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# A Genre-Based Legal Document Writing Support System Using OCHA and PAIL Approaches

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#### Development of an LSP Support System for Autonomous Learning

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#### Language is composed of patterns

- 1. Sound patterns form words
- Word patterns form phrases and clauses
- 3. Phrase and clause patterns form sentences
- 4. Sentence patterns form texts
- 5. Text patterns form genres

#### What is "genre"?

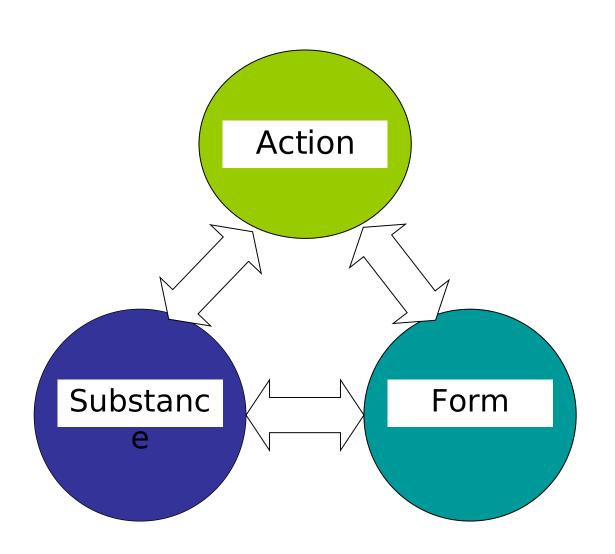
"'Genre' is a recognizable communicative event characterized by a set of communicative purpose(s) identified and mutually understood by the members of the professional or academic community in which it regularly occurs.

Swales' definition (1981, 1985, 1990a) summarized by Bhatia in *Analysing Genres* (1993:13)

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"Most often it is *highly structured* and conventionalized with constraints on allowable contributions in terms of their intent, positioning, form and functional value. These constraints, however, are often exploited by the expert members of the discourse community to achieve private intentions within the framework of socially recognized purpose(s)." (Bhatia 1993:13)

#### Features of genre texts



#### Carolyn Miller

"A rhetorically sound definition of genre must be centered not on the substance or the form of discourse but on the action it is used to accomplish." (Miller 1984:151).

#### Carolyn Miller

Miller rejected a class of Environmental Impact Statements that she had studied as not constituting a rhetorical genre because "it did not achieve a rational fusion of elements—in spite of obvious similarities in form and substance, and in spite of a recurring rhetorical situation that was, in fact, defined by law. These documents had no coherent pragmatic force ... Overall, the imperfect fusion of scientific, legal, and administrative elements prevented interpretation of the documents as meaningful rhetorical action." (Miller 1984:164)

## Example: A genre-based support system for the production of legal documents

- What? A system to help produce documents such as contracts, wills, patents, and case reports.
- Who? Legal professionals, paralegals, and law school students.
- Why? The complex language of legal documents poses a challenge, especially in English-as-a-foreign-language situations
- How? Use OCHA (observe text features, classify them, hypothesize their usage and apply observations)

Use PAIL (identify the purpose, audience, information and language features of genre texts)

Use genre-based corpora

#### **OCHA**

- A pedagogic approach based on the scientific method
  - Observe the phenomena: the text
  - Classify the observations: the text features such as rhetorical structure, grammar, phraseology, collocations
  - Hypothesize about the use of these features: e.g. verb tense usage, phrases used to signal discourse structure
  - Apply the hypotheses to understand or create similar texts

#### Advantages of using OCHA

- Weans students away from word-for-word translation which can be misleading and even inaccurate
- Reveals cross-linguistic rhetorical variation
- Makes students aware of systematically used language features of genre texts
- Equips students with techniques that can be applied to newly encountered texts, even from different genres

#### What to observe

- Purpose of the text
- Audience at which it is aimed
- Information that it is expected to carry
- Language features that make it possible for the text to realize its purpose
  - Rhetorical
  - Grammatical
  - Lexical
  - Technical
  - Phonological

#### Why does form need to be taught?

From second language acquisition (SLA) research: Focus on form

 Doughty and Williams (1998): classroomoriented research reveals that "some linguistic features do not ultimately develop to target-like levels" if left to only experiential and meaning-based experiences.

