Generated by the alternators described above rises to a peak, sinks to zero, dr
and Air The erosion problems described above are aggravating a growing world wa
actual African tunes, was also carried over into the Afro-American spiritual.
d. The ball must be returned by a side over the net after no more than three hi
uth America and CONCACAF. It is played over two legs and was begun in 1968. T
rt, joined by a crossbar 8 ft (2.44 m) above the ground, and backed by a net. T
is kind that the branchpoints mentioned above for human and ape lineages have be
lants, but by growth all along the stem above each node. Another distinctive fe
m, humour, frustration, nostalgia, and above all, love. As cities overtook rur
amplification of all audio frequencies) over the entire audible range from about
ted by a steel cage. The first race was over the Daytona Beach course in 1948. E
e ball with hand or arm. If any of the above are committed by the defending te
and in actual engines today is slightly over 40 per cent. Diesels are in general
d and managed, held national monopolies over trade with certain regions. The Ef
f flowering plants, occurring from well above the Arctic Circle through the temp
d area at least 26 ft (about 8 m) high above the entire court. The net is 32 ft
the cost of a machine as expense spread over its useful economic life); inventor
00 cost advantage that the Japanese had over US and European firms by 1990 had l
players should be paid money over and above compensation for expenses and wage
list and nonaligned Third World leader. Over the next few years, he became inter
so with an accent, or variation carried over from their first language and regio
flower part) is superior-that is, borne above the other flower parts-and is topp
possible income, meaning income over and above that spent for basic necessities s
states that body size tends to increase over time within fossil lineages, but Co
tion factor, operate without distortion over a wide frequency range, and can be
by AM. In the superhigh-frequency range (above the ultrahigh-frequency range), i
ers career around tight turns and jump over ramps and hills. BMX racing suppor
ors. He brought together the lessons of over 100 years in a remarkable way. The
itions. Many banks have grown by taking over other banks inside and outside thei
round or in the air. When the ball goes over the touchline it re-enters the fie
accented bass pattern played over and over by the left hand while the right ha
. It was embodied in all living beings, above all in men, in the form of self-co
ctor was capable of producing a surplus above the subsistence needs of society.
, which is found at about 40 km (25 mi) above sea level, no life could survive o
it stood in lost only about 60 g (2 oz) over a period of five years. This demons
apid absorption of rainwater that flows over the bark of the host plants. Roots
t discoverer. We remember Darwin's name above Wallace's because of Darwin's comp

3. Cost? / Price?

1. Because of its human _____ in deprivation and a feeling of rejection and personal failure, the extent of unemployment is widely used as a measure of workers' welfare.
2. Business executives become pessimistic as _____ and profits drop.
3. Critical shortages and rising _____ of energy, especially petroleum, played a major role in this change.
4. Domestic inflation may temporarily improve the balance of trade if the same volume of exports can be sold at higher _____.
5. For example, from 1965 to 1978 American consumer _____ increased at an average annual rate of 5.7 per cent, including a peak of 12.2 per cent in 1974.
6. For example, production _____ increase; shortages of raw materials may further hamper production; interest rates rise; prices rise; and consumers react to increased prices by buying less.
7. Higher export _____ eventually restrict foreign sales, creating deficits in trade and services and international currency-exchange problems.
8. In theory, when demand for labour rises to the point at which unemployment is low and employers find it difficult to hire qualified workers, wages increase, pushing production _____ and prices higher and thus contributing to inflation; when demand declines and unemployment increases, inflationary pressures on wages and production costs are relieved.
9. Interest rates typically include the anticipated pace of inflation that increases business _____, discourages consumer spending, and depresses the value of stocks and bonds.
10. Most raw materials and operating _____ respond quickly to inflationary signals.
11. New demands imposed on the economic system included ending environmental pollution, extending equal opportunities and rewards to women and minorities, and coping with the social _____ of unsafe products and working conditions.
12. Production _____ then rise, and, if these costs cannot be passed on to the consumer, the producer cuts back production and lays off workers.
13. The development of industrial capitalism had serious human _____.
14. The hyperinflation that occurred in Germany following World War I, for example, caused the volume of currency in circulation to expand more than 7 billion times and _____ to jump 10 billion times during a 16-month period before November 1923.
15. This reflects the spread of the factory system into formerly underdeveloped countries, where labour _____ are low.

