

EXAMPLES OF HOW I USED A CORPUS IN WORDSMITH TOOLS TO TACKLE TRANSLATION PROBLEMS IN A TEXT ENTITLED “PERFIL BIOFÍSICO FETAL”

I built my corpus by downloading texts from the MEDLINE database. I found English texts related to the text being translated from Spanish by searching for terms for which I was already sure of the translation. Below, I explain how I used this corpus within the program “WordSmith Tools” to find the correct terms and collocations for my translation.

PROBLEM 1 – USAGE – foetal or fetal // foetus or fetus

This was the first thing I chose to look up, as I wanted to know which spelling was the most used in medical texts written in standard British English. This would enable me to enlarge my corpus by searching for the most standard spelling of “f(o)etal”. I had always been taught that in British English, both words were spelt with an “o”, so I wanted to check it out for myself. Although by using the British National Corpus, I would have been searching texts written in British English, these texts are not specialised, and so this would not have necessarily shown which spelling was standard in medical texts.

I had already found convincing evidence that the English equivalent of “conducta fetal” was “f(o)etal behavio(u)r”. Because of the difference between the British and US spelling of “behavio(u)r”, I was able to search for the correct spelling of “f(o)etal” in specialised texts written in British English. In WordSmith Tools, I searched for “behaviour”, then ordered the concordance by the word immediately to the left (L1).

N	Concordance	Set	Tag	Word #	t. #	os. #	os. #	os. #	t. #	Pos. #
13	pressure and O2 status was found. This disparate behaviour might be the result of the co-existence of			48,535	1,534	1,534			1,534	1
14	drug-induced changes in nocturnal and/or diurnal behaviour . Thus the use of actigraphy to measure			25,780	1,779	1,779			1,779	1
15	duration compared to normal REM. We examined behaviour , ponto-geniculo-occipital (PGO) waves			77,225	1,224	1,224			1,224	1
16	expressed in the gut. The orexins modulate feeding behaviour and energy homeostasis, as well as			34,332	1,331	1,331			1,331	1
17	are hypothalamic peptides and regulate feeding behaviour , energy metabolism and the sleep-wake			33,024	1,023	1,023			1,023	1
18	Reprod Biol. 1986 May;21(5-6):315-20. Fetal behaviour in type-1 diabetic women. Visser GH,			44,963	1,962	1,962			1,962	1
19	and Prechtl, H.F.R (1982): The emergence of fetal behaviour I. Qualitative aspects. Early Hum. Dev., 7,			701	1,700	1,700			1,700	2
20	Dev. 1985 Nov;12(2):99-120. The emergence of fetal behaviour . II. Quantitative aspects. de Vries JI, Visser			50,050	1,049	1,049			1,049	2
21	Dev. 1988 Jan;16(1):85-103. The emergence of fetal behaviour . III. Individual differences and			29,001	1,000	1,000			1,000	2
22	Qualitative and quantitative aspects of fetal behaviour were studied in nine healthy nulliparae			626	1,625	1,625			1,625	2
23	of the relationship between aspects of fetal behaviour and state and fetal health. The impact of			555	1,554	1,554			1,554	2
24	1985 Nov;12(2):167-72. Delayed emergence of fetal behaviour in type-1 diabetic women. Visser GH,			50,341	1,340	1,340			1,340	2
25	vigorous defence reactions that involve flight behaviour , the region should also help to meet the			52,425	1,424	1,424			1,424	3
26	which mechanisms contribute to this blood flow behaviour of the choroid. PMID: 12855253 [PubMed -			24,305	1,304	1,304			1,304	2
27	local viscosity the shear stresses calculated . Flow behaviour was visualized using dyes and birefringent			84,096	1,095	1,095			1,095	2
28	of these non-symmetrical motions on local flow behaviour are discussed, and methods of controlling			86,628	1,627	1,627			1,627	1
29	may have a considerable influence on flow behaviour when it is sticking out of the daughter			77,137	1,136	1,136			1,136	1
30	to ensure dynamical similarity. Initially, steady flow behaviour was investigated including the effects of			76,176	1,175	1,175			1,175	3
31	Systems, Brunel University, Uxbridge, U.K. The flow behaviour of human blood in a pneumatically driven			28,366	1,365	1,365			1,365	2
32	Experimental investigation of unsteady flow behaviour within a sac-type ventricular assist device			28,342	1,341	1,341			1,341	2
33	developed for analysing differences in flowmotion behaviour such that statistical comparisons can be			49,467	1,466	1,466			1,466	0
34	of these disorders and to characterize the functional behaviour of the microvessels in RP. METHODS: In			112,089	1,088	1,088			1,088	3
35	influence we became interested in investigating its behaviour both prior to and during estrogen			15,067	1,066	1,066			1,066	4
36	intermittens, rest pain and ischemic lesion behaviour in all the patients. We also studied			105,419	1,418	1,418			1,418	3
37	for evaluating microvessel structures and leukocyte behaviour . The images were recorded on videotape for			61,070	1,069	1,069			1,069	4
38	changes of the microvasculature , leukocyte behaviour and brain tissue damage. METHODS: In a			60,921	1,920	1,920			1,920	4
39	the body. On the other hand, the spring-like behaviour of the tendon indicates storage and release			43,431	1,430	1,430			1,430	1
40	Laser Doppler evaluation of microcirculation behaviour during an ischaemia-reperfusion injury.			88,254	1,253	1,253			1,253	1
41	in all the patients. We also studied microcirculation behaviour of 21 patients. by oxygen transcutaneous			105,478	1,477	1,477			1,477	1

