# Words of a feather flock together

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Work done with:

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Stephen Fitz (Computer Science)

## Looking at texts: documents

- Texts contain a great deal of structure.
- That structure can be divided into:
  - Structure of the content;
  - Structure of the language.
- Look at a series of books in French: what they share in common is the structure of French.
- Look at a series of translations of Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: what they share in common is the structure of the content.

# We care about the structure of the language (today)

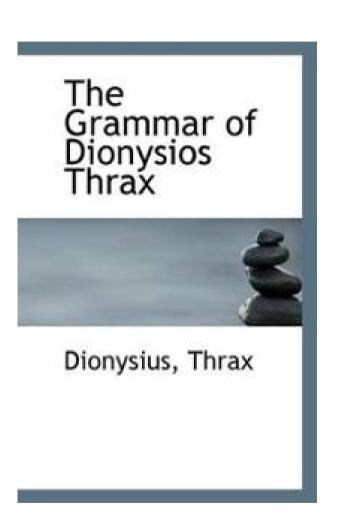
- Structure of a language includes a *lexicon:* the words of the language.
- The *order* in which words appear is largely determined by the *syntax* of the language.

#### Frank and Ernest



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## Word categories



- Noun
- Verb
- Participle
- Article
- Pronoun
- Preposition
- Adverb
- Conjunction

Name	Date.	

## Mad Libs Worksheet In The Jungle!



I walk through the color jungle. I take out my

\_\_\_\_\_\_(adjective) canteen. There's a

\_\_\_\_\_(adjective) parrot with a \_\_\_\_\_\_(adjective)

\_\_\_\_\_(noun) in his mouth right in front of me in the

\_\_\_\_\_(adjective) trees! I gaze at his \_\_\_\_\_\_(adjective)

\_\_\_\_\_(noun). A sudden sound awakes me from my

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#### In The Jungle!



I walk through the color jungle. I take out my

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In The Jungle!



#### In The Jungle!



I walk through the color jungle. I take out my

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In The Jungle!



I walk through the color jungle. I take out my

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#### Mad Libs Worksheet

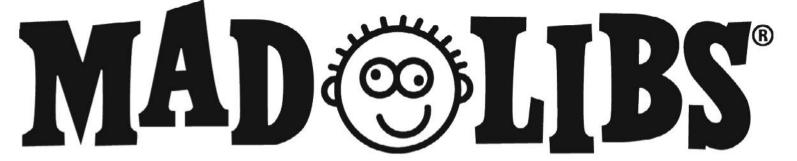
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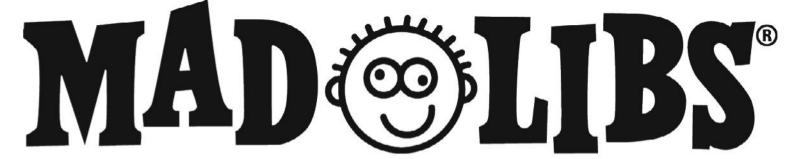
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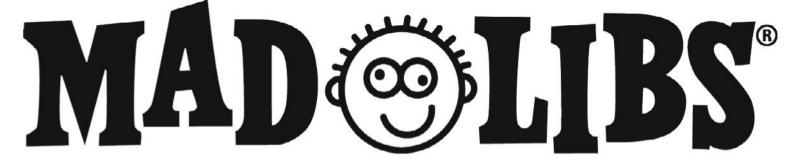
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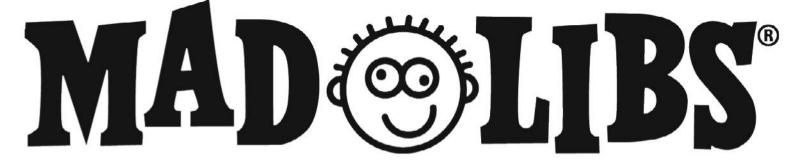
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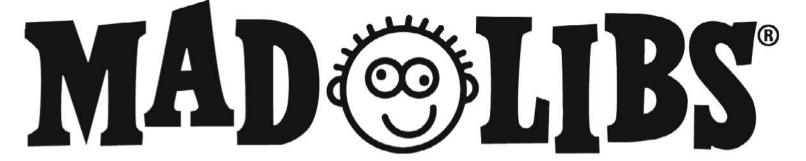
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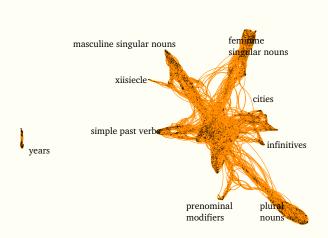
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all sorts of Sneakers with friends, family, colleagues, or even Romney, but didn't (PLURAL NOUN)
know how? Maybe you were just strolling the sidewalks of Kenwood past your
favorite $\frac{gbo}{\text{(OBSCURE ETHNICITY)}}$ bakery when you wished you could pull out your i $\frac{50ab}{\text{(NOUN)}}$
and use it to quickly differentiate all your latest DOGOSTICKS and post it to your frivial stuff you like)
GoogleMine ? Rheummate-ly is the answer. The fact is, we live in a world (SOCIAL MEDIA PROFILE NO ONE READS) (STARTUP NAME)
where <u>crowd-licking</u> will revolutionize <u>taxi business</u> , and pretty soon you'll be able to (GERUND STARTING WITH "CROWD")
anything you want through the cloud. All this
(VERB THAT IMPLIES CREATIVITY) (NOUN FORM OF VERB ENDING IN -ATE)

