

**The Politics of Naming in Unusual Collocations
Used by Trump in November and December 2020**

By

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Abstract :

Collocations have been approached differently by different linguists, and a plethora of books have been written about this term. Since neologisms are intruding into English language, it is time now to look at some terminologies that hourly appear in English. The parameters by which linguists can judge whether a combination of newly formed bundle of words is classified as a collocation are made easier by the support of *AntConc. Software* which shows the MI score and the frequency of co-occurrence of these items in a specific context by a specific user. The present study may yield some results for lexicographers who are interested in creating new dictionaries of collocations. Further, teaching students these combinations in writing will extensively and effectively add to their authenticity in writing.

سياسة التسمية في المصاحبات اللغوية الغير معتادة التي استخدمها ترامب في نوفمبر

وديسمبر 2020

ملخص البحث

هذا البحث يتناول دراسة لغوية للمصاحبات اللغوية الغير معتادة التي يستخدمها الرئيس الأمريكي دونالد ترمب في خطابه العامة و حواراته التلفزيونية مع منافسيه في الفترة ما بين نوفمبر و ديسمبر 2020 والتي يستخدم فيها المصاحبة اللغوية (الفيروس الصيني) والتي لم تظهر من قبل في المتن القومي الأمريكي . تم استخدام برنامج (انتكونك) الذي يقوم بإحصاء وحصر هذه المصاحبة اللغوية في خطابات ترمب والذي بلغ عددها 79 مثالا . و انتهى الباحث للنتيجة التي تفيد بأن لفظ (الفيروس الصيني) – علي الرغم من كونه غير معتاد – يرقى لمستوي المصاحبة اللغوية طبقا للمعايير اللغوية مثل التكرار وتلازم الحدوث . ومن الممكن اعتبار هذا اللفظ مصاحبة لغويه عادية عند ترمب حيث انها تكررت عدة مرات في خطب ترمب.

Keywords: corpus linguistics - collocates – Trump – AntConc – semantics – China Virus – concordance – constraints.

Introduction and rationale :

This is a corpus-based study dealing with a sociolinguistic analysis of the collocates used by Trump during his presidential campaign, and how far his idiosyncrasy - as someone who is an inexperienced outsider – is diverted from the norm of frequency of occurrence of the same words used in the American National Corpus (ANC). The study looks at both consistency and variation in using particular discourse strategies in different contexts such as speeches, debates and media. Trump's body language is not listed in the present study.

In the last four years Trump used strong verbiage, a profusion of lexis which were, and still are, of evasive and obscure content. These words are like:

Winning/ Stupid/Weak/Loser/Fake news/Deep State/ Political Correctness/ the Swamp/ smart/ tough/ dangerous/ bad/veterans/Amazing/make America great again/tremendous/terrific/military/ out of control/Classy. (1)

(See appendix for full sentences.)

Other websites used words like: zero/you'll find/bigly/huge (pronounced as yuge) (2)

Trump's language is hyper-masculine and unhedged. His debates with his rivals like Clinton and Biden, as Scalfani (2017) posited, prove that he has a 'uniquely idiosyncratic' way of using '*believe me*' phrase to encourage audience's participation and to give him some legitimacy. Scalfani's study is mainly a qualitative description of Trump's words. Also, his use of '*others*' is clear. Further, his word **braggadocious**, to use Trump's idiolect, means **boasting**.

The rationale of the present study is twofold: first to see how far Trump bears a negative attitude towards China. This will be linguistically substantiated by examples from his speeches in the last few months. Second, the point that Trump violates the constraints of forming collocations will be verified.

Definitions of terms:

Halliday 1964 posits that the 'tendency to co-occurrence is the basic formal pattern into which lexical items enter' and this is 'known as collocations'. Halliday proceeds that a lexical set is a group of words occurring together. This co-occurrence is discussed in table 3 below where AntConc shows how far the word *virus* is adjacent to the word *China*. Halliday provides three examples of '*seat, chair and settee*' which closely co-occur with words like '*comfortable* and *sit*.' Other examples are given by Halliday are 'shop and emporium' which show similar semantic properties but they have different 'collocational range.' In other words, the semantic equivalence of two words is not a criterion for having

the same collocational range. The two parts of the collocation which are called collocates do show mutual expectancy meaning that they mutually expect each other. Halliday proceeds defining the collocation criteria:

The formal criterion of collocation is taken as crucial because it is more objective, accurate and susceptible to observation than the contextual criterion of referential or conceptual similarity. Lexical choice therefore is different from grammatical choice... there is no line to be drawn between those that can and those that cannot be chosen. There are only more probable and less probable items . This type of choice is more complex than the systematic choice of grammar . (Halliday 1964:pp.33-35)

Halliday's words show that it is much more easier to demarcate collocation criterion because they are more observable than those of grammatical structure.

Previous studies:

The present study tackles presidential use of collocations as well as syntactic structures involving the word *China*. (Chafe & Tannen, 1987), Chafe (1994) talk about spoken vs. written discourse, M.Silverstein (2003) tackles the linguistics of presidential style, (1994), G.Lakoff, (2016) deals with Trump's use of repetition. Sclafani, (2015), J.Guo (2016); and M.Newman (2015) tackle Trump's geographic origin as a New York businessman who undoubtedly forms and manifests his conversational style.

