An Analytical Study of English Collocations Usage in
the Book of Dialogues of the Buddha by T.W. Rhys Davids Vol 1

Candima[1], Veerakarn Kanokkamalade[2], and
Narongchai Pintrymool[3]
(ashincandima92@gmail.com)

Abstract

The objectives of this study were (1) to study the English collocations usage of the keywords in Buddhist literature, Dialogues of the Buddha by T.W. Rhys Davids Vol 1, and (2) to analyze the types of combinations pertaining to the English collocations usage of the keywords in selected Buddhist literature Dialogues of the Buddha by T.W. Rhys Davids Vol 1. The results revealed were 1) The keywords knowledge had the most frequent usage of English collocations in Dialogues of the Buddha volume 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids with the frequency of 42 or 7.83 %. Among the frequency of 42 occurrences, the result was as follows: *knowledge of* with the frequency of 42 or 7.83%. 2) The Noun + Preposition was the most frequent type of combination pertaining to the usage of English collocation of the keyword in Dialogue of the Buddha volume 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids with the frequency of 207 or 38.61%.

The Buddhist literature, Dialogues of the Buddha by T.W. Rhys Davids volume 1, exploitation and expectation of the Buddha teaching in Buddhist's literature, was selected. The data was initially collected and analyzed by application of the software Ant Conc 3.5.8. (Windows) 2019 which was

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[1] Master of Arts in English International Program, Faculty of Humanities, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University

[2] Department of foreign languages, at Faculty of Humanities, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University

[3] Department of foreign languages, at Faculty of Humanities, Mahachulalongkornrajavidyalaya University

developed by L. Anthony. The study was followed by utilizing Microsoft Excel 2016 data base, Oxford Collocations Dictionary for students of English (2012), and Longman Collocations Dictionary and Thesaurus (2013). The results derived from the current study through a documentary and qualitative method revealed a list of keywords which were most frequently used in Dialogues of the Buddha volume 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids. From the selected top 50 most frequent keywords, the collocations to each keyword were identified. Only the English collocations usage of that met specified criteria were selected and categorized into 17 types of combinations pertaining to the usage of English Collocations. That among the seventeen types of combinations, the Noun + preposition was the most frequent type of combinations relating to the usage of English collocations of the keywords in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids, with the frequency 0f 207 occurrences or 38.61 %. However, the verb + phrase was the least frequent types of combinations with the frequency of 3 occurrence or 0.55 %. The Noun + Noun, Quantifier + Noun, Verb + Adjective, Noun + Verb, Verb + Adverb, Adjective + Phrase, and Adverb + Verb of combinations showed no frequency of occurrence at all.

Keywords: Analytical Study, English Collocations, English Usage

Introduction

In the worldwide of globalization, learning English is essential for everyone into our daily lives. There is an important tool for leading international communication, education, career, the pursuit of knowledge, and to create an understanding of the culture and vision of the world society. English is the global language that is using as a medium for communication international worldwide. All most students of English are studying their talents in English for their communication. And communication skills in global language is

great of significance to all Buddhist monks for propagating Buddhism. A huge set of knowledge encompassing vocabulary, grammar, phonology, lexical items, pragmatics, semantics, etc. has to be processed in order to properly learning the English language.

According to Gough, vocabulary plays a significant role in carrying the content of what we want to communicate, while grammar joins groups of these vocabulary items together, "but most of meaning is in the words", (2001): 3. In the same way, Lewis stated that, without grammar little can be conveyed; without vocabulary nothing can be conveyed. Acquiring a large vocabulary is one of the most important tasks for everyone, especially those of second/foreign language learners or users, (2000): 8" Why do we have to learn collocations? "Elizabeth Walter and Kate Woodford, (2010), the authors of 'Collocations Extra', stated that collocation is the key to a high standard of English. Students need to know the words that enter into a collocation they have learned, and if they know the combinations that native speakers use which can often be difficult or impossible to guess, their English will sound natural, fluent and elegant, (2010): 9. Based on a Lexical approach introduced by Michael Lewis in 1993, vocabulary should be the most important aspect in teaching English because "language is grammaticalised Lexis, not lexicalized grammar, (1997): 95. But according to Bahns, the knowledge of individual vocabulary does not suffice to achieve like command of English and communicative competence. Therefore, collocation competence is of great significance to every English language learner so as to produce prefabricate chunks without reconstructing word by word, (1993): 56-63.

