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**ENGLISH OF US LAWS AND LAW TEXTBOOKS: A CONTRASTIVE ANALYSIS
OF FUNCTIONAL FEATURES**

Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of MA in English for
Specific (Legal) Purposes

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Abstract

Legal language is widely used worldwide, yet it is often characterized as the most complex language in terms of expression and readability. The complexity of legal language makes it an excellent object for research, especially the lexical bundle analysis, allowing linguists to reveal its structural and functional features. This master thesis investigates the English language used in two distinct legal discourses within the United States: law textbooks and legal acts. The study employs a qualitative, corpus-driven analysis approach, aiming to determine what functions the lexical bundles found in different corpora perform and to compare whether the language differs between these different discourses. The research of lexical bundles in specific legal language is a new topic that has not been investigated. The results of the research offer valuable insights for legal professionals, teachers, and anyone connected to the legal discourse on how the legal language is performing.

Keywords: legal language, lexical bundles, legal acts, stance expressions, discourse organizers, referential expressions, law textbooks.

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INTRODUCTION

Legal language is widely used across the world. One could say that it thrives on clarity and precision. Every word plays a crucial role in conveying the meaning and intent behind the text. Even if legal language is used across the world, it is not used in everyday communications as it is field-specific language, and ordinary people usually get confused by it.

Berūkštienė (2016) suggests that all texts that are related to the legal discourse should be considered as legal texts. It implies that all texts, academic, judicial texts, dictionaries, wills, etc. are a part of legal discourse. However, it is not that simple. Legal language possesses unique characteristics and is often described as formal, impersonal, and complex. Its complex features make legal language an excellent object for research.

This research focuses on two distinct yet connected genres of the US legal discourse: law textbooks and legal acts. Legal acts are firstly bills, that have to pass the Senate and the House and have a president's signature to become a law (United States Senate). Law textbooks, on the other hand, serve as a foundation for legal education. Analyzing lexical bundles within both domains allows for a comprehensive understanding of how these bundles function across different legal contexts and how they form the language itself.

Previous research has explored the use of lexical bundles in various discourse fields, for example, Alasmay (2019) analyzed the structural and functional features of lexical bundles in contract laws, Breeze (2013) analyzed lexical bundles within four legal genres (academic law, case law, legislation, and documents), Biber et al. (2004) analyzed lexical bundles in university teaching and textbooks. However, within the specific context of the US legal language, a gap exists. No author has tried to analyze the functional features of legal language's lexical bundles and the functions they perform in the text in specific legal systems. The materials used for this study consist of two corpora: law textbooks and legal acts. The corpora were compiled specifically for this thesis by selecting texts on similar topics. The study aims to determine what functions the lexical bundles found in different corpora perform and to compare whether the language differs between these different corpora in terms of their functional features. To achieve this goal, the following questions are posed:

- 1) What are the functional categories of lexical bundles in the US law textbooks and legal acts?
- 2) How do the functional roles of lexical bundles differ between academic and legal acts genres?

In addition to these two questions, the hypothesis was put forward that despite the difference in genres, the lexical bundles found in both corpora do not differ and they perform the same functions of the text.

It was decided to use quantitative research, and to be more precise, a corpus-driven methodology was used to examine lexical bundles. Using the software *AntConc* (Laurance 2024) lexical bundles will be extracted and analyzed.

This thesis aims to contribute significantly to our understanding of the US legal language. In the following chapters, this thesis will review the relevant literature on legal language and lexical bundles, describe the methodology used to compile and analyze the corpus, present the results of the analysis, and discuss the implications of these findings. The results not only shed light on the use of lexical bundles but also offer valuable insight for legal professionals, teachers, students, and anyone seeking to navigate the complexities of the US legal language.

LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Legal discourse

When addressing the domain of law, conventional associations typically encompass elements such as courts, lawyers, legal documents, etc. Nevertheless, it is primarily the language that binds together the entire legal discourse. According to Tiersma (2008: 8), every language is a product of the history of the society that uses that language, and the process of creating a legal language involves not only the society or jurisdiction in which the language is used but also all the legal discourse who speak that language.

Thus, legal language is a specific language, used in certain contexts and by certain groups in society, with its history and specific features. In this section, I will delve into the linguistic aspects of legal language.

1.1 Legal language

The first sources of law are believed to date back to 2-3 thousand years before Christ, and the first written sources are considered to be *the Hammurabi Code*, which was written around 1750 B.C., and the *Ur-Nammu Code*, which is believed to be written around the end of the third millennium B.C. (Kramer 1990: 50-51). There is no doubt that legal texts are inseparable from the development of countries: they were necessary for international and internal country matters. Ever since then, the legal language has been evolving together with the world and it can be seen as a universal language that connects all legal systems and cultures around the world. However, there is no consensus among scholars as to whether legal language can be considered as a separate language or whether it can be created as such.

Several scholars have been involved in the debate on whether the legal language can be considered a separate language. Mounin (1974) claims that legal language cannot be considered a separate language but a 'specialized form of the common language' (quoted from Gozdz-Roszkowski 2012: 2). Mounin is right in the first part of the sentence claiming that it is a specialized form of language; however, the second part of the sentence, where he categorizes legal language as part of general language, may raise questions, as individuals lacking familiarity with legal discourse may find legal texts challenging to comprehend.

Danet (1980) suggested that legal language could be classified as a dialect. However, it is essential to point out that a dialect belongs to a geographical region and legal language cannot be classified as belonging to a geographical region (quoted from Gozdz-Roszkowski 2012: 2), so such a claim would not be correct. Gozdz-Roszkowski (2012) rejected it.

1.2 Legal language genres

People have no trouble recognizing the legal text whether it is written or spoken. However, legal language is composed of a wide range of genres, each designed to serve a certain communication function in legal discourse. The question that arises is what texts can be regarded as legal texts. Normally, it would be fair to say that any text that is in some way related to the legal discourse may be considered a legal text (Berūkštienė 2016: 95). Albi and Albir present the criteria that describe legal texts: "prescriptive texts (e.g. constitution, laws, decrees), judicial texts (e.g. judgments, summons), jurisprudence, reference works (e.g. encyclopedias, dictionaries), legal doctrine, and texts applicable of the law (e.g. wills, contracts)" (quoted from Berūkštienė 2016: 95). This criterion includes all texts that are produced in legal language and are used for legal purposes in legal settings (ibid. 95). Although this definition contains all of the texts produced in legal language, authors are still unsure about the texts that are about the academic law texts.

Text types are a way of classifying the legal language that falls under the broader category of text genres. Varo and Hughes (2002) present properties that the genre must share:

1. *A shared communicative function.*
2. *A similar macrostructure, i.e. format or organizational outline.*
3. *A similar discursive mode of developing the macrostructure and similar discourse techniques.*
4. *A common lexical and syntactic arrangement of the material and a common set of functional units and formal features.*
5. *Common socio-pragmatic conventions* (quoted from Berūkštienė 2016: 105).

The presented classification is cited and extensively used by scholars researching discourse studies. Many scholars have been trying to sort the legal language and its genres. Kurzon (1997: 120) distinguishes two main types of legal language: the language of the law and legal language. According to the author, the legal language is used to talk about the law, while the

language of the law is “just that - the language in which the law is written” (Kurzon 1997: 121). Another scholar, Trosborg (1995) considers legal language as a language for specific purposes and distinguishes five different types: the language of the law, language of the courtroom, language in textbooks, lawyers' speech, and people talking about the law (quoted from Kurzon 1997: 122). Trosborg presents a more detailed classification of legal language which may help people understand that legal language is not the same in different situations. Durant and Leund (2016: 13) claim that there is not one list that presents legal genres although legal text types can be easily identified. The scholars are right, there is no official list presenting legal genres but I believe the classification of legal text types by Varo and Hughes (2002) is reasonably clear and precise. The scholars present three genres of legal texts: legal texts found in the domains of statute law, public law, and judicial decisions; legal texts of private law; and academic writings on the law (quoted from Berūkštienė 2016: 106). While scholars present many different ideas and categorizations of legal text genres, in this paper I will follow Varo and Hughes's (2002) classification, as it is the most clear compared to others presented.

1.3 Features of legal language

A distinctive and frequently complex collection of features sets legal language apart from other forms of communication. Gozdz-Roszkowski claims that ‘the expression “legal language” hides a multitude of specific classes of texts (genres) created and used by various professional groups working in different legal contexts’ (Gozdz-Roszkowski 2012: 1). The mentioned genres in the previous chapter represent not only different sub-fields of the legal language usage but as well the different legal systems and cultures.

Linguists who are exploring features of legal language usually agree with each other when it comes to features. One of the linguists, Tiersma (2008: 7, 13-23) describes legal language as archaic, formal, and impersonal, including long, complex sentences, stilted phrases, special terms, and a large vocabulary. Another linguist, Mellinkoff (1964), describes legal language as a language that uses common words with unusual meanings, use of Old English words that are now rarely seen in everyday communication, use of Latin and French words and phrases, etc. (quoted from Charrow *et al.* 1982: 175-176). The use of archaic language in legal text can express specific directions within the text, such elements could be *hereafter*, *therein*, etc. Formality and impersonal style help to maintain a serious and professional tone, which is crucial in legal matters. The usage of French, Latin, and Old English terms signifies the

suspension of speech and unwillingness to change. All of these features create a distinct discourse that is designed to be clear, unambiguous, and resistant to misinterpretation, which is a crucial requirement in the field of law where precise communication is the most important.

According to Charrow et al. (1982: 175), professional sub-languages do have important distinguishing features; lexical differences are the most obvious, but syntactic and discourse features may also be present, especially in the case of legal language. However, legal language differs from other areas of language use in one important aspect: unlike the language used by natural scientists, which is understood the same across diverse societies and cultures, legal language is tied to a particular legal system (Ristikivi 2005: 199). Therefore, as some scholars have argued (Charrow *et al.* 1982), legal language can be classified as a specialized language related to a particular discourse, in this case, the legal discourse.

In general, legal language is not a separate language that is understood in the same way in all countries, because it is linked to a particular group of people, and legal system. However, legal language has universal features, including syntactic complexity, special terms, formality, and attempt at precision.

2. Lexical bundles

One of many approaches to linguistic research is the analysis of lexical bundles. Lexical bundles serve diverse functions and they play a crucial role in shaping discourse and communication. Linguists have drafted different definitions of lexical bundles. Biber and Barbieri defined lexical bundles as recurrent sequences of three or more words that occur frequently across texts, for example, *I don't know if, the fact that*, etc. (Biber and Barbieri 2007: 264). Cortes (2004) defines lexical bundles as extended collocations, sequences of three or more words that co-occur in a register. Although the wording chosen for describing lexical bundles might differ, the idea remains the same these bundles are fundamental building blocks of language and it is an important area of study in linguistics.