As we can see in the screen shown above, there are several concordances for “fetal behaviour”, whereas there are none for “foetal behaviour”. Therefore, according to my corpus, even alongside the British spelling “behaviour”, the most common spelling is “fetal”.

CONCLUSION: Use “fetus” and “fetal”.

PROBLEM 2 – TERMINOLOGÍA – ecografía de tiempo real (ETR)

The Acronym Finder I consulted listed “real-time scan (RTS)”, but other websites referred to “real-time ultrasound” and “real-time ultrasonography”.

I searched my corpus for “real-time” through WordSmith Tools. I then ordered the list by R2 (WordSmith counts a hyphenated word as two separate words). Because of the sheer number of results, the easiest way to analyse the data was through the “collocates” table.

Concord

File Edit View Compute Settings Help

N	Word	elation	Total	tal Left	al Right	L5	L4	L3	L2	L1	Centre	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5
1	TIME	0.000	1,826	10	1,816	4	3	2	1	0	0	1,813	0	1	0	2
2	REAL-TIME	0.000	1,813	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,813	0	0	0	0	0
3	ULTRASOUND	0.000	1,398	31	1,367	7	9	6	5	4	0	0	1,329	4	18	16
4	OF	0.000	691	441	250	82	79	69	48	163	0	0	0	56	142	52
5	THE	0.000	622	352	270	96	82	108	18	48	0	0	3	38	118	111
6	AND	0.000	452	231	221	39	38	45	25	84	0	0	17	91	78	35
7	A	0.000	348	207	141	32	23	52	19	81	0	0	1	15	75	50
8	WITH	0.000	317	235	82	18	30	29	33	125	0	0	1	20	36	25
9	IN	0.000	302	136	166	32	29	24	22	29	0	0	3	89	38	36
10	BY	0.000	280	268	12	18	8	44	22	176	0	0	0	1	4	7
11	USING	0.000	225	200	25	10	21	21	21	127	0	0	1	8	9	7
12	WAS	0.000	208	107	101	15	25	60	7	0	0	0	1	43	33	24
13	TO	0.000	177	87	90	34	18	15	8	12	0	0	0	25	23	42
14	WERE	0.000	163	110	53	18	29	59	3	1	0	0	0	5	32	16
15	HIGH	0.000	123	113	10	2	9	3	99	0	0	0	4	1	0	5
16	DOPPLER	0.000	122	52	70	8	16	10	17	1	0	0	3	7	33	27
17	RESOLUTION	0.000	115	109	6	1	1	6	4	97	0	0	0	4	1	1
18	IS	0.000	113	29	84	9	5	12	2	1	0	0	0	45	30	9
19	IMAGING	0.000	112	17	95	3	2	5	7	0	0	0	11	64	15	5
20	FOR	0.000	106	50	56	13	4	8	7	18	0	0	0	31	17	8
21	FETAL	0.000	105	57	48	19	22	15	1	0	0	0	1	14	12	21
22	SCANNING	0.000	105	2	103	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	6	87	9	1
23	SONOGRAPHY	0.000	94	3	91	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	85	1	2	3
24	GUIDANCE	0.000	86	4	82	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	4	72	4	2
25	US	0.000	85	1	84	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	32	46	4	2
26	USED	0.000	75	19	56	1	5	2	4	7	0	0	0	1	26	29
27	USE	0.000	66	62	4	2	7	3	49	1	0	0	0	1	1	2
28	SCANNER	0.000	61	4	57	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	13	35	8	1
29	GUIDED	0.000	60	11	49	1	1	1	8	0	0	0	0	44	4	1
30	AS	0.000	57	23	34	4	6	11	0	2	0	0	0	18	4	12
31	THAT	0.000	57	47	10	3	2	5	9	28	0	0	0	1	5	4

