A Corpus Linguistic Study of Drug Addiction Perils in William Burroughs' Junky

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دراسة مدونة لمخاطر إدمان المخدرات في رواية "جانكي" لويليام بوروز

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المستخلص

يُظهر تاريخ العالم أن إدمان المخدرات مشكلة متنامية يوميًا. تتجاوز مخاطر الإدمان الفرد، مؤثرةً بشدة على الأسر والمجتمعات والوضع الاجتماعي والاقتصادي للمجتمعات. تبحث هذه الدراسة اللغوية المدونة في تمثيل مخاطر إدمان المخدرات في الأدب، وتحديدًا في الرواية. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى تحديد السمات اللغوية، وتكرارات الكلمات، والتراكيب اللفظية المرتبطة بإدمان المخدرات، واستكشاف الاختلافات في تمثيلها في رواية "مدمن" لويليام س. بوروز. يُستخدم نهج لغوي متسلسلة، يتضمن تحليلًا كميًا ونوعيًا للرواية المختارة، لتحليل السمات اللغوية. تعتمد الدراسة على إطار عمل Csomay و Crawford (2024)) لفحص البيانات. يُجرى التحليل الكمي باستخدام برنامج Wordcruncher للحصول على نظرة عامة إحصائية موضوعية ومنهجية على المجموعة. يركز البحث على التراكيب اللفظية، وتكرارات الكلمات، والتوافقات. النتيجة الرئيسية لهذه الدراسة هي أن اختيار المفردات وترددات الكلمات والتراكيب اللفظية المرتبطة بإدمان المخدرات يكشف عن الدور المهم للغة في تشكيل مخاطر وتأثيرات الإدمان السلبية.

الكلمات المفتاحية

علم اللغة المدون، إدمان المخدرات، المخاطر، التمثيل، رواية.

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Abstract

The history of the world shows that addiction to drugs is a growing problem every day. The perils of addiction extend beyond the individual, profoundly affecting families, communities, and the socio-economic landscape of societies. This corpus linguistic study investigates the representation of drug addiction perils within literature, specifically a novel. This study aims to identify linguistic features, word frequencies, and collocations associated with drug addiction and explore variations in its representation in William S. Burroughs's novel "Junky". A corpus linguistic approach comprising quantitative and qualitative analysis of the selected novel is employed to analyse linguistic features. The study adopts Csomay and Crawford (2024) framework to examine the data. The quantitative analysis is achieved by using Wordcruncher software to gain an objective, systematic statistical overview of the corpus. The research focuses on collocations, word frequencies, and concordances. The main finding of this study is that the selection of vocabularies, word frequencies, and collocations associated with drug addiction reveals the significant role of language in shaping the perils and negative influences of addiction.

Keywords: Corpus Linguistics, Drug Addiction, Perils, Representation, Novel.

Introduction

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA, 2018), drug addiction is a chronic disease marked by compulsive drug-seeking and use despite harmful consequences. Classified as a brain disease, it alters the structure and functioning of the brain, leading to long-lasting changes that result in problematic behaviours, especially with illegal drugs like heroin, marijuana, and cocaine. A drug is a pharmacological product or a naturally occurring substance utilised chiefly to change an existing physiological, psychological, or biochemical process or state. Simply, a drug is any chemical that affects an individual's physical or mental functioning (Ranganathan et al., 2002, p. 3). According to the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, a drug can be defined as any illegal substance, such as marijuana or cocaine, that some individuals use to experience feelings of happiness, relaxation, or excitement (Duckett, 2009). Furthermore, drug perils have been associated with the development of various medical conditions, including heart disease, lung disease, cancer, mental illness, HIV /AIDS, hepatitis, and even mortality (Andary, 2023, p, 63). Language of literature directly contributes to comprehending the complexities and consequences of drug addiction perils. The researcher recognizes the important role literature plays in reflecting and shaping societal views on complex issues like drug addiction. It enhances the psychological and sociological effects of addiction, highlighting the significance of narrative and language in shaping perceptions of addiction. The study conducts the specific linguistic features, including vocabulary selections and discourse patterns, shape the depiction of drug addiction in the selected novel, as well as keywords and collocations that are most

commonly associated with drug addiction in the novel and how they reflect societal views on addiction, and the concordance lines from the corpus illustrate differences in the representation of drug addiction across various genres or cultural contexts (Jaafar, 2025). The study aims to answer these questions; what specific linguistic features, including vocabulary selections, word frequencies, and discourse patterns, shape the depiction of drug addiction perils in William S. Burroughs's novel "Junky"? Which keywords and collocations are most commonly associated with drug addiction in the selected novel, and how do they reflect societal views on addiction?

Previous studies

After doing deep research, it has been found that many studies have tackled drug addiction from a linguistic perspective. One of these studies is Haidar et al. (2020); the researchers used informal interviews, focus groups, and observations to understand drug addicts' discourse about the use of drugs. The study found that different types of drug addicts use different kinds of discourse. Language plays a role in drug addiction practices, and the treatment may be through a new kind of therapy termed discourse therapy. Another study by Strapparava and Mihalcea (2017) presented a computational analysis of the language of drug users when talking about their drug experiences. To better understand the characteristics of drug users, they have presented an analysis of the psycholinguistic process and emotions associated with different drug types. Another study by Jaafar (2025) identified and analyzed the most prevalent language patterns in social media posts that address substance addiction. It studied the influence of language on public discourse regarding addiction and provides valuable

insights that could be used to develop more effective communication strategies in both public health and policy settings.

