

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher presents background of the research, statement of the research problem, research objective, the significance of the study, scope and limitation of the research.

1.1 Research Background

Literature serves as a cultural and historical phenomenon that captures the conditions surrounding its production and reception (Klarer, 2014). As a prominent form of media, the novel presents a rich narrative that reflects societal conditions in greater detail than short stories or poetry. Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, written during the late 18th and early 19th centuries, exemplifies a literary work deeply embedded in the social fabric of its time. Through her nuanced portrayal of female characters, Austen sheds light on the expectations and roles assigned to women in a patriarchal society, where women were often confined to roles as wives and mothers (Holmes, 2001).

The exploration of gender roles in literature is not merely an academic exercise; it is a vital inquiry into the societal norms that shape human experiences. Literature has the power to reflect and critique the cultural ideologies of its time, making it an essential medium for understanding the complexities of gender dynamics. In this context, Austen's work stands out as a critical lens through which we can examine the intricacies of femininity and the societal expectations placed upon women in the 18th century.

The linguistic study of literature offers a powerful framework for exploring the complex interplay between language and meaning, particularly in the context of gender representation. Corpus linguistics has emerged as a valuable approach for empirically analyzing language use in texts (Baker, 2010; McEnery & Hardie, 2011). This method entails systematic examination of collections of texts (corpora) to investigate



linguistic patterns and their implications for understanding literature. According to Sinclair (1991), a corpus is defined as “a collection of naturally occurring language texts, chosen to characterize a state or variety of a language.” This systematic analysis allows researchers to uncover societal attitudes and cultural narratives underlying the representation of gender, making it possible to critically assess how language reflects and reinforces broader cultural ideologies (Mahlberg & McIntyre, 2011).

The portrayal of women in literature has long been a subject of scholarly interest, particularly regarding societal norms and gender roles. Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* provides a rich tapestry for examining the linguistic representations of femininity in the 18th century. Her nuanced characterizations and the language she employs reflect the complexities of women's identities, their social standings, and the expectations imposed upon them by a patriarchal society.

In recent years, corpus stylistics has emerged as a valuable methodological approach for analyzing literary texts, allowing researchers to quantitatively and qualitatively assess the frequency and patterns of linguistic features. This approach blends quantitative and qualitative analyses, enabling a systematic examination of word patterns within a text. By extracting and analyzing collocates, we can uncover not only frequently occurring linguistic forms but also the contextual meanings and associations that emerge from their usage. The collocates of “woman” can illuminate the societal attitudes and cultural narratives that surround female identity, shedding light on the prevalent stereotypes, roles, and characteristics attributed to women in Austen’s time.

Austen's work is particularly significant in the study of gender representation because it captures the tension between individual desires and societal expectations. The characters in *Pride and Prejudice* navigate where marriage is often seen as the ultimate goal for women, the limited avenues available for female agency. The novel's protagonist, Elizabeth Bennet, embodies a complex interplay of



independence and societal pressure, challenging the norms of her time while also grappling with the realities of her social environment. This duality makes Austen's portrayal of women particularly rich for linguistic analysis, as it reveals the layers of meaning embedded in the language used to describe female characters.

While previous studies have explored various aspects of Austen's work, including themes of marriage, class, and morality, there remains a need for focused linguistic analyses that specifically examine the adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with the term "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice*. This research aims to fill this gap by employing a corpus stylistic approach to analyze the linguistic features associated with "woman." By focusing on specific adjectives, nouns, and verbs, we seek to uncover how these linguistic choices contribute to the construction of femininity and the portrayal of women's roles in society.

This analysis involve identifying specific collocations that modify or co-occur with "woman"—for instance, the adjectives that describe her, the nouns that contextualize her status, and the verbs indicating her actions or agency. Through this linguistic lens, we can critically assess how the language of *Pride and Prejudice* shapes the reader's understanding of gender dynamics and societal expectations. Jane Austen's ability to portray serious themes such as gender roles and love, while incorporating irony and comedy, makes her work particularly compelling. As Holmes (2001:305) notes, sexism involves valuing or stereotyping individuals based on gender rather than their personal attributes.

Moreover, this research build on prior studies that utilize corpus stylistics to analyze literary texts, such as Mahlberg's (2007) examination of clusters in Dickens' works. By applying similar methodologies to Austen's novel, we aim to illuminate the complexities of marital status and social as they relate to femininity. As noted by McIntyre and Walker corpus studies in literature do not seek to replace traditional literary



analysis but rather to complement it, offering additional perspectives on authorial style and thematic concerns.

The significance of this study extends beyond literary analysis; it contributes to the broader discourse on gender studies and the historical context of women's roles in society. By examining the linguistic representations of femininity in *Pride and Prejudice*, we can gain insights into the cultural narratives that shaped the lives of women in the 18th century. This understanding is crucial for recognizing the enduring impact of these narratives on contemporary gender dynamics.

Ultimately, this investigation seeks to articulate a comprehensive picture of how Austen's language constructs notions of femininity, revealing the intricate ways in which linguistic patterns reflect and reinforce broader cultural ideologies. By focusing on the linguistic elements surrounding "woman," we aim to contribute to the fields of corpus linguistics and stylistics while providing insights into the historical and social implications of her portrayal of women. This analysis not only enhances our understanding of Austen's literary techniques but also provides a clearer picture of the societal attitudes towards women during the 18th century, thereby contributing to the broader field of gender studies in literature.

In conclusion, the exploration of linguistic representations of femininity in *Pride and Prejudice* through a corpus stylistic lens deepen our understanding of how language constructs meaning and reflects cultural values. By examining the specific adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman," this research aims to uncover the underlying societal attitudes and cultural narratives that shaped the portrayal of women in Austen's time. This study not only fill a notable gap in the existing literature but also contribute to ongoing discussions about gender dynamics and societal expectations in historical contexts.



1.2 Statement of Problem

The representation of women in literature has long been a focus of research, especially regarding societal norms and gender roles. In Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, the portrayal of female characters is intricately linked to the language used to describe them, reflecting the complexities of marital status and social standing in 18th-century society. Despite the novel's enduring popularity and critical acclaim, there remains a gap in understanding how the classifications of adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman" contribute to the depiction of femininity and societal attitudes of the time. This research seeks to explore how these linguistic elements shape the characters' identities and reveal broader insights into the domestic roles and intellectual qualities attributed to women during this period. By examining the language surrounding "woman," we aim to gain a deeper understanding of the cultural and social constructs that influenced women's lives in the 18th century.