concordance collocates plot patterns clusters filenames source text notes

485 Type-in real-time ultrasound scanning and pelvic examination in assessment of pelvic di

start 4 Internet Explorer corpus 7 Microsoft Office ... Oxford WordSmith T... Concord EN 20:09

The results show quite clearly that “Real-time ultrasound” is widely used. However, I needed to check that this could refer to “la ecografia” as a concept and not just as a single “ecografia”. Let’s take a look at the results in the concordance:

Concord

File Edit View Compute Settings Help

N	Concordance	Set	Tag	Word #	t. #	os. #	os. #	os. #	os. #	File	%
787	or abdominal wall were measured by real-time ultrasound in 12 fetuses of	18,122	1	121	1	121				1 121 ound 2 500.txt	47
788	the procedure was carried out under real-time ultrasound guidance as	18,186	1	185	1	185				1 185 ound 3 226.txt	128
789	AIM: To assess whether the use of real-time ultrasound imaging	18,192	1	191	1	191				1 191 ound 1 500.txt	29
790	Gynecol. 1981 Jun 15;140(4):469-71. Real-time ultrasound as an adjunct in the	18,263	1	262	1	262				1 262 ound 3 226.txt	128
791	haemorrhage in the neonate: a real-time ultrasound study. Levene M,	18,310	1	309	1	309				1 309 ound 3 226.txt	128
792	scanning of the neonatal brain with real-time ultrasound is described, and	18,329	1	328	1	328				1 328 ound 3 226.txt	129
793	in all using a combination of real-time ultrasound (US) scanning (9	18,439	1	438	1	438				1 438 ound 2 500.txt	48
794	was recorded in 2 infants. Real-time ultrasound provides the	18,467	1	466	1	466				1 466 ound 3 226.txt	129
795	Detection of arterial defects by real-time ultrasound scanning during	18,522	1	521	1	521				1 521 ound 3 226.txt	130
796	breathing movements, as visualized by real-time ultrasound, were correlated to	18,529	1	528	1	528				1 528 rtrate 9 500.txt	44
797	identified with intraoperative real-time ultrasound to prevent	18,535	1	534	1	534				1 534 ound 1 500.txt	30
798	PB, Cooperberg PL. High resolution, real-time ultrasound scans were obtained	18,573	1	572	1	572				1 572 ound 3 226.txt	130
799	of the fetus are best performed using real-time ultrasound imaging. Monitoring	18,602	1	601	1	601				1 601 rtrate 7 500.txt	41
800	fluid transport: a study using combined real-time ultrasound, manometry, and	18,649	1	648	1	648				1 648 ound 1 500.txt	30
801	of fetal weight determination by real-time ultrasound measurements. Ott	18,736	1	735	1	735				1 735 ound 3 226.txt	131
802	wall movements were recorded by real-time ultrasound (US) in eight healthy	18,738	1	737	1	737				1 737 ound 1 500.txt	30
803	neonates delivered within 72 hours of real-time ultrasound examination were	18,751	1	750	1	750				1 750 ound 3 226.txt	132
804	Ultrasound Med. 1989 Mar;8(3):115-20. Real-time ultrasound, axillary	18,791	1	790	1	790				1 790 ound 2 500.txt	49
805	carotid bifurcation. Carotid Doppler and real-time ultrasound studies	18,839	1	838	1	838				1 838 ound 3 226.txt	132
806	EO, Hope PL, Pape KE. A linear-array real-time ultrasound scanner was used	18,914	1	913	1	913				1 913 ound 3 226.txt	133
807	and breathing, identified by a real-time ultrasound scan in normal	18,917	1	916	1	916				1 916 rate 10 500.txt	52
808	outcome. Additional information from a real-time ultrasound assessment, such	19,175	1	174	1	174				1 174 ound 2 500.txt	50
809	that was diagnosed incidentally by real-time ultrasound and colour Doppler	19,199	1	198	1	198				1 198 ound 1 500.txt	31
810	The additional information gained by real-time ultrasound scanning	19,200	1	199	1	199				1 199 rtrate 7 500.txt	42
811	water coupling and hand held real-time ultrasound are compared with	19,295	1	294	1	294				1 294 ound 2 500.txt	50
812	introducer set was used. Employing real-time ultrasound guidance and	19,318	1	317	1	317				1 317 ound 1 500.txt	31
813	Wilhelms-Universitat, Munster. Real-time ultrasound is a generally	19,355	1	354	1	354				1 354 ound 2 500.txt	50
814	Use of computerized tomography and real-time ultrasound enable diagnosis of	19,364	1	363	1	363				1 363 ound 3 226.txt	136
815	secondary to pancreatitis: a plea for real-time ultrasound of sonolucet	19,427	1	426	1	426				1 426 ound 3 226.txt	136
816	of the upper abdomen seen by real-time ultrasound] [Article in Spanish]	19,460	1	459	1	459				1 459 ound 3 226.txt	136
817	Apr;57(4):516-20. Fetal transfusion with real-time ultrasound guidance. Clewell	19,544	1	543	1	543				1 543 ound 3 226.txt	137

