Genderscope and Early Modern Drama

Heather Froehlich
Literary Linguistics Advanced Research Group
University of Strathclyde
@heatherfro

Gender in Shakespeare

How many female characters are there in Shakespeare? http://bit.ly/13q5wjT

How much do female characters say in Shakespeare? http://bit.ly/YCx6mh

Statistics

For details on the statistics behind the five measures of collocation calculated by WordHoard please see http://bit.ly/YPeX3P

For all 87 ways to calculate collocation, please see Pecina (2005), available as a PDF here: http://acl.ldc.upenn.edu/P/P05/P05-2003.pdf

man	wom*n	lord	lady	knave	wench
young	fat	my	sovereign	lousy	light
proper	foolish	good	beauteous	cuckoldy	arm
good	mad	of	virtuous	lazy	kitchen
honourable	waxen	what	gallant	rascally	
no	pernicious	dear	honourable	cowardly	
poor	wretched	cardinal	husband	drunken	
dead	weak	if		scurvy	
	gentle	and		honest	
	sweet	you			
		will			

totals in SHAKESPEARE (size = 815,976)			totals in "400 PLAY CORPUS" size = 7,305,366 (incl. Shakespeare)		
nodeword	raw freq	per million	nodeword	raw freq	per million
lord	2691	329.7908898	lord	12757	2041.80505
lady	674	82.60091405	lady	6732	1077.48151
man	1963	240.5720983	man	13937	2230.66842
woman	580	71.08090527	woman	6336	1014.10024
knave	175	21.44682487	knave	1018	162.934667
wench	61	7.475750382	wench	1325	212.071152

Resources

Gadd, I. (2009), The Use and Misuse of Early English Books Online. Literature Compass, 6: 680–692. http://goo.gl/00bcjW

Early English Books Online

http://eebo.chadwyck.com/home and http://www.jisc-content.ac.uk/node/22

Early English Books Online: Text Creation Partnership. http://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebogroup/

For more information on the 400-play corpus (1514-1662), including authors/plays included and the raw-frequency counts of each node word, please see this spreadsheet: http://db.tt/ZpHCIePB [.csv file]

Tools Used

Anthony, L. (2013). AntConc (3.3.5m beta) [Computer Software]. Tokyo, Japan: Waseda University. Available from http://www.antlab.sci.waseda.ac.jp/

Early English Books Online: Text Creation Partnership. Available online: http://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebogroup/ (Accessed October 2013)

Mueller, Martin. Wordhoard User Manual http://wordhoard.northwestern.edu/userman/index.html