1.3 Research Questions

Given the complexities of marital status and social standing highlighted in the representation of women in *Pride and Prejudice*, this research seeks to answer the following questions::

1. How do the classifications of adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice* reflect the complexities of marital status and social standing in 18th-century society?
2. What linguistic patterns in the adjectives, nouns, and verbs collocating with "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice* reveal insights into the domestic roles and intellectual qualities attributed to female characters?



1.4 Research Objectives

In line with the research questions regarding the representation of women in *Pride and Prejudice*, this study aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To Analyse Adjectives, Nouns, and Verbs: Analyze the classifications of adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice* and understand how these classifications reflect the complexities of marital status and social standing in 18th-century society.
2. To Examine Linguistic Patterns: Examine the linguistic patterns in the adjectives, nouns, and verbs collocating with "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice*, revealing insights into the domestic roles and intellectual qualities attributed to female characters.

These objectives guide the research and help provide a clearer picture of the portrayal of women in Austen's work from a linguistic perspective.

1.5 Scope of Research

This research focuses on the linguistic analysis of adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with the term "woman" in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. The scope of the study includes the following specific aspects:

1. **Linguistic Analysis of Adjectives, Nouns, and Verbs:** The study analyze the classifications of adjectives, nouns, and verbs that collocate with "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice*. This analysis aims to determine how these linguistic elements reflect the complexities of marital status and social standing in 18th-century society, directly addressing the first research question.



xamination of Collocational Patterns: The research examine the specific patterns of adjectives, nouns, and verbs that are used in conjunction with "woman." This examination reveal insights into the

domestic roles and intellectual qualities attributed to female characters, aligning with the second research question.

3. **Textual Focus:** The analysis be confined to *Pride and Prejudice*, ensuring a thorough investigation of how Austen's language constructs the representation of women and their societal roles throughout the novel.
4. **Historical Context:** While the primary focus is on linguistic elements, the study also consider the historical context of the 18th century. This contextual understanding help illuminate how societal norms influenced the language used to describe women, providing depth to the analysis.
5. **Methodological Framework:** The research employ a corpus stylistic approach, systematically analyzing language patterns to draw conclusions about the representation of women in the text. This methodology support the objectives of identifying specific linguistic features and their implications for understanding gender representation.

By concentrating on these specific areas, the research aims to provide a focused understanding of how adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman" contribute to the depiction of femininity and societal attitudes in *Pride and Prejudice*.

1.6 Significance of Research

This research is significant for several reasons, each directly linked to the research questions, objectives, and scope outlined in this study:

1. **Enhancing Understanding of Gender Representation:** By analyzing the adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice*, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of how language constructs gender representation. This directly addresses the research questions regarding the



complexities of marital status and social standing, providing insights into how these factors influence the portrayal of female characters.

2. **Illuminating Linguistic Patterns:** The examination of linguistic patterns in the text reveal how specific adjectives, nouns, and verbs reflect societal attitudes towards women. This aligns with the research objectives of identifying these patterns and understanding their implications for the domestic roles and intellectual qualities attributed to female characters, thereby enriching the analysis of Austen's work.
3. **Contextualizing Historical Norms:** By situating the linguistic analysis within the historical context of the 18th century, the research highlights how societal norms shaped the language used to describe women. This contextualization is crucial for understanding the significance of the findings, as it connects the linguistic elements to broader cultural and social constructs, reinforcing the relevance of the research questions.
4. **Methodological Contribution:** Utilizing a corpus stylistic approach allows for a systematic analysis of language, which enhances the rigor of the study. This methodological framework not only supports the research objectives but also serves as a model for future studies in literary linguistics, particularly those focusing on gender and language.
5. **Encouraging Further Research:** By addressing gaps in the existing literature on the representation of women in *Pride and Prejudice*, this research encourages further exploration of similar themes in other literary works. It opens avenues for future research on gender representation and linguistic analysis, fostering a broader dialogue within the field.



Implications for Literary Criticism: The findings of this research have implications for literary criticism, particularly in how scholars interpret the representation of women in classic literature. By

providing a nuanced analysis of Austen's language, the study contribute to ongoing discussions about gender roles and expectations in literature, reinforcing the importance of linguistic analysis in understanding character representation.

In summary, this research is significant not only for its contributions to understanding gender representation in *Pride and Prejudice* but also for its broader implications in the fields of gender studies, literary analysis, and historical context. By directly addressing the specific research questions and objectives, the study aims to provide valuable insights that resonate within academic discourse and contribute to a deeper understanding of the interplay between language and societal constructs.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Previous Related Studies

The study of adjectives and nouns within the framework of linguistic features provides insightful perspectives on language structure and function, as evidenced by the works of Dixon (2009) and Delahunty and Garvey (2010). Their theories elucidate the classification of adjectival and nominal forms, offering foundational methodologies essential for understanding complex grammatical relationships. As the examination of language extends beyond mere classification to encompass societal reflections, the exploration of gender representation within literary texts gains prominence. Haspelmath and Sims's (2010) contributions to gender studies provide an analytical scaffold for investigating the portrayal of gender roles and dynamics in literature. In particular, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* a text rich in social commentary and character development, serves as a fertile ground for applying these theories through corpus stylistic analysis.

This literature review aims to synthesize existing research on the classification of adjectives and nouns while applying corpus stylistics to gender representation, highlighting the intersection of linguistic theory and literary critique. The significance of this research lies in its potential to unravel the nuances of language that shape and reflect societal norms and values, particularly in the context of historical literature like *Pride and Prejudice*. Understanding these classifications not only furthers linguistic inquiry but also allows for a critical assessment of the narrative mechanisms that contribute to the construction of gender identities. A thorough examination of prior studies reveals several key

ies.

Firstly, Dixon's (2009) framework for classifying adjectives has been influential in linguistic research, pinpointing the syntactic and



semantic dimensions of adjectives. Furthermore, Delahunty and Garvey's (2010) approach to noun classification further consolidates our understanding of how nouns function within sentence structures, providing a rich backdrop for analyzing narrative elements in literature. Concurrently, Haspelmath and Sims (2010) have systematically documented the representation of gender across languages and texts, offering vital context for understanding how gender roles are constructed and represented in cultural narratives.