Through a corpus linguistic approach, a significant gap is identified in the existing literature regarding the representation of drug addiction in contemporary fiction. Although many novels tackle the theme of drug addiction, there is a lack of analysis focusing on the linguistic features and patterns that convey this issue. This study aims to investigate how drug addiction is represented in the selected novel. To achieve this, a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative and quantitative research designs is employed.The objectives of the study are to investigate and identify the specific linguistic features associated with drug addiction in the novel. This entails looking at the vocabulary selections and language patterns that define the way addiction is portrayed. The study also aims to identify and examine the most common keywords and collocations associated with drug addiction in the selected novel, assessing their implications for societal insights into addiction and exploring how the concordance lines reveal variations in the representation of drug addiction perils across distinct literary texts and cultural backgrounds.

Methods and Data

The current research employs a mixed methodology, incorporating quantitative and qualitative data that are essential for corpus linguistic analysis. Linguistics provides a distinctive, multidisciplinary framework for investigating language characteristics, which is inherently qualitative in nature. Corpus-based quantitative methods provide objective measurements

through numerical data, allowing for precise statistical comparisons (Whieb & Jaafar, 2024). The study adopts Csomay and Crawford (2024) frameworks. Two levels of analysis exist in the paper: linguistic and corpus levels. Words and collocations were selected from Csomay and Crawford's (2024) frameworks to conduct the linguistic analysis. The corpus level emphasizes word list frequencies and collocations. The Keywords In Context (KWIC) tool presents search outcomes as concordances. It allows researchers to detect the linguistic context of words (Anthony, 2023). A mixed-methods research design offers a unique approach. By combining methods, researchers can gain richer and more comprehensive insights into the phenomena they are studying than from qualitative or quantitative methods alone. Specific philosophical assumptions and investigative techniques also characterise mixed-methods research. This research method offers a framework for collecting and analysing data from various sources within a single study (Creswell & Clark, 2011; Carter et al., 2014; Dawadi et al., 2021). The research aims to provide a practical understanding of language analysis by focusing on register analysis, which examines how situational factors affect language use. The model provides a practical approach to corpus linguistics and covers a theoretical framework of register analysis. It also investigates statistical methods for analysing corpus data, see **Figure 1**. This research explores the terminology's multifaceted and expanded connotations that exceed their standard lexical meanings (Egbert et al., 2020). This study focuses on collocations, word frequencies, and concordances through systematic analysis using corpus linguistic tools. WordCruncher is the analytical tool for this study.

WordCruncher serves two principal academic functions: the examination of texts and the analysis of linguistic elements.

By examining texts, WordCruncher allows users to download and open various free texts. Additionally, users can analyse linguistic elements, and examining collocates can provide valuable insights. For instance, analysing a specific term may reveal other terms or expressions it frequently co-occurs with. Furthermore, collections of phrases—such as lists of first-person singular pronouns—can be constructed that mainly aid in searching for a group of words within a category. Additionally, examining word frequencies can reveal the number of occurrences for a given term within a text or corpus. When conducting such analyses, researchers may expand or limit their search to account for various forms of the word or focus solely on the exact term (BYU, 2020).

1- Collocations

Collocations are examined by analysing words that frequently occur together within a certain proximity, more often than by chance. The model analyzes patterns like adjective-noun, noun-noun, verb-preposition, and verb-noun combinations to reveal how specific words are commonly used together, emphasizing their contextual importance. Collocations represent a more sophisticated statistical association between lexical items. They are pairs of words that frequently co-occur, but not all co-occurring words are considered collocations (Csomay & Crawford, 2024, p. 51). Some words have similar meanings but are not suitable for use together. For instance, we say "strong tea" but not "powerful tea," while "powerful computer" is correct, not "strong computer." (Csomay & Crawford, 2024, p. 45). According to Askari (2024, p. 64), collocations reflect the

strength of the semantic associations between words, and they are influenced by the characteristics of the individual lexical items, as it could be reasoned that collocational knowledge is an elaboration of semantic knowledge (Jaafar, 2019; Ali & Jaafar, 2025). Finally, collocations relate to sequences of words that focus on fixed expressions or common patterns that typically involve statistically significant word pairings (Egbert et al., 2020).