On the collocation level, Jeehee (2003) deals with pedagogical applications for adult non-native speakers of English learning lexical collocations and their relation to spoken fluency of English. Li et. al.(2015) deal with the syntactic, as well as semantic constraints governing the formation of collocations. Khairova et. al.(2018) deal with 'Synonymous Collocation Pairs from a Text Corpus where synonymous collocates represent a problem for (NLP) natural language processing'. Biel, L. et al. (2018) deal with legal Collocations language used in the European Union meetings. It is a Corpus-based study of EU expressions used during their sessions. O'Dell & McCarthy (2008) only provide a long list of collocations used in English language in different contexts as work, *lifestyle* , *environment* and *modern world*. They also tackle strong collocations as 'inclement weather' and 'auburn hair' and weak ones as 'broad agreement', 'broad smile' and 'broad accent.' Their book addresses advanced learners of English. Gelbukh & Kolesnikova (2013) conducted 'a series of computer experiments on verb-noun collocations using machine learning methods in order to test a linguistic point that collocations in

the language do not form an unstructured collection but are language items related via what we call collocational isomorphism, represented by lexical functions of the Meaning-Text Theory.'

Gelbukh & Kolesnikova are mainly interested in collocation to support their views in NLP which is a branch of linguistics to shed light on how computers help human to process any amount of data. Thus, it is worth noting that there exist constraints on collocation use. Gelbukh & Kolesnikova both show the necessity for linguists to 'extract collocations from corpora and annotate them with lexical functions automatically.'

From the previous studies, it is worth mentioning that no other studies deal with this particular combination of words China + virus which is used by Trump in this particular period.

Methods and theoretical framework:

Ant-Conc. software 3.5.8 version will be used to statistically highlight the frequency of occurrence of the word *China* in 79 examples taken from 15 speeches delivered by Trump a few months prior leaving the office. The software will also display the most frequently adjacent constituents to the word *China* looking at the score of Mutual Information (MI)

Analysis and discussions:

China in Trump's discourse

It is worth mentioning that the collocation *China virus* is not observed in ANC. Several examples of the word *China* have been elicited from the corpus, but the collocation is not observed in all files. Examples of the word *China* are manifested in 11th of September reports, travel guides, oral and telephone conversation, quotation and commercial articles. The following tables from (a) till (i) substantiate this fact, therefore stressing the assumption that Trump made up this unusual collocation probably to propagate a policy or to criticize China's administration:

Concordance Concordance Plot File View Clusters/N-Grams Collocates Word List Keyword List

Concordance Hits 30

Hit KWIC

1 , however, seeing a large bearlike animal in Indo- China, adopted the Nepalese name panda ; and a strange
 2 approach by the wily natives, and in India, China, and Japan most of my contacts have, without
 3 approach by the wily natives, and in India, China, and Japan most of my contacts have, without
 4 which the reader learned to read texts from China as though they were Japanese, and developed into
 5 deng is a new word. In semi-colonial China, because of the underdevelopment of science and t
 6 riginal, religious, cultural eye, eyes...bluish, (china-) blue, sea-blue, brunet, almond, (liquid-) brown
 7 suan ji calculating machine, in the mainland of China, but into dian nao , electronic brain in Taiwan
 8 Moscow is now current through all of Indo- China . "Can we no
 9 compound to be used, such as my old china (=china plate=mate) or up the apples (= apples
 10 to invite Mr. De and Mr. Sai to China, de standing for democracy and sai for science .
 11 ntury. Zhuang, a Tai language spoken in Southern China, defies typographers by employing letters resembl
 12 -1945) Japan ruled the island. A common sight in China (either one) is two individuals closely observing
 13 ype this article. In the mainland of China, in Taiwan, and in Hong Kong there may
 14 tugrik (Mongolia), and yuan (People's Republic of China). In the last, the currency name is actually
 15 měizhōu . Chinese names of places in China itself are of course actually meaningful, although
 16 tàipíngyáng peaceful ocean. The Chinese name of China itself is zhōngguó middle country, while the West
 17 ed by an arrow.) Places further from China may also sometimes have their names translated, a
 18 ; or perhaps it was an oblique reference to China or to hocking a tchainik 'gossiping.' In any

Search Term Words Case Regex Search Window Size 50
 china Advanced
 Start Stop Sort Show Every Nth Row 1
 Kwic Sort
 Level 1 1R Level 2 2R Level 3 3R

table (a)

Concordance Concordance Plot File View Clusters/N-Grams Collocates Word List Keyword List

Concordance Hits 463

Hit KWIC

1 cakes, and scones served on fine bone china.
 2 delegation from the West ever to visit China, a British team headed by Lord Macartney
 3 on the epic Long March to northwest China, a distance of some 10,000 perilous kilometers (o
 4 at the second biggest railway station in China, a distinction quite out of proportion to
 5 . The yearly arrival of the Nao de China, a galleon that sailed to Manila and
 6 is the most beautiful imperial garden in China — a large-scale garden equivalent to a
 7 -villages, probably the best such park in China. A strenuous climb up the sheer face
 8 rides to sand-locked lakes. Another western China adventure is a visit to Yunnan Province,
 9 " (Ch'in), the first dynasty to unify China after the Warring States period. China, of
 10 ndong proclaimed the "People's Republic of China." After thousands of years of empire and
 11 int drama signaled the Mongol conquest of China (1279–1368). After 20 years of resistance, the So
 12 ise the largest surviving imperial garden in China. Among the palaces and halls still in
 13 great period of Buddhist cave sculpture in China, and a long day's journey out
 14 . With tea from seeds smuggled out of China and an influx of plantation labor from
 15 the harm the "poisonous drug" did to China, and asking for an end to the
 16 Chinese business, marked by the flag of China, and associated in people's minds with
 17 old tins, buttons, bottles, and items of china and brass are numerous. You'll find
 18 Assam on the border with its neighbors China and Burma to the Gujarat coast on