Their work emphasizes the need for nuanced approaches to analyze gender linguistically and narratively. Despite the wealth of knowledge surrounding these theories and their applications, significant gaps remain. Research pertaining to the intersection of grammatical classification and gender representation within a corpus stylistic framework is noticeably sparse. While individual studies have addressed components of these theories, integrating them into a coherent model to assess gender representation in literary works, particularly Austen's, remains largely unexplored. This represents an opportunity for further investigation, allowing for a comprehensive analysis that combines theoretical linguistics with practical literary critique. In setting the stage for the following sections of this literature review, this introduction articulates the importance of examining the intricate relationships between adjective and noun classification, gender representation, and linguistic style within *Pride and Prejudice*.

By leveraging the frameworks established by Dixon, Delahunty and Garvey, as well as Haspelmath and Sims, subsequent sections explore methodological approaches, key findings from existing studies, and the implications of integrating these theories into literary analysis. Ultimately, this literature review seeks to contribute new insights into the

ongoing conversations about language and gender in literature, offering a deeper understanding of how grammatical structures



resonate with social constructs in texts that continue to captivate readers today.

The classification of adjectives has evolved notably since the foundational works of Dixon in 2009, which systematically categorized adjective classes based on semantic distinctions and syntactic behaviors. Dixon proposed that adjectives could be segmented into various classes, including descriptive, relational, and limiting adjectives, each with distinct functions in sentence structures. This classification laid groundwork for subsequent linguistic analysis by offering a clear framework for understanding adjective use in different languages. Building on this theoretical foundation, Delahunty and Garvey (2010) introduced a complementary approach to noun classification, emphasizing the relationship between nouns and adjectives in descriptive contexts. Their insights underscore the interplay between these classes in shaping meaning within texts, providing a nuanced understanding that enhances Dixon's earlier categorizations. This interaction becomes particularly relevant in textual analyses, such as those found in corpus stylistic studies.

Further advancing the discussion, Haspelmath and Sims (2010) contribute a theoretical framework for analyzing gender representation through linguistic structures, which can be critically applied to literary texts such as Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. By employing corpus stylistics, researchers can quantitatively assess the prevalence and function of adjectives and nouns, thereby revealing underlying gender biases encoded in the language. This methodology has sparked interest in examining how lexical choices reflect broader societal attitudes towards gender and identity. As these theories converge, a richer understanding of the linguistic dimensions of gender representation in

ature emerges, illustrating the dynamic relationship between grammatical classification and the socio-cultural implications of language use. Such interdisciplinary approaches highlight how linguistic



frameworks can be adapted to uncover critical insights in literary studies, reinforcing the value of ongoing research in this area.

The classification of adjective types as proposed by Dixon (2009) serves as a foundational framework for understanding how adjectives function within language. Dixon identifies several classes, including descriptive, expressive, and relational, which emphasize varying degrees of modification and semantic contribution to nouns. Complementarily, Delahunty and Garvey (2010) extend this understanding by offering a detailed taxonomy of nouns, highlighting the interplay between adjectives and nouns in terms of syntactical and semantic roles. Their analysis underscores that adjectives not only enhance noun phrases but also shape meaning through their categorical placement and pertinence, reflecting broader linguistic structures. Furthermore, the study of gender representation in literary works, such as Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* benefits significantly from the theoretical insights of Haspelmath and Sims (2010).

They offer a methodologically rigorous approach for analyzing stylistic choices through corpus-based techniques, allowing for a quantitative examination of language patterns. This lens reveals how gender roles are linguistically constructed and represented through adjectival modifiers, thereby reflecting social values and cultural norms prevalent in Austen's time. By applying these theoretical frameworks in concert, a rich tapestry of language use emerges, illuminating how both adjectives and nouns operate systematically to encode gendered meanings. Such intersections not only illustrate the capabilities of these linguistic classifications to describe aesthetic nuances but also unveil deeper sociocultural implications in literary contexts.

This thematic exploration thus highlights the synergistic potential of binning these classifications to achieve insights into language texture and its role in gender representation in *Pride and Prejudice*. The classification of adjective classes, as proposed by Dixon (2009),



offers a foundational understanding that can be complemented by Delahunty and Garvey's (2010) taxonomy of nouns. Dixon's framework delineates adjectives based on structural characteristics, such as gradability and relationality, providing a systematic approach for linguistic analysis. This method is crucial when evaluating language features in texts, particularly in complex narratives like *Pride and Prejudice*.

Delahunty and Garvey's contribution of classifying nouns gives depth to the analysis by situating adjectives within a broader grammatical framework, allowing for a nuanced understanding of how descriptive language operates in specific contexts ((Alice Bell et al., 2024), (Chenlei Zhou, 2024)). Meanwhile, Haspelmath and Sims (2010) expand this exploration into social dimensions by applying their theory to investigate gender representation within the same novel through corpus stylistic methods. Their approach emphasizes how linguistic features reflect societal norms and gender roles, which is particularly salient in Austen's work.

The methodological shift to corpus stylistics facilitates a quantitative analysis of linguistic patterns, effectively revealing trends in representation that may not be apparent through traditional qualitative methods ((Chongwon Park et al., 2023), (John Newman, 2022)). Thus, the convergence of Dixon's grammatical classifications, Delahunty and Garvey's noun typology, and Haspelmath and Sims's gender analysis illustrates the richness of methodological diversity. Each framework contributes distinct analytical lenses that deepen our understanding of language in literature, demonstrating that methodological choices significantly impact the interpretation of linguistic data ((Devet Goodness, 2021), (Aarsleff et al., 2017)). In combination, these approaches afford a comprehensive view of both grammatical structure

socio-linguistic phenomena inherent in literary texts.

The classification of adjectives, as delineated by Dixon (2009), provides a foundational framework for understanding the various roles



that adjectives play in language. Dixon identifies several classes of adjectives based on their semantic functions, which can facilitate a deeper analysis of textual representation and meaning. This theoretical stance is particularly advantageous when applied to corpus stylistic analyses. For instance, Delahunty and Garvey (2010) expand on this classification by proposing a nuanced method for identifying and categorizing nouns, which can complement adjective classifications by offering insight into the syntactic relationships between adjectives and the nouns they modify. These perspectives converge, suggesting a layered approach to understanding language, especially within literary texts.