## Ellis: Form-focused Instruction and Second Language Learning (2001)

Types of Form-Focused Instruction

Primary focus Distribution

Focus-on-forms Form Intensive

Planned focus- Meaning Intensive

on-form

Incidental focus- Meaning Extensive

on-form

## A genre-based support system to implement OCHA

## System for electronically searching and translating U.S. Constitutional Cases

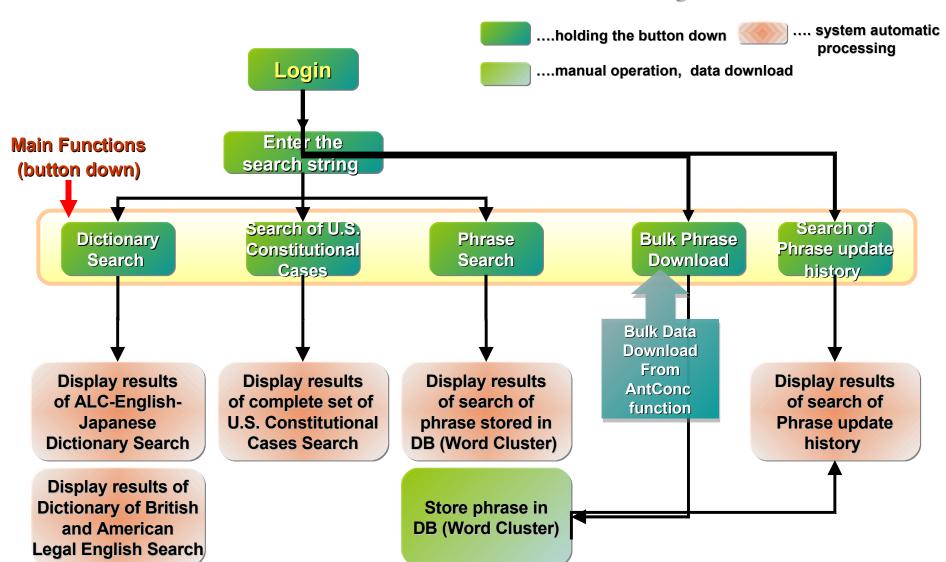
1) Search for either individual words or entire phrases in texts of Cases

#### 2) Access via

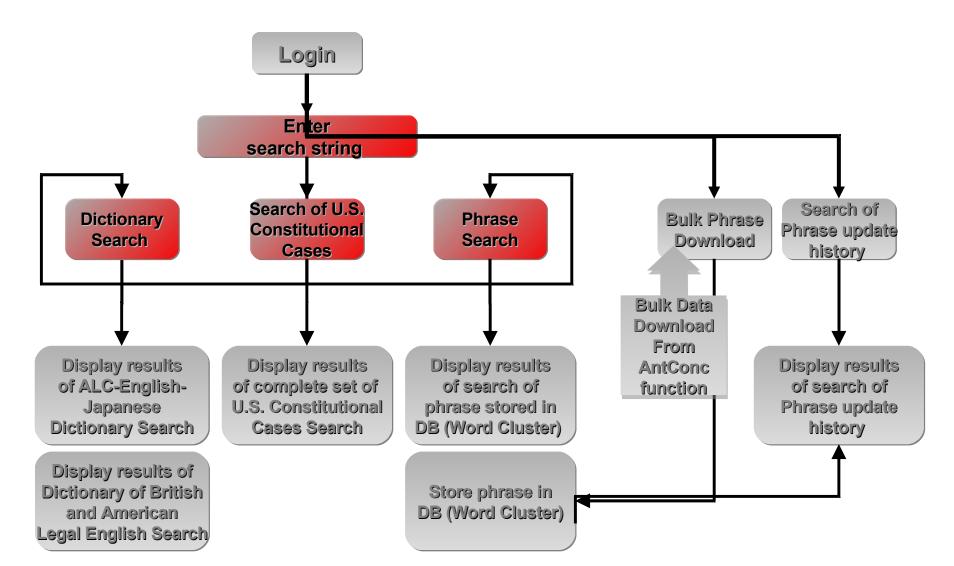
- Identification of common Japanese and English translations as well as usage
  - --> ALC-English-Japanese dictionary
- Display of specialized usage of legal terms -->
   Dictionary of British and American Legal English