Collocations, according to McIntosh at al., is the way words combine in a language to produce natural-sounding speech and writing? For example, in English the words 'strong wind' and 'heavy rain' go together well. It would not be normal to say 'heavy wind' or 'strong rain', (2012): 5.

In 'Oxford Collocations Dictionary', it mentions that collocation runs through the whole of the English language. No piece of natural spoken or written English is totally free of collocation. For the student, choosing the right collocation will make his or her speech and writing sound much more natural, more native-speaker-like, even when basis intelligibility does not seem to be at issue. A student who talks about strong rain may make himself or herself understood, but it requires more effort on the part of the listener and ultimately creates a barrier to communication, Ibid: 5. Studying these said which are previously mentioned, it is very clear that studying collocations is the most useful way to be development in English skills. Hill also emphasized the important of collocations by stating that the first and most important reason why collocations are significant is that the way words combine in collocations is fundamental to all language use, (2000).

Therefore, we are students of English and Buddhist monks must not avoid studying English collocations. Nowadays, English is very essential in propagating Buddhism especially an understanding English collocations. Wherever, we can see collocations there are all around us and appear in a variety of social media, ranging from songs, movies, newspapers, to literature. Therefore, Buddhist literature is one the different discourses that contains a number of collocations. Mastering English collocations usage in Buddhist literature will help the learners of Buddhism to fully understand the accurate and exact meaning of that kind of literature. That is why, based on collocations of the present paper, as a result, will attempt to explore the usage of English collocations which will definitely enhance English collocations usage efficiency.

Dialogues of the Buddha, by T.W. Rhys Davids Vol 1, is considered an important introductory piece on Theravada Buddhism. The excerpts from the ancient texts provide clear and readable explanations of important Buddhist teachings. Here is a reprint of T.W. Rhys Davids' translation of the Digha Nikaya, first published in three parts in 1899, 1910 and 1921 respectively.

The Digha Nikaya or "the collection of long doctrinaire lectures" of the Buddha is one of the five Nikayas of collections belonging to the Suttapitaka or "the basket of (Buddha's) discourses" which is one of the three major collections of Pali Buddhist texts, the other two being Vinayapitaka and Abhidhammapitaka. It consists of 34 long suttas of which each individual one treats intensively some particular point or points of the doctrine.

The Buddha, like other Indian teachers of his time, taught by conversation. He followed the literary habit of hit time by embodying his doctrine in set phrases, sutra, on which he enlarged on different occasion in different ways. When the Buddha died these sayings (suttas) were collected together by his disciples into the great Nikayas of which the present one is the first. THOMAS WILLIAM Rhys Davids (1843-1922) was the foremost and most active exponent of the study of Pali and Buddhism in England. Rhys Davids studied Sanskrit at Breslau under Stenzler.

In 1882 he was appointed Professor of Pali in the University College, London. He was the Founder-Chairman of the Pali Text Society (1881), through which, by the time he passed away at the age of 80, he had published most of the basic texts and commentaries in Pali Buddhism, in about 25,000 pages.

Rhys Dvids played an active part in founding, in 1992, the British Academy, and later the School of Oriental Studies, London. He was also the President of the India Society from its inception in 1910 till his death in 1922.

As per reasons outlined above, I strong believe that studying English collocations in selected Buddhist literature will enhance in our society of communication in English as well as Buddhist monks and ley-people in propagating the Buddha's teaching.

In this study, analysis by using Ant Cons Software using it to get words of collocations. Using Microsoft Excel 2016. It is the way using to understand collocations. Therefore, analysis these tools to process studies, so analysis Ant Cons software and using Microsoft Excel 2016 to get the right ways.

Objectives of Research

This study is aimed,

1. To study the English collocations usage of the keywords in selected Buddhist literature.

2. To analyze the types of combinations pertaining to the English Collocations usage of the keywords in selected Buddhist literature.

