ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project is the establishment of a vocabulary syllabus for five engineering subdisciplines. The first stage of the project involved the creation of a 250000 word corpus of textbook material in five engineering disciplines. This material was then analyzed to identify the most frequent items. It was also established, incidentally, that the degree of specialisation in vocabulary was such as to necessitate such disciplinary-specific lists. The second stage involved analyzing the words to establish what aspects of vocabulary knowledge were especially salient in this type of textual material. It was found, upon examination of a sample from the corpus, that collocation was by far the most frequent feature of the many common words. A sample of a collocationary syllabus for chemical engineering was prepared as an example for the other four disciplines.