There is a great interest in researching lexical bundles as it helps not only language learners but also language users of specific fields. Scholars such as Biber have extensively explored the field of lexical bundles across different registers, noting their significance in spoken and written language. The question arises as to why there is so much research on lexical bundles. The answer is simple: such studies can offer valuable insights into the patterns and structures of language use. Moreover, understanding lexical bundles contributes not only to linguistic

theory but also holds practical implications for language teaching, corpus linguistics, and the analysis of specialized discourses.

2.1 Types of lexical bundles analysis

The analysis of lexical bundles can be performed in various ways, and researchers employ different methods depending on their research goals. Some scholars (Biber et al. 2004) analyze the functional features of lexical bundles, while others (Chen and Baker 2010) deal with the structure of lexical bundles and their functional features, or analyze the structural types of the lexical bundles (Berūkštienė 2017).

The analysis of structural and functional types of lexical bundles are the main two types of analyses applied by many scholars. However, there are other ways that lexical bundles can be analyzed, for example, a frequency-based analysis (Allan 2017) might help identify the most frequent occurrences of specific lexical bundles in the field of interest. A discourse analysis of lexical bundles (Csomay 2013) might help understand how these bundles contribute to discourse structure and coherence. Comparative analysis of lexical bundles (Gungor and Uysal 2016) can help identify variations and similarities in the patterns of usage of lexical bundles across different genres or languages.

2.2 Functional features of lexical bundles

The study of lexical bundles is an important linguistic field of research because, firstly, such studies help to better understand specific language discourse and its structure. Secondly, the findings of lexical bundle studies can be used to improve the clarity of texts. Thirdly, such studies hold the potential to help language users communicate more effectively.

Lexical bundles can refer to action, state, time, place, quantity, quality, etc. Some lexical bundles, according to Biber *et al.* (2004), can have multiple functions in a single occurrence; however, they all have a primary function. Biber *et al.* (2004) in their study distinguished three primary functions that lexical bundles serve:

(1) Stance expressions: they express attitudes or assessments of certainty that frame other propositions.

(2) Discourse organizers: they reflect previous and upcoming relationships within discourse.

(3) Referential expressions: they are directly related to abstract or physical entities, as well as the context itself, either to identify the entity or to highlight a certain quality of the entity that is particularly significant (Biber, Conrad, and Cortes 2004: 384).

Each of these categories is subdivided into smaller classes. The classification of functional features of lexical bundles will be discussed in greater detail in the methodology and results section.

2.3 Studies of lexical bundles in legal language

Previous studies performed on lexical bundles in specific discourse types constitute a crucial area of linguistic inquiry, offering profound insights into the distinctive features and communicative strategies within certain domains. There is no exception for the legal domain. As mentioned earlier, Tiersma (2008: 7, 13-23) describes legal language as archaic, formal, and impersonal, including long, complex sentences, stilted phrases, special terms, and a large vocabulary. In the context of legal language, the detailed and precise structure of legal language makes the analysis of lexical bundles particularly essential.

There are several studies covering the analysis of lexical bundles in legal language. Some scholars analyze lexical bundles in different languages or their translation, for example, Noreika and Šeškauskienė (2017) cover the tendencies of translating lexical bundles. Other scholars analyze the lexical bundles in different legal genres, for example, Breeze (2013) analyses the lexical bundles in four legal genres: academic law, case law, legislation, and documents. Alasmary (2019) analyses the structural and functional features of lexical bundles in contract law texts. However, mentioned studies do not cover the specific legal system language and its usage within the legal discourse.

Lexical bundles in legal language can be studied from a variety of perspectives, from their translation to analysis of lexical bundles in different branches of law. However, there are no studies covering research on lexical bundles in different genres within the same legal system. All things considered, the study of lexical bundles is an important field of research with broad implications for our knowledge of discourse coherence, language structure, and successful communication.

DATA AND METHODS

3.1 Methodology

This study adopts a quantitative corpus linguistics approach. As Biber (1993) has defined, a corpus is a large collection of electronically stored text data that allows for the analysis of language patterns. The analysis of the corpus allows researchers to identify frequently occurring lexical bundles and explore their functional roles.

The material for the study consists of two corpora specially compiled for this research: a corpus of 50 legal acts of the US and a corpus of 50 law textbooks written by American authors on the US legal system. The two mentioned corpora represent two different written registers, official/legal language and academic, that are used to communicate with students, professors, and legal discourse in general. The range of the chosen texts varies from economy, internal and external relations, family law, different types of law, etc. The master thesis analyses used language in different corpora. Table 1 shows the composition of two corpora.

Table 1. Composition of the corpora used in the analysis

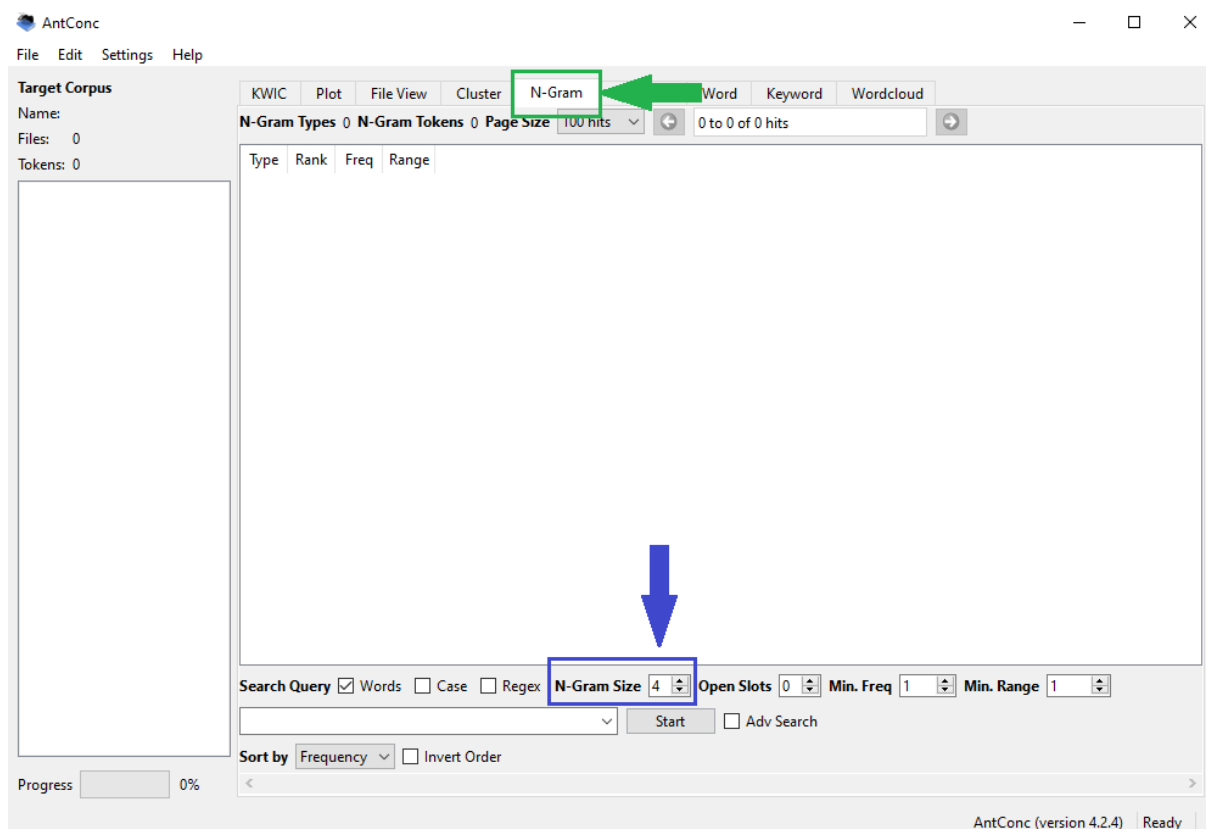
Corpus	No. of files	No. of tokens
Legal documents	50	2,912,661
Law textbooks	50	10,647,353

The corpus of legal texts was compiled from official acts from the US government site. It was decided to pick 50 different acts of different sizes from different fields (economy, family relations, medical, army, etc). The same method was used to compile the corpus of law textbooks. Textbooks were picked to match the corpus of legal acts. Although textbooks cover more information based on the different types of law, the idea of picking legal acts and textbooks from the same domains is to analyse whether the language used for official documents and academic fields differs or is similar. The textbooks were taken from online libraries that had PDF versions. The list of the textbooks can be found in appendix.

To analyse the use of language lexical bundles from each corpus are analyzed. Lexical bundles from both corpora were extracted using the software *AntConc* (Laurence 2004). The

software function *Ngrams* (see Picture 1, green arrow) shows all lexical bundles that the software can identify in the provided texts. The size of the lexical bundle can be set in the *N-Gram Size* box (see Picture 1, blue arrow). The function *KWIC* was used to extract sentences that contained lexical bundles.

Picture 1. Software AntConc.



The first step in the research was to extract lexical bundles from each corpus. With the mentioned settings, it was found that in the corpus of legal acts there were 1,400,576 lexical bundles in total and in the corpus of law textbooks 8,183,126 lexical bundles in total. To receive the most accurate results all lexical bundles were checked and manually revised to eliminate such that were considered to be irrelevant for this study, for example, *page intentionally left blank*. Similar bundles appeared in both corpora, however, they do not hold significant importance to the study as they do not contribute to the understanding the language of the discourse.

Revised lists of lexical bundles were analyzed again. To get the most accurate results it was decided to shorten the research by setting a relatively low frequency of 20 times per million words for the corpus of legal documents. An even lower frequency cut-off of 10 times per million words was set for the corpus of law textbooks. The decision to have such a low-

frequency cut-off was due to the significant difference in the number of lexical bundles found between the two corpora. According to Biber et al. (2004: 376) to even consider a lexical bundle as one it must be used in at least five different texts, which leads to another step. There were no problems with the wide dispersion of lexical bundles as in both corpora the lowest number of the texts that the lexical bundle was used was ten texts.

The second step in the research was to group extracted lexical bundles into three big groups (stance expressions, discourse organizers, and referential expressions). For this step, Biber et al. (2004) classification of functional features of lexical bundles was followed. Each lexical bundle has been put into sub-categories of each group according to the function they play in the text. The sub-categories provided by Biber et al. are such:

- 1) Stance expressions (epistemic stance, attitudinal/modality stance);
- 2) Discourse organizers (topic introduction/focus, topic elaboration/clarification);
- 3) Referential expressions (identification/focus, imprecision, specification of attributes, time/place/text reference) (Biber et al. 2004: 384-388).