2- Word Frequencies

Commonly used words are more readily processed by readers than lexical items that occur infrequently within the language. The word frequency effect is a key concept in psycholinguistics and should also be considered when exploring other areas of study. In these instances, it is essential to ensure that word frequencies are balanced across the examined conditions. However, researchers note that word frequency estimates vary in quality. Two key factors affect this quality: the corpus size used to generate the frequency norms and the language register represented in that corpus (Brysbaert et al., 2024). Keyword analysis compares word frequency in a text to a reference corpus. The language used by different literary characters has been extensively studied through these methods. Researchers analyse the language of diverse literary characters and find that their word choices differ, revealing insights into their mental states and personalities (Csomay & Crawford, 2024, p. 41). Additionally, Word frequency is a crucial variable in experimental psychology, as it predicts the time required to determine whether a sequence of letters is an actual word or a fabricated non-word in a lexical decision experiment. Ultimately,

the frequency of words plays a significant role in studying memory processes (Brysbaert et al., 2011).

3- Concordances

Concordance shows instances of a specific term within its context through "concordance lines," showing each keyword occurrence along with a contextual text window. The primary aim of concordance is to enable users to observe how specific terms are employed within a broader corpus of text, thereby clarifying their meanings and contextual associations. The most common form of this presentation is keywords in context. (Csomay & Crawford, 2024, p. 37). Additionally, Concordance is defined as extracting and analysing the linguistic context of corpus data using a software tool that generates concordance line lists. These lines show specific patterns or words and their surrounding text, allowing researchers to examine how structures, patterns, and words are used in actual language use. It is a key part of qualitative and quantitative research, enabling researchers to systematically identify and analyse linguistic patterns and context in the corpus. The goal is to link quantitative findings back to the actual language in the texts (Egbert et al., 2020, p. 52). Moreover, Concordance analysis is not new; it is a vital tool in corpus linguistics, exemplified by the efforts of many scholars who have manually analysed texts such as the Christian Bible, classifying every occurrence of specific terms. However, with computer technology, millions of terms can be searched and analyzed in seconds. The search term or phrase is frequently labeled as the keyword or node, and concordance lines are typically displayed with the keyword/phrase centred in the line, accompanied by nearly seven or eight surrounding words. These

are recognized as Key-Word-In-Context presentations. Concordance lines are generally examined vertically. In short, concordance is a tool that analyzes words or groups of words, providing a list of their immediate contexts (Al Bataineh, 2019, p. 68).
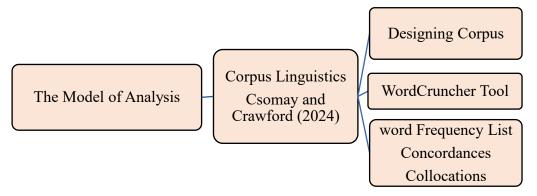

Figure 1. The Model of the Study

The Data

The data of the current study is represented in the novel *Junky* by William S. Burroughs (1977). This novel was chosen after conducting deep research, and purposefully, it was selected because it is relevant to the study's objectives; *Junky* explores the perils of drug addiction and addresses the theme of addiction in literature. *Junky* portrays the cruel truths of drug use. The work *Junky*, a colloquial term for "drug addict", offers valuable insights into the complexities of drug addiction, shedding light on this challenging societal issue. The first edition was in 1953 under the title *Junkie*; the second edition was in 1977 when it was released under the title *Junky* (Huang & Song, 2022). The novel *Junky* tells the story of its protagonist, William Lee, a 30-year-old white man, hard-working who served in the war and became addicted to morphine (Carmody, 2017). *Junky* serves as both a

personal account of Burroughs's struggles and a commentary on broader societal issues related to addiction and control, making it a significant work in American literature (Huang & Song, 2022). The story explores the three stages of addiction: forming a habit, maintaining it, and resisting it (Carmody, 2017). The story highlights the pervasive control exerted by institutions and the dehumanizing aspects of addiction (Huang & Song, 2022).

Junky meaningfully addresses the study objectives, so it is carefully chosen to enrich the study's findings because it demonstrates that literature directly contributes to comprehending the complexities and consequences of drug addiction peril; through literary discourse, the perils of drug addiction can be revealed because literature has a great influence on people and reflects society's views on drug addiction. Additionally, through the language of various characters, the researcher sheds light on the different terminologies that reveal the perils of addiction and helps to analyse linguistic features represented in collocations, word frequencies, and concordances in literary forms.

Data analysis

The work *Junky* or *Junkie,* a colloquial term for "drug addict," by William S. Burroughs (1977), explores the perils of drug addiction through the frequent of different words. For example, the term "Junky" frequently appears 33 times in the novel, revealing the negative influences of addiction on the protagonist in many deeds, including doing minor crimes, drug dealing, casual homosexual sex, and family troubles. See Table 1. The concordance lines highlight the most perilous influence of drugs. For instance, in line 1, "….he was an old-time junky no doubt about it…" This suggests that the protagonist has been involved