- Identification of actual usage in text of U.S.
   Constitutional Cases (display of example sentences) --> complete set of U.S. Constitutional Cases
- Identification of frequency of usage of terms within text of U.S. Constitutional Cases (display of example sentences) ---> corpus of example phrases
- 3) Link search results of one data set to next search in a different data set (search refinement)

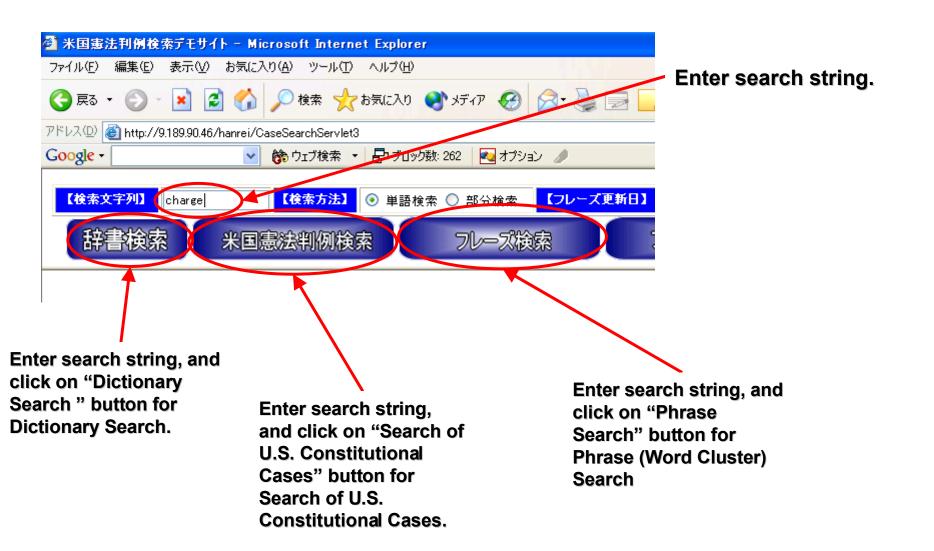
## Overview of Functions of the Precedent Search & Translation System



#### **Precedent Search & Translation (1)**



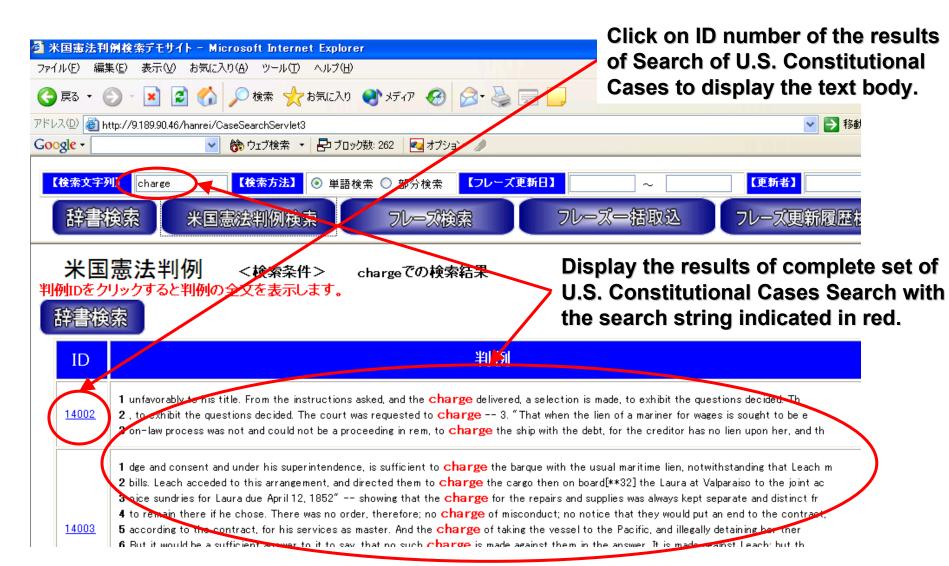
#### **Precedent Searching & Translation (2)**



#### Display results of Dictionary Search



### Display Search Results of U.S. Constitutional Cases (1)



### Display results of Search of U.S. Constitutional Cases (2)

#### 利例14002全文表示 - Microsoft Internet Explorer



**charge** へのリンク 12345678910 Click on ID number of the results of Search of U.S. Constitutional Cases to display the text body.

