



Chapter 3: Lexical Resource (LR)

(Suggested Answers)

Part I. What does Lexical Resource (LR) mean?

Activity 1. Lexical Appropriacy

Go to the corpus and use the 'Browse' function. Take a look at the LR performance of [Speaker 72](#) (Band 9.0). Can you find any inappropriate word choice and/or collocations?

Answer:

Three collocations are inappropriate:
sponsor perfume → are sponsor for perfume;
grasp over people's mindset → grasp of people's mindset;
the only way to happiness → the only way to have/gain happiness

Activity 2. Which is a better answer?

Tell me about the place you are living.

Answer:

A is better because there is a less common word, *spacious*.

Activity 3. Paraphrase and Appropriate collocations

Go to the corpus and take a look at the performance of any Band 5.0 speaker. Can you list at least one paraphrase and appropriate collocation?

Suggested answer: [Speaker 1](#) (Band 5.0)

Paraphrase:

So, {noise} I just **study** in my home and **learn** some {noise}, some, some... my... my subjects.

Appropriate collocation:

I'm an undergraduate student studying in XX university and **major in** Business English.





Part II. What are the features of a high-band performance?

Activity 5. What idiomatic expressions did they say?

Go to the corpus and use the 'Browse' function. Take a look at the LR performance of any speaker from Band 7.0 or higher. Can you identify the idiomatic expressions they have used? What might these idioms mean? (Hint: You can search the meaning on [dictionary](#).)

Possible answer:

In [Speaker 56](#) (Band 7.0), the speaker has used *in the eye of*, *selling their soul to the devil*, *makes it big* and *as long as*.

Meaning:

<i>in the eye of</i>	be the focus of
<i>selling their soul to the devil</i>	Someone is persuaded to do something, especially something bad, because of the money or other reward you will receive for doing it
<i>makes it big</i>	to become famous or successful
<i>as long as</i>	if

Activity 6. Searching the corpus

Question 1: In [Speaker 9](#), how many less common words have been identified? What are they?

Answer:

3 less common words are identified. They are *storyline*, *logically*, and *AR*.

Question 2: In [Speaker 71](#), how many less common words have been identified? What are they?

Answer:

11 less common words are identified. They are *prominent*, *matured*, *aspire*, *charitable*, *emulate*, *repercussions*, *idolize*, *susceptible*, *anorexia*, *bulimia* and *prevalent*.

Reflection: What can you tell from the less common words used by the two speakers?

Possible answer: Both speakers have used some less common words in their performance, regardless of their band. It may mean that to impress the examiner, we should try to use more less common words.

Activity 7. Searching the corpus

Question 1: In [Speaker 9](#), are there any idiomatic expressions?

Answer:





There is no idiomatic expression.

Question 2: In [Speaker 60](#), are there any idiomatic expressions?

Answer:

6 idiomatic expressions are identified. They are *as well as*, *go for*, *every now and then*, *not my cup of tea*, *not at all* and *that's it*.

https://corpus.eduhk.hk/english_speech_corpus/





Teaching corner: Determine their levels

Read the scripts from Part 2 below. Which bands do you think these speakers have attained?

Speaker A

OK. Speaking of the intelligent person, I would like to say my cousin. I think she is very intelligent because she... she always get s, good scores at... at her elementary school and high school. And... and she... she enter, entence in the best universities of Chinese universities. And... and she... she is also an outgoing and easygoing person. And always I study... study hard and on the weekends, I stay at home to study and learn some th, mathematics and English. Sh... I can... I can see she play... play outside with... with his... with her friends. I was... I was curious about why... why she spent less time than me studying but she gets good scores in her study. And I think maybe her gene is very well, so, so this is a reason she does well than me. And I just think she is an intelligent person. Yes.

Speaker B

The most impressive building I saw is... I, I didn't literally saw it, but I saw like, the pictures and the model in a gallery, like, art gallery, in Sanlitun. The designer was called Michael or something, a f, a French guy. And it's a wine place, like, they have all kinds, all different kinds of wine in the building. And you know, the shape of the outside of the building is... They, they got the idea from when, when people pouring wine into a cup, so it's all like smooth streamline shape. And it's not like normal building that have, like, you know, straight, straight sides and edges. And it's kind of out of box of normal design. And beside that, you know, that exhibition of the architecture have like, all kinds of different buildings, you know. Like, say, they have a small center. It was a idea. And it shows the process of the designing, like, from the start, like, what I saw is just scratching randomly, but I can see from step to step, from the scratch to the actual design. And like, another thing is, you know, how they have this different shape, and that makes a engineering and architecture part really difficult. So like, one of his building is like inverse cone that have like, only four square meters attached the ground, and the top is like 50 square meter or something. I don't know. I'm just guessing, but it was really impressive.

Answer:

Speaker A is a Band 5.0.

Key indicator	Occurrence
Less common words	4
Paraphrase	0
Idiomatic expressions	0
Appropriate collocations	3
Inappropriate collocations / word choice	2





Speaker B is a Band 6.5.

Key indicator	Occurrence
Less common words	3
Paraphrase	0
Idiomatic expressions	0
Appropriate collocations	14
Inappropriate collocations / word choice	1

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https://corpus.eduhk.hk/english_51