concordance collocates plot patterns clusters filenames source text notes

1,813 Set real-time ultrasound scanning and pelvic examination in assessment of pelvic di

start 4 Internet Explorer corpus 7 Microsoft Office ... Oxford WordSmith T... Concord EN 20:13

This shows quite clearly that “real-time ultrasound” can refer to the concept (see, for example, the frequency of the preposition “by” immediately preceding the term).

Neither RTU nor RTUS appeared at all in the “collocates” table. Given the size of the concordance, we can therefore assume that neither acronym is used. Although “(US)” is occasionally used, this does not appear widespread, and it is not usual to give an acronym for what is only part of a term.

SOLUTION: Use “real-time ultrasound”.

Problem 3 – Collocation – What verb(s) should one use with “biophysical tests” (current solution: “perform”)

Although I was happy that the verb “perform” was clear enough, I wanted to check whether the verb was frequently used alongside “biophysical tests” and/or whether any other verb was more common. I added additional texts to my corpus by searching MedLine with “biophysical test” and “biophysical tests” in order to obtain additional results.

I searched “biophysical test*” in order to obtain results for both the singular and plural. When I looked at the collocates, I found no verbs at all that could accompany “biophysical tests”:

The screenshot shows the Concordance software interface. The main window displays a table of collocates for the word 'TESTS'. The table has columns for 'N', 'Word', 'relation', 'Total', 'Left', 'Right', 'L5', 'L4', 'L3', 'L2', 'L1', 'Centre', 'R1', 'R2', 'R3', 'R4', and 'R5'. The rows list various words and their frequencies in different positions relative to 'TESTS'. The word 'TESTS' is highlighted in blue in the first row.

N	Word	relation	Total	Left	Right	L5	L4	L3	L2	L1	Centre	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5
1	TESTS	0.000	45	6	39	2	3	0	0	1	0	39	0	0	0	0
2	OF	0.000	41	29	12	6	3	5	5	10	0	0	6	2	2	2
3	PHYSICAL TESTS	0.000	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	0	0	0	0	0
4	THE	0.000	35	19	16	5	4	8	0	2	0	0	6	5	3	2
5	FETAL	0.000	25	16	9	1	2	0	0	13	0	0	0	3	4	2
6	TESTING	0.000	24	2	22	0	1	0	1	0	0	22	0	0	0	0
7	AND	0.000	22	15	7	0	3	2	2	8	0	0	4	0	3	0
8	ICAL TESTING	0.000	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	0	0	0
9	TEST	0.000	16	1	15	0	0	0	1	0	0	13	0	0	0	2
10	IN	0.000	14	4	10	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	5	3	0	2
11	PHYSICAL TEST	0.000	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0
12	A	0.000	11	5	6	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	0
13	FOR	0.000	10	4	6	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	1
14	TO	0.000	10	5	5	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2
15	BIOCHEMICAL	0.000	8	8	0	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	BE	0.000	7	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	3
17	ON	0.000	7	7	0	0	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	FROM	0.000	6	5	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
19	IS	0.000	6	3	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
20	THAT	0.000	6	2	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
21	ABNORMAL	0.000	5	3	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0
22	DEVOE	0.000	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	0
23	LD	0.000	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	0
24	OTHER	0.000	5	5	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	PATIENTS	0.000	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	1
26	RESULTS	0.000	5	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
27	SHOULD	0.000	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0
28	WERE	0.000	5	2	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0

I also looked through the Concordance, as the verbs may simply have been written in different forms (past, present, 1st/3rd person etc.), but again I found no verbs with the

meaning of simply “carrying out” a biophysical test. However, I noticed in the Concordance that “biophysical testing” was very frequent, and avoided the problem of requiring a verb.