in drug addiction for a long time. Line 2 shows that junky is a bastard (illegitimate); this refers to illegal or homosexual relationships, and this humiliates the addicts. This negative perception from society transforms the addict into a desperate person willing to take any action for revenge. Line 3 reveals the severe symptoms of the junk, describing "… when a junky is cut off, the emergency reaction continues" It implies the emergency state that the addict enters due to withdrawal symptoms physically and mentally; these risky symptoms may threaten the addict's life leading him to seek out drugs again. Lines 4 and 8 imply drug dealing and illegal trade, especially the phrase " taking junk hidden by another junky….." It refers to how to secretly buy or sell drugs, which is a crime punishable by law. Another negative influence is illustrated in line 5,"…..a junky spends half his life waiting….", People often lose time and waste their lives instead of living fully. An addict spends time waiting for the next dose without achieving anything in life. Line 6,"…..junky my first experience with junk", represents the first stage of addiction in the novel, which is forming a habit. Additionally, line 7 reveals the impacts of addiction on appearance:"…the man had a thin face." drugs can suppress appetite, which may result in weight loss. In line 9, " a furtive buzzard thief and junky stuck out…." This sentence indicates the crime of theft, a common behaviour for addicts and alongside their drug use to secure drugs. Line 10 emphasizes that if Junky avoids drugs and addiction, he will live a long and healthy life. Finally, the concordance line presents the most perilous effect of addiction, which is committing suicide, as mentioned in line 11," suicide is frequent among ex-junkies….." An addict may end his life due to the struggle between continuing addiction and facing

withdrawal symptoms. This conflict leads to the peril of committing suicide.

Table 1. The frequency of the word Junky

Rank	Before	Hit	After
1	I looked at the man; he was an old-time	junky	no doubt about it.
2	The black bastard only as one	junky	can hate another black bastard
3	Junk keeps condition of emergency when	junky	is cut off, emergency reactions continue
4	Teaheads are not like junkies; a	junky	hands you the money, takes his junk, and cuts
5	with a morphine script, a	junky	spends half his life waiting for morphine script
6	Junk is not a kick; it is a way of life	junky	my first experience with junk was during the war
7	So you think I look like a	junky	he said I looked at him; the man had a thin face
8	taking junk hidden by another	junky	is known as making him for his stash
9	a furtive buzzard thief and	junky	stuck out all over him
10	prolonged indefinitely, perhaps if a	junky	keep himself in a constant kicking; he would live
11	Suicide is among ex-junkies; why does a	junky	quit junk of his own will

Another important word in the novel is the word "drug," which appears 21 times in the novel; it collocates 10 times with the word "addict[s]," making up a high percentage of the total. "Drug" collocates 11 times with other items in the novel, like store and addiction, constituting 43% of the total. This means that

over half of the items are focused on the notion of drug addict[s], highlighting its frequency in discussions about drug-related issues, as demonstrated in Table 2. "Drug Addict[s]" reflects the perils of addiction that people addict drugs for illegal use. This misused drug has many negative and bad influences on people's health, families, and society. Concordance lines display in lines 1, 2, 3, and 6 that society views drug addicts as criminals due to the criminal behaviours associated with addiction, which are always punishable by law, and as demonstrated in line 3,"… drug addict. The cops began stopping addicts on the street and examining their arms for needle marks….." if addicts are guilty they will submit to "drug addicts law". The law punishes addicts because of the severe impacts of drugs on the mind and body, as shown in line 7, " authorities claim it is a habit-forming drug, that its use is injurious to mind and body…". The novel presents a very significant point, which is the complex nature of drug addiction; this is exemplified in line 8,"… Without forming a new habit." Recovery is possible, but so is relapse, which is very risky if one drug is replaced by another. This serves as a warning. Furthermore, addiction is a very important word in the work, as it is the core meaning of perils. This term appears 8 times in the novel; it is used 4 times in everyday language with "history" and 4 times with other words. This means approximately 80% of the total collocates with "history" and 20% of the total with other words (table 2). This frequent occurrence of "addiction" again emphasizes the perils of the illegal use of drugs. Concordance lines show the connection between addiction and evil deeds like crimes and family disintegration. The collocation of "addiction" with" history" in lines 9, 10, 11, and 12 reveals the maintaining stage of addiction, which is the second stage after forming the habit in the novel. Additionally, concordance line 13 reveals that

the cure for addiction may take days or a long time, depending on the severity of the addiction.

Table 2. The collocation of "drug." And "addiction" in the novel *Junky*

Rank	Before	Hit	After
1	a crime to be a	drug	addict, since no place or time is specified
2	A law making it a crime to be a	drug	addict, they did not specify where or when
3	or what they meant by	drug	addict, the cops began stopping them on the street
5	of the marks of a	drug	Addict, there were also two whores
6	So he could be charged under the	drug	addicts' law, the addicts had a suspended sentence
7	Authorities claim it is a habit-forming	drug	that its use is injurious to the mind and body
8	They have been looking for a treat	drug	addiction, it relieves withdrawal symptoms without forming a new habit
9	He listened to my	addiction	History interrupting with an occasional comment or question
10	Physical examination and took my	addiction	history, his manner was courteous and efficient
11	My physical condition and	addiction	history. the patient seems secure
12	The polite guard took my	addiction	History, you're doing a sensible thing to come
13	Days, depending on the severity of	addiction	You can put on that dressing gown