Lastly, presented results from both corpora were discussed in great detail. Due to the limited size of the research, only 350 examples of lexical bundles from each corpus were analyzed. The results were compared and the conclusion of the research was presented.

3.2 Results

In the present chapter, the results of the study will be presented. The frequency and functions of the recurrent word sequences within each corpus will be explored. Firstly, we begin with the results from the corpus of law textbooks, and later the results of the corpus of legal acts will follow.

3.2.1 The corpus of law textbooks

As was mentioned in the methods chapter, the overall number of lexical bundles found in the corpus of law textbooks was 8,183,126. After carefully double-checking the instances once again all bundles that have no significant importance in the study were left out and the study was shortened to analysis of 350 lexical bundles. The analysis showed that all lexical bundles

that are significant to the research were used more than 100 times in ten or more texts. The most frequently used lexical bundle from law textbooks corpus was *in whole or in*. The lexical bundle was used 4,910 times in 18 different texts. This lexical bundle appeared in the sentences like:

- 1) [...] a partnership interest is assignable **in whole or in** part and will not require winding [...] ^{1*};
- 2) [...] using an approach that relies **in whole or in** part on the lockstep model in [...] ^{1*};
- 3) [...] or breach of warranty may be discharged **in whole or in** part without consideration [...] ^{1*};

The provided examples show that the usage of this lexical bundle does not significantly differ throughout the texts. It is clear from the examples, that *in whole or in* most probably functions as referential lexical bundle. It is because the lexical bundle introduce additional information as to where information can be found.

The less frequent lexical bundle from this corpus was *to the fact that*. It was used 102 times in 34 different texts. While the lexical bundle itself was not very frequently used compared to the lexical bundle *in whole or in*, the number of texts in which it was used is almost three times bigger. This suggests that the less specific domain lexical bundles are more frequently used. The sentences that have the lexical bundle *to the fact that* are as shown:

- 4) [...] reason for these differences is attributable **to the fact that** juries require a stronger evidentiary [...] ^{1*};
- 5) [...] during closing arguments in reference **to the fact that** the gloves found at the scene [...] ^{1*};
- 6) Defendants points **to the fact that** other attendees had access to the [...] ^{1*};

The given examples present the variety of contexts that this lexical bundle is used in. It suggests that the analyzed lexical bundle acts as a discourse organizer, and to be more precise as topic elaboration/clarification. This lexical bundle helps to connect ideas within a text. The following section will give detailed information about each category and lexical bundles.

To see what functions the lexical bundles from the corpus of law textbooks perform, it is crucial to put them into earlier mentioned categories. Table 2 provides all 350 lexical bundles and their classification based on the functions they perform in text.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

Table 2. Functional classification of lexical bundles in law textbooks corpus.

Stance expressions: Epistemic stance
<i>there can be no</i>
Stance expressions: Attitudinal/modality stance
<i>it is possible to, should be able to, in the interests of</i>
Discourse organizers: Topic introduction/focus
<i>in the case of, on the other hand, will be discussed in</i>
Discourse organizers: Topic elaboration/clarification
<i>in an effort to, to determine whether the, in a manner that, can be found in, in an attempt to, as a means of</i>
Referential expressions: Identification/focus
<i>the protection of the, the manner in which, for the protection of, to pay for the, the rule of law, cases in which the, for a new trial, the best interests of, to do with the, the authority of the, with respect to a, the validity of the, a contract for the, the subject of the, the question of whether, the application of the, the right to a, the burden of proof, the cause of action, the power of the, the criminal justice system, reasonable expectation of privacy, a violation of the, for breach of contract, motion for summary judgment, the bill of rights, rules of civil procedure, the uniform commercial code, as a result of, for the purpose of, in the context of, the nature of the, the terms of the, in the absence of, at the same time, in the course of, with respect to the, as a matter of, to the extent that, in the form of, court of appeals for, united states supreme court, the united states and, in accordance with the, the case of a, for the purposes of, in addition to the, a result of the, as long as the, as part of the, on the ground that, to extent to which, the purpose of the, in the event of, in light of the, except as otherwise provided, in connection with the, in the ordinary course, on the grounds that, in the name of, in terms of the, the meaning of the, within the scope of, whether or not the, the role of the, is one of the, does not apply to, in a way that, within a reasonable time, in violation of the, in good faith and, in relation to the, the interests of the, on the use of, on the one hand, the language of the, to ensure that the, to show that the, to believe that the, in other words the, the extent of the, the subject matter of, when it comes to, as a general rule, within the meaning of, so long as the, a great deal of, it is clear that, the course of the, that it would be, as part of a, a wide range of, if there is a, as a result the, the absence of a, in</i>

the same way, for the benefit of, is not required to, in the amount of, if there is no, in the interest of, in the process of, must be in writing, be held liable for, in response to the, can be used to, does not have to, in such a way, in the face of, in the first place, in a number of, preponderance of the evidence, at the university of, the course of a, as a practical matter, is based on the, the beginning of the, in respect of the, the effect of the, in the sense that, is not limited to, the degree to which, at the expense of, on the basis that, by the fact that, that the use of, the context of the, during the course of, for the most part, in the light of, for example if a, of the fact that, to the use of, to the fact that, the jurisdiction of the, of the federal government, of the most important, the judgment of the, of the court of, that the trial court, the right to vote, subject matter of the, in a variety of, in a criminal case, civil rights act of, of the united nations, of the federal rules, on the right to, of a party to, an interest in the, the rules of the, the person to whom, terms of the contract, the statute of limitations, the elements of the, the text of the, a duty of care, failure to comply with, to the law of, court held that a, the face of the, the identity of the, the basis of a, in the hands of, of the bill of, the provisions of this, the life of the, the cost of the, the members of the, the size of the, for the federal court, the fact that a, that he did not, appeals for the federal, the supreme court and, the purposes of the, the relationship between the, the development of the, the importance of the, the constitution of the, the existence of the, the right of the, the provisions of the, of the rule of, is likely to be, will be able to, facts of the case, the supreme court held, has the power to, it was held that, the united states is, of the state of, the mind of the, the state in which, by the supreme court, the civil rights act, the united states to, of the law of, a motion for summary, on behalf of a, one of the parties, a person who is, a part of the, and the united states, the form of a, united states district court, the court noted that, have a right to, of one of the, a federal district court, to a third party, the supreme court in, may be able to, the owner of, he subject of the, are likely to be, in the business of, united states court of, that it was not, the laws of the, in the supreme court, the clerk of the, the court concluded that, by the united states, the vast majority of, supreme court held that, the basis of the, the end of this, the federal rules of, that he or she, the ordinary course of, court found that the, the united states that

a majority of the, disctrict court for the, the equal projection clause, of the fourteenth amendment, the existence of a, the case of the, not be able to, to comply with the, the court ruled that, that there was no, university of chicago press, of the right to, to be able to, of the fourth amendment, the united states or, the rights of the, that there is a, the federal trade commision, the consent of the, ordinary course of business, of the house of, a breach of the,

<p><i>the facts of the, to the united states, or more of the, a motion to dismiss, the rest of the, a party to the, more likely to be, that it is not, to the supreme court, the united states in, cause to believe that, the supreme court of, the due process clause, of the united states, on the basis of, the court held that, probable cause to believe, the fact that the, the end of the, court held that the, the name of the, the value of the, the scope of the, as well as the, of appeals for the, on behalf of the, have the right to, has the right to, it is important to, the court of appeals, the court of appeal, the secretary of state, the statute of frauds, the court found that, the united states supreme, the supreme court has, a cause of action, for the sale of, of the common law, one of the most, the use of force, of the supreme court, beyond a reasonable doubt, in this case the, the part of the, the sale of goods, the law of the, that there is no, a member of the, federal rules of civil, in favor of the, a matter of law, the district of columbia</i></p>
<p>Referential expressions: Imprecision</p>
<p><i>one or more of, of his or her, if he or she, his or her own, he or she is, he or she has, whole or in part</i></p>
<p>Referential expressions: Specification of attributes</p>
<p><i>the amount of the, the board of directors, the owner of the, a copy of the</i></p>
<p>Referential expressions: Time/place/text reference</p>
<p><i>at the time of, in this chapter we, of the nineteenth century, in the united states, at the end of, at the time the, the date of the, of the twentieth century, in the united kingdom, from state to state, from time to time, united states of america, be found in the, in the area of, at the time of, from the date of, as discussed in chapter, at the beginning of</i></p>

3.2.2 Stance lexical bundles in the law textbooks corpus

As can be seen in Table 2 only four lexical bundles fall under the category of stance expressions. One of the lexical bundles *should be able to*. This lexical bundle appears in sentences like:

- 7) *The idea is that litigants **should be able to** have a fair and equal chance [...] ^{1*};*
- 8) *[...] suggests that applicants **should be able to** amend figures to claim [...] ^{1*};*

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

The mentioned lexical bundle expresses an attitudinal/modality stance that leans toward expectations. It does not express necessity but rather an expected outcome within context. This lexical bundle was used 104 times in 29 different texts across the corpus of law textbooks.

The next lexical bundle was *it is possible to*. This lexical bundle was used 112 times in 33 texts. The frequency and the range is not that different from the previously mentioned lexical bundle. Sentences in which *it is possible to* was found:

9) *It is possible to appeal on a point of fact [...]*^{1*};

10) *It is possible to avoid these problems by including in [...]*^{1*};

The presented examples show that the lexical bundle expresses the possibility that something can happen. It does rather present a collective view than a personal, which is quite unusual in the stance expression category.

The reason that only three lexical bundles were found under this category could be that in legal texts it is crucial to leave personal opinions aside or support them by legal authority, and soon-to-be lawyers, even if the text is used for academic purposes, should contain similar text to real life legal texts.

3.2.3 Discourse-organizing lexical bundles in the law textbooks corpus

The second group in Table 2 is discourse organizers. As Biber et al. (2004) stated, discourse organizers help navigate through text, they show how ideas are connected. In short, they connect the ideas of previous or upcoming discourse. Of all 350 lexical bundles, that were analyzed, only nine lexical bundles were put into this category. The later lexical bundles were put into two sub-categories: topic introduction/focus and topic elaboration/clarification.

In contrast to stance expressions, discourse organizers are important not only in legal texts but in all texts. As it is known and has already been mentioned in the literature review section, legal language is quite complex and is made of long sentences. It is crucial in legal language to present ideas clearly and precisely, thus, discourse organizers are quite important in writing the texts.