In analyzing gender representation in *Pride and Prejudice*, Haspelmath and Sims (2010) emphasize the importance of corpus stylistic approaches that highlight linguistic features embedded within social contexts. By integrating the theoretical constructs from Dixon and Delahunty and Garvey, one can employ a comprehensive analytical lens to examine how adjectives not only modify nouns but also reflect societal norms and gender roles present in Austen's text. For instance, the clustering of specific adjectives offering insight into female characters reveals underlying biases and cultural values while situating the analysis within broader feminist linguistic theories. Hence, this synthesis of theoretical frameworks fosters a robust understanding of how language operates within specific textual instances, effectively bridging grammatical classification with social representation in literature, particularly in the context of gender studies.

Through this interplay of theories, it becomes clear that a multidimensional approach is essential for examining the intersection of linguistic structures and societal implications, paving the way for richer interpretations of classic literary works. The exploration of linguistic frameworks, specifically the classifications of adjectives and nouns by Dixon (2009) and Delahunty and Garvey (2010), alongside the gender



representation analysis presented by Haspelmath and Sims (2010), elucidates the intricate relationships between language structure, gender, and societal norms within literary contexts, notably in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.

This literature review has aimed to synthesize significant theoretical insights from these foundational works while applying them to a nuanced investigation of linguistic features that shape and reflect cultural attitudes toward gender. A primary finding underscores the efficacy of Dixon's classifications, which delineate various types of adjectives based on their semantic and syntactic roles. By establishing categories such as descriptive, relational, and limiting adjectives, Dixon's framework lays the groundwork for understanding the functional diversity of adjectives within texts. Delahunty and Garvey's accompanying analysis of noun classifications complements this by highlighting how nouns interact with adjectives, emphasizing their collective impact on meaning construction in literary narratives.

This synaptic interplay is crucial, particularly within complex social commentaries like those found in Austen's work. Integrating the gender analysis proposed by Haspelmath and Sims, this review sheds light on how corpus stylistic methods can quantitatively assess linguistic choices to unveil underlying gender biases in literature. Their framework encourages scholars to investigate how the use of adjectives and nouns in *Pride and Prejudice* reflects and constructs societal gender roles. Consequently, the findings reinforce the notion that language serves not merely as a vehicle for narrative, but also as a powerful reflector of historical and cultural ideologies regarding gender, offering insight into Austen's critique of the social order of her time. Moreover, the implications of this synthesis extend beyond the examination of a

ular literary text.

The methodologies derived from these classifications can be applied broadly across various genres and periods of literature to



analyze how language functions in the construction of social identities. This presents opportunities for interdisciplinary research that can bridge linguistic theory, gender studies, and literary criticism, fostering a richer understanding of how language embodies cultural dynamics. Therein lies the necessity for linguists and literary scholars to collaborate, utilizing these frameworks to explore additional texts and contexts that further interrogate the connections between language use and social representation. However, this literature review is not without its limitations. Although substantial contributions have been made by Dixon, Delahunty and Garvey, and Haspelmath and Sims, the application of their theories in unison, particularly within corpus stylistic analysis of gender representation, remains relatively under explored.

This represents a significant gap in the existing literature. Future research should focus on this integrative approach, potentially applying the derived frameworks to other notable works or even contemporary literature to assess changes in gender representation over time. Furthermore, deeper investigations into the intersectionality of language—considering variables such as race and class—can enrich our understanding of how diverse identities are articulated through linguistic structures. In conclusion, the synthesis of these theories provides a comprehensive framework for not only classifying linguistic features but also for understanding their broader societal implications within literature. The intersection of grammatical structures and social constructs illuminated through this review serves as a foundation for future inquiries that can both advance linguistic scholarship and contribute to a more nuanced discourse on identity and representation in literature.



2.2 Theoretical Background

2.2.1 Historical Context of Women in Literature

The historical context of women in literature provides a crucial foundation for understanding the depictions and representations of female identities, particularly in the early 19th century when Jane Austen was writing "Pride and Prejudice". During the Regency era, women's roles were predominantly defined by societal norms that emphasized domesticity, modesty, and marriage as essential components of their identity. Literature at the time often reflected and reinforced these gender expectations, relegating women to secondary roles in narrative structures while highlighting their virtues and domestic capabilities (Alice Vittrant et al., 2021)(Marieke Olthof, 2020).

Authors like Austen employed their narratives to both adhere to and subtly critique these societal norms, providing nuanced portrayals of female characters who navigate the constraints imposed upon them while asserting their individuality and intellect through wit and social commentary. The research problem within this context involves the need to investigate how Austen's use of language—through adjectives, nouns, and verbs—reflects the historical limitations and roles of women, revealing insights into societal attitudes toward gender during her time. While much has been written about the themes of marriage and social class in Austen's work, there is a lack of systematic linguistic analysis that connects these themes to the specific language choices made in the characterization of women.

This gap highlights an opportunity for the current study to investigate the collocates of "woman" to further uncover the sociolinguistic implications of these representations (Ali Basirat et al., 2018). The primary objectives of this section are to provide a contextual landscape for Austen's narrative, illustrating the historical



and literary significance of women's roles in the Regency era. By examining cultural expectations and the portrayal of women in literature, this section aims to elucidate the frameworks within which Austen operated and the implications of her linguistic choices on the depiction of female identities (Tim Grant, 2022).

The significance of understanding the historical context of women in literature is manifold. Academically, this section enriches the discourse surrounding gender studies and literary analysis by situating Austen's work within a broader socio-historical framework, aiding researchers and researcher in comprehensively understanding the evolution of female representation in literature. Practically, it contributes valuable insights into ongoing discussions about gender identity and representation, demonstrating how historical narratives inform contemporary societal perceptions of women (Barbara Leonardi et al., 2019)(Jack Grieve et al., 2018). By examining the historical backdrop against which Austen wrote, this section lays an essential foundation for understanding the intricate relationship between language, gender, and identity in literary texts, thereby reinforcing the overall relevance of this research in both scholarly and social contexts.

2.2.2 Adjective Classification Framework

Adjective classification plays a pivotal role in understanding the linguistic nuances that inform character portrayals and societal perceptions, particularly in literary texts such as Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Adjectives serve to describe, modify, and characterize nouns, and in the context of this study, they are crucial for elucidating the qualities attributed to women depicted in the narrative. By assifying adjectives using the framework established by Dixon, elahunty, and Garvey, researchers can gain a structured insight into ow specific descriptors contribute to the characterization process



and reflect broader societal attitudes towards femininity during the Regency era (Alice Vittrant et al., 2021)(Marieke Olthof, 2020).