Search Term Words Case Regex Search Window Size 50
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 Kwic Sort
 Level 1 1R Level 2 2R Level 3 3R

Table (b)

Hit	KWIC	File
1	d strategy? .. Thus the loss of China and Cuba and the loss now of Vietnam	TheStory written corpus.t
2	le. Nine out of 10 recordings in China are pirated, according to the International F	TheStory written corpus.t
3	been hurt by the strong dollar, China's undervalued currency and the harm that impo	TheStory written corpus.t
4	ne would be to go outsource in China. The tough decision is to stay here. I'	TheStory written corpus.t
5	ve disadvantage," he said. "In China, they pay their workers 55 cents an hour, and	TheStory written corpus.t
6	s. These examples leave out China, where piracy exists on an entirely different	TheStory written corpus.t

Table (c)

Hit	KWIC	File
1	And lots of this hand-painted china-- Huh.	GubbinsPat.txt
2	And that's are very popular in China. Uh-huh.	ThomasLamar.txt
3	er had gone there to buy some china for his mother, and, uh, he	ShamblinGladys.txt
4	flight over up to the edge of China, over North Korea extrem	FrancisClem.txt
5	kyo and working part-time at a china factory, and my father had	ShamblinGladys.txt
6	with a brass clasp. It's from China too. And lots of this	GubbinsPat.txt
7	ould get this, this, barrels of fine china and hand-paint them and	GubbinsPat.txt
8	y, ladies painted, hand-painted china. It was the thing for v	GubbinsPat.txt
9	ce wooden, carved things from China for five, 15 dollars--	GubbinsPat.txt

Table (d)

ool Preferences Help

Concordance Concordance Plot File View Clusters/N-Grams Collocates Word List Keyword List

Concordance Hits 2

Hit	KWIC
1	mes yeah yeah i've heard that like in China and stuff there is virtually no such thing as
2	people who were considered very healthy in China and they don't do very much vigorous exercise

Table (e)

Concordance Hits 7

Hit	KWIC
1	different scale. Nine out of 10 recordings in China are pirated, according to the International F
2	Then replenish the ozone layer, democratize China, figure out an efficient way to store electricity
3	its goals and strategy? .. Thus the loss of China and Cuba and the loss now of Vietnam
4	company had been hurt by the strong dollar, China's undervalued currency and the harm that impo
5	for me would be to go outsource in China. The tough decision is to stay here. I'
6	United States. These examples leave out China, where piracy exists on an entirely different
7	f a competitive disadvantage," he said. "In China, they pay their workers 55 cents an hour, and

Table (f)

ool Preferences Help

Concordance Concordance Plot File View Clusters/N-Grams Collocates Word List Keyword List

Concordance Hits 8

Hit	KWIC
1	furnishings, hardware, drugs, tobacco, furniture, china, and glassware. Unlike traveling peddlers of the
2	of fast-track negotiating authority, imports from China and human rights standards, and so on.
3	countries like the People's Republic of China and Mexico. ¹⁹ Although the magnitude of these
4	.S. imports of textiles and apparel from China and two of the traditional Big Three
5	to inventory risk. Going to India or China for low prices alone is no longer
6	"Big Four"—the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Korea. This group
7	a unit of apparel is assembled in China or the United States, the overall process
8	, trousers, slacks, and shorts) per capita; in China the estimated number of such garments was

Search Term Words Case Regex Advanced Search Window Size 50

Start Stop Sort Show Every Nth Row 1

Kwic Sort Level 1 1R Level 2 2R Level 3 3R

Table (g)

Concordance	Concordance Plot	File View	Clusters/N-Grams	Collocates	Word List	Keyword List
Concordance Hits 15						
Hit	KWIC					
1	most common malignant diseases in China. Although the GC has been					
2	genus of two species from China and central Asia, is also					
3	in postmenopausal women. Studies from China [7] and Japan [8] did not detect					
4	been introduced into India from China and Japan, mainly for rearing					
5	bility. Monotypic Filifolium occurs in China and Korea, and was previously					
6	lian Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., Shanghai, China). Before use in experiments, MCF7/					
7	; Huamei BG Co Ltd, Shanghai, China) for 2 h at room temperature.					
8	cluding southern Siberia, Mongolia, and China [2] . It was segregated from					
9	area for GC in northern China. Materials and Methods					
10	and gastric cancer in Huixian, China. No selection process was involved.					
11	occur in central Asia and China. They are similar in habit					
12	oil and protein source. While China, USA and India are the					
13	Phillipines, Taiwan, southern Japan, and China, whereas A. californica occurs in					
14	-2 (K2) and two exotic varieties China White (CW) and Mandalay (MAN).					
15	of nine different varieties, namely, China White (CW), Kanwa2 (K2), Mandalay (