The screenshot shows the Concord software interface with a concordance table. The table has columns for line number (N), text, and various statistical metrics (Set, Tag, Word #, t, #, os, ., #, os, |, t, #, os, |, File, %). The text in the table includes phrases like 'biophysical test', 'biophysical testing', and 'biophysical tests' in various contexts.

N	Concordance	Set	Tag	Word #	t	#	os	.	#	os		t	#	os		File	%
11	disturbance and compromise than any biophysical test . A small fetal abdomen			1,139	1	138	1	138				1	138	1	138	hysicaltest8.txt	114
12	the affected population? (2) Which biophysical test(s) is most appropriate to			650	1	649	1	649				1	649	1	649	hysicaltest8.txt	64
13	cardiac risk decreased. CONCLUSION: Biophysical test of endothelial function			293	1	292	1	292				1	292	1	292	hysicaltest8.txt	28
14	the relationship of multiple parameter biophysical testing and fetal acid-base			178	1	177	1	177				1	177	1	177	rtrate 5 500.txt	0
15	Augusta. OBJECTIVE: To evaluate fetal biophysical testing as a predictor of			9,936	1	935	1	935				1	935	1	935	rtrate 5 500.txt	19
16	of fetal tachypnea during antepartum biophysical testing . Devoe LD, Castillo			4,373	1	372	1	372				1	372	1	372	sicaltests25.txt	165
17	Dec;21(4):823-48. Multiple parameter biophysical testing in the prediction of			135	1	134	1	134				1	134	1	134	rtrate 5 500.txt	0
18	the biophysical tests of 200 patients. Biophysical testing consisted of			4,411	1	410	1	410				1	410	1	410	sicaltests25.txt	166
19	of whom five had other abnormalities on biophysical testing . This study indicates			4,548	1	547	1	547				1	547	1	547	sicaltests25.txt	171
20	IUGR has been dependent on antenatal biophysical testing and umbilical artery			60,363	1	362	1	362				1	362	1	362	etry 3 500.txt	89
21	analyses of fetal heart rate testing and biophysical testing are presented to			79	1	78	1	78				1	78	1	78	rtrate 5 500.txt	0
22	21.3, 39.3 and 67%. Our simplified biophysical testing method is suggested			27,201	1	200	1	200				1	200	1	200	rtrate 3 500.txt	45
23	observation. On repeated conventional biophysical testing the non-stress test			6,825	1	824	1	824				1	824	1	824	lbehaviour77.txt	96
24	of fetal tachypnea during antepartum biophysical testing . Devoe LD, Castillo			57,268	1	267	1	267				1	267	1	267	rtrate 8 500.txt	146
25	significantly higher in group G. While biophysical testing can be conducted			41,024	1	023	1	023				1	023	1	023	rtrate 8 500.txt	104
26	the biophysical tests of 200 patients. Biophysical testing consisted of			57,306	1	305	1	305				1	305	1	305	rtrate 8 500.txt	146
27	in literature suggest that combined fetal biophysical testing is a more accurate			9,077	1	076	1	076				1	076	1	076	ound 3 226.txt	64
28	of whom five had other abnormalities on biophysical testing . This study indicates			57,443	1	442	1	442				1	442	1	442	rtrate 8 500.txt	146
29	College of Georgia, Augusta. Fetal biophysical testing incorporates			40,860	1	859	1	859				1	859	1	859	rtrate 8 500.txt	104
30	components of computerized fetal biophysical testing . Devoe LD, Castillo			8,846	1	845	1	845				1	845	1	845	rtrate 8 500.txt	22
31	observation. On repeated conventional biophysical testing the non-stress test			60,908	1	907	1	907				1	907	1	907	rtrate 6 500.txt	126
32	of Georgia, Augusta 30912-3710. Fetal biophysical testing with arbitrary scores			8,868	1	867	1	867				1	867	1	867	rtrate 8 500.txt	22
33	Med. 1987 Aug;32(8):563-8. Fetal biophysical testing . The effects of			40,827	1	826	1	826				1	826	1	826	rtrate 8 500.txt	104
34	pregnancy is predicated on reassuring biophysical testing . However, even the			37,871	1	870	1	870				1	870	1	870	rtrate 8 500.txt	96
35	evident. Sequential multiple parameter biophysical testing in such			1,952	1	951	1	951				1	951	1	951	hysicaltest8.txt	197
36	data from standardized 60-minute biophysical tests were analyzed and			79,199	1	198	1	198				1	198	1	198	rtrate 7 500.txt	173
37	frequent (i.e. daily) testing; and b) fetal biophysical tests (profiles, NSTs,			1,760	1	759	1	759				1	759	1	759	sicaltests25.txt	67
38	thermal manikin tests. The results from biophysical tests can be used to select			1,194	1	193	1	193				1	193	1	193	sicaltests25.txt	45
39	doses was revealed. It was found that biophysical tests , in particular,			1,513	1	512	1	512				1	512	1	512	sicaltests25.txt	57
40	fetus with intensive biometric and biophysical tests and to determine the			1,926	1	925	1	925				1	925	1	925	sicaltests25.txt	73
41	evaluated the shake and click tests, biophysical tests of surfactant function,			2,177	1	176	1	176				1	176	1	176	sicaltests25.txt	83