In the first sub-category, which is topic introduction/focus, we see that out of nine lexical bundles, only three were considered as topic introduction/focus.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

The first lexical bundle that we see in this sub-category is *in the case of*. It was found that this lexical bundle was used almost a thousand times, to be more precise, 989 times in 47 texts, and it was used in sentences like:

11) [...] whether subsection (c) applies **in the case of** a merger of a subsidiary [...] ^{1*};

12) [...] physical receipt of a stock certificate **in the case of** certificated shares and transfer [...] ^{1*};

Lexical bundle *in the case of* narrows the focus of the discussion by highlighting particular instances. As can be seen in example 11, the lexical bundle focuses on the discussion of a subsidiary merger, and in example 12, it focuses on the requirements needed in the case of joint ventures and etc. The focus here lays down on the specific case or scenario that introduces a situation that will be explained in relation to the broader topic.

The next lexical bundle on the list is *on the other hand*. This lexical bundle is quite different in numbers than the previous lexical bundle. It was found that it was used 784 times in 45 texts. Sentences that contain this lexical bundle are:

13) For breach of the duty of loyalty claims, **on the other hand**, the plaintiff need only prove that [...] ^{1*};

14) Substantive justice, **on the other hand**, involves the fairness of the outcome [...] ^{1*};

The presented examples show, that this lexical bundle does not specifically introduce a new topic, it is used to acknowledge a previous point and present contrastive additional information or contrasting viewpoints. From the presented sentences it is quite clear that the lexical bundle *on the other hand* helps the reader to understand the relationship between the ideas.

The other sub-category is topic elaboration/clarification. This sub-category contains six lexical bundles. If the previous sub-category introduced new topics or focused on something particular within the context, topic elaboration/clarification sub-category focuses on providing more detail or explanation about the topic that has been already introduced.

The results provided in Table 2 suggest that most lexical bundles are quite similar, for example, *in an effort to*, *in a manner that*, *as a means of*, etc. The presented lexical bundles in prior suggest that something will be explained in deeper detail within the topic.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

The first lexical bundle in the list *can be found in*. The lexical bundle was found 130 times in 25 texts. While the frequency is low, the range in which this lexical bundle is half of the texts. The sentences containing this lexical bundle are such:

15) *Scattered instances of comparative law **can be found in** legal scholarship during the next several [...]^{1*};*

16) *More detail about the federal rules **can be found in** Federal Practice and Procedures by [...]^{1*};*

The presented sentences do not quite elaborate on specific topics. This lexical bundle could be put as well in the category *referential expressions*. The example 15 and 16 rather elaborate on where further information could be found. This lexical bundle may not be the best example of the topic elaboration/clarification category but it can function as in one.

The following lexical bundle on the list would be *as a result of*. The mentioned lexical bundle was found to be used 740 times in almost all of the texts, 46 texts. It is interesting to notice that it can be thought of as quite a popular lexical bundle across the academic legal language seeing that it was found in almost all of the texts. The sentences, in which this lexical bundle was found are as follows:

17) *[...] resulting entity is a new entity formed **as a result of** the conversation rather than an existing [...]^{1*};*

18) *[...] airline ticket for the trip he cannot take **as a result of** the breach.^{1*};*

While the lexical bundle *as a result of* can provide additional information, it can also focus more on the previously mentioned concept and the information that follows. The discussed lexical bundle can also act as a discourse organizer or referential expression, for example, in the example 17, the cause of the new entity's formation is clarified yet, the entity is not explained in more detail. In the example 18, clarifies the cause behind the canceled trip but does not elaborate on the concept of needing a ticket. While the presented examples of the lexical bundle as a result of providing information on the following matter, it does not elaborate on the original concept.

It can be seen, that from the discussed lexical bundles almost all of them can act not only as discourse organizers but also can function as other categories, to be more precise, referential expressions.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 "Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks".

3.2.4 Referential lexical bundles in the law textbooks corpus

The last category that will be analyzed is referential expressions. The referential expressions are like road signs that guide the reader through the text. They help to understand what or who is being talked about in a sentence. There are four sub-categories provided by Biber et al. (2004): identification/focus, imprecision, specification of attributes, and time/place/text reference. The following category contains 338 lexical bundles that were separated through sub-categories.

The list begins with the lexical bundle *of the United States* and it has been used 1,179 times in 43 texts. According to numbers, the lexical bundle was quite popular among the corpus. It was found in sentences like:

19) [...] issued by the Administrative Office **of the United States** Courts, [...] ^{1*};

20) [...] and conducts litigation on behalf **of the United States** in the U.S. Supreme Court ^{1*}.

The provided examples show that a lexical bundle functions as a referential expression, specifically as an identification/focus bundle. In example 19, the lexical bundle clarifies that the mentioned entities belong to the United States. In example 20, the lexical bundle clarifies that the litigation is conducted on behalf of the United States. In the examples provided, the lexical bundle *of the United States* narrows down the reference of the noun phrase to a specific entity within the context.

The following lexical bundle is *the name of the*. This lexical bundle appeared only 402 times in 29 texts. The frequency is still quite big for the other already mentioned lexical bundles. It was found in sentences like:

21) [...], but the lawyer need not state **the name of the** partner, the case the sanctions arose [...] ^{1*};

22) In Delaware the Charter must contain **the name of the** corporation, the address of the corporation [...] ^{1*};

In the mentioned segments, the lexical bundle clarifies the entity, it narrows down the reference to a particular name associated with that entity, for example, in example 21 it would be partner, in example 22, it would be corporation. In all cases, *the name of the* introduces information that identifies an entity within the mentioned context.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

The lexical bundles under sub-category identification/focus usually pinpoint a particular entity within the context or they shift the focus to the identified entity. These mentioned lexical bundles are a great example of lexical bundles acting as referential expressions in sentences.

The following sub-category is imprecision. Usually, this sub-category contains lexical bundles that refer to entities in a vague or unclear way (Biber et al. 2004). They do not provide enough specific information to identify the exact entity being referred to. Such lexical bundles can make text seem to be unclear or ambiguous which is especially avoided in legal language. It is surprising, that at least seven lexical bundles were put into this sub-category.

The first lexical bundle to appear was *one or more of*. After analyzing the lexical bundles, it was found, that *one or more of* was used 205 times in more than half of the texts picked for the corpus, 35 texts to be precise. The sentences containing this lexical bundle are:

23) [...] you may want your deposition to accomplish **one or more of** the following: [...] ^{1*};

24) [...] is subject to the fact that if the identity of **one or more of** those persons is unknown, the period [...] ^{1*};

The lexical bundle here functions as referential expression under imprecision perfectly as in example 23 it is unclear how many entities are involved. In example 24 the bundle might be used for generalized information which later in the text could be revealed.

The following lexical bundle on the list was familiar to the first one thus it was decided to analyze in deeper detail a bit different lexical bundle, which would be *one of the parties*. This lexical bundle was used only 137 in 23 texts, which compared to other lexical bundles, is a quite small number. The sentences with this lexical bundle are:

25) What if **one of the parties** to a lawsuit is a state? ^{1*};

26) When a witness is testifying about what **one of the parties** to the case said, the hearsay [...] ^{1*};

It is interesting to see that lexical bundle *one of the parties* could function not only as an imprecision but as identification/focus, such an example can be seen in example 26. If the context provides information about who the witness is testifying about, the lexical bundle *one of the parties* identifies a specific party, however, if the context does not specify the party, then the lexical bundle can function as imprecise. The lexical bundle in example 25 functions as an imprecision as no detailed information is provided about the spoken parties. To avoid

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

misunderstandings and confusion in legal language it is always better to use precise terms if the information is important.

The next sub-category is the specification of attributes. This sub-category describes specific qualities of the entities, they can be understood as identifying labels that distinguish an entity from similar ones (Biber et al. 2004). There were at least four lexical bundles. The first lexical bundle of this kind in Table 2 is *the amount of*. This lexical bundle was used 295 times in 22 texts, which means even if the frequency was not big, it was used in almost half of the texts in the corpus. The examples are:

27) [...] *tax credit may not exceed 50% of **the amount of the** franchise tax due in any given [...] ^{1*}*;

28) [...] *a 10 percent premium on **the amount of the** bail and collects some sort of [...] ^{1*}*;

In presented sentences, the lexical bundle identifies the amount that is important to the context. By specifying the attributes in the sentences, the word *amount* specifies what kind of amount is being referred to. This information distinguishes it from other amounts mentioned in the text.

The following lexical bundle on the list is *the board of directors*. It was used 276 times in 14 texts. The number of texts in which it was used suggests that this lexical bundle is rather context dependent on the widely used lexical bundle across different texts. The examples of sentences are as follows:

29) [...] *it may then be desired to grant to **the board of directors** to fix by resolution or resolutions [...] ^{1*}*;

30) [...] *number of directors to be elected to **the board of directors** of the corporation is increased and [...] ^{1*}*;

The lexical bundle is functioning as the specification of the attributes because it introduces the entity - *the board*, which narrows down to the *of directors* which specifies the function and purpose of the board. In example 29, the lexical bundle specifies which entity has the power to make resolutions, in the example 30, it identifies the entity for the increase in the number of directors.

The last sub-category on the list is time/place/text reference. Those lexical bundles, that are put into this sub-category deal with specifying the time, location, or source, in this case, text. They help readers understand the context better providing more detailed information.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 “Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks”.

The first lexical bundle on the list is *in the United States*. The mentioned lexical bundle's frequency is comparatively big, 1,479 in almost all of the texts, which is 46 texts. This is because the textbooks are about the USA legal system and is for students in the USA. Examples in sentences that this lexical bundle is used are as follows:

31) *The median age of licensed attorneys **in the United States** in 2005 [...] ^{1*}*;

32) *The first public defender's office **in the United States** began operations in 1914 in Los Angeles [...] ^{1*}*;

The lexical bundle *in the United States* specifies the location within the context relevant to the context. In the example 31, the lexical bundle specifies the age of the median of attorneys, in example 32 the lexical bundle specifies the location of the public defender's office. It is important to distinguish the location, especially in legal discourse, as the US legal system differs from the, for example, European legal system.

The next lexical bundle on the list is *at the end of*. The number of texts it was used is not that different from the first lexical bundle of this sub-category, 38 texts. The frequency number is smaller in half, only 595 times *at the end of* was used in the sentences found in the corpus. The examples of sentences in which this lexical bundle is used are:

33) *[...] letters designating a limited partnership be **at the end of** the entity's name. ^{1*}*;

34) *[...] Court issues the most controversial decisions **at the end of** the term, though there is evidence [...] ^{1*}*;

It is interesting to notice that the lexical bundle does not quite fit into this sub-category. It does indicate a time frame, however, it does not specify a concrete time like *this year*, *yesterday*, etc. The example 33 is quite a good example, that the lexical bundle does function as time reference as it more concentrates on the specific place in the text. The other two example, example 34, function as as time reference lexical bundles. The lexical bundle *at the end of* does not necessarily indicate time and can be used to express the specific location or reference to a specific part of the text.

