This week in our Digital Humanities class has been a whirlwind of new concepts and fast-paced learning. As I am transitioning from a civil engineering background, I find myself both interested and challenged by the course material. Because things are going faster and it need more than 24 hours to grasp all the subjects of the Digital Humanities programs. It has been one and half month since I enrolled in the DHSS course. Initially it was much more difficult to understand the subjects and the terms as well specially the corpus linguistics. By the time things are getting easier for me now I have been started feeling more comfortable with this course as well.

Our focus this week was on understanding many terms and the concepts in the IDH as well as in the corpus linguistics. Authenticity, Little bit intro of the data mining, data analysis, what is data, metadata, etc.

One of the highlights of this week for me was learning about n-grams. This concept fascinated me, as it allows us to analyse the historical usage of words and observe how their popularity has evolved over time. The ability to trace the origins and frequency of specific words is a compelling aspect of digital humanities, and it resonates with my interest in how historical language patterns can inform our understanding of the present.

Despite these intriguing elements, I encountered some challenges. The most pressing issue for me is understanding the search times displayed when using databases like the British National Corpus (BNC) or the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA). I am curious about the significance of these search times and whether they provide any contextual information about the data. **I would appreciate some clarification on this**.

This week also included an orientation session with Samya on corpus linguistics. While the session was engaging and Samya's teaching was effective, I struggled with the terminology used. Coming from a technical background, I found some of the jargon difficult to grasp. Although I recognize the value of the concepts being taught, I believe that a bit more foundational explanation of the terminology would have enhanced my understanding and made the session even more beneficial. **Though I know it’s not possible to explain each term in 1 hour of the orientation program.**

Moreover, I must express my current struggle with comprehending the practical applications of corpora. **Despite numerous discussions and classes, I still find myself questioning why corpora are essential and how language analysis would be conducted in their absence.** This is a point of confusion for me, and I am eager to gain a clearer understanding of the role and significance of corpora in digital humanities.

With midterm exams approaching, my focus has shifted somewhat, and I’ve been unable to thoroughly review all the PowerPoint presentations and topics covered this week. This has added to my sense of urgency and stress, as I strive to balance exam preparation with keeping up with the course content.

In summary, this week has been a blend of stimulating new insights and challenging adjustments. The study of IDH and corpus linguistics has been both fascinating and demanding. I look forward to delving deeper into these topics and gaining a more comprehensive understanding as the course progresses. For now, my priority will be preparing for the upcoming exams while continuing to engage with the course material to the best of my ability.

I hope to clarify my questions and concerns in the coming weeks and build on the knowledge we’ve covered so far. Thank you for reading my reflections.