There are some kinds of drugs mentioned in the novel, for example, morphine 41.42%, narcotics 36.37%, heroin 13.14%, cocaine 6.6%, and crystal 1%. The most frequently used kind in

the novel is morphine (see Table 3) and collocates with words like grain[s], strong, spoon, body, and other words in different percentages. The focus on these types of drugs in William S. Burroughs' "Junky" is not random, especially with morphine; the protagonist's experience with such kinds of drugs reveals several perils associated with drug addiction. He asserts how morphine drives physical and mental or psychological dependency. The protagonist emphasizes that withdrawal is very difficult and painful once one is addicted to drugs; for instance, using morphine initially might not seem harmful, but over time, the dose increases as tolerance builds. This increase in doses can lead to deeper addiction and a variety of health risks. The concordance lines emphasize the perils of addiction to morphine and other types of drugs (heroin, cocaine, marijuana, and hashish) in lines 1, 2, and 3. The novel mentions that"..morphine is the standard for junk measurement…" As if morphine is one of the basic elements of life for addicts, and this is a real disaster because it exemplifies a gateway to all troubles. As happened with the protagonist, the need for morphine leads him to criminal deeds to ensure his addiction. He engages with disreputable and dishonest characters, contributes to theft, and becomes incriminated in a criminal world. His addiction to morphine leads him to isolation and loneliness from family and friends relationships as an escape from reality. Additionally, the concordance lines 4, 5, 6, 9, and 10 clarify the illegal trade of morphine:"….morphine (he wants to / I can) get rid…"; they prove that the protagonist deals with drugs. Furthermore, line 6 proves the illegal drug dealing: "… he has some morphine he wants to sell...". The severe physical impacts of morphine are shown in lines 7, 8, 11, and 12:"…morphine spread through (my body/all my cells)…". Morphine has external influences "… I could feel my face

swelling" line 12. As well as internal and psychological influences," pleasant dizziness and tension…… in relaxing waves" line 7. The novel reveals that morphine and other drugs are both an escape from reality and a trap to engage in many perils and social troubles. Drugs can provide temporary relief but ultimately lead to more complex crises and problems. Additionally, narcotics are frequently used 36 times and collocate with 14 different words in the novel, revealing the dangers of drug addiction. This word includes all types of drugs that are used illegally. In these concordance lines (Table 3), the focus is only on the most perilous occurrence of this word. Line 13 displays the negative effects of drugs on appearance "…the same thin, ratty face, out of date clothes, whiny, and penetrating voice". Line 14 refers to drug-dealing crime represented in selling and buying "… under the table". In line 15,"..before he started using narcotics, there is moral..", it refers to the change in behaviour that affects relationships with family and friends badly. Additionally, there is a reference in line 16 that using drugs is a crime punishable by law"… threaten to call the law". concordance line 17 directly refers to the crime of robbery," three counts, two larceny… "; theft is consequently an action associated with narcotics; addicts often steal money to support their habit. The novel discloses the perils of particularly heroin and morphine drugs and how addiction affects the protagonist negatively in many ways. In the novel, Narcotics collocates 10 times with words like agent[s], 5 times with bureau[s], using, need, and other words.

Table 3. The frequency of "morphine" and "narcotics" in the novel

Rank	Before	Hit	After
1	At least the equivalent of 34 grains of	morphine	heroin is seven times as strong as morphine
2	Speed Ball cocaine mixed with	morphine	or heroin spike….needle
3	Marijuana, hashish, white stuff	morphine	or heroin as opposed to the brown stuff
4	A friend of mine he's got some	morphine	he wants to get rid of
5	Thirty-five grains of morphine, the	morphine	I can get rid of it right away.
6	A friend of mine, he has some	morphine	he wants to sell the
7	pleasant dizziness and tension while the	morphine	spread through my body in relaxing waves
8	I felt the	morphine	spread through all my cells
9	a definite quantity of	morphine	per month at whole sale prices
10	to buy fifteen grams of	morphine	every month
11	Forty-eight hours the backlog of	morphine	in my body ran out
12	From a good shot of	morphine	I could feel my face swelling
13	Sitting in the cafeteria, talking to a	narcotics	Agent always the same thin, ratty face
14	In cahoots with organized crime the	narcotics	Bureaus were involved in under-the-table
15	This was before he started using	narcotics	Yes, there is a moral
16	Doctor will blow his top at the mention of	narcotics	And threaten to call the law
17	Three counts, two larceny, one	narcotics	They promised to drop all charges

Heroin is repeated 13 times and collocates with other words of drugs like" morphine" 4 times and "cocaine" 2 times, as well as other words like "stuff" and "habit". In "Junky", the protagonist has a complex relationship with the drug heroin (mentioned as "junk"). The first time he is introduced to heroin is during his wartime experiences. He does not seek it but tries it through different social interactions and situations. After months, he was addicted to heroin and considered it an essential motivator of life. He takes the drug as injections, and he describes the need to shoot up the dose as a primary for sensations like relaxation and happiness. The protagonist, William Lee (the main character), describes the feelings related to cocaine use as being more energetic, active, and overjoyed, providing a temporary improvement in mood. This addiction to various types of illegal drugs reveals the dual character of addiction in the protagonist's life. Ultimately, the protagonist finds himself trapped in a cycle where each drug provides its temporary relief but leads to further addiction and disorder. Cocaine plays a less vital role than morphine and heroin in "Junky," but also it reflects the perils of drugs on physical, psychological, and emotional states.