In conclusion, the time/place/text reference lexical bundles play a crucial role in anchoring information within a specific context. These bundles are essential tools for clear and concise communication across legal communities and need to be taught to the newcomers of the legal community.

^{1*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 1 "Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks".

3.2.5 The corpus of legal acts

The results of the corpus of legal acts show that only 854 lexical bundles met the criteria of frequency and dispersion to be included in the analysis. The number of lexical bundles is significantly different from the number of lexical bundles in the corpus of law textbooks. It could be due to the language formality of the two corpora. As it was already mentioned, due to the limitation of the scope of the research paper it was decided to only include 350 most frequent lexical bundles found in the corpus of legal acts.

The data received from the software *AntConc* (Laurence 2024) shows that the most frequently used lexical bundle was *after the date of*. This lexical bundle was used 2,561 times in 34 texts, and it was found in sentences like:

35) *Not later than 45 days **after the date of** enactment of this Act, the Secretary [...]^{2*};*

36) *Not later than one year **after the date of** enactment of this Act and [...]^{2*};*

37) *[...] later than the end of the first fiscal year beginning **after the date of** enactment of this Act.^{2*}*

The examples show that the lexical bundle functions as a referential expression, and to be more precise, time reference lexical bundle as it establishes a specific point in time.

Lexical bundle *respect to which the* was used only 57 times in twelve texts. The difference is significant. The lexical bundle can be found in sentences like:

38) *[...] financial statement of each controlled foreign corporation with **respect to which the** applicable corporation is a United [...]^{2*};*

39) *[...] the case of any qualified solar and wind facility with **respect to which the** requirement described in subsection [...]^{2*};*

40) *[...] the transaction that is the basis of the violation with **respect to which the** penalty is imposed, whichever is greater.^{2*}*

The lexical bundle *respect to which the* in the presented examples functions as referential expression, to be precise specification of attributes. While it do point to something specific in each of the presented examples, the lexical bundles does not identify an entity on its own. This lexical bundle adds more information to previously mentioned entities and clarifies the

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 “Acts from the corpus of legal acts”.

specific ones that are relevant in the context of the sentence. Table 3 presents the classification of lexical bundles in the legal acts corpus.

Table 3. Functional classification of lexical bundles in legal acts corpus.

Stance expressions: Epistemic stance
Stance expressions: Attitudinal/modality stance
<i>sense of congress that</i>
Discourse organizers: Topic introduction/focus
<i>in the case of, a description of the, an assessment of the, with respect to a, the following new paragraph, with respect to any, this act shall be, the united states shall, may be cited as, be cited as the, the case of an, is the sense of, it is the sense, the following new subsection</i>
Discourse organizers: Topic elaboration/clarification
<i>amended by adding at, with respect to the, by adding at the, is amended by striking, shall submit to the, to remain available until, adding at the end, remain available until expended, is amended by adding, referred to as the, end the following new, in paragraph by striking, and inserting the following, shall be available for, code is amended by, authorized to be appropriated, to carry out the, by striking and inserting, in consultation with the, to read as follows, is amended by inserting, for purposes of this, submit to the committee, may be used to, to carry out this, the secretary shall submit, under subsection a shall, shall not apply to, by section of the, and by adding at, in coordination with the, this section shall be, under this section shall, section a of title, secretary shall submit to, is amended in subsection, in section of title, by striking the period, except as provided in, in carrying out the, notwithstanding any other provision, described in subparagraph a, carry out this section, striking the period at, a is amended by, for the purposes of, to be appropriated to, in accordance with the, amended by inserting after, under section a of, is amended to read, shall be made available, is authorized to be, each place it appears, the extent to which, to be appropriated for, be available for the, may be used for, to the extent practicable, is amended in paragraph, shall provide to the, and at the end, in accordance with section, by striking and at, striking and at the, submit to the appropriate, by this section shall, shall be subject to, b is amended by, and all that follows, purposes of this section, amended by striking the, subsection a shall include, subsection a shall be, and by inserting after, is amended in the, the secretary determines</i>

that, the secretary shall provide, by inserting after paragraph, amended in subsection a, is amended by redesignating, is further amended by, the secretary shall establish, to the maximum extent, paragraph by striking and, all that follows through, apply with respect to, by inserting after subsection, shall be treated as, under this section the, under this subsection shall, subparagraph a by striking, be subject to the, submit to congress a, shall submit to congress, inserting after paragraph the, by subsection a shall, after paragraph the following, amendment the table of, consultation with the secretary, by striking paragraph and, may be made available, to be appropriated to the, as part of the, necessary to carry out, in subsection a by, appropriated to carry out, paragraph by striking the, as may be necessary, public law is amended

Referential expressions: Identification/focus

of the united states, of the house of, at the end the, that the secretary of, of this act the, of the department of, and the committee on, the secretary of the, of the senate and, none of the funds, the director of the, the senate and the, house of representatives and, to the committee on, to the committees on, of the social security, on appropriations of the, as determined by the, the funds made available, of representatives and the, the united states and, of the office of, of the funds made, senate and the committee, determined by the secretary, health and human services, of health and human, by the secretary of, of the public health, any other provision of, public health service act, act of public law, of section of the, under section of title, house of representatives a, section c of the, described in subsection a, of this act and, the office of the, the committee on appropriations, appropriations of the house, other provision of law, with the secretary of, amendments made by this, the administrator of the, appropriated by this act, to the department of, pursuant to section of, committee on appropriations of, the appropriate congressional committees, term in section of, united states code and, amounts made available under, title code of federal, authorized by section of, the department of state, institutions of higher education, in addition to amounts, code of federal regulations, funds made available under, appropriate committees of congress, by the department of, general of the united, the united states to, for the department of, secretary of health and, the secretary of health, secretary of veterans affairs, the department of the, comptroller general of the, or otherwise made available, fund made available by, the item relating to, the district of Columbia, in commerce science and, of the committee on, committee on transportation and, the committee on transportation, the results of the, addition to amounts otherwise, to the united states, a member of the, the comptroller general of, committee on energy and, the committee on energy, the department of veterans,

representatives and the committee, of this section the, on transportation and infrastructure, appropriations of the senate, the united states government, an amount equal to, committee on commerce science, secretary of the interior, the committee on commerce, commerce science and transportation, and the secretary of, secretary of the treasury, to the secretary of, institution of higher education, section of the federal, affairs of the house, the social security act, the treasury not otherwise, of the small business, and transportation of the, science and transportation of, transportation of the senate, representatives a report on, out of any money, department of homeland security, by the united states, of the internal revenue, the internal revenue code, treasury not otherwise appropriated, any money in the, of any money in, of the national security, money in the treasury, the amount of the, affairs of the senate, the higher education act, the report required by, internal revenue code of

Referential expressions: Imprecision

Referential expressions: Specification of attributes

the secretary of defense, the house of representatives, department of veterans affairs, the public health service, the department of defense, the secretary of state, of the higher education

Referential expressions: Time/place/text reference

after the date of, enactment of this act, the date of the, not later than days, date of the enactment, later than days after, the enactment of this, than days after the, the date of enactment, date of enactment of, days after the date, of enactment of this, act for fiscal year, section a of the, as defined in section, the date on which, in section of the, year after the date, under section of the, has the meaning given, date on which the, in the united states, in the matter preceding, in this section the, years after the date, defined in section of, section of the national, made available under this, not later than year, later than year after, definitions in this section, than year after the, period at the end, for each of fiscal, on the date of, after the date on, not later than years, later than years after, than years after the, section d of the, in section a of, referred to in this, made by this section, described in subsection b, for fiscal year and, meaning given the term, the meaning given the, section b of title, beginning on the date, required under subsection a, section e of the, enactment of this section, as of the date, months after the date, section of public law, of the date of, to section of the, of enactment of the, than percent of the, item relating to section, period beginning on the, the current fiscal year, later than months after, not later than months, united states code as, as amended by

section, defined in this section, section of this act, of section of title, under section b of, as authorized by section, before the date of, in section b of, given the term in, pursuant to subsection a, at the end of, the period beginning on, given such term in, united states code the, of chapter of title, meaning given that term, the meaning given that, described in clause i, the report required under, the term in section, the end of the, authorization of appropriations there, given that term in, for a fiscal year, such term in section, the matter preceding paragraph, that term in section, in this section as

3.2.6 Stance lexical bundles in the legal acts corpus

The first category, as can be seen from Table 3, is stance expressions. Only one lexical bundle was put into this category: *sense of congress that*, which was put in the sub-category attitudinal/modality stance. The lexical bundle *sense of congress that* was found 151 times in only eleven texts. The sentences in which *sense of congress that* was found are as follows:

41) *It is the **sense of Congress that** the Foundation should increase the number [...] ^{2*}*;

42) *It is the **sense of Congress that** over the next five years the [...] ^{2*}*;

Attitudinal/modality stance lexical bundles usually express the opinion or viewpoint of the speaker or writer. While the lexical bundle *sense of Congress that* expresses the opinion of the US Congress on a particular matter, it is not the opinion of a single individual.

As seen in the example 41, *sense of Congress that* expresses the opinion on the Foundation increasing number, in example 42 it expresses opinion on actions for the next five years. Usually in legal language personal opinions are avoided. However, in legal acts attitudinal/modality stance lexical bundles can appear expressing their course of action on a particular issue without enacting a binding law.

3.2.7 Discourse-organizing lexical bundles in the legal acts corpus

The second category on Table 3 is discourse organizers. 124 lexical bundles were put into this category. These lexical bundles were distributed as follows: fourteen lexical bundles were put in the topic introduction/focus sub-category and 110 were put in the topic

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 “Acts from the corpus of legal acts”.

elaboration/clarification sub-category. The number of lexical bundles, compared to the discourse organizers in law textbooks corpus, is relatively bigger.

