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Dear Colleagues,

The one UK publisher to have made real money from the corpus revolution has been Collins with the Co-Build project. You must know their dictionary and their grammar.

The Corpus work gives us teachers a much stronger base to work from as we now know more about grammar than we did 30 years ago.

A magnificent work in this area is the recently published Longmans Corpus-based grammar of English. Almost too much information!!

I want to start this session with an exercise that exemplifies an area of English I could not teach adequately 30 years ago, simply through ignorance. The area of collective nouns.

By the way, do you write letters to your classes? It can be very rewarding as this sort of text is a direct communication between the teacher and the students. YOU are their primary source of language, not the books.

Warmly yours,

[REDACTED]
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