Table (h)

Concordance	Concordance Plot	File View	Clusters/N-Grams	Collocates	Word List	Keyword List
Concordance Hits 9						
Hit	KWIC					
1	late 1980s, went as far afield as China, Malaysia, the Philippines, and t					
2	een 1993 and 1996, he traveled to China, the Philippines, Pakistan, Bosnia (a second time					
3	ration. Those priorities included China, missile defense, the collapse of the Middle					
4	issues-among them, Haiti, Bosnia, Russia, China, Somalia, Kosovo, NATO enlargement,					
5	he was known as someone who "broke china," but she and Hadley wanted an ex					
6	-of-the-art video cameras obtained from China and from dealers in Germany. The					
7	ion, crime and narcotics, and China-would be housed in whatever department or					
8	a great opportunity to engage Russia and China. Secretary Rumsfeld urged the Pre					
9	o non- NATO countries. Russia and China should be encouraged to participate.					

Table (i)

Though the word *China* is almost always collocated with ‘*made in China, cups and Chinaware, best china for the visitors and fine bone china tableware*’ (see Online dictionaries), in the last few months Trump used the word *China* in a specific way when he started naming the Covid 19 *Chinese virus* (3). He also talked of China as a human being:” China has taken a very hard hit over the last few months... and China is very

smart”(4) Trump adds that ,”China tries to say that the virus comes from American soldiers.”(5)

In other contexts, Trump refers to China as an equivalent to the Chinese people themselves: China, they should do a deal. “Somebody should take on China.” He proceeds, “I call for a ban for people coming from China”(6) On another occasion Trump answered a reporter who asked why so many people died from Covid19 in USA:”Don’t ask me ,ask China”(7).Further , many people regard it unethical to associate a disease with an ethnic group.

In one of his speeches on Thanksgiving 2020, he says,

“Your mission to support our soldiers on the ground and deliver precious cargo where it needs to go, including transporting 18 tons of medical equipment during the **China** virus pandemic.... we’re going to have to do something because I look at what **China** was doing... They don’t want America First. You know why? Because **China** doesn’t want it. **China** expressed their wish, “Please get rid of America first,” (8)

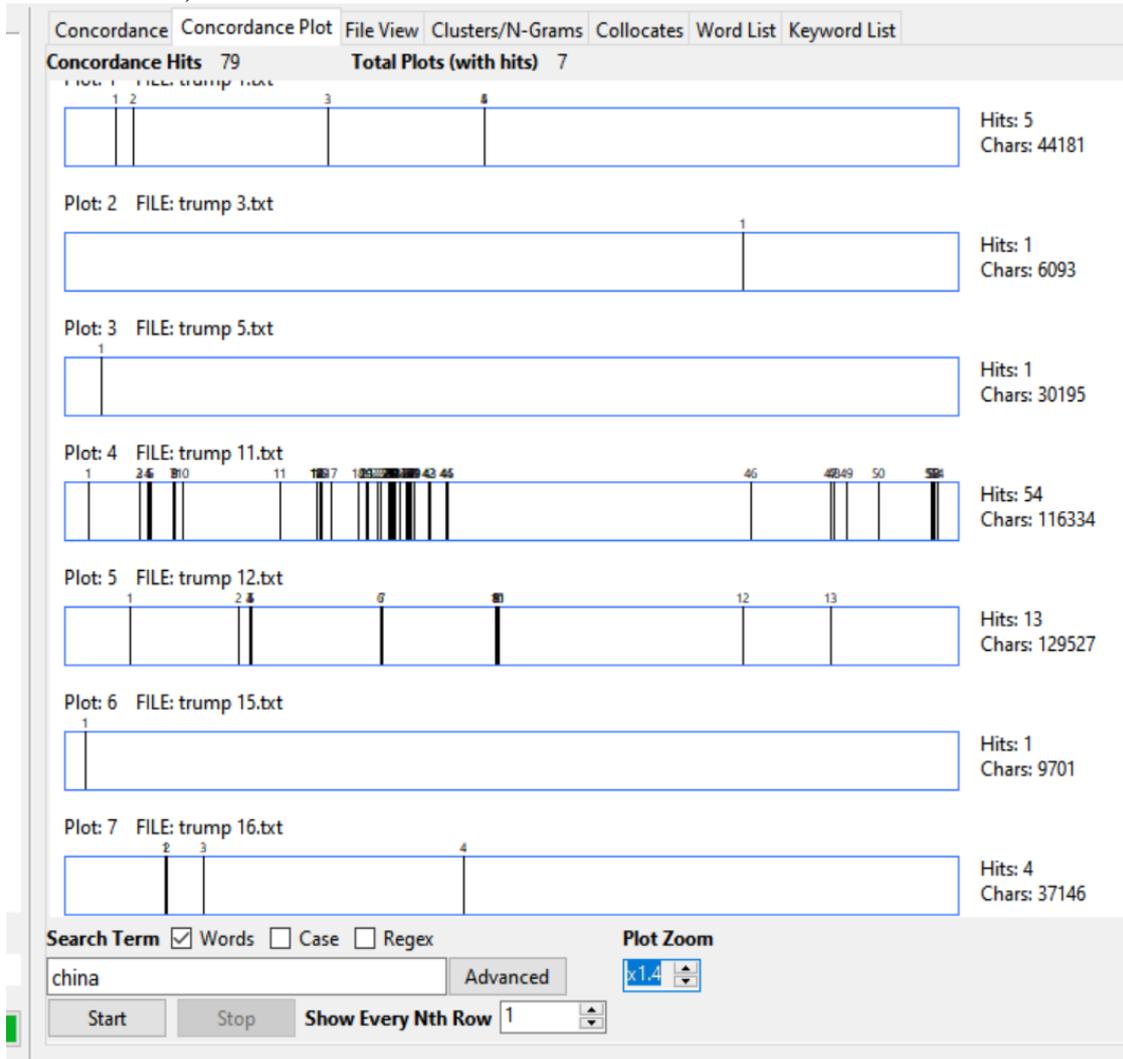
Fifteen speeches by Trump were picked from the website: <https://www.rev.com/blog/transcript-category/donald-trump-transcripts>, and it has been found that Trump used the word **China** 79 times within 2 months before losing the election:

Rank	Freq	Word
151	82	those
152	81	some
153	80	ballots
154	80	talk
155	79	before
156	79	china
157	78	ever
158	78	new
159	78	vote
160	76	tell
161	75	every
162	75	number
163	75	talking
164	74	being
165	74	put
166	72	also
167	71	last

(Table 1) Frequency of occurrence of the word *China*

From the appendix, it is clear that Trump collocates the word *China* with negative issues like ‘*plague/epidemic, the virus, secret bank account, wish America to die first*’ and many other bad things like calling Covid19 as ‘*that China thing, real dirt , higher deficit with CHINA, the president of CHINA is being transparent.*’ See Appendix below.

The frequent occurrence of the word *China* is very clear in one of his speeches that lasts for 27 minute, and it was hit 54 times in text 11.(See table 2 below):



(Table 2) Concordance Plot of the word *China*

On the syntactic level, the word *China* is adjacent to prepositions like *to* and *from*. Also it is preceded by verbs like *make* and followed by nouns like *virus, plague pandemic*, as shown in tables 3 and 4 below:

Concordance Hits 36

Hit KWIC

1 ght this horrible disease that came from China. It's a worldwide pandemic. It's all over
 2 from China, the plague, the plague from China, the horrible situation. And we had to shut it down and
 3 . If you were president, would you make China pay? And please be specific, what would that look like? Joe
 4 e it clear, which we were making clear to China, they had to be part of the deal, because I made
 5 out with a billion and a half dollars from China to Joe Biden: (11:08) Not true. Donald Trump: (11:10) \x8
 6 e? Joe Biden: (09:41) What I'd make China do is play by the international rules, not like he has
 7 ng it before and then we got hit with the China virus and that certainly, you had to go back and I
 8 mber two, I don't make money from China. You do. I don't make money from Ukraine. You
 9 king sure that in order to do business in China, you have to give all your intellectual property. You have to
 10 s who have waged the battle against the China virus and we give thanks for the vaccines and therapies that
 11 85 the only guy who made money from China is this guy. He's the only one. Nobody else
 12 e beginning. When I closed and banned China from coming in heavily infected and then ultimately Europe, but
 13 e racist even, because I was closing it to China. Now he says I should have closed it earlier. Joe, it
 14 he draw. You didn't want me to ban China, which was heavily infected. You didn't want me to
 15 election, that Russia has been involved, China's been involved to some degree, and now we learn
 16 uch. Should have never happened from China. But what happened is we closed it down and now we
 17 it not because he shutdown access from China. And he did it late after 40 countries had already done that.
 18 Donald Trump: (24:23) Is he going to get China to do it? Kristen Welker: (24:22) No, we've finished with

Table 3 showing the adjacent constituents of the word *China* (examples 1-17)

Concordance Hits 36

Hit KWIC

19 Donald Trump: (24:23) Is he going to get China to do it? Kristen Welker: (24:24) We have to move onto our
 20 fizer announced on Monday that it's China virus vaccine is more than 90% effective. This far exceeds any a
 21 ayer's money. Didn't come from China. Donald Trump: (11:44) No, no. You know who the taxpayer is? It
 22 as done. He has caused the deficit of the China to go up, not down, with China, up, not down. We
 23 story. We closed it down because of the China plague. When the plague came in, we closed it down, which
 24 d've never happened. Came in from China, the plague, the plague from China, the horrible situation. And
 25 mber two, we're in a situation where China would have to play by the rules internationally as well. When
 26 was prior to the plague coming in from China. Now we're rebuilding it and we're doing
 27 the rest of our friends with us saying to China, \x93These are the rules. You play by them, or you
 28 t we had 44 people that were in there in China trying to get the Wuhan to determine what exactly the source
 29 n going to rejoin Paris Accord and make China abide by what they agreed to. Donald Trump: (24:30) [Crosstalk
 30 that the people we had in the ground in China should be able to go to Wuhan and determine for themselves
 31 ne. Nobody else has made money from China. Kristen Welker: (07:25) President Trump- Donald Trump: (07:25
 32 8 tons of medical equipment during the China virus pandemic. Keep up the outstanding work. Great job you've
 33 specifically are you going to do to make China pay? You've said you're going to make
 34 property. You have to have a partner in China. It's 51%, we would not do that at all, number
 35 e originally, but ultimately get rid of the China plague. You see what's happening in Europe. It's
 36 erson for the illustration when I went to China that I said, \x93Why are you moving your missile defense