The first lexical bundle from the sub-category topic introduction/focus is *in the case of*. This lexical bundle was found 1,086 times in 19 texts. Comparing the number of frequency and the range it is obvious that the lexical bundle is not that widely used among the legal acts but it is relatively frequent. *In the case of* was found in sentences like:

43) [...] basis for the proposed reform effort on, **in the case of** applications that propose and expansion [...] ^{2*};

44) [...] with respect to information or records, is - (A) **in the case of** written information or records, a written [...] ^{2*};

The provided examples show that *in the case of* does not introduce a new topic but rather focuses on specific details within the mentioned context. In example 43, the focus is on the applications proposing an expansion, and in the example 44, the focus is on the written information or records. The lexical bundle does not necessarily function only as the topic introduction/focus bundle but also as a condition signaler. The following lexical bundles of the sub-category topic introduction/focus can also function not only in one category as legal acts usually concentrate on one topic only and do not introduce a few new topics within the text.

The second sub-category of discourse organizers is topic elaboration/clarification. This sub-category does not introduce any new topics, rather it focuses on clarification/elaboration on the topic within the discourse.

The first lexical bundle on the list is *amended by adding at*. It was found 828 times in 22 different texts. Depending on the range, it can be seen that in at least half of the texts mentioned lexical bundle was used. It could have been found in sentences:

45) [...] of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 112) is **amended by adding at** the end of the following new [...] ^{2*};

46) [...] as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is **amended by adding at** the end the following new item [...] ^{2*};

In the provided examples, *amended by adding at* specifies that an addition has been made. This helps the reader understand the exact nature of the change being made to the topic. Words *adding at* provides detail about where the information is being inserted, this expands

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 “Acts from the corpus of legal acts”.

on the general concept of amending a law. While a lexical bundle *amended by adding at* could function as a discourse organizer it can also function as a referential expression. It is because the phrase focuses as well on the technical aspect, as to where it is added in the text.

Another lexical bundle on the list was used 745 in 24 texts, and it is *with respect to the*. The frequency of this lexical bundles is very similar to the *amended by adding at*. Both lexical bundles were used in half of the texts. This suggests that usually topic elaboration/clarification lexical bundles are used in quite a lot of legal acts. The examples, in which *with respect to the* are found are these:

47) *Dividend or make other capital distributions **with respect to the** common stock (or equivalent interest) of [...]*^{2*};

48) *[...] review Federal programs and resources **with respect to the** key technology focus areas indentified [...]*^{2*};

In both sentences, the lexical bundle *with respect to the* functions only as the topic elaboration/clarification bundle. It specifies and clarifies the scope of the actions being discussed, in example 47, the lexical bundle specifies which type of stock the distribution applies to, and in example 48 it clarifies which areas the review will focus on.

The focus on discourse organizers reflects the importance of precise and concrete language in legal acts. This precision relies heavily on another very important category: referential expressions, which will be discussed in the following section.

3.2.8 Referential lexical bundles in the legal acts corpus

As it was covered in the previous chapters of this research, referential expressions point to specific entities or concepts within a text. This is a very important category, especially in legal acts, as legal language is all about precise and clear communication. In total, there were 225 lexical bundles in the referential expressions category. They are distributed across the four sub-categories: identification/focus, imprecision, specification of attributes, time/place/text reference. The following sections will cover a detailed analysis of the mentioned sub-categories.

124 out of 225 lexical bundles were put into identification/focus sub-category. This sub-category's size is quite similar to the size corpus of law textbooks. It could be because the

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 "Acts from the corpus of legal acts".

lexical bundles that function as identification/focus expressions ensure clarity by pinpointing which entity or concept is being referred to. Lexical bundles of identification/focus also smoothly and clearly create a thread by linking back to previously introduced ideas, and this helps to maintain coherence of the text.

The first on the list is *of the United States*. This lexical bundle was 2,264 in all of the texts that were put for the corpus of legal acts. The high numbers show that the mentioned lexical bundle is frequently among legal acts corpus as the research is about legal English is the US legal system. Sentences in which lexical bundle *of the United States* can be found:

49) [...] by Senate and House of Representatives **of the United States** of America in Congress assembled, [...] ^{2*};

50) There is established in the Treasury **of the United States** a fund to be know as [...] ^{2*};

As the examples show, the lexical bundle points to a specific entity, in this case, the United States. In example 49, *of the United States* specifies which legislative body is being referred to, and in example 50, it specifies to which treasury it is referred to. While this lexical bundle can act as the identification/focus bundle, it could also function as the specification of attributes bundle. However, even if lexical bundle *of the United States* can function as specification of attributes lexical bundle, it is not its primary function.

Next on the list of identification/focus is the lexical bundle *of the house of*. The software *AntConc* showed that the frequency of this lexical bundle was 1,580, and it was found in half of the corpus, which is 29 texts. Although the lexical bundle *of the house of* is not as frequent in the different texts as *of the United States*, it could suggest that this might be due to specific themes of legal acts. The examples, in which this lexical bundle was found are:

51) The Committees on Appropriations **of the House of Represantitaves** and the Senate may provide [...] ^{2*};

52) [...] the Senate and the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology **of the House of Representatives** a report on the inventory [...] ^{2*};

As the examples provide, the lexical bundle *of the House of* points to, in these cases, to House of Representatives, which is a legislative body within the United States government. The lexical bundle identifies and focuses on the particular entity, distinguishing it from other legislative bodies with similar entities, for example, state houses.

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 “Acts from the corpus of legal acts”.

Next in Table 3 is sub-category of imprecision lexical bundles. Interestingly, none of Table 3 presented lexical bundles fall under this sub-category.

The sub-category of specification of attributes contains only seven lexical bundles of 225. The legal acts themselves usually do not provide any specification on the entities' attributes as it is not needed because legal acts usually contain topic specific information. The lexical bundles under this sub-category were such as *the secretary of defense*, *the house of representatives*, *department of veterans affairs*, *the public health service*, etc. Lexical bundle *the secretary of defense* was used 1,511 times in thirteen texts. As it can be seen from the number of lexical bundles within this sub-category, this lexical bundle is not that popular among legal acts. It could be found in sentences like:

53) [...] may be obligated or expended until 60 days after **the Secretary of Defense** provides to the congressional defense committees [...] ^{2*};

54) [...] days after the date of the enactment of this Act, **the Secretary of Defense** shall submit to the congressional defense [...] ^{2*};

In the examples provided, the lexical bundle *the secretary of defense* does not refer to the secretary in general but it specifies the position held by the individual within the Department of Defense, and it does distinguish it from other secretaries within the government. This lexical bundle adds precision to the text as it highlights the entity, in this case, the person, and it's positions in the government.

The lexical bundle *the house of representatives* is quite similar to the previous lexical bundle. It was used 1,480 times in 28 texts, which is quite similar in frequency to the lexical bundle *the secretary of defense*. It is also context specific lexical bundle that does appear only in theme specific legal acts. The sentences in which this lexical bundle can be found are:

55) *The Committees on Appropriations of **the House of Representatives** and the Senate may provide [...] ^{2*};*

56) [...] to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and **the House of Representatives** a report that identifies and provides [...] ^{2*};

As the lexical bundle *the secretary of defense*, *the house of representatives* points to a specific entity, in this case, the lower chamber of the United States Congress. In the examples provided, it is important to identify a legislative body so as not to confuse it with any other

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 "Acts from the corpus of legal acts".

legislative body. The function of legislative function could be found in this lexical bundle, but its primary function in these cases would be the specification of attributes.

As the sub-category of specification of attributes contains only seven lexical bundles, the following number of lexical bundles can be found in the time/place/text reference sub-category. This sub-category contains 93 lexical bundles in total. The variety of lexical bundles in this sub-category is quite big and it involves not only time-referencing lexical bundles but also the text referencing bundles. The first lexical bundle on the list of the time/place/text sub-category would be *after the date of*. This lexical bundle was quite frequent within the corpus, in 34 texts it was used 2,561 times. The sentences that contain this lexical bundle are:

57) *Not later than 45 days **after the date of** enactment of this Act, the Secretary [...] ^{2*};*

58) *[...] later than the end of the first fiscal year beginning **after the date of** enactment of this Act. ^{2*}*

The lexical bundle focuses on the time reference in the provided examples, it points to a specific point in time. In the example 57, the lexical bundle *after the date of* establishes the starting point, and in example 58 it defines a time frame. The time reference lexical bundles are important in legal acts as they do not only establish the starting point, but they also can set the time frame, provide the term, etc. It is one of the most crucial parts of such documents.

Besides the time reference lexical bundles, on the list, there are lexical bundles that refer to the text, for example, *enactment of this act*. This lexical bundle was found 2,316 times in 33 texts. As can be seen from the numbers, the importance of this lexical bundle within the text is quite high. The sentences, in which this lexical bundle can be found, are:

59) *Not later than 30 months after the date of **enactment of this Act**, the Comptroller General shall brief the [...] ^{2*};*

60) *[...] in effect on the day before the date of the **enactment of this Act**, shall carry out the following: [...] ^{2*};*

It is interesting to notice that the lexical bundle *enactment of this act* functions not only as a time reference bundle but also as a text reference bundle. In example 59, the mentioned lexical bundle sets a deadline, while in example 60 it refers to the state of things before the enactment. The lexical bundle contains a two-word lexical bundle *this Act* which identifies a specific act within the context, however, the text reference is not the primary function of the lexical bundle *enactment of this act*.

^{2*} Examples are taken from textbooks that can be found in Appendix 2 “Acts from the corpus of legal acts”.

As it was stated at the beginning of the analysis of referential expressions lexical bundles, referential expressions focus on specific entities within the text, which is crucial for clear communication in legal language. The 225 lexical bundles are distributed between 3 sub-categories, identification/focus, specification of attributes, and time/place/text reference. No imprecision lexical bundles were found within the corpus of legal texts. In light of the presented results, further discussion on the language of different fields, and academic and legal acts can be found in the following section.

DISCUSSION

The primary objective of this study was to investigate the legal language used for academic and legal acts texts. Specifically, the research aimed to determine what functions the lexical bundles realize in two corpora. For the research, two corpora were compiled: the corpus of law textbooks and the corpus of legal acts, containing 50 texts each. Even if the corpus of law textbooks was bigger in word number, it contained only 397 lexical bundles, which was quite small compared to the corpus of legal acts, which contained 853 lexical bundles in total. Although the numbers were different, it was decided to only analyze the same number of lexical bundles, which was 350 lexical bundles from each corpus, to ensure an accurate language comparison.

Lexical bundles from both corpora were put into two tables (Table 2 and Table 3) according to the function they perform in the text. There were three functional categories, which were subdivided into sub-categories: epistemic stance and attitudinal/modality stance (stance expressions); topic introduction/focus and topic elaboration/clarification (discourse organizers); clarification/focus, imprecision, specification of attributes, and time/place/text reference (referential expressions).

The overall results of the study are presented in Figure 1 below. The distribution of functional types of lexical bundles in the two corpora is different.