14002

JAMES L. AND SAMUEL L. TAYLOR, ADMINISTRATORS OF ROBERTTAYLOR, DECEASED, PLAINTIFFS IN ERROR, V. NATHAN T. CARRYL, WHO SURVIVED WILLIAM J. WARD.
SUPREME COUNT OF THE UNITED STATES

61 J.S. 583; 1857 U.S. LEXIS 490; 15 L. Ed. 1028; 20 HOW 583

DECEMBER, 1857, Term

PRIOR HISTORY: [\*\*1]

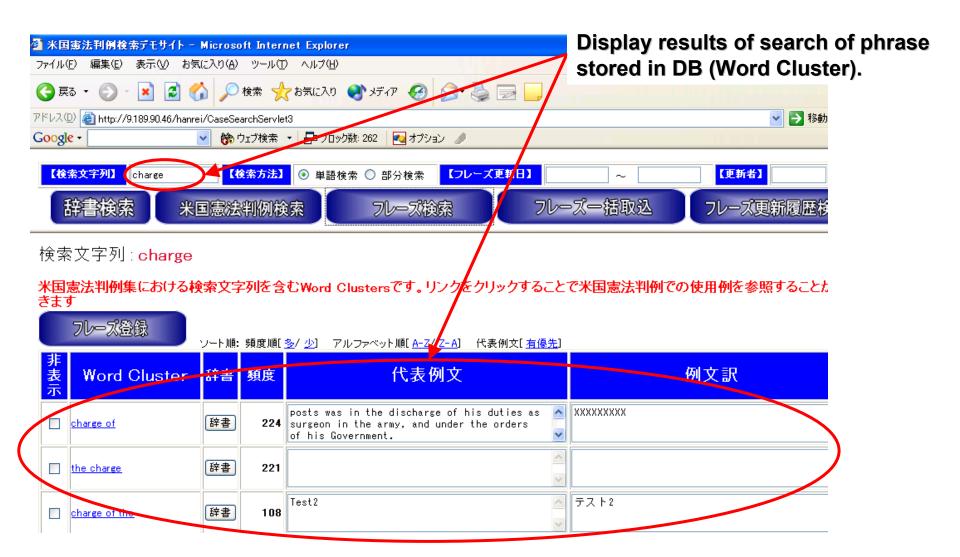
THIS case was brought up from the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, by a writ of error issued under the twenty-fifth section of the judiciary act.

The facts of the case are particularly stated in the opinion of the court.

SORE TERMS: admiralty, marshal, vessel, custody, common law, ship, common-law, seamen, wages, attachment, seizad, duty, admiralty jurisdiction, paramount, tribunal, barque, mariner, maritime, exclusive jurisdiction, court of admiralty, enlightened, concurrent, interfere, lawfully, arrest, foreign attachment, sovereignty, replevin, jealousy, seizure

LEXIS HEADNOTES - Classified to U.S. Digest Lawyers' Edition: Prior sale by sheriff -- when gives better title than sale by Marshal -- property levied on, not subject to another jurisdiction. --

#### Display results of Phrase Search



#### Conclusion

Three Genre Components Essential for LSP Communication

- 3. Action, Substance, Form
- 4. Observe, Classify, Hypothesize, Apply
- 5. Purpose, Audience, Information, Language

Use ESP Concepts →
To create a Pedagogical Tool→
For Professional Development (e.g., legal professionals)

#### Appendix

#### Application to a Contract Text

Contract Nr. CK-W-1-ENG	Move
NEGOTIATED UTILITY SERVICE CONTRACT	
THIS CONTRACT entered into as of 27 December 1955 by and between the U. S. Government, hereinafter called the Government represented by the Contracting Officer executing this contract, and K University, whose address is Rokkodai-cho, Kobe City, Japan, hereinafter called the Purchaser,	
WITNESSETH THAT:	
WHEREAS, the Government has established Rokko Heights Dependent Housing, FAC 4055 near K University known as Rokko Heights, and owns, maintains and operates facilities for the furnishing of water service, and	
WHEREAS, the Purchaser desires to obtain water service from the Government, as required for K University, at the time of heavy rain only,	
NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and of the mutual agreements herein contained, to be performed by the parties hereto respectively, it is agreed as follows:	