Table 4 showing the adjacent constituents of the word *China* (examples 19-36)

To translate both tables 3 and 4 into statistical data, one can use AntConc. Software to see which adjacent constituent has the largest *frequency*, and also its *range* of occurrence. Figure 5 below shows that the highest range and frequency that occur most adjacent to the word *China* is the word *plague* where it occurs three times to the left and five times to the right:

Concordance	Concordance Plot	File View	Clusters/N-Grams	Collocates	Word List	Keyword List
Total No. of Collocate Types: 258			Total No. of Collocate Tokens: 790			
Rank	Freq	Freq(L)	Freq(R)	Stat	Collocate	
1	8	3	5	10.21268	plague	
2	1	1	0	10.02003	waged	
3	1	0	1	10.02003	various	
4	1	0	1	10.02003	perfected	
5	1	1	0	10.02003	partner	
6	2	0	2	10.02003	lunch	
7	1	0	1	10.02003	looks	
8	1	0	1	10.02003	kick	
9	1	1	0	10.02003	illustration	

Table 5 showing the *range* and the *frequency* of the word *plague*

By clicking on the word *plague* which bears the highest frequency, as well as the highest range, one can have the next few strings where the word *plague* appears very adjacent to the word *China*. (See table 6 below):

Concordance	Concordance Plot	File View	Clusters/N-Grams	Collocates	Word List	Keyword List
Concordance Hits 4						
Hit	KWIC					
1		totally successful, as it was prior to the plague coming in from China. Now we're				
2		history. We closed it down because of the China plague. When the plague came in, we closed				
3		tame originally, but ultimately get rid of the China plague. You see what's happening in				
4		should've never happened. Came in from China, the plague, the plague from China, the horrible				

Table 6 showing frequency of the word *Plague* to the left and to the right
-Constraints on collocations behavior :

Collocations do have constraints like syntactic, pragmatic, prosodic and stylistic constraints. It is worthy mentioning that a *collocation* is not an *Idiom*, as the former means a popular combination of two words which has a direct meaning, whereas the latter is a 'stand-in for something else.' Gledhill (2000) specifies 3 conditions for the existence of collocations: 'co-occurrence, construction and expression'. As for co-occurrence, a collocation must be statistically frequent in a text. It should also contain a base (in this case it is the word *VIRUS* or *PLAGUE*) and a collocate functioning as modifying the base (in this case it is the word *CHINA*). It is clear then that Trump observed the first condition. Regarding the second condition of construction, it posits that a collocation is a relation between a lexeme (*VIRUS*) and a lexical grammatical pattern (*CHINA VIRUS*) a noun

modifying another noun in this case. The third condition is the pragmatic one which measures how far the collocation is pragmatically convenient in the situation. The question now is whether Trump uses collocations by chance or is there a significance of using the combination of *China* and *virus*? As far as language is concerned, using collocates is never random, and Trump intentionally uses these collocations to politically reach a target. The common use of MI score and adjacency principles in tables 3 and 4 above is a linguistic evidence of Trump's intention to verbally attack China.

There is a clear evidence that Trump's combination of both words, *China* and *virus* can be classified as a collocation, since they both satisfy the four parameters used by Eva Lucía Jiménez-Navarro (2019) who posits that the frequency of co-occurrence of both elements in the corpus, the degree of the semantic compositionality with the semantic transparency, and the existence of both Headwords in the combination are all elements applicable to Trump's collocations. By compositionality, Jiménez-Navarro means that the 'semantic interpretation is a compositional function of the elements of which it is composed'

Limitation of the present study:

A question arises now: does Trump talk behind closed doors in the same manner as he talks on mediated discourse? In other words can future studies capture both FRONTSTAGE and BACKSTAGE talk? A researcher will be so lucky gaining an access to that BACKSTAGE talk. It is known that televised interviews are heavily edited, and this makes it, by logic, unnatural and unauthenticated. Further, any data-based study is limited by itself because Trump's speeches and his use of vast stock of vocabulary are immense, and some of his speeches are highly confidential, especially when he deals with national security advisers. The efforts to make a larger dictionary comprising synonyms and collocations are still far from feasible. These efforts need a large team of linguists who will extensively divide these collocations into genres like legal, medical, and military ones.

Another limitation of the present study is whether Trump's collocation (CHINA VIRUS or CHINA PLAGUE) will appear in any Monolingual Dictionary in the coming 50 years. This dictionary of course must be phrase-centered not word-centered, which makes the whole process a labor-intensive one, even with the support of a computer software.

Pedagogical Implications:

It is well known that adding new collocations to the language is enrichment for both language and its learners. Creating new collocations adds new semantic dimensions to meanings and their ranges in the language. Teaching our students to use collocations properly makes their

language look natural, and also makes them easily remembered because language is acquired in chunks. For instance, students can learn the collocation *regular exercise* faster than *exercise*. Also, students can learn richer ways to express themselves. Collocations syntactically contain different parts of speech where students can parse each one separately like: *excruciating pain* (ADJ. + NOUN), *surge of anger* (NOUN + NOUN).

