

Report 2: Displaying Capta



Figure 1

A word cloud showing the frequency of words in a collection of fanfic texts.

Note. The word cloud was created in [Voyant](#); the corpus of text was made by yours truly.

J. Drucker (2021) describes visual material as “[a] powerful rhetorical force [...] more easily consumed than the complex research data on which [it] depend[s]” (p. 86). For example, Figure 1 allows an amateur writer to understand which words they like to use often, with the algorithm used in the image “position[ing] the words [...] that occur the most frequently [...] centrally and [...] sized the largest” (S. Sinclair & G. Rockwell, 2025, p. 1). Not only is the word cloud more visually appealing due to its use of various colours, but it also entices one to dwell on the subject matter.

According to L.F. Klein (2012) “visuali[s]ations must be interpreted [...] to [...] understand the assumptions [...] embedded in their construction” (p. 434). S. Day (2022) further states that the humanities are traditionally interested in exploration and discovery, rather than “drawing boundaries and putting things into conveniently defined boxes” (p. 211).

Figure 2 illustrates some of the playfulness found in the humanities, featuring bubbles that, when hovered over, display the “ranking of the cumulative frequencies” (S. Sinclair & G. Rockwell, 2025, p. 1) in a piece of fanfiction. These bubbles enable the interactive investigation of word frequencies, with the bubbles, as mentioned earlier, changing from grey to a different colour when clicked. In this case, the emphasis is not on displaying how frequently words occur in a text, but instead on allowing someone to engage actively with the topic.

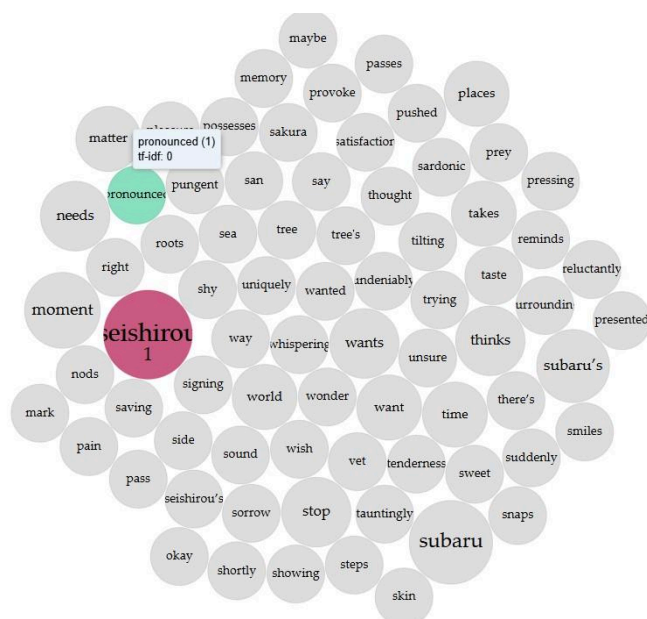


Figure 2

A collection of bubbles that rank the frequency of words in a document.

Note. The bubble graph was created in [Voyant](#); the corpus of text was made by yours truly.

Unlike other disciplines, Day (2022) believes that the humanities have a natural affinity for critically viewing data, often “[...] stepping back and considering sources and acquisition to identify misuse through bad data practice” (p. 212). For Day, the purpose of visualisation in the humanities is to “suggest, connect, provoke, and propose in the hope of instigating further discussion” (p. 214).

Serving as a cautionary tale, Figure 3 depicts a network graph focusing on the relationships in Ranma ½; however, since the CSV file did not configure which ones are one-sided, someone unfamiliar with Ranma may assume that Dr Tofu and Kasumi are in a romantic relationship, which could not be further from the truth.



Figure 3

A network graph that shows the relationships in Ranma ½.

Note. The graph was created in [Palladio](#); the corpus of text is based on a CSV file with data gathered from a [Ranma ½ fan page](#).

T. Venturini et al. (2017) suggest that, although networks are mathematical tools that prompt the viewer to see the world in novel ways, they equally provide the potential for a narrative (pp. 155-156). As Drucker (2021) notes, visualisations "create meaning" (p. 86), with maps serving as a means of narrating a series of events (p. 132). Additionally, Presner and D. Shepard (2016) state that maps serve many functions, often providing visual insight into human experiences (p. 199), as seen in projects such as *Locating London's Past*¹, which offers insight into the city's history.

Figure 4 is a network analysis graph showing which "words are used most often" (onomiyan2, 2018, p. 1) in a fanfic. The narrative in this graph is one of conflict, with the words 'wants' implying a strong desire; however, terms like 'think' and 'stop' indicate that this desire is something dangerous and forbidden.

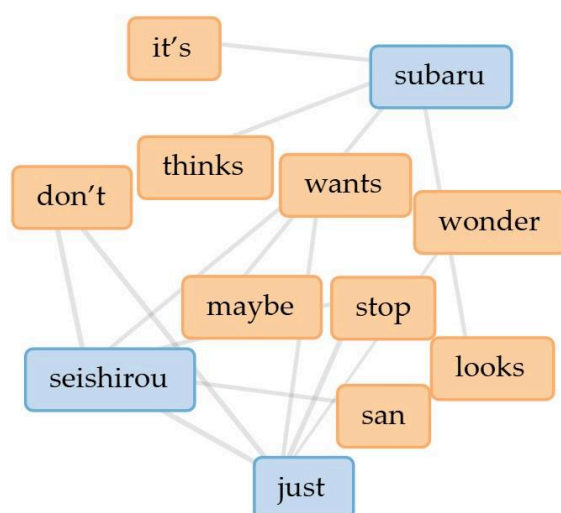


Figure 4

A network analysis graph that shows how frequently occurring words in a text are linked with each other.

Note. The graph was created in [Palladio](#); the corpus of text was made by yours truly.

(500 words).

Acknowledgements

The report did not utilise any AI tools, except for the ones reported for visualisation and Grammarly, which was used for a sanity check to identify any glaring errors.

References

¹ <https://sheffield.ac.uk/hpdh/news/locating-londons-past>

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