After mentioning the types of drugs, it is necessary to shed light on the one who takes and uses drugs illegally, often referred to as an "addict". This word is the most important one and the most frequently used, as the novel's main focus is on the struggling, suffering, and hard life of the "addict". This word has frequently been used 45 times, and collocates with different words, see Table 4. This repetition emphasizes the negative features of the protagonist instead of using the character's name to describe him as an "addict" and how he is a dangerous and aggressive person in society. Concordance line 1 focuses on the severe effects of withdrawal by describing".. when you stop

growing, you start dying…" This reveals the perils of addiction on body and mind, and it is so difficult to get rid of this habit. An addict may take months to recover, but he gets a new habit"…much quicker than a junk virgin", line 2, and this new habit in days, as shown in line 4. Line 3 shows the suffering of addicts when they stop using drugs; they can't eat for days. Lines 5, 6, and 7 demonstrate that addiction is a crime, and police stop and arrest addicts on the streets. In addition to the evil deeds and crimes the addicts do, the concordance line shows the illegal sex relationships the addict is involved in, line 8," …drug addict there were also two whores…." (whores= women of ill repute). The severe effect of addiction on appearance is very noticeable to the extent that" the addict looks in the mirror and doesn't recognize himself", line 9. Line 10 shows that "junky pushers = drug dealers" are happy to see an addict in order to sell, and this proves the crime of illegal trade of drugs. The novel reveals some situations of the third stage in resisting addiction and withdrawal, as in "…junkies don't, as a rule, die from the withdrawal of junk…", "… describing his withdrawal symptoms in detail...", "… It took me almost six months to get my first habit, and then the withdrawal symptoms were mild…", and "…It relieves withdrawal symptoms without forming a new habit…". This highlights the awareness and realization of the situation, leading to an internal struggle to resist addiction and a real desire for recovery.

Table 4. The frequency of "addict" in the novel

Rank	Before	Hit	After
1	When you stop growing, you start dying an	addict	never stops growing.
2	My second habit, why does an	addict	get a new habit so much quicker than a junk virgin
3	So that he starts to eat when an	addict	is cut off the junk, he can't eat for several days
4	to get back on an	addict	maybe ten years off junk, but get a new habit in days
5	What they meant by drug	addict	The cops began stopping addicts on the street
6	A law making it a crime to be a drug	addict	They didn't specify what they meant by drug addict
7	A law making it a crime to be a drug	addict	since no place or time is specified
8	The marks of a drug	addict	there were also two whores
9	People undergo, all of a sudden, the	addict	Looks in the mirror and doesn't recognize himself
10	Many junky pushers are glad to see a new	addict	for economic reasons, if you are a commodity

Another word that reflects the perils of addiction in many aspects of life: mental, physical, social, and economic. This word is 'lost'. It occurs 13 times in the novel, revealing the loss of everything. Concordance lines in Table 5 demonstrate the most perilous occurrence in the novel. For example, lines 1, 2, and 3 show that an addict lost his job due to addiction, which leads him to get involved in various troubles and crimes, such as theft, to support his habit. Moreover, lines 4, 5, and 6 refer to the physical and psychological loss represented in"… lost (his looks, weight, and mind)". These losses result from addiction; addicts blindly destroy themselves, those close to them, and society.

Additionally, the concordance lines in lines 7, 8, 9, and 10 indicate a very dangerous act, namely stealing. Addicts are often incriminated in theft to obtain money for buying drugs. Finally, lines 11 and 12 address the tragic conclusion of addiction: death. These lines illustrate that drugs lead to death. Addiction destroys all dreams, gradually consuming the addict and ultimately ending his life.

Table 5. The frequency of "lost", "stealing", and "death"

Rank	Before	Hit	After
1	Out of the till, eventually, he	lost	his job, an old
2	So deep in the till he	lost	his job now, he had no money for junk
3	harm to serve him dupr	lost	his job, Pat said, he's already into me for twenty dollars
4	He was beautiful, but the trouble is that he	lost	his looks and gains were one of the few junkies
5	The old croaker on 102nd finally	lost	his mind altogether, and no drugstore would fill his script
6	I never bathed; I had	lost	weight, my hands shook, I was always spilling things
7	Make their junk money by	stealing	They are always hot; they are all pigeons
8	As a result, Nick began	stealing	a small amount from each cap
9	Breaking into parked cars and	stealing	the contents, Mark someone easy to rob
10	Gain's routine was	stealing	overcoats out of restaurants, and he was perfect for this job
11	junk spread through my body, an injection of	death	The dream was gone.
12	Junk is an inoculation of	death	That keeps the body in a condition of emergency

These words that frequently appear in the novel (junky, drug[s], addiction, morphine, narcotic[s], heroin, cocaine, crystal, an addict[s], lost, stealing, and death), reveal numerous negative impacts and consequences of using drugs illegally, leading to severe addiction that affects not only the addicts but also their families and communities. This disaster must be addressed and forbidden entirely. Additionally, authorities should enforce strict and severe punishments for anyone, whether in possession of drugs or trafficking them for trade.