Notes

- 1-<https://www.yourdictionary.com/slideshow/donald-trump-20-most-frequently-used-words.html> . Accessed on November 22nd 2020
- 2-<https://www.dictionary.com/e/s/trumps-favorite-words-trump-speak/#covfefe>. Accessed on November 22nd 2020.
- 3- <https://theconversation.com/donald-trumps-chinese-virus-the-politics-of-naming-136796>. Accessed on November 29th 2020.
- 4-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19WuYCnBx4o>. Accessed on November 29th 2020.
- 5- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dl78PQGJpiI>. Accessed on November 29th 2020.
- 6- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wDdyn4Kbffs>. Accessed on November 30th 2020.
- 7- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9zBCeS7wf7w>. Accessed on November 30th 2020.
- 8- <https://www.rev.com/blog/transcripts/donald-trump-thanksgiving-call-to-troops-transcript-2020-addresses-possibility-of-conceding-election>. Accessed on December 2nd 2020.

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- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phraseme#Major_types_of_phraseme/ Accessed on December 7th 2020.
- https://www.archives.gov/presidential-libraries/archived-websites?_ga=2.266258886.870609066.1612945822-740533939.1612945822

YouTube links

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XsNeLF5188> (defining the term Meta-discourse.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19WuYCbX4o> Accessed on November 30th 2020.

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Appendix (1) famous words used by Trump

Winning

“My whole life is about winning. I don't lose often.

Stupid

I went to an Ivy League school. I'm highly educated. I know words. I have the best

Weak

I am strong; politicians are weak.

NBC is weak.

Loser

Show me someone without an ego, and I'll show you a loser -- having a healthy ego, or high opinion of yourself, is a real positive in life!

Fake News

Only Fake News, not the entire media but a large percentage of it, qualifies as an enemy of the American people.

Deep State

The Deep State and the Left, and their vehicle, the Fake News Media, are going Crazy - & they don't know what to do.

Political Correctness

We're running a war by politicians and we're running a war by political correctness as per that question [with ISIS].

Drain the Swamp

I'm draining the Swamp, and the Swamp is trying to fight back. Don't worry, we will win!

smart

I was a great student at the best college in the country. You know? I want to let people know. I'm a smart guy.

tough

When somebody challenges you, fight back. Be brutal, be tough.

dangerous

Something really dangerous is going on.

bad

Something bad is happening.

veterans

At the same time, we're going to take care of our military and we're going to take care of our great, great, great veterans.

Amazing Yesterday was amazing -- 5 victories.

make America great again

We will make America strong again.

tremendous

We have in Social Security right now thousands and thousands of people that are over 106 years old. Now, you know they don't exist. They don't exist. There's tremendous waste, fraud, and abuse, and we're going to get it.

terrific

(on British Prime Minister Theresa May) But I've actually gotten to know her better than ever, and I think she's a terrific woman. I think she's doing a terrific job.

military

I think I have great knowledge of - for military, and I think I have better vision for Syria than a lot of the so-called great military geniuses that are saying how to fight the war with Syria. In my opinion, they're doing just the opposite. Are we going to start World War III over Syria? Are we going to be there for the next 40 years?

out of control

Our country is out of control. This voting system is out of control.

classy

I built the Grand Hyatt right next to Grand Central Station - beautiful, classy job - but then the city denied my request to have the top 10 floors illuminated with my face at night. Can you believe that?

Appendix (2) the word “CHINA”

The following 79 examples can be retrieved from:

<https://www.rev.com/blog/transcript-category/donald-trump-transcripts>, which is a website containing Trump’s transcripts of his speeches during the two months prior to leaving office.

1 I’m going to rejoin Paris Accord and **make CHINA abide** by what they agreed to. Donald Trump: (24:

2 about the work your son has done in CHINA and for a Ukrainian energy company when you

3 nophobic, but not because he **shutdown access from CHINA**. And he did it late after 40 countries had

4 **secret bank account with CHINA**, does business in CHINA, and in fact, is talking about me taking

5 became president. I saw what was happening with CHINA and Russia and others. And it’s really

6 to make the windmills in both Germany and CHINA and the fumes coming up, if you

7 that this president paid 50 times the tax in CHINA as a secret bank account with CHINA, does

8 rade deficit- President Donald J. Trump: (22:06) **CHINA ate your lunch**- [crosstalk 00:00:22:07]. Vice Pr

9 with Mexico. President Donald J. Trump: (22:09) CHINA ate your lunch, Joe. And no wonder your

10 is too much. **Should have never happened from CHINA**. But what happened is we closed it down

11 like? Joe Biden: (09:41) What I’d **make CHINA do is play by the international rules**, not