This classification system categorizes adjectives into various types, such as descriptive, evaluative, and relational, enabling a detailed analysis of how these attributes interact with the identity constructions associated with female characters (Ali Basirat et al., 2018). The research problem related to this section stems from the previously identified gap in scholarly analyses where the systematic examination of adjectives used in connection with "woman" has not been adequately addressed. While qualitative studies often explore thematic elements around gender, the lack of a structured linguistic analysis within Austen's work limits a comprehensive understanding of how adjectives specifically contribute to the delineation of female identities (Tim Grant, 2022).

Recognizing this issue sets the framework for a richer exploration of the adjectives that shape the reader's perception of women in the text. The objectives for this section are to categorize and analyze the adjectives co-occurring with "woman", uncovering patterns that reveal how Austen utilized language to construct her characters. This analysis aims not only to identify the adjectives but also to explore their implications for gender representation, societal roles, and individual agency within the narrative (Barbara Leonardi et al., 2019). The significance of adjective classification is twofold; academically, it enhances linguistic inquiry within literary studies, demonstrating how quantitative analysis can reveal insights into character representation that traditional methods may overlook (Jack Grieve et al., 2018).

Furthermore, this examination has practical implications, as it sters a deeper understanding of historical gender constructs and forms contemporary discussions on women's representation in erature. By drawing attention to the specific attributes ascribed to



women through language, this study contributes to ongoing dialogues about gender identity and the influence of literary portrayals on societal attitudes (Albert Gatt et al., 2018)(James O'Sullivan et al., 2018). Therefore, this section lays a foundational groundwork for the subsequent analysis of adjectives, ultimately enriching the overall discourse on language and gender in literature.

2.2.3 Noun Classification Framework

The classification of nouns within the context of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* is a critical component of this research, as it enables a nuanced exploration of how language constructs and conveys societal roles and identities. Nouns serve as fundamental building blocks of meaning, denoting people, places, things, and concepts. Within the framework of this study, the classification of nouns is based on the methodologies proposed by Dixon, Delahunty, and Garvey, which provide a structured approach to categorizing nouns that relate to the term "woman" and the roles associated with female characters throughout the narrative (Alice Vittrant et al., 2021)(Marieke Olthof, 2020).

This classification system serve to highlight various categories such as proper nouns, common nouns, gendered terms, and abstract nouns, thus enabling a comprehensive examination of the linguistic choices that reflect and shape societal attitudes toward women during Austen's time. The research problem at hand canters on the insufficiently explored nature of noun usage in conjunction with "woman" and how these nouns contribute to characterizations and societal perceptions within the text. While existing literature often addresses the thematic elements of Austen's work, it frequently neglects the systematic analysis of nouns that would elucidate the underlying dynamics of gender representation (Ali Basirat et al., 2018).



By focusing explicitly on the classification of nouns, this study seeks to reveal how these linguistic elements inform and reinforce or challenge traditional narratives surrounding femininity. The objectives of this section are threefold: first, to identify the various types of nouns that co-occur with "woman" in the text; second, to classify these nouns according to the established frameworks, thereby elucidating their roles and implications within the narrative; and third, to analyse how these classifications reflect prevailing social attitudes toward women in the early 19th century (Tim Grant, 2022)(Barbara Leonardi et al., 2019). The significance of the noun classification framework is both academic and practical.

Academically, it enriches the field of corpus stylistics by contributing a structured method for analyzing linguistic elements related to gender representation in literature. This approach emphasizes the importance of nouns in character portrayal and social commentary, inviting researcher and researchers to consider how specific word choices reflect cultural norms (Jack Grieve et al., 2018)(Albert Gatt et al., 2018). Practically, understanding the nuances of noun usage in *Pride and Prejudice* provides valuable insights into the historical context of women's roles in literature, offering contemporary readers a lens through which to examine ongoing conversations about gender identity and representation (James O'Sullivan et al., 2018)(Shim et al., 2022). By integrating such linguistic analysis into the broader discourse surrounding Austen's work, this study aims to foster a deeper appreciation of how language operates as a mechanism for cultural reflection and identity construction.



erb Classification Framework

In the exploration of gender representation within literature, erb analysis emerges as a critical factor in understanding agency

and action as they relate to the characters, particularly women, in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Verbs are fundamental to portraying agency, as they denote actions, states, and occurrences, often indicating who takes action and who is acted upon. Through a corpus stylistic approach, this section apply Haspelmath and Sims's theoretical frameworks to systematically categorize and analyze verbs that collocate with the term "woman", thus revealing how language influences the portrayal of women's agency within the narrative (Alice Vittrant et al., 2021)(Marieke Olthof, 2020). The verbs associated with "woman" can illuminate whether female characters are depicted as active agents shaping their destinies or as passive recipients of actions defined by societal norms. The research problem pertinent to this section revolves around the insufficient understanding of how verb usage contributes to delineating female agency in *Pride and Prejudice*.

While prior studies have examined the narratives surrounding gender roles, there remains a gap in systematic analyses of the specific verbs that define action and agency in connection with women (Ali Basirat et al., 2018). This study seeks to fill this gap by investigating how verb collocates with "woman" inform our understanding of female empowerment or subjugation, offering a nuanced viewpoint on how language can shape perceptions of gender roles in historical contexts. The primary objectives of this section are to identify and analyze the verbs that co-occur with "woman", to examine their implications for women's agency, and to discern patterns that either reinforce or challenge traditional portrayals of femininity within Austen's narrative (Tim Grant, 2022)(Barbara Leonardi et al., 2019).

By focusing on the verbs used, the research aims to uncover how Austen constructs female characters who navigate their societal constraints and assert their identities through both action and intent.



The significance of analyzing verbs in relation to agency is multifaceted. Academically, this focus contributes to the field of gender studies and corpus linguistics by demonstrating the pivotal role of verbs in the characterization process, thereby reinforcing the importance of linguistic choices in shaping literature's reflection of societal attitudes toward gender (Jack Grieve et al., 2018)(Albert Gatt et al., 2018).