In addition to the words that refer to the perils of addiction, some situations and statements reflect these perils in the novel, such as:

"……. He was also an inveterate liar who seemed to lie more for himself than for any visible audience. He had a clean-cut, healthy country face, but there was something curiously diseased about him. He was subject to sudden fluctuations in weight, like a diabetic or a sufferer from liver trouble. These changes in weight were often accompanied by an uncontrollable fit of restlessness, so that he would disappear for some days………." (Burroughs, 1977, p. 3).

The quote defines some traits of an addict by describing the character as" an inveterate liar." This suggests that addiction may lead a person to create an untrue identity. An addict may lie to himself and others, emphasizing the isolation from his real world. This can have negative effects on his social interactions and personal relationships. Moreover, "something curiously diseased about him" these words shows the effects of drugs on physical looks that refer to serious health issues and, over time, can lead to more dangerous conditions like organ damage or "sudden fluctuations in weight, like a diabetic or a sufferer from liver

trouble" this means that drug addiction has emotional and physical changes. The loss of weight not only leads to physical troubles but also to anxiety, depression, and moody behaviour. Describing the character as an "uncontrollable fit of restlessness" highlights a shared sign of addiction; the need for the drug, which can be obvious in anxiety or the incapability to relax. The restlessness may occur in physical and emotional health. Additionally, "disappear for some days" reflects the withdrawal from responsibilities and social interactions. The withdrawal and isolation can be a result of guilt, shame, or the need to engage in drug use. These combined elements of lying, emotional and physical health troubles, and social isolation create a cycle of severe addiction, making recovery very difficult, and life becomes messy and more chaotic.

Another quotation is, "…. The effect was uncanny. You would see him one time a fresh-faced kid. A week or so later he would turn up so thin, sallow and old-looking, you would have to look twice to recognize him. His face was lined with suffering in which his eyes did not participate. It was a suffering of his cells alone. He himself -- the conscious ego that looked out of the glazed, alert-calm hoodlum eyes -- would have nothing to do with this suffering of his rejected other self, a
suffering of the nervous system, of flesh and viscera and cells…." (Burroughs, 1977, p. 3).

The contrast between describing the character as a "fresh-faced kid" and "so thin, sallow and old-looking" reflects the severe and rapid transformation in physical look and health as a result of drug use to the extent that one may be shocked and cannot recognise those who take drugs "… to look twice to recognize

him" This reflects the severe impacts of addiction because of the quick shift in appearance. Additionally," his face was lined with suffering in which his eyes did not participate" highlights the separation between the character's psychological and physical states of reality. This may refer to a common effect of addiction. As the addicts' bodies show pain and struggle, they may reflect calm or emotional disinterest that makes it difficult to understand and address their addiction. This destruction demonstrates the inner conflict of many addicts, as their mind seeks to remove the pain that their bodies suffer. It indicates that addiction can influence not only the body but the identity and sense of self. Furthermore, the phrase "suffering of the nervous system, of flesh and viscera and cells" Addiction fundamentally impacts the body, often causing pain that remains unseen to others. This hidden suffering can complicate the recovery process, as it may go unobserved until significant harm has occurred. Drug addiction poses serious perils, including physical changes, emotional detachment, and inner chaos, which can destroy personal identity and health. This highlights the urgent need for sympathy and understanding in addressing the complexities and suffering associated with addiction.

Additionally, there are some statements in the novel that characterise the perils of drug addiction, such as "*Junk wins by default*." This indicates that without awareness and strong motivations in life, people may fall into addiction. They may be victims of drugs leading to addiction. Another sentence is, *"If you have never been addicted, you can have no clear idea what it means to need junk with the addict's special need."* this demonstrates the risks of addiction by losing self-control over the need for drugs. The character describes the sudden realization of

addiction in this sentence *"One morning you wake up sick and you're an addict."* Highlighting the perils of confronting the severe reality of addiction, combined with the negative effects of both physical and psychological suffering. Moreover, the character sheds light on the reasons behind addiction by asking, **"*The question is frequently asked: Why does a man become a drug addict?"* It may originate from different complex reasons, such as emotional and psychological pains, shocks, or social burdens, which can place people at risk of addiction. Furthermore, the character thinks that he cannot imagine his life without the drug (morphine); this is illustrated in *"I have seen life measured out in eyedroppers of morphine solution."* This sentence reflects how addiction can control and direct addicts' lives. The peril lies in limiting life to a mere addiction to drugs, leading to a lack of a genuine desire to live a real and natural life. Finally, the protagonist says, *"Junk is not a kick; it is a way of life."* This opinion focuses on addiction as an essential aspect of life, influencing all sides, including personal relationships, social interactions, and work. Here, the perils encompass the entire concept of addiction, from identities to the way of living.

