

IELTS reading practice

Multiple choice

8. Read the following text and answer the multiple choice questions below.

In linguistics, a corpus (plural corpora) is a large and structured set of texts (now usually electronically stored and processed). A corpus may be used to help linguists to analyse a language, or for the purpose of dictionary writing or language teaching. The British National Corpus (BNC) is a 100-million-word text corpus of samples of written and spoken English from a wide range of sources. The corpus covers British English of the late twentieth century from a wide variety of genres with the intention that it be a representative sample of spoken and written British English of that time.

1. What is a corpus?

- A) A type of large dictionary.
- B) A single written text.
- C) A tool for language analysis.

2. Why was the BNC compiled?

- A) For the purpose of language teaching.
- B) To document written and spoken English from a particular period in time.
- C) To document the history of the English language.