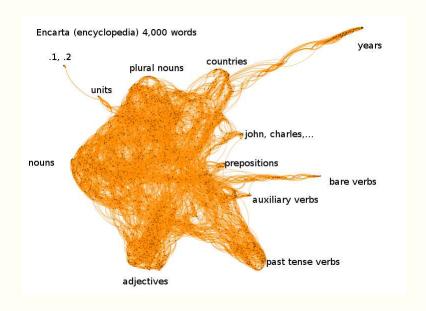
Your startup name: Rheummate-ly. Have you ever wanted to Jump (MISSPELLED VERSION OF REAL WORD, ENDING IN-LY OR -10)  (MISSPELLED VERSION OF REAL WORD, ENDING IN-LY OR -10)
all sorts of Sneakers with friends, family, colleagues, or even Romney, but didn't
know how? Maybe you were just strolling the sidewalks of $\frac{Kenwood}{(GENTRIFIED NEIGHBORHOOD)}$ past your
favorite $\frac{1900}{\text{(OBSCURE ETHNICITY)}}$ bakery when you wished you could pull out your i $\frac{Soap}{\text{(NOUN)}}$
and use it to quickly differentiate all your latest pogosticks and post it to your
GoogleMine ? Rheummate-ly is the answer. The fact is, we live in a world
where <u>crowd-licking</u> will revolutionize <u>taxi business</u> , and pretty soon you'll be able to
thinkify anything you want through the cloud. All this (NOUN FORM OF VERB ENDING IN - ATE)

## Empirically, not so obvious: 'the' versus 'a'

the				a			
Left		Right		Left		Right	
of	9629	same	601	of	1467	few	344
in	5567	f rst	547	in	1321	little	292
to	3433	other	388	as	914	man	253
on	2315	most	380	with	879	new	248
and	2143	United	367	is	872	good	221
for	1766	world	338	was	783	small	161
at	1511	*j	264	for	740	great	153
with	1481	time	243	to	655	very	138
that	1392	two	232	and	615	long	135
from	1352	new	231	on	476	number	117
by	1315	way	226	by	413	large	110
is	793	only	207	be	318	year	99
as	698	end	204	at	256	single	99
into	673	last	202	have	256	moment	86
was	531	next	185	had	246	lot	86
:	466	state	182	like	242	more	84
all	424	whole	178	from	229	time	79
In	412	old	171	such	222	matter	79



French



**English** 

## Dynamic view: English color codesVerbs: 'bare' verb (jump)redVerbs: past tense(jumped, bought)blueVerbs: auxiliary (should, can)greenPrepositions (from, to, up, downaquaAdjectivespurpleCitiesgray

Nouns

pink

Dynamic view: French color codes

Infinitives red

Prepositions light blue

Past participles blue

Adjectives purple

Cities gray

Masculine nouns pink

Feminine nouns light green

Inflected verbs light gray

## Finding regular and irregular past tense forms