- 12 in CHINA as a secret bank account with CHINA, does business in CHINA, and in fact, is
- 13 't want America First. You know why? Because CHINA doesn't want it, CHINA expressed their wish, "
- 14 of the Paris Accord, it was so unfair. CHINA doesn't kick in until 2030, Russia goes
- 15.....'s money. Didn't come from CHINA. Donald Trump: (11:44) No, no. You know who the
- 16 know why? Because CHINA doesn't want it, CHINA expressed their wish, "Please get rid of America
- 17 kept it from going into the rest of CHINA for the most part, but they didn't
- 18.....at the beginning. When I closed and banned CHINA from coming in heavily infected and then ultimate
- 19.....what we can't do. Look at CHINA, how filthy it is, look at Russia, look
- 20 this thing about, what are you talking about, CHINA. I have not had the only guy
- 21.....president he made a fortune in Ukraine, in CHINA, in Moscow and various other places. Vice Presid
- 22 he's being transparent. The president of CHINA is being transparent. We owe him a debt
- 23.....car market of the future. In the meantime, CHINA is doing that. We're going to
- 24.....to deal with? Is it Russia? Is it CHINA? Is it North Korea? Sir, is it North
- 25 ke them pay. Donald Trump: (11:30) First of all, CHINA is paying. They're paying billions and
- 26 the only guy who made money from CHINA is this guy. He's the only

27 to fight this horrible disease that came from CHINA. It's a worldwide pandemic. It's

28 property. You have to have a partner in CHINA. It's 51%, we would not do that

29 who the taxpayer is? It's called CHINA. Joe Biden: (11:46) Not true. Donald Trump: (11

30 only one. Nobody else has made money from CHINA. Kristen Welker: (07:25) President Trump- Donal

31 want to ask you, Vice-President Biden, about CHINA. Let's talk about CHINA more broadly.

32 . Let's get off the subject of CHINA. Let's talk about sitting around the

33 85 I was thinking about doing a deal in CHINA, like millions of other people, I was thinking

34 Biden, about CHINA. Let's talk about CHINA more broadly. There have, of course, President Tr

35 racist even, because I was closing it to CHINA. Now he says I should have closed it

36 the steel. We have a higher deficit with CHINA now than we did before. We have the

37 was prior to the plague coming in from CHINA. Now we're rebuilding it and we\

38 :55) If this stuff is true about Russia, Ukraine, CHINA, other countries, Iraq. If this is true, then

39 Coronavirus. If you were president, would you make CHINA pay? And please be specific, what would that

40 specifically are you going to do to make CHINA pay? You've said you're

- 41 e Biden: (11:46) Not true. Donald Trump: (11:46) CHINA pays 28 billion, and you know what they did
- 42..... history. We closed it down because of the CHINA plague. When the plague came in, we closed
- 43 tame originally, but ultimately get rid of the CHINA plague. You see what's happening in
- 44..... ons. Kristen Welker: (11:22) President Trump, on CHINA policy- Joe Biden: (11:24) That's not true.
- 45 setting up air identification zones in the South CHINA Sea. You can't fly through them.
- 46 didn't you get the world\ CHINA sends up real dirt into the air. Russia
- 47 the people we had in the ground in CHINA should be able to go to Wuhan and
- 48 that your company has a bank account in CHINA. So how can voters know that you don\
- 49 spokesperson for the illustration when I went to CHINA that I said, Why are you moving
- 50..... in from CHINA, the plague, the plague from CHINA, the horrible situation. And we had to shut
- 51 should've never happened. Came in from CHINA, the plague, the plague from CHINA, the horrible
- 52 it clear, which we were making clear to CHINA, they had to be part of the deal,
- 53..... political statement. Let's get off this CHINA thing, and then he looks, \x93The family
- 54 you- Donald Trump: (24:22) Is he going to get CHINA to do it? Kristen Welker: (24:23) No, we

55 this. Donald Trump: (24:23) Is he going to get CHINA to do it? Kristen Welker: (24:24) We have to

56 done. He has caused the deficit of the CHINA to go up, not down, with CHINA, up,

57 with a billion and a half dollars from CHINA to Joe Biden: (11:08) Not true. Donald Tru

58 we had 44 people that were in there in CHINA trying to get the Wuhan to determine what

59 the CHINA to go up, not down, with CHINA, up, not down. We are making sure that

60 before and then we got hit with the CHINA virus and that certainly, you had to go

61 scientists who have waged the battle against the CHINA virus and we give thanks for the vaccines

62 nsporting 18 tons of medical equipment during the CHINA virus pandemic. Keep up the outstanding work. Gre

63 . Pfizer announced on Monday that it's CHINA virus vaccine is more than 90% effective. This fa

64 to do something because I look at what CHINA was doing, and Russia was doing, others are

65 heavily infected and then ultimately Europe, but CHINA was in January. Months later, he was saying

66 . You didn't want me to ban CHINA, which was heavily infected. You didn't

67 two, we're in a situation where CHINA would have to play by the rules internationally

68 this election, that Russia has been involved, CHINA's been involved to some degree, and

--

69 around the country, all around the world. And CHINA's building a new
road to a
70 fault that it came here. It's CHINA's fault. And you know what? It\
71 that it came here either. It's CHINA's fault. They kept it from going
72 one person is too much. It's CHINA's fault. It should have never
happened.
73 stopped it from going in, but it was CHINA's fault. And, by the way, when
74 lot. Russia's paying you a lot. CHINA's paying you a lot on your
75 . He talks about the art of the deal. CHINA's perfected the art of the steel.
76 rest of our friends with us saying to CHINA, These are the rules. You play
by
77 two, I don't make money from CHINA. You do. I don't make money
78 't know how many people died in CHINA. You don't know how many
people
79 sure that in order to do business in CHINA, you have to give all your
intellectual property.