Research Methodology

Research Design

This current study employs a documentary and qualitative method in order to explore the usage and types of English collocations of keywords in selected Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1.

Sources of Data

The sources of data for this study is the one selected dialogues of the Buddha vol 1. The most significant study in personal progression of the Buddha's essential teachings, but also incorporate a great abundance of English collocations. For this study, the electronic versions of Dialogues of the Buddha Vol-1 was downloaded from the internet. The sample is the usage of English collocations of the top 100 most frequent keywords in selected Buddhist literature.

Research Tools

The AntConc 3.5.8 (Windows) 2019 L. Anthony, the main research tool used in the initial step, is the latest version available during the time of conducting this research. There are two main features that are used for this research in this software: Word list and Concordance. Word list function is used in the process of compiling a listing of vocabulary. The list of vocabulary is generated in alphabetical and frequency order which allows for lexical comparison of texts. Concordance function is among the most popularly used features in

finding the common collocates of given words in corpus study. The chosen words are shown with the text in its left and right collocates. These are seen in the form of sentence lists.

The second research tool used in the initial and second step for data collection and data analysis is the Microsoft Excel 2016 program to generate various necessary databases in this current study. The third research tools are the Oxford Collocations Dictionary for students of English (2012), and Longman Collocations Dictionary and Thesaurus (2013) which is used for analyzing and verifying the usage of English collocations, and their types of combinations in this current study. Details of the research tools used are discussed as follows.

Selection of 50 keywords by using Word list function and Microsoft Excel 2016 program

The computer software that is employed to count the frequency of keywords found in each selected Buddhist literature is called AntConc 3.5.8 (Windows) using this feature. Word list. Shown in Figure 1 is samples of screenshot of the top 10 words with the most frequency of occurrences in the Word list.

Then, the computer database is generated by the researcher by using Microsoft Excel 2016 to store each Word list, Dialogues of the Buddha by T.W. Rhys Davids vol 1. Next, function words including auxiliary verbs, conjunctions, determiners, prepositions, pronouns, articles, and quantifiers, are manually filtered out from word list.

Table 1 **:** Sample of the first 3 top 50 most Frequent Keywords in DB.

Rank	Keywords	Frequency
1	Gotama	322
2	King	220
3	Man	208

The top 50 most frequent occurrences of keywords in selected Buddhist literature (DB) is analyzed, selected, and presented. Shown in Table 1 are samples of the first 10 keywords of the top 50 most frequent keywords in selected Buddhist literature, (DB).

Finding Common Collocates of 50 Keywords by using Concordance Function and Microsoft Excel 2016 program

Next, the Concordance function of AntConc 3.5.8 (Window) Tools is used in finding the common collocates of given keywords. In doing so, the keywords from Table 2 are applied to the Concordance function. Shown in Figure 2 are sample of the first 10 Concordance Hits of the keyword **Gotama** in Dialogues of the Buddha by T.W. Rhys Davids vol 1(DB).

Data Collection

The data are collected by using the research tools described in the previous section for the purpose of exploring the usage of English collocations of the keywords, and identifying the types of combinations pertaining to the usage of English collocations of the keywords in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids.

Data Analysis

Step 1 : Every line of the data obtained from Concordance Results are manually analyzed, collected, and typed by the researcher in respective categories by using the list of McIntosh et al. 's collocations types of combinations, the Oxford Collocations Dictionary for students of English (2012), as well as Longman Collocations Dictionary and Thesaurus (2013) as references to explore the usage of English Collocations of the Keywords in Sentences.

Step 2 : The obtained data from the step 1 are selected and analyzed in terms of the types of combinations and calculated in terms of frequency and percentage, and are reported by using table presentation.

Results of Research

Research Results 1: what are the most frequent usage of English collocations of the keywords in the selected Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids. The most frequent Usage of English Collocations of the Keywords in DB.

The results revealed the keyword knowledge had the most frequent. Usage of English collocations of the keyword in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1. There was a frequency of 42 occurrences or 7.83 %. Among the frequency of 42 occurrences from the keyword knowledge, the English collocations were as follows: *Knowledge of*.