Although there was a risk that by searching for “biophysical test” in Medline I would get texts that did not have the right context, the presence of words such as “fetal”, “antepartum” and “pregnancy” in the above results confirm that the examples are in the right context.

SOLUTION: Change “biophysical tests” to “biophysical testing” and remove the verb “to perform”.

PROBLEM 4 – TERMINOLOGÍA – crecimiento fetal retardado

The problem here was the final adjective, as I had seen “fetal growth” in many other texts I had already looked at. I therefore created a concordance by searching the corpus for “fetal growth”. I was looking for one of two possibilities: either an adjective preceding “fetal growth” (L1) or a noun following it (R2). By looking at the “collocates”, I could examine both possibilities simultaneously:

N	Word	relation	Total	tal Left	tal Right	L5	L4	L3	L2	L1	Centre	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5
1	GROWTH	0.000	344	3	341	2	0	1	0	0	0	339	0	0	0	2
2	TAL GROWTH	0.000	336	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	336	0	0	0	0	0
3	AND	0.000	166	80	86	7	11	11	13	38	0	0	29	32	11	14
4	OF	0.000	140	119	21	15	10	11	10	73	0	0	1	3	5	12
5	IN	0.000	102	62	40	11	17	13	6	15	0	0	7	12	11	10
6	RESTRICTION	0.000	98	4	94	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	94	0	0	0
7	RETARDATION	0.000	95	0	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	95	0	0	0
8	THE	0.000	85	57	28	13	14	20	2	8	0	0	1	10	6	11
9	WITH	0.000	59	46	13	6	3	9	7	21	0	0	0	1	7	5
10	TO	0.000	50	35	15	13	4	1	12	5	0	0	1	3	7	4
11	FOR	0.000	48	39	9	7	5	10	6	11	0	0	1	0	4	4
12	BY	0.000	40	21	19	6	2	2	2	9	0	0	2	6	5	6
13	WAS	0.000	38	10	28	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	6	17	1	4
14	OR	0.000	31	18	13	1	1	3	2	11	0	0	2	7	2	2
15	FETAL	0.000	28	18	10	8	8	1	1	0	0	0	2	3	3	2
16	PRE	0.000	24	18	6	1	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	1
17	A	0.000	23	10	13	4	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	6	3
18	ECLAMPSIA	0.000	23	18	5	0	1	5	12	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
19	PREGNANCY	0.000	20	16	4	3	7	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1
20	CASES	0.000	18	16	2	2	5	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
21	REGNANCIES	0.000	18	17	1	4	1	8	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
22	ABNORMAL	0.000	17	8	9	0	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	2	1	6
23	IS	0.000	17	3	14	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	5	7	2	0
24	WERE	0.000	17	4	13	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	3
25	BE	0.000	16	7	9	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	5
26	COMPLICATED	0.000	15	12	3	0	3	1	8	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
27	DOPPLER	0.000	15	5	10	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	2	4	2	2
28	FGR	0.000	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0
29	YPERTENSION	0.000	15	13	2	2	0	5	5	1	0	0	0	0	2	0
30	AT	0.000	14	6	8	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	2	2	1
31	PLACENTAL	0.000	14	6	8	1	0	4	1	0	0	0	2	3	0	3

In position L1, the big scorers were prepositions. However, there was one interesting result in L1. “Abnormal” has 6 hits in this position, and after further research, I changed “fetal growth problems” to “abnormal fetal growth”.

