Module 3
Corpus-based Lessons and Activities

<u>Central goals:</u>

1. Analyse what aspects of corpus linguistics are useful for the ELT classroom.

2. Review basics of lesson planning and activity design.

3. Draft a coherent and interesting lesson that caters to the needs of a particular target group.

<u>Milestones:</u>

1. We have formed a group consisting of 3-4 members.

2. We have discussed possible topics and agreed on one specific topic of the lesson (e.g. using the activity typology: https://corpora-in-elt.com/classroom-activities/) .

3. We have formulated a specific lesson aim.

4. We have collected our results, analyzed and discussed them.

5. We have designed specific activities that fit our overarching aim.

6. Our lesson plan has a clear structure and the tasks are formulated in a student-friendly way.

Criteria for the lesson plan:

1. The lesson aim is formulated clearly and according to the academic input.

2. For our purposes, the lesson aim should lead to the use of corpora – either within the lesson or as a means of preparing the lesson.

3. The lesson plan fits the chosen grade and school form.

4. The tasks are formulated in a student-friendly, comprehensible way; operators are used.

Scaffolding ideas:

1. To give you an idea of what lesson aims could look like, the following example is a plausible formulation:

   Lesson Aim: The learners are able to write at least two sentences about their weekend plans using the will-future on their own.

   - observable behavior
   - content perspective
   - level of autonomy/form of interaction

   Important note: In this lesson, pupils would not work with corpus websites themselves but the teacher would e.g. present concordance lines from a corpus website in the lesson.

2. If you are having a hard time coming up with/choosing a topic and a target group for your project, try to brainstorm these questions on your own and discuss your thoughts with your group afterwards:

- In which grade could students start working with corpora in the EFL classroom?

- How could pupils benefit from working with corpora?

- How could you motivate your pupils to work with corpora?

- What aspects of corpus work are the most suitable for the EFL classroom environment?

3. For some inspiration, take a look at the task types that can be implemented in ELT (https://corpora-in-elt.com/classroom-activities/). You can simply pick one activity and modify it to your purposes and your lesson aim.

4. During the process of creating the lesson plan, try to keep your lesson aim in mind. Make sure you choose activities that are the most suitable for your goal. If you are having trouble making sustainable progress, think about these questions:

- Do the different parts of the lesson build on each other?

- Can you identify a clear structure?

- Do the tasks lead the pupils to the goal that is formulated in the lesson aim?