1. SCOPE AND TERM OF CONTRACT. (a) Subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth, the Government shall sell and deliver to the Purchaser and the Purchaser shall purchase and receive from the Government water service (hereinafter called service) requested by the Purchaser from the Government at the premises to be served hereunder (hereinafter called the service location), all in accordance with the Special Provisions "A" for Water Service attached hereto and made a part hereof	
* * *	
* * *	
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this contract as of the day and year first above written.	
Headquarters: Camp Kobe, APO 317	
By: (Signed) Nomen NESCIO	
Lt Col CE	
Regional Post Engineer	
Purchase: K University	
By: (Signed) Nanno NANIGASHI	
Title: Executive Secretary	

#### Application to a Will Text

THIS IS THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT	Move
of me John Geoffrey Mooncraft	
of 30 Roman Way, Mannamead, Bramhall, Brightshire	
I hereby revoke all previous wills and codicils I have made. This is my last Will.	
As executor(s) of this my will, I appoint: my wife Jean Margaret Mooncraft; my daughter Mrs Penny Marjonie Stanton and my son-in-law Nicholas Matthew Stanton, both of 17 Winchester Close, High Lane, Brightshire.	
I direct that all my debts and funeral and testamentary expenses be paid as soon as is convenient after by death.	
1, I leave my painting of the Spanish Galleon by Tom Praund to my friend Michael Victor Norris of 43 Embankment Drive, Riverside, Tothill, Buryshire, in appreciation of his friendship over many years.	
2, I leave the sum of100 to the save the Children Fund of 17 Grove Lane, Camberwell, Longond SE5 8RD.	

3, I leave the sum of1000 to each of my children, Mrs Penny Marjonie Stanton of 17 Winchester Close, High Lane, Brightshire, David Stephen Mooncraft of 1 Dunham Close, Claverham, Dukeshire, Mrs Flora Mary Martin of Shresbury, 5 Hartley Road, Yewerton, BrightshireEdwin Giles Mooncraft of 184 Andrews Drive, St. Judes, Dukeshire.	
4, (i) I leave the remainder of my estate to my wife Jean Margaret Mooncraft of 30 Roman Way, Mannamead, Bramhall.	
Dated this day of (month) (year)	
(1st witness)	
of	
(2nd witness)	
of	
Signed by the	
testator/testatrix	
in our presence and	
by us in his/hers	
PAGE 1 if there is not enough space use the back page to continue. The witnesses should then sign and write in their addresses on the other side.	

(Continued from overleaf)	
Brightshire, provided she survives me for period of 28 days;	
4, (ii) If my wife shall not so survive me I leave the remainder of my estate to my children, Mrs Penny Marjorie Stanton, David Stephen Moorcraft, Mrs Flora Mary Martin and Edwin Giles Moorcraft in equal shares:	
4, (iii) If any of my children mentioned above shall die before me I leave the share in the remainder of my estate that he or she would have received equally between my children who survive me.	
John G. Mooncraft.	
Dated this 30th day of (month) April (year) 1998	
<u>P.J. Bristow</u> (1st witness)	
of 10, Garland Road, Buth. Avon	
(2nd witness)	
of 58 Herondale Rd. Solihill, Warks.	
Signed by the	
testator/testatrix	
in our presence and	
by us in his/hers	
PAGE 2 Witnesses should sign and write in their addresses on this side if you have used this page.	

#### References

- Bhatia, V. K. 1993. *Analysing Genre: Language Use in Professional Settings*. London and New York: Longman.
- Doughty, C. and Williams, J. (eds.) 1998. Focus on form in classroom second language acquisition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Dudley-Evans, T. and St. John, M. 1998. Developments in English for specific purposes. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ellis, R. 2001. Investigating form-focused instruction. In R. Ellis (ed.) Form-focused instruction and second language learning. Malden, MA: Blackwell.

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- Miller, C. R. 1984. Genre as social action.
   Quarterly Journal of Speech, 70, 151-167.
- http:// en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific\_method
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Scientific \_method