Practically, the findings from this analysis may resonate within contemporary discussions about women's agency and representation, highlighting the continued relevance of Austen's work in modern dialogues about feminism and identity (James O'Sullivan et al., 2018)(Shim et al., 2022). By situating verb analysis at the intersection of action and agency, this section serves to enrich the overall understanding of how language constructs gender representations in literature and contributes to ongoing conversations about the role of women in both historical and modern contexts.

The current research builds on the work of Fischer-Starcke (2009), who analyzed keywords and frequent phrases in *Pride and Prejudice* to identify patterns related to emotions, communication, and social relationships. Fischer-Starcke found that adjectives describing female characters often conveyed qualities such as gentleness and decorum, reflecting societal expectations. This aligns with Dixon's (2009) classification of adjectives into core and peripheral semantic types, which helps in understanding how specific adjectives associated with "woman" contribute to the portrayal of femininity.

In addition, Delahunty and Garvey's (2010) theory on nouns aids in classifying the nouns that collocate with "woman", distinguishing between concrete and abstract nouns. This classification is critical for analyzing how nouns related to "woman"



can signify both physical attributes and intangible qualities, such as virtue and morality. The presence of abstract nouns in descriptions of female characters may highlight the societal values placed on women's roles as moral guardians and caretakers.

Haspelmath and Sims (2010) provide a framework for understanding verbs, which are essential for analyzing action and agency in Austen's narratives. The verbs that collocate with "woman" can reveal the dynamics of power and control in relationships, as well as the agency of female characters. For instance, verbs indicating action, such as "to manage" or "to influence," may suggest a more active role for women in navigating their social environments, contrasting with more passive descriptors.

The findings from previous studies collectively underscore the importance of linguistic analysis in understanding gender representation in *Pride and Prejudice*. By analyzing the collocations of adjectives, nouns, and verbs associated with "woman", researchers can uncover the underlying societal attitudes and expectations that shape the portrayal of female characters. This approach not only enriches the understanding of Austen's literary techniques but also contributes to the broader discourse on gender studies in literature.

The current research distinguishes itself by analyzing novels by Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*. By employing AntConc (Anthony, 2014) for data analysis, this study aims to systematically identify and classify the linguistic features associated with "woman", offering new insights into how language constructs femininity and reflects societal norms in the 18th century.

The reviewed studies highlight the significance of corpus analysis in exploring the linguistic features that contribute to gender representation in literature, particularly in the context of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. By focusing on the adjectives, nouns,



and verbs that collocate with "woman", this research aims to deepen the understanding of how language shapes perceptions of femininity and the roles of women in society. This body of work provides a foundation for the current study, which seeks to further investigate these linguistic patterns and their implications for understanding gender dynamics in Austen's narratives.

2.2.5 The Role of Corpus Linguistics in Literary Analysis

Corpus linguistics provides a systematic approach to analyzing language patterns in literary texts, enabling researchers to uncover linguistic features that may not be immediately apparent through traditional reading methods. As McEnery and Hardie (2011) note, corpus linguistics involves the study of large datasets of written or spoken texts, allowing for quantitative analysis of language use. This methodology is particularly useful in literary studies, where it can reveal the nuanced complexities of character representation and thematic development. Mahlberg (2010) exemplifies this approach in her analysis of *Pride and Prejudice*, where she identifies keywords and their collocates to explore social norms and character dynamics. Her findings indicate that the keyword "civility" is pivotal in understanding the societal expectations of women during Austen's time. By employing corpus tools such as AntConc, Mahlberg demonstrates how linguistic analysis can provide valuable insights into the complexities of gender dynamics and character interactions within the narrative. This approach allows for a detailed and thorough examination of how language usage reflects and shapes the societal norms that govern the behavior of characters in *Pride and Prejudice*. Through the identification of keywords and their collocates, Mahlberg reveals significant patterns in the text that highlight the expectations placed on women, particularly regarding notions of civility, decorum, and social propriety. Ultimately, this corpus-based analysis not only



enhances our understanding of Austen's work but also contributes to broader discussions about the role of language in shaping social identities and cultural narratives within the context of the period.

2.2.6 Corpus-Base techniques to analyze literary works

The analytic potential of certain corpus techniques might sound great in gaining some insightful knowledge that can be used in generating a sort of rigorous understanding of literary meanings and the way language is organized in a literary text (Khalid Shakir Hussein, 2015). Using corpora, huge quantities of literary language is completely reachable and open to systematic analysis and detailed description (Khalid Shakir Hussein, 2015). However, Intuition does not work under the unprecedented huge amounts of corpora.

2.2.6.1. Concordances

The term concordance is fundamental in corpus linguistics, serving as a crucial analytical tool for examining language use in context. Concordance analysis enables researchers to explore how specific words or phrases are utilized within a corpus, providing insights into linguistic patterns, meanings, and usage.

According to John Sinclair (1991), a concordance is defined as "a collection of the occurrences of a word-form, each in its own textual environment." This definition emphasizes the primary function of a concordance: to index word occurrences, contextualizing each instance within the surrounding text. In its simplest form, a concordance systematically locates and analyzes the usage of specific word-forms across a corpus.

A word-form or lemma is described by Francois and Kucera (1982) as "a set of lexical forms having the same stem and belonging to the same major word class, differing only in inflection and/or spelling." This means that a lemma includes all variations of a word



that share a common root, allowing researchers to search for and analyze these forms collectively.

Concordance programs, often referred to as **KWIC** (Key Words in Context) tools, are widely used in corpus linguistics (Scott, 2010). These programs generate lists of all occurrences of a specified word-form within a corpus, displaying the context in which each occurrence appears. The KWIC format presents the search word in the center, flanked by its immediate context to the left and right, facilitating a nuanced understanding of how the word is used in different contexts. For example, a KWIC table for the search word "woman" in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* would display various instances of the word along with surrounding text, allowing researchers to analyse the connotations, associations, and roles attributed to women in the novel.

Concordance analysis is grounded in several theoretical frameworks that emphasize the importance of context in understanding language. One key aspect is the contextualization of meaning, which posits that the meaning of a word is shaped by its surrounding linguistic environment. This aligns with principles of discourse analysis, which examines how language functions in communication and how meaning is constructed through context.

