



A Corpus Based Analysis of Conflicting Synonyms in Technical Writings

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ABSTRACT Most of the learners, even being at advanced level of studies, misuse synonyms in academic writing while rephrasing the text to minimize plagiarism rate which further causes the rise of conflict in meaning. This study aims to explore the conflict arising due to the misuse of synonyms. For this purpose, it raises a question that is how synonyms are similar or different from each other in terms of meanings and collocations. To answer this question, this study develops a corpus from 20 research articles which has been analyzed through an AntConc software 3.4.4.0. Results reveal that, even if incorrect synonym is used, meaning is conveyed to some extent because of its collocations and context. However, replacement affects the actual essence of the texts. The study suggests the researchers of English as a second language to focus on accurate use of synonyms to avoid issues in academic writings.