

Studying Influences of British English and American English on World Wide Web in Southeast Asia by Applying Web as Corpus

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Abstract

In this paper, a study of the English texts used in countries in Southeast Asia is presented. The objective is to decide whether the English words used in the chosen country in the region is closer to British English or American English. Computational techniques are applied to collect the materials used in the study from the World Wide Web (WWW). The countries studied were Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Among these countries, only Philippines and Singapore recognize English as official language, but English is widely used in the other countries. Three analysis works that are similarity comparison, nation-specific terms study and Log-Likelihood comparison are performed to investigate the differences. From the results of the analysis works, the English texts used in most of the chosen countries in the Southeast Asia are closer to the American English. The nation-specific English terms in each country and patterns of the terms are identified, and lists of the specific terms are presented with further discussion as well.

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