Additionally, concordance analysis is informed by corpus linguistics methodologies, which prioritize empirical data derived from large text corpora. This approach allows researchers to identify patterns of language use that may not be apparent through traditional qualitative analysis. By analyzing the frequency and distribution of word-forms, researchers can uncover trends related to gender, social roles, and cultural attitudes, particularly in historical texts like *Pride and Prejudice*.

Moreover, the use of concordance tools facilitates a quantitative analysis of language, enabling researchers to complement



qualitative interpretations with statistical data. This combination of qualitative and quantitative methods enriches the analysis, providing a more comprehensive understanding of linguistic phenomena.

In summary, concordance analysis is a vital tool in corpus linguistics, enabling researchers to explore the complexities of language use in context. By examining the occurrences of specific word-forms, such as "woman" in *Pride and Prejudice*, scholars can gain valuable insights into the societal norms and gender roles reflected in literature, ultimately contributing to a deeper understanding of the cultural constructs that shape women's identities in the 18th century.

The picture below shows a concordance in KWIC format. In this example the search word woman in the novel *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen.

The screenshot shows a concordance program interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'KWIC', 'Plot', 'File', 'Cluster', 'N-Gram', 'Collocate', 'Word', 'Keyword', and 'Wordcloud'. The 'KWIC' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there is a search bar with the text 'woman' and a 'Start' button. To the left of the search bar, there is a list of search results. The first result is 'Pride and Prejudice (The)'. Below the search bar, there is a table with columns: 'File', 'Left Context', 'Hit', and 'Right Context'. The table contains 20 rows of results. The first row is: '1 Pride and ... led to many a woman who deserves'. The second row is: '2 Pride and ... i for her, for a woman who had alrea'. The third row is: '3 Pride and ... as 'the sort of woman ... who likes her t'. The fourth row is: '4 Pride and ... radoxically, a woman who lived her l'. The fifth row is: '5 Pride and ... i do, that the woman who marries h'. The sixth row is: '6 Pride and ... e given to the woman who shows the'. The seventh row is: '7 Pride and ... While a young woman who took up a'. The eighth row is: '8 Pride and ... for any young woman of character, b'. The ninth row is: '9 Pride and ... ed by a young woman of inferior birt'. The tenth row is: '10 Pride and ... ainst a young woman of Lydia's com'. The eleventh row is: '11 Pride and ... 12 She was a woman of mean under'. The twelfth row is: '12 Pride and ... Austen was a woman of the highest'. The thirteenth row is: '13 Pride and ... ane Austen, a woman of whom Engle'. The fourteenth row is: '14 Pride and ... y other young woman in the country'. The fifteenth row is: '15 Pride and ... is not another woman in the room, w'. The sixteenth row is: '16 Pride and ... as every other woman in the room. N'. The seventeenth row is: '17 Pride and ... t I am the last woman in the world wi'. The eighteenth row is: '18 Pride and ... ' he stated, 'a woman in this country'. The nineteenth row is: '19 Pride and ... mberlayne in woman' s clothes,11 or'. The twentieth row is: '20 Pride and ... mberlayne in woman' s clothes: Chai'. At the bottom of the table, there is a 'Search Query' section with checkboxes for 'Words', 'Case', and 'Regex'. The 'Words' checkbox is checked. Below the 'Search Query' section, there is a 'Sort Options' section with buttons for 'Sort to right', 'Sort 1', 'Sort 2', 'Sort 3', and 'Order by freq'. The 'Sort to right' button is selected. At the bottom right of the interface, there is a status bar that says 'Time taken (creating kwic results): 0.0961 sec'.

File	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1 Pride and ...	led to many a	woman	who deserves
2 Pride and ...	i for her, for a	woman	who had alrea
3 Pride and ...	as 'the sort of	woman ...	who likes her t
4 Pride and ...	radoxically, a	woman	who lived her l
5 Pride and ...	i do, that the	woman	who marries h
6 Pride and ...	e given to the	woman	who shows the
7 Pride and ...	While a young	woman	who took up a
8 Pride and ...	for any young	woman	of character, b
9 Pride and ...	ed by a young	woman	of inferior birt
10 Pride and ...	ainst a young	woman	of Lydia's com
11 Pride and ...	12 She was a	woman	of mean under
12 Pride and ...	Austen was a	woman	of the highest
13 Pride and ...	ane Austen, a	woman	of whom Engle
14 Pride and ...	y other young	woman	in the country
15 Pride and ...	is not another	woman	in the room, w
16 Pride and ...	as every other	woman	in the room. N
17 Pride and ...	t I am the last	woman	in the world wi
18 Pride and ...	' he stated, 'a	woman	in this country
19 Pride and ...	mberlayne in	woman'	s clothes,11 or
20 Pride and ...	mberlayne in	woman'	s clothes: Chai

Concordance programs are highly effective corpus analysis tools that enable researchers to examine the occurrences of specific words or phrases within their original contexts. By providing samples of language use, these programs facilitate a deeper understanding of linguistic patterns and meanings.



2.2.6.2. Frequency list

Word frequency analysis is a technique that requires analysts to examine how frequently or infrequently a particular word (or phrase) appears in a corpus (text) (O'Keeffe, 2007). This method is fundamental in corpus linguistics, as it enables researchers to quantify language use and identify patterns that may not be immediately apparent through qualitative analysis alone. By providing data about the number of times each word is used in the content, word frequency analysis can reveal insights into the thematic emphasis of a text, the author's stylistic choices, and the socio-cultural context in which the text was produced.

The significance of word frequency analysis has been highlighted in various studies across different fields, including linguistics, literature, and discourse analysis. For instance, in the realm of applied linguistics, O'Keeffe (2007) emphasizes that understanding word frequency can aid language learners in acquiring vocabulary and recognizing collocational patterns. This insight is particularly valuable in educational contexts, where learners can benefit from targeted instruction based on the frequency and usage of specific words.

In literary studies, word frequency analysis has been used to explore the stylistic features of texts, allowing scholars to dissect an author's language choices and their implications for meaning. For example, Biber et al. (1998) conducted a comprehensive analysis of word frequency across different genres, demonstrating how variations in word usage can reflect the conventions and expectations of specific literary forms. Their work underscores the importance of frequency data in understanding not only the content of a text but also the broader narrative and rhetorical strategies employed by the author.