4. Serious

"Serious" has a strongly negative sense in several distinct domains. Which are they?

te act will be considered the more serious, although how harshly the crim
and there was renewed interest in serious (as opposed to pop-oriented)
Football). In 1846 came the first serious attempt to establish a code.
m road vehicles and for almost any serious attempt in Britain to develop
blem. Physiological Findings Few serious biological effects were noted
nditions, this disadvantage is not serious, but the iconoscope is unsuita
animals; both of these ideas were serious challenges to orthodox theolog
the prosecution dropping the more serious charge. This is recognized and
fficers to arrest suspects of most serious crimes without a warrant, and
ice of where to be tried. The most serious crimes may not be tried by mag
a cancer patient may be left with serious disabilities. Every effort mus
eria of the genus Chlamydia. Some serious diseases that occur in both hu
Fungal Diseases Fungi cause many serious diseases of animals. Aspergill
ation in the history of medicine. Serious diseases were of primary inter
the leukosis complex, resulting in serious economic loss. Influenza viru
e resorted to self-regulation in a serious effort to stop abuses before t
echnical offside. If offences are serious enough a referee can caution a

tly well, and there have been some serious failures, notably the dramatic
 ccessfully inoculated against many serious feline diseases. Kittens shou
 pment of industrial capitalism had serious human costs. The early days of
 he trial which makes the case more serious; if it is apparent from the st
 stopped by the referee to prevent serious injury to contestants who have
 undredth of 1 per cent would cause serious interference with even distant
 as little as 10 kHz apart without serious interference. The frequency ra
 ction. Poisonous plants may cause serious losses, usually in particular
 rt, or the Crown Court if they are serious. Magistrates decide questions
 htlessness began to be viewed as a serious medical problem. Physiologica
 t came as something of a surprise. Serious medical problems, including lo
 d ineffective for treating certain serious mental disorders. Two early at
 nd status offences, which are less serious misbehavioural problems such a
 s can only be detained in the most serious of cases, and there are nation
 rect free kick is awarded for more serious offences and if these occur i
 rect free kick is awarded for more serious offences such as intentional
 ent or dangerous fashion. Two more serious offences are kicking or tryin
 In early English statutes the more serious offences were compassing or im
 isdiction of the youth court; more serious offences committed by minors m
 s: the magistrates' court for less serious offences, and the Crown Court
 ication stages. Noise Noise is a serious problem in all radio receivers
 lems; this subsidence is already a serious problem in Texas, Florida, and
 pidly that rabbit control became a serious problem. In Australia a virus
 omic loss. Influenza viruses cause serious problems in pigs, horses, and
 world to revive table tennis as a serious sport. A meeting held in 1926
 nment, except where the case is so serious that any other sentence is out
 t clear whether this represented a serious threat to commerce across nati
 rifts), a number of which got into serious trouble in the 1980s and had t
 frequency radiation may also cause serious trouble. Poorly pigmented ani
 -quality diet, however, can cause serious urinary tract problems. Indoo
 in 1892. In 1893 Benz emerged as a serious vehicle maker. In that year th
 rimes can be divided into the most serious, which are triable only on ind
 ictment (before a jury), the least serious, which are triable summarily (

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Useful URLs

AMALGAM (free automatic POS tagger)

<http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/amalgam/amalghome.htm>

BNC

<http://info.ox.ac.uk/bnc/>

Mike Barlow's Home Page

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~barlow/corpus.html>

Mike Scott's Home Page

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/~ms2928/homepage.html>

Project Gutenberg Home Page

<http://www.promo.net/pg/>

Tim John's Home Page

<http://sun1.bham.ac.uk/johnstf/homepage.htm>

University of Virginia Texts Resources

<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/english.html>