In position R2 (i.e. immediately after “fetal growth”), we find “restriction” and “retardation” with almost equal results. Assuming both were correct terms, I decided it were safer to use “retardation”, as this gives the same idea of a delay as in the original text rather than an impediment. However, from past experience, I have found that the closest translation to the Romance languages are often commonly used simply because many of the texts are translated or written by foreigners. I therefore decided to check both options in the British National Corpus. There was only one result:

SARA Search Results - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Address: <http://sara.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/cgi-bin/saraWeb?query=fetal+growth+retardation>

Results of your search

Your query was
 fetal growth retardation

Only 1 solutions found for this query

[FT4 1674](#) Maternal diet is only one of the many factors that can lead to fetal growth retardation.

The reference is from the British Medical Journal, which is a reliable source.

SOLUTION: Translate “crecimiento fetal retardado” by “fetal growth retardation”.

PROBLEM 5 – Collocations – “to * a diagnosis and a prognosis”

The original Spanish text uses the verb “estructurar” which seems to be more appropriate to the style of text than “make”. I wanted to see whether there was a more appropriate verb in English that is used with “diagnosis” and “prognosis”.

I created a concordance by searching for “diagnosis”. Because “diagnosis” is a countable noun, therefore requiring an article, I sorted my results by L2. The verb “to make” was the only verb that regularly accompanied “diagnosis”:

The screenshot shows the Concord software interface with a concordance table. The table has columns for N, Concordance, Set, Tag, Word #, t. #, os., #, os., #, os., t. #, os., File, and %. The concordance entries are sorted by the second line of the concordance (L2). The most frequent verb used with 'diagnosis' is 'make'.