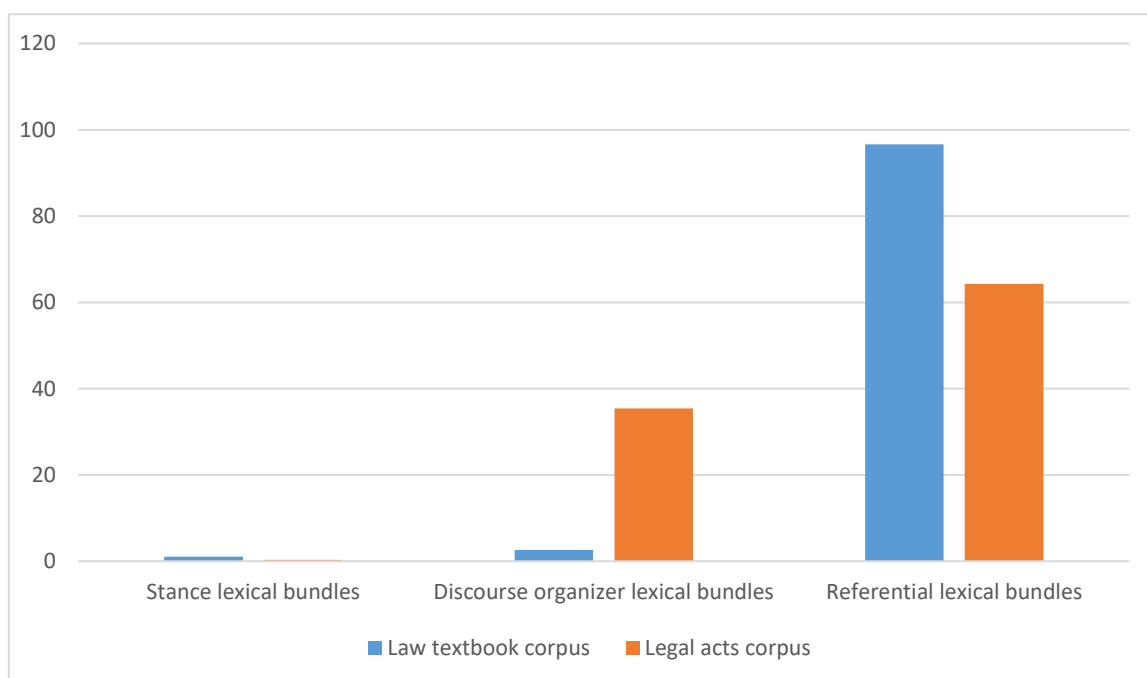


Figure 1. Comparison of functional types of lexical bundles in the two corpora

In both corpora attitudinal/modality stance lexical bundles had appeared. The overall percentage of lexical bundles in the corpus of law textbooks was 1,1% and in the corpus of legal acts, the number did not even reach one percent, only 0,3%. It was strange that the corpus of legal acts had one attitudinal/modality stance lexical bundle, while in the corpus of law textbooks, there were three attitudinal/modality stance lexical bundles and one epistemic stance lexical bundle. Usually, epistemic stance lexical bundles are personal and express the speakers or writers' knowledge of the information provided, and lexical bundle *there can be no*, that was found in the corpus of law textbooks, express a claim about the impossibility of something existing (Biber et. al, 2004). Such lexical bundles, in my opinion, can be used in law textbooks as the discourse itself is used for learning purposes, giving the author of the text the ability to use a more explanatory style. However, attitudinal/modality stance lexical bundles should not be found in legal texts only because they express the writer's attitudes towards something mentioned in the text (ibid. 2004). The legal language avoids expressing personal opinions as precision and complying with legislation are the main goals in communication. Some of the presented lexical bundles, such as *it is possible to*, *should be able to*, *sense of congress that* can be used to communicate a certain sentiment about a particular issue or influence decision or legislation. Stance lexical bundles found in both corpora are impersonal, which aligns with the necessity for neutrality in legal communication. The usage of stance expressions in law textbooks and legal acts is rather small and signals that the language remains formal and unbiased in both discourses, academic and legal acts, which

maintains the clarity essential for legal documents. Further investigation of lexical bundles in spoken and written registers in legal discourse would provide different results.

In the second category, discourse organizers, lexical bundles were distributed very differently. As can be seen in Figure 1, the corpus of law textbooks contained only 2,8% of all lexical bundles, whereas the corpus of legal acts contained 35,4%. One of the reasons why the difference is so obvious could be that all textbooks that were picked for the research covered specific topics rather than a general overview of law. Of course, a few textbooks were general, however, they did not introduce new topics but rather talked about the law in general, presenting main points. Another reason for the drastic difference could be that textbooks do not require a rigid structure to guide readers through complex legal arguments or legislative procedures, as textbooks are meant for learning and usually are less strict than legal acts. The sub-category of topic introduction/focus signals that a new topic is being introduced (ibid., 2004). In the corpus of law textbooks, only three lexical bundles appeared as topic introduction/focus lexical bundles, whereas in the corpus of legal acts, fourteen lexical bundles were found in this sub-category. Interesting to notice, that both corpora shared one lexical bundle *in the case of*, and in both cases, the lexical bundle introduced a specific scenario to illustrate a point or legal principle. In legal discourse, this phrase is often used and presents an example that clarifies the application of law. Lastly, the higher frequency of topic introduction/focus lexical bundles in the corpus of legal acts can be due to a reason for clarity. While legal documents need to delineate different sections and address multiple issues within a single text, introduce provisions, clauses, and topics to ensure that each idea is understood, textbooks can be written on specific issues separately and do not need to cover everything in one text.

As for the sub-category of topic elaboration/clarification, the situation is a bit different. The number of lexical bundles found in the corpus of law textbooks is six, whereas in the corpus of legal acts, there were 110 lexical bundles. The difference is significant compared to already discussed sub-categories and may be related to the sub-category of topic introduction/focus. As legal acts require specifications and clarifications to make every aspect of the legislation unambiguous and enforceable, lexical bundles like *with respect to the*, *by adding at the*, *referred to as the*, etc., elaborate and clarify the legal documents and the application of specific laws. In contrast, law textbooks serve an educational purpose and present information more straightforwardly. Information usually focuses on providing a clear understanding of legal concepts rather than providing possible nuance. Although the use of topic elaboration/clarification lexical bundles in the corpus of legal textbooks is less frequent it is

still important for explaining legal principles and ensuring that students understand the complexities of the subject. However, I believe that discourse organizers and referential expressions are widely related to making language clear and precise. While one category helps structure and organize information within a text, focusing on relationships between different parts of the discourse, the other category rather points to specific entities or concepts within a text.

As expected from the beginning, referential expressions are dominating in legal language according to the results of this research. As seen in Figure 1, the overall percentage of lexical bundles in law textbooks is 96,6%, which shows that the corpus of law textbooks consists of almost only referential lexical bundles, and in the corpus of legal acts lexical bundles take 64,3%, more than half of all lexical bundles. Referential lexical bundles identify an entity or attribute of an entity that is important (ibid. 2004). Biber et. al (2004) presented four sub-categories: identification/focus, imprecision, specification of attributes, time/place/text reference. The number of lexical bundles in the corpus of law textbooks did not divide evenly between these four sub-categories, however, in the corpus of legal acts, the number of lexical bundles between the sub-category of identification/focus and time/place/text reference was relatively close.

As already mentioned, identification/focus lexical bundles are quite similar to discourse organizers. They explain the main point or, in some cases, introduce something by stating the main point (ibid. 2004). The dominance of referential lexical bundles in textbooks, such as *the rule of law, the authority of the, the application of the, the subject of the*, etc., highlights the need for constant reference to legal concepts, and case law, which are fundamental for the learning process. The referential lexical bundles help link the text to the specific context, making it easier for students to follow and understand complex material. In legal acts, the referential lexical bundles highlight the necessity for precise and clear identification of legal entities, attributes, and conditions. Lexical bundles like, *of the house of, that the secretary of, of this act the*, etc., specify the roles and responsibilities of entities within the document, ensuring that every act is attributed and is unambiguous. The usage of identification/focus lexical bundles in legal acts is crucial to avoid any misinterpretation or ambiguity. Additionally, identification/focus lexical bundles serve to maintain consistency throughout the document as the repetitive use of lexical bundles helps the reader to track the relationship between different parts of the document and for students to get familiar with the terms and language used in legal acts.

The legal language is known to be precise, which is why no imprecision lexical bundles were found in the corpus of legal acts. While there were a few imprecision lexical bundles in the corpus of law textbooks, they also performed a different function altogether. As can be seen in the examples provided, the sub-category of imprecision introduces a category of entities without identifying them precisely (ibid. 2004). Lexical bundles like *one or more of, one of the parties, he or she has* introduced relevant entities without providing deeper detail. It might be intentional or not, if the author does not have enough information. As the language in textbooks is looser than in legal texts, it is more open to interpretation which lets the writer get a bit more creative. On the other hand, the usage of imprecision lexical bundles in legal acts is rather rare, and as this research's results show, not existing. Legal texts need to be precise as they have binding consequences. Imprecise language can result in loopholes and challenges in court. Precision helps avoid interpretation of laws, which can disrupt the legal system's stability in general. In summary, the use of precise language in legal documents ensures that laws are consistently understood, applied, and enforced, maintaining the integrity and functionality of the legal system, whereas the use of precise language in textbooks is not a requirement as the material is for learning purposes.

Another interesting observation was made, the sub-category specification of attributes was also not that popular among both corpora. By specifying the attributes sentences avoid ambiguity which is very crucial in legal language and because of that, the reader has a clear message delivered to them. Having this idea in mind, we see that the results suggest otherwise. The small number of lexical bundles rather suggests that the specification of attributes might not be that important in legal texts or that such lexical bundles function as identification/focus lexical bundles. It would be interesting to see if lexical bundles from other legal systems act the same as the ones in the US legal system.

As for the last sub-category, time/place/text reference lexical bundles, the situation is different between the two corpora. In the corpus of law textbooks, only 18 such lexical bundles were found. The reason for such low frequency might be due to the purpose of textbooks. As they are used for learning purposes, the information in textbooks does not require any highlighting on the time or place, rather, the focus is on the information itself. This allows textbooks to present concepts in a more general and timeless manner, which contributes to a broader understanding of the material. In contrast, the frequency of lexical bundles in the corpus of legal acts is rather higher, there were 93 lexical bundles in total. This difference can be attributed to the nature of legal acts, which often specify time, places, and in-text references to ensure clarity. For example, *after the date of, as defines in section, in the united states*, etc.

ensure that the legal requirements are linked to the specific circumstances, reducing the risk of misinterpretation, proper implementation of laws, and coherence of the text.