Research Results 2: What are the most frequent types of combination relating to the usage of English collocations of the keywords in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 in T.W. Rhys Davids?

The Most Frequent Types of Combinations Relating to the English Collocations Usage of the Keywords in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1.

Rank	Types of Combinations	Frequency	Percentage
1	Noun + Proposition	207	38.61
2	Preposition + Noun	117	21.82
3	Adjective + noun	99	18.47
4	Adjective + Preposition	36	6.71
5	Phrase + Noun	27	5.03
6	Verb + Preposition	26	4.85
7	Verb + verb	10	1.86
8	Verb + Noun	7	1.30
9	adverb + Adjective	4	0.74
10	Verb + Phrase	3	0.55

The results revealed that among the seventeen types of combinations, the Noun + preposition was the most frequent type of combinations relating

to the usage of English collocations of the keywords in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids, with the frequency 0f 207 occurrences or 38.61 %. However, the verb + phrase was the least frequent types of combinations with the frequency of 3 occurrence or 0.55 %. The Noun + Noun, Quantifier + Noun, Verb + Adjective, Noun + Verb, Verb + Adverb, Adjective + Phrase, and Adverb + Verb of combinations showed no frequency of occurrence at all.

Conclusion and Discussion

The data of this study is Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids. There is total of 90269 of words tokens and 7141 of word types. The top 50 most frequent keywords were applied into the Concordance function of AntConc in order to find the common collocations of the given keywords. The selected keywords appeared with the text to its left and right collocations. Each line of Concordance results was manually scanned and analyzed sentence by sentence thoroughly, by the researcher, for any usage of English collocations of the keyword based on the 17 types of combination of Mclntosh et al.'s frame work. Then, the usage of English collocations was analyzed and verified with the Oxford Collocations Dictionary for students of English (2012), and Longman Collocations Dictionary and Thesaurus (2013), then, the results of this study revealed the following: The keyword *knowledge*, in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W Rhys Davids, had the most frequent usage of English collocations of the keyword with the total frequency 0f 42 occurrences or 7.83 %. 2. the Noun + Preposition, in Dialogues of the Buddha vol 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids, was the most frequent type of combination relating to the usage of English collocation with frequency of 207 occurrences or 38.61.

The benefit of the usage of English collocations in Buddhist literature revealed a wonderful abundance of English collocations which will definitely help in communication in English and enhance English collocations usage

efficiency. These will also aid Buddhists in propagating the Dhamma to the world. One can benefit from this study by analyzing the Buddhist words that are repeated throughout the literature. The repetition of the words is evidence of how the Buddha's teaching play important role in comprehending. Comprehending the usage and types of collocations in Buddhist literature is beneficial because it provides a comprehensive view of the emphasis on Buddha's teachings. A reader is able to study about the important teachings of the Buddha and how it applies to one's life. For example, the keyword man allows readers to take a closer look at the *man* in which they are practicing Buddha's teaching: *young man, great man, good man, wise man.* By reflecting on the various man of life, a person can be a better person. On the other hand of advantage of studying about the collocations in Buddhist literature is to help us study about the differences in other Buddhist literature. One Buddhist literature may focus on a particular way of practice such as "powerful man" while another literature may emphasize "great man". By taking a closer look at the repetition of words in collocations, we can have a better comprehending of what is the most important in Buddhist literature.

Suggestions for Research

Firstly, any future should have a greater number of data. There should be more Buddhist literature from various eminent writers selected to gain a clearer picture of the usage of English collocations in selected Buddhist literature. Secondly, future researchers who are interested in the Buddha teaching as well as English collocations might have to study the English collocations in Dialogues of the Buddha volume 1 by T.W. Rhys Davids or volume 2, and 3 or any teaching of the Buddha. The teaching of the Buddha contains not only the Buddha's teachings, but also incorporate a tremendous

amount of data in terms of word tokens or running words. In conclusion, a future study should be conducted using other examples of exploitation Buddhist literature that are similar to the teaching of the Buddha or teaching of the Buddha itself. By comparing other examples that contain collocations, one can form a comprehensive view of how literature is developed in exploitation of the Buddha teaching in Buddhist's literature.

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