N	Concordance	Set	Tag	Word #	t. #	os.	#	os.	#	os.	t. #	os.	File	%
1,021	in both pregnancy and labor, proper diagnosis in the fetus can also help			82,733	1 732	1 732					1 732	trate	1 500.txt	130
1,022	the first or second stage of labor. The diagnosis is confirmed by a severe			18,450	1 449	1 449					1 449	trate	2 500.txt	29
1,023	were checked by laparoscopic ovary diagnosis. The real-time ultrasound unit			83,081	1 080	1 080					1 080	ound	1 500.txt	132
1,024	Laparoscopic ultrasonography. Diagnosis of liver and pancreatic cancer.			73,811	1 810	1 810					1 810	ound	2 500.txt	191
1,025	R, Bouthier J, Lacolley P, Laurent S. Diagnosis Centre, Hopital Broussais,			73,040	1 039	1 039					1 039	etry	14 500.txt	145
1,026	occurring in prenatal life. The diagnosis usually requires a			44,051	1 050	1 050					1 050	trate	3 500.txt	73
1,027	Safar ME, Cambien FA, London GM. Diagnosis Center, Broussais Hospital,			69,304	1 303	1 303					1 303	etry	14 500.txt	138
1,028	ME, Daou JE, Safavian A, London GM. Diagnosis Centre and Hypertension			70,547	1 546	1 546					1 546	etry	14 500.txt	140
1,029	cervical lymphadenopathy: differential diagnosis with color-duplex sonography.			95,345	1 344	1 344					1 344	etry	11 500.txt	161
1,030	Alanen A, Komano M. The diagnosis of adrenal haemorrhage in 4			64,174	1 173	1 173					1 173	ound	2 500.txt	166
1,031	with the fetal QRS complex made a diagnosis of complete heart block (CHB)			72,459	1 458	1 458					1 458	rate	10 500.txt	198
1,032	digits, little progress has been made in diagnosis and treatment of this entity.			09,060	1 059	1 059					1 059	etry	9 500.txt	172
1,033	maybe severe enough to make prenatal diagnosis possible in the second			38,104	1 103	1 103					1 103	ound	2 500.txt	99
1,034	an alternative method to help make the diagnosis in equivocal cases. PMID:			65,464	1 463	1 463					1 463	ound	1 500.txt	104
1,035	be developed which allow to make a diagnosis of perils to good fetus			81,768	1 767	1 767					1 767	trate	1 500.txt	128
1,036	by telephone. Doctor would make a diagnosis and management in time			01,576	1 575	1 575					1 575	trate	1 500.txt	159
1,037	in normal fetal heart rate makes a diagnosis of fetal tachycardia or distress			35,711	1 710	1 710					1 710	rate	10 500.txt	97
1,038	remains the cornerstone of making the diagnosis, but as a test it is renowned			05,331	1 330	1 330					1 330	trate	2 500.txt	168
1,039	third day for 4 weeks after making the diagnosis. We looked for intrathrombotic			22,615	1 614	1 614					1 614	etry	7 500.txt	36
1,040	ultrasound is well suited for making the diagnosis of deep vein thrombosis,			23,304	1 303	1 303					1 303	ound	1 500.txt	197
1,041	has been successful in making the diagnosis of aortic root dissection,			24,949	1 948	1 948					1 948	etry	16 500.txt	63
1,042	during ultrasonography for making the diagnosis. Different opinions in the			27,940	1 939	1 939					1 939	etry	2 500.txt	186
1,043	report our new methods for making a diagnosis and evaluating visual function			10,346	1 345	1 345					1 345	etry	4 500.txt	166
1,044	condition of the fetus, making the diagnosis of fetal distress, and			66,667	1 666	1 666					1 666	trate	9 500.txt	158
1,045	of the anterior malleolar ligament: diagnosis and consequences for hearing			56,180	1 179	1 179					1 179	etry	2 500.txt	82
1,046	not seen on mammograms. Cytologic diagnosis of fibroadenoma or nonspecific			96,001	1 000	1 000					1 000	ound	1 500.txt	153
1,047	control during manufacturing and diagnosis of failure in IHDs. Publication			71,629	1 628	1 628					1 628	etry	8 500.txt	109
1,048	in a patient with Marfan's syndrome--diagnosis by real-time ultrasound.			71,413	1 412	1 412					1 412	ound	2 500.txt	185
1,049	It supplies an effective means of diagnosis and surveillance and it			31,117	1 116	1 116					1 116	etry	16 500.txt	79
1,050	is currently one of the best means of diagnosis of fetal distress. The purpose			63,178	1 177	1 177					1 177	trate	7 500.txt	138
1,051	as the main outcome measure for diagnosis of IUGR. Logistic regression			62,928	1 927	1 927					1 927	etry	2 500.txt	91

I checked the clusters, just to check I was not missing anything, and the first verb to appear (apart from “to be”) was in the cluster “diagnosis was made”, which appeared 15 times:

N	Cluster	Freq.
38	DIAGNOSIS WAS MADE	15
39	DIAGNOSIS OF BREAST	14
40	DIAGNOSIS OF CAROTID	14
41	AND FOLLOW UP	14
42	OF PRENATAL DIAGNOSIS	14
43	USEFUL IN THE	14
44	DIAGNOSIS AND FOLLOW	14
45	OF INTRAUTERINE GROWTH	14
46	DOPPLER VELOCIMETRY IN	14
47	AND TREATMENT OF	13
48	THE CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS	13
49	IME ULTRASOUND DIAGNOSIS	13
50	EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND	13
51	DIAGNOSIS OF THIS	12
52	OF THE DIAGNOSIS	12
53	HE ULTRASOUND DIAGNOSIS	12
54	THE TIME OF	12
55	OF DEEP VENOUS	12
56	FOR THE PRENATAL	12
57	VELOCIMETRY IN THE	12
58	FOR DIAGNOSIS AND	12
59	INVASIVE DIAGNOSIS OF	12
60	DIAGNOSIS OF ACUTE	12
61	AND DIAGNOSIS OF	11
62	AN EARLY DIAGNOSIS	11
63	DIAGNOSIS WAS CONFIRMED	11
64	WITH A DIAGNOSIS	11
65	WITH THE DIAGNOSIS	11
66	NONINVASIVE DIAGNOSIS OF	11
67	THE ACCURACY OF	11
68	DIAGNOSIS OF RENAL	11

SOLUTION: Use the verb “make”.

CONCLUSIONS

By using WordSmith tools, I am able search quickly through vast corpuses of specialised texts related to the text being translated. The program, therefore, is a vital tool, reducing the time spent searching through parallel texts and enabling better translations to be produced.

TIMOTHY BARTON