Results

   The analysis of the novel "Junky" by William S. Burroughs shows noteworthy linguistic patterns related to drug addiction perils. The title of the novel "Junky" frequently appears 33 times; this term refers to "drug addict," showing the negative impacts of addiction on the protagonist. The word "drug" occurs 21 times and mainly collocates with "addict," highlighting the negative and severe influences of addiction on health, families, and society. Moreover, the word "addiction" occurs 8 times, primarily associated with "history," focusing on the extended

nature of using drugs illegally. Additionally, the types of drugs frequently used in the novel include morphine 41.42%, narcotics 36.37%, heroin 13.14%, cocaine 6.6%, and crystal 1%. The major and most frequently used term is morphine because it is the type that the protagonist is addicted to throughout his addiction life. In other types, he either uses them temporarily or deals with them. Another major term that occurs frequently 45 times is "addict." This term refers to a person who uses illegal drugs. All these terminologies reveal the perils of drug addiction, which do not affect the addicted person only but extend to families and societies representing the addicted person as an aggressive, isolated, and criminal person. Furthermore, they reflect the multifaceted phenomenon of addiction and the negative influences represented in both personal and social dimensions. The corpus linguistic analysis provides the study with a rich and precise understanding and results of the complex representation of drug addiction perils in literature, specifically novels, showing how linguistic features and patterns reflect the societal sights on the perils of addiction.

Discussion

The results of this study disclose substantial insights into the representation of drug addiction perils in Burroughs's "Junky". The frequently used main terminologies such as "Junky," "drug," "addiction," and "addict," as well as their collocations, demonstrate how language figures the depiction and societal views of drug addiction. For example, the term "Junky" appears strongly, emphasizing the identity and struggles of addicts, which supports the study's claims that linguistic features and patterns can reveal the basic societal views on addiction

perils. Additionally, the frequency and variety of collocations for "drug" emphasize the relation between addiction and many negative social consequences, supporting the research question that linguistic representations can shed light on the complex nature of addiction. Moreover, the findings of this study align with previous studies on drug addiction from a linguistic perspective. For instance, Haidar et al. (2020) noted various discourses among drug users, supporting this study's findings on varied linguistic patterns. However, Haidar et al. (2020) mainly focused on the discourse of informal interviews of drug addicts; this study quantitatively analyzes specific linguistic features in literary texts to explore the broader implications of how society represents addiction. Another study is the computational analysis by Strapparava and Mihalcea (2017), which examined the emotional expressions of drug users. Their work highlights the lexical choices and common phrases associated with each type of drug. Additionally, this study highlights the important role of literature in reflecting and shaping social views on complex issues like drug addiction. It enhances the physical, psychological, and sociological effects of addiction, emphasizing the significance of literature and language in shaping perceptions of addiction. The study's findings can improve the understanding of addiction, leading to more effective treatment and prevention programs considering cultural contexts.

Although this study presents valuable insights, it is important to acknowledge its limitations. The analysis of "Junky" may not fully capture the diverse narratives of drug addiction found across various genres and cultures. Additionally, the corpus linguistic analysis may not efficiently address the emotional and precise aspects of addiction that qualitative studies

can explore more thoroughly. Furthermore, the study's findings may be influenced by the specific historical and cultural context in which "Junky" was written, possibly limiting their applicability to contemporary or universal descriptions of addiction. Finally, based on these findings and limitations, future studies should explore a broader range of literary texts across genres that address drug addiction. This would enhance the understanding of how linguistic features vary in different cultural contexts. Future studies should also provide insights into changing social attitudes toward addiction over time. Additionally, incorporating qualitative methodologies can capture the emotional experiences of addiction, enrich the quantitative findings, and deepen the relationship between literature, language, and social issues.

Conclusion

Corpus linguistic analysis of William S. Burroughs's novel "Junky" focuses on the representation of drug addiction perils revealing several key findings. It explores terms like "Junky", "addict," and "drug," frequently used accompanied with collocations that highlight the complicated nature of addiction in the novel. These results address the research questions by clarifying how linguistic patterns reflect social insights and complexities of addiction, enriching the understanding of addiction in literature. The study highlights the literature's role in shaping the connection between language and social issues like drug addiction. These insights can improve addiction treatment and attempts to prevent such perilous phenomena like addiction.

Additionally, the research acknowledges specific limitations that affect the interpretation of results. The focus on one novel, "Junky," may not cover the various perils of drug addiction in other literary works. It may restrict the generalization of the findings. Furthermore, although a corpus linguistic analysis provides systematic insights, it may overlook the emotional complexities associated with addiction experiences that qualitative analyses can better capture. The understanding of these limitations ensures a precise interpretation of the research findings. Future studies should explore a broader variety of literary texts across different genres and cultures to enhance the understanding of linguistic representations of drug addiction perils. This extension can reveal distinct patterns in the representations of addiction and provide a more comprehensive theoretical framework. Moreover, incorporating qualitative methods can also uncover the emotional and psychological dimensions of addiction, addressing the gap in the current study and providing a richer analysis of the relationship between language and drug addiction. In conclusion, this study provides essential insights into the representation of drug addiction in literature and highlights the role of linguistic analysis in understanding societal issues. The findings contribute to academic discussions and establish a foundation for future study on how language shapes notions of addiction, showing the importance of literature in reflecting societal values about this issue.

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