Contents

Preface  Page ix

1  Introduction: goals and methods of the corpus-based approach  1

Part I Investigating the use of language features  19
2  Lexicography  21
3  Grammar  55
4  Lexico-grammar  84
5  The study of discourse characteristics  106

Part II Investigating the characteristics of varieties  133
6  Register variation and English for Specific Purposes  135
7  Language acquisition and development  172
8  Historical and stylistic investigations  203

Part III Summing up and looking ahead  231
9  Conclusion  233

Part IV Methodology boxes  243
1  Issues in corpus design  246
2  Issues in diachronic corpus design  251
## Contents

3 Concordancing packages versus programming for corpus analysis 254
4 Characteristics of tagged corpora 257
5 The process of tagging 261
6 Norming frequency counts 263
7 Statistical measures of lexical associations 265
8 The unit of analysis in corpus-based studies 269
9 Significance tests and the reporting of statistics 275
10 Factor loadings and dimension scores 278

Appendix: commercially available corpora and analytical tools 281

References 288
Index 297