As Figure 1 shows, lexical bundles from both corpora mostly function as referential lexical bundles in the text. It is also important to notice that most of the presented lexical bundles in Table 2 and Table 3 can be classified in more than one category.

The results of this research proved the hypothesis to be partially confirmed. The language used in legal acts and law textbooks seems to share a great number of lexical bundles in the referential expressions category. However, the number of lexical bundles found in discourse organizers differed significantly. This proves that law textbooks have a more flexible structure than legal acts, as textbook's structure is more adaptable and varied. The purpose of the textbooks is to educate and facilitate the learning process by presenting legal concepts in a way that is understandable to students. The flexibility in structure allows more explanatory style, which is why referential lexical bundles are dominating in the corpus of law textbooks. Legal acts, on the other hand, are formal documents that require strict structure to ensure clarity and consistency. The use of discourse organizers and referential expressions is quite similar and they share the dominance of this corpus. Discourse organizers help connect ideas coherently, navigating the reader to specific points and sections within the text. Referential lexical bundles perform a very similar function, they highlight entities or attributes of entities in a specific context, which provides a more clear view of the message that is being delivered.

Even though the scope of this research was limited and a relatively small number of texts was chosen to analyze, the results provide quite deep insight into the language usage in two different discourses. While both corpora rely heavily on referential lexical bundles, their use of other lexical bundles and overall structure varies significantly. These differences reflect the specialized functions of each discourse highlighting the importance of tailored linguistic strategies to meet different communicative needs.

It would be interesting to see research that analyzes the functions of lexical bundles between written and spoken registers, or even lexical bundles between two or more legal systems. Such research would provide an even deeper understanding of language usage within the legal discourse and what impact it has.

CONCLUSION

Legal discourse is usually associated with courts, lawyers, legislation, etc., but it is a language that unifies the entire discourse. The first signs of legal language began with Hammurabi Code, which was written in B.C. (Kramer 1990: 50-51). Since then legal language has been evolving and now it is thought to be a specialized form of communication with unique features and genres. Several scholars, like Mounin (1974) or Danet (1980), argue whether legal language can be considered a separate language, specialized form, or common language (quoted from Gozdz-Roszkowski 2012: 2). It is not a secret that legal language is usually unreadable for people who are not from the legal discourse as it has long and complex sentences, is very formal. Legal language can not only be found in legal acts but also in textbooks for students, court decisions, lawyer notes, etc., and they all serve a specific function within the discourse.

As legal language consists of long and complex sentences, the lexical bundles, recurrent sequences of 2 or more words (Biber 2004), play a significant role in shaping legal discourse. The bundles can be analyzed for their structural or functional features, giving more understanding of language patterns and communication. The studies on lexical bundles in legal language have explored various perspectives, from translation to genre-specific analyses.

As there were various kinds of research on lexical bundles, there are no studies on the functional features of lexical bundles in two different types within the legal field. Before the research, a hypothesis was raised that lexical bundles used in legal acts and law textbooks are similar and the language does not differ. For the research, it was decided to take 50 textbooks and 50 legal acts from the US legal system and compile two corpora. For the analysis 350 lexical bundles from each corpus were taken into account.

The results proved the hypothesis to be partially correct. The lexical bundles from each of the corpora did not distribute evenly in the 3 categories: stance expressions, discourse organizers, and referential expressions. The first category in both corpora contained a small percentage of the lexical bundles, which signaled the already known information about the legal language, that all personal opinions are to be avoided, and it does not matter whether the text is for learning purposes or presenting laws. The second category, discourse organizers, shared a different amount of lexical bundles from each corpus, nine from the corpus of law textbooks, and 124 from the corpus of legal acts. The results present the importance of connecting the newly presented topics as precisely as possible within the discourse in the legal acts, while the language in law textbooks can be a bit less strict. The last category, referential expressions,

took the biggest part of lexical bundles from each corpus. The results show the dominance of referential expression lexical bundles within the legal language in general. Such lexical bundles referred to specific entities, time, place, or even text-specific content.

The research results showed that legal language in legal acts does have more lexical bundles functioning as discourse organizers than in law textbooks. However, the results also showed that referential expressions are dominating in both corpora, which signals that precision is the most important part of both discourses. However, the purpose of each discourse is rather different which is why the numbers of lexical bundles in three categories are distributed differently.

The research does not only provide insight into the language features in both genres but also offers practical implications for legal education and practice, showing how a corpus-driven approach can reveal the patterns of language use in legal contexts.

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SANTRAUKA

Teisinė kalba plačiai vartojama visame pasaulyje, tačiau jai būdinga itin sudėtinga kalbinė raiška. Sudėtingos ir kartais painios teisinės kalbos raiškos priemonės savybės daro ją puikiu tyrimų objektu, ypač leksinių junginių analizėms.

Šio tyrimo medžiaga rinkta iš dviejų tekstynų: teisės vadovėliai ir teisės aktai. Tekstynai buvo sukaupti specialiai šiam darbui, atrenkant panašios tematikos tekstus. **Tyrimo tikslas** – nustatyti, kokias funkcijas atlieka skirtinguose korpusuose randamos leksinės samplaikos, ir palyginti, ar skiriasi šių skirtingų tekstynų kalba. **Darbo uždaviniai:** surinkti leksines samplaikas iš dviejų tekstynų; sugrupuoti leksines samplaikas pagal jų atliekamas funkcijas; palyginti abiejų tekstynų duomenis. Be šių tikslų, iškelta hipotezė, kad, nepaisant žanrų skirtumų, abiejuose tekstynuose rastos leksinės samplaikos nesiskiria ir atlieka tas pačias teksto funkcijas. Šiame darbe laikomasi kokybinio **tyrimo metodo**.

Pirmoje tyrimo dalyje aptariama literatūra susijusi su teisine kalba ir leksinėmis samplaikomis. Antroje tyrimo dalyje aprašoma tekstyno sudarymo ir analizės metodika, pateikiami analizės rezultatai. Trečioje dalyje pateikiama šių darbo aptarimas ir išvados.

Gauti tyrimo rezultatai parodo, kad pagal atliekamas funkcijas išskirstytos leksinės samplaikos dviejuose tekstynuose pasiskirsto netolygiai. Teisės vadovėlių tekстыne didžiąją dalį, t. y. 96 proc., sudaro referencinės leksinės samplaikos. Teisės aktų tekстыne referencinės leksinės samplaikos sudaro tik 64 proc., tačiau priešingai nei teisės vadovėlių tekстыne, tekstą organizuojančios leksinės samplaikos sudaro 35 proc. visų leksinių samplaikų. Toks didžiulis skirtumas rodo, kad nors ir referencinės leksinės samplaikos aiškiai dominuoja abiejuose tekstynuose, tačiau kalba ir jos paskirtis skiriasi.

Rezultatai ne tik atskleidžia leksinių samplaikų vartojimo niuansus, bet ir suteikia vertingų įžvalgų teisės specialistams, dėstytojams, studentams ir visiems, siekiantiems orientuotis JAV teisinės komunikacijos sudėtingume.

APPENDIXES

Appendix 1. Textbooks from corpus of the law textbooks

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Appendix 2. Acts from the corpus of legal acts.

All acts can be found: <https://www.congress.gov/>

H.R.2 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018.

H.R.6 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act.

H.R.1917 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Hazard Eligibility and Local Projects Act.

H.R.2220 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) To amend title 40, United States Code, to modify the treatment of certain bargain-price options to purchase at less than fair market value, and for other purposes.

H.R.2617 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023.

H.R.2872 — 118th Congress (2023-2024) Further Additional Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024.

H.R.3746 — 118th Congress (2023-2024) Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023.

H.R.4004 — 118th Congress (2023-2024) United States-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade First Agreement Implementation Act.

H.R.4009 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Smithsonian National Zoological Park Central Parking Facility Authorization Act.

H.R.4346 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Chips and Science Act.

H.R.4373 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Further Additional Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2023.

H.R.4426 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Homeland Security for Children Act.

H.R.4819 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) DELTA Act.

H.R.497 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act.

H.R.5376 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

H.R.5509 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Innovations in Mentoring, Training, and Apprenticeships Act.

H.R.5515 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019.

H.R.5641 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Small Project Efficient and Effective Disaster Recovery Act.

H.R.5772 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) To designate the J. Marvin Jones Federal Building and Courthouse in Amarillo, Texas, as the "J. Marvin Jones Federal Building and Mary Lou Robinson United States Courthouse".

H.R.5860 — 118th Congress (2023-2024) Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act.

H.R.5895 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Energy and Water, Legislative Branch, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, 2019.

H.R.6157 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 and Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019.

H.R.6227 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) National Quantum Initiative Act.

H.R.6363 — 118th Congress (2023-2024) Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024.

H.R.6604 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Veterans Eligible to Transfer School (VETS) Credit Act.

H.R.6833 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Continuing Appropriations and Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023.

H.R.7318 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) To amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to ensure that the Public Buildings Reform Board has adequate time to carry out the responsibilities of the Board, and for other purposes.

H.R.7319 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) To amend the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to provide flexibility with respect to the leaseback of certain Federal real property, and for other purposes.

H.R.7334 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) COVID-19 EIDL Fraud Statute of Limitations Act of 2022.

H.R.7691 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Additional Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022.

H.R.7735 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act of 2022.

H.R.7776 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023.

H.R.7903 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic located in Canton, Michigan, as the "Major General Oliver W. Dillard VA Clinic".

H.R.7939 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Veterans Auto and Education Improvement Act of 2022.

S.497 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) American Fisheries Advisory Committee Act.

S.516 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Advanced Air Mobility Coordination and Leadership Act.

S.1098 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Joint Consolidation Loan Separation Act.

S.1294 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Protecting American Intellectual Property Act of 2022.

S.1617 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act.

S.2089 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) Keep Kids Fed Act of 2022.

S.2155 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act.

S.2200 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act of 2018.

- S.2377 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 200 West 2nd Street in Dayton, Ohio, as the "Walter H. Rice Federal Building and United States Courthouse".
- S.2734 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) A bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 1300 Victoria Street in Laredo, Texas, as the "George P. Kazen Federal Building and United States Courthouse".
- S.2736 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018.
- S.2765 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) RBIC Advisers Relief Act of 2018.
- S.3021 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018.
- S.3247 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018.
- S.3508 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Save Our Seas Act of 2018.
- S.3530 — 115th Congress (2017-2018) Museum and Library Services Act of 2018.
- S.4900 — 117th Congress (2021-2022) SBIR and STTR Extension Act of 2022.