Additionally, frequency analysis can illuminate the social and cultural contexts surrounding a text. For instance, studies utilizing word frequency techniques have examined how certain words or phrases may reflect societal attitudes, biases, or prevailing ideologies. In their analysis of political discourse, for example, Baker (2006) found that the frequency of specific terms could indicate shifts in public sentiment or highlight issues of social concern. This application of word frequency analysis extends beyond literary texts, demonstrating its versatility as a research tool in various disciplines.

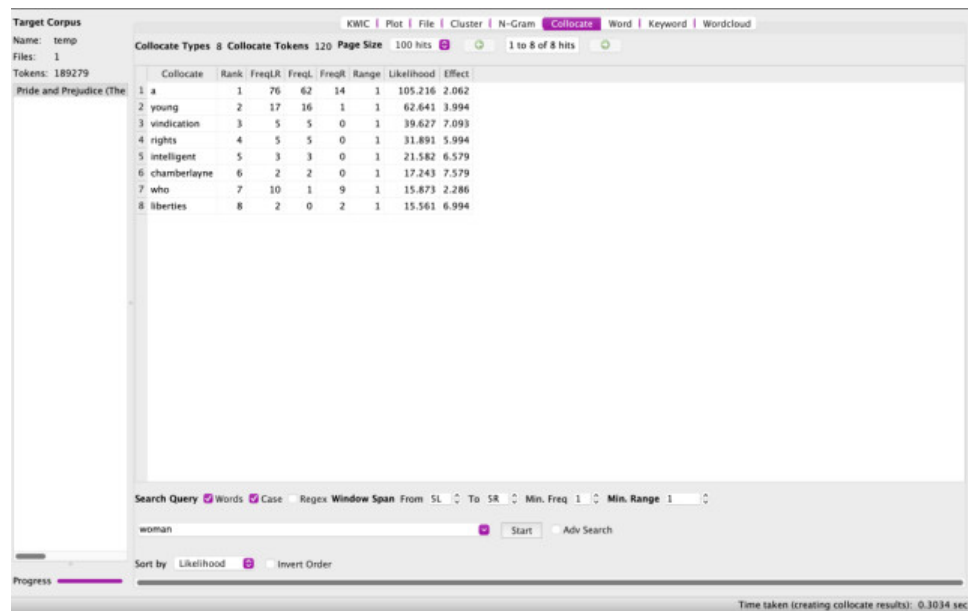
The methodology of word frequency analysis typically involves compiling a list of words used in a corpus, along with their respective frequencies. This can be accomplished using software tools designed for corpus analysis, such as AntConc or WordSmith Tools. These programs allow researchers to generate frequency lists quickly, facilitating further analysis of the data. By examining the most frequently occurring words, researchers can identify key themes, motifs, and patterns that may warrant deeper investigation.

Moreover, frequency lists can serve as a foundation for subsequent analyses, such as collocation studies, where researchers investigate the words that frequently co-occur with a target word. This approach can reveal additional layers of meaning and contribute to a more nuanced understanding of language use within a specific context.

In summary, word frequency analysis is a powerful technique that provides valuable insights into language use across various fields. By examining how often particular words appear in a corpus, researchers can uncover significant patterns and meanings that enhance our understanding of texts and their broader cultural implications. The integration of frequency analysis into linguistic and literary studies not only enriches our analytical toolkit but also



fosters a deeper appreciation of the intricate relationship between language, meaning, and society.



Target Corpus
Name: temp
Files: 1
Tokens: 189279
Pride and Prejudice (The

Collocate Types: 8 Collocate Tokens: 120 Page Size: 100 hits 1 to 8 of 8 hits

Collocate	Rank	FreqL	FreqR	Range	Likelihood	Effect
1 a	1	76	62	14	105.216	2.062
2 young	2	17	16	1	62.641	3.994
3 vindication	3	5	5	0	39.627	7.093
4 rights	4	5	5	0	31.891	5.994
5 intelligent	5	3	3	0	21.582	6.579
6 chamberlayne	6	2	2	0	17.243	7.579
7 who	7	10	1	9	15.873	2.286
8 liberties	8	2	0	2	15.561	6.994

Search Query: Words Case Regex Window Span From: SL To: SR Min. Freq: 1 Min. Range: 1
woman Start Adv Search
Sort by: Likelihood Invert Order
Progress
Time taken (creating collocate results): 0.3034 sec

2.2.6.3. Collocate Lists

Collocates constitute the words that surround a particular search word (Scott, 2010). The phenomenon of Collocation, as described by Firth (1957:14), considers the very fact certain words tend to occur in combination with each other within certain linguistic contexts. Therefore, a collocate is most definitely a word that exists in the surrounding environment of another word (Baker, 2006:37). Collocate lists are closely related to concordances. The latter produces the actual occurrence of a search word accompanied with its textual environment, so what is displayed is the search word within its whatever context (Khalid Shakir Hussain, 2015). The emphasis on the collocate list, however, is not the search word but the company-ords as distributed around (Scott, 2010: 121-22). For instance, the software AntConc provides researchers with an independent window ithin which collocating occurrences and their frequencies can be set columns and rows.



The use of corpus-based techniques in literary analysis has several benefits. Such techniques prove us to not fully satisfied with the intuitive critical interpretations of a literary text. By virtue of such techniques, the linguists are provided with neutral and impartial insights into the literary texts under investigation. Moreover, because of the user-friendly corpus software, it is much easier to bring out some invisible meanings that could be missed or unrecognized. These three techniques tackled above have their own role in investigating hidden meanings of literary works, Linguists can bring some examples of a particular word or phrase using concordance programs, check the frequency of a word-by-word frequency analysis tool, and finally search a word that occur in combination with other words within certain linguistic contexts.

Currently, to conduct the research, the researcher use some theories related to adjectives, nouns, and verbs classification that attach to the collocation of woman. Nouns, verbs, and adjectives are parts of speech, or the building blocks for writing complete sentences. Nouns are people, places, or things. Verbs are action words. Adjectives are descriptive words. Based on its definition, the noun is a word that refers to a person, (such as Ann or doctor), a place (such as Paris or city) or a thing, a quality, or an activity (such as plant, sorrow or tennis) (Oxford Learners' Dictionaries, 2017). While verb is a word or group of words that expresses an action (such as eat), an event (such as happen) or a state (such as exist) (Oxford Learners' Dictionaries, 2017). In addition, adjective is a word that describes a person or thing, for example big, red and clever in a big house, red wine and a clever idea (Oxford Learners' Dictionaries, 2017).

