

Light Verb Constructions in Legal Discourse

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light verb, nominalization, legal technical terms, legal discourse

Abstract

Let's walk. and *Let's take a walk.* are basically the same in meaning. The latter sentence with a light verb and a nominalized verb form of *walk* is traditionally called a light verb construction. This construction is popular in legal discourse, but it is used in a particular way with some legal technical terms. This paper uses corpus linguistics and investigates what kind of light verbs are frequently employed and what kind of nouns collocate well as an object noun with those light verbs. A legal lexical term network consisted of typical light verbs and legal nouns are introduced at the end of the discussion section. The ultimate goal of this paper is to compile a corpus-based production-oriented English legal dictionary for non-native speakers of English; thus a sample dictionary description of the headword *enter* is shown in the conclusion.

1. Introduction

The English language, as well as others, has an interesting pair of parallel grammatical constructions expressing almost the same proposition. The following are typical examples.

- (1) We agreed to import 2,000 tons of rice from the company.
- (2) We made an agreement to import 2,000 tons of rice from the company.

In (1) the main verb of the sentence is “agreed” while in (2) the main verb is “made” followed by “agreement”, the nominalized form of the verb “agree”. The main verb in (2) is named ‘light’ verb by Jespersen (1942: 117). He explained the characteristics of this construction as follows:

The most usual meaning of sbs derived from and identical in form with a vb is the action or an isolated instance of the action. This is particularly frequent in such everyday combinations as those illustrated in the following paragraphs after *have* and similar ‘light’ verbs. They are in accordance with the general tendency of ModE to place an insignificant verb, to which the marks of person and tense are attached, before the really important idea—of combinations with *do*, *can*, etc., ... Such constructions also offer an easy means of adding some descriptive trait in the form of an adjunct: we had *a delightful bathe*, *a quiet smoke*, etc.

This construction using a light verb and a nominalized form has been discussed by many linguists, including Wierzbicka (1982, 1988), Dixon (1991), and Kageyama (1996). A *Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (hereafter *CGEL* for short) (1985: 750-1) names the object noun in this construction as ‘eventive object’ and explains as follows:

A frequent type of object generally takes the form of a deverbal noun preceded by a common verb of general meaning, such as *do*, *give*, *have*, *make*, *take*. This EVENTIVE object...is semantically an extension of the verb and bears the major part of the meaning. ...

The construction with the eventive object provides greater weight than the corresponding *SV* type, especially if there are no optional adverbials, and is often preferred to the *SV* construction in informal English.

Recently, *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language* (2002: 290) (hereafter *CamGEL* for short) explains as follows:

| [1] ASSOCIATED VERB ALTERNANT | LIGHT VERB ALTERNANT |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| i a. <i>She kissed him.</i> | b. <i>She <u>gave</u> him a kiss.</i> |
| ii a. <i>I calculated the costs.</i> | b. <i>I <u>made</u> a calculation of the costs.</i> |
| ... | ... |

...the underlined verbs are semantically 'light' in the sense that their contribution to the meaning of the predication is relatively small in comparison with that of their complements. ... The main semantic content is located not in the light verb, but in the noun functioning as head of the direct object.

The *CamGEL* (ibid: 291) also explains that the light verb construction is syntactically more flexible, thus semantically it could be more productive than that of its alternative construction as follows:

The use of a light verb and noun tends to yield a significant increase in syntactic versatility over that of the associated verb construction. Most importantly, it generally allows for dependents to be added to the noun, allowing a considerably greater range of elaboration by modifiers and determiners.

In legal discourse this combination is rather common. For example, the combination of a light verb *make* and *decision*, the derived noun from *decide*, occurs 346 times in our four legal corpora, ranking No. 1 in this type of constructions in UK LJ, in US JDG and in US LJ, and No. 5 in UK JDG. The following are typical examples of *make* + *decision*:

Extracts 1

not only an appraisal of their ability to make an informed decision about the need for treatment, (UK LJ)

employees are not getting the information they need to make rational economic decisions about union representation (US LJ)

The first question is whether the challenged decision was made initially by a state court or by a state administrator (US LJ)

The definite and indefinite articles, an adjective and a past participle pre-modify the head noun, *decision*, and a prepositional phrase post-modifies it too. It is almost impossible to rephrase the above examples using the associated verb construction.

The *CamGEL* calls the verb in (1) 'associated verb' and names the construction (1) 'ASSOCIATED VERB ALTERNANT' and the construction (2) 'LIGHT VERB ALTERNANT'. In this paper I will call the verb in (1) 'associated verb', the predicate construction of (1) 'associated verb construction', the predicate construction of (2) 'light verb construction', and the object noun in (2) 'associated object noun'. Thus, the above (1) and (2) will be described as follows:

- (1) We agreed to import 2,000 tons of rice from the company.
associated verb: agreed
associated verb construction: agreed to import 2,000 tons of rice from the company
- (2) We made an agreement to import 2,000 tons of rice from the company.
light verb: made
associated object noun: agreement
light verb construction: made an agreement to import 2,000 tons of rice from the company

The *CamGEL* (ibid: 293-6) listed five major light verbs with additional four verbs: *give, make, have, take, do; offer, pay, put, raise*. I will add three more light verbs — *bring, enter* and *file* — which are frequently used in legal discourse, and investigate how these 12 light verbs are used in legal discourse in this paper.¹⁾

2. Objectives, Data, and Methodology

2. 1. Objectives

The objectives of this paper are to investigate how the light verb constructions are actually used in legal discourse. More specifically, I will investigate 1) how the 12 light verbs are actually used, 2) what kind of associated object nouns are commonly taken by these light verbs, and 3) the uniqueness of light verb constructions in legal discourse.

2. 2. Data

I am going to use the following corpus data which Tamaruya and I collected for the project of compiling a corpus-based, production-oriented legal dictionary. This project is supported by the Japanese government fund for scientific research (#90180207). The corpora I am going to use in this paper are as follows:

UK Supreme Court Judgments issued in 2008 (shortened by UK JDG): 1,451,263

words

US Supreme Court Judgments issued in 2008 (shortened by US JDG): 1,574,403

words

UK Law Journals issued in 2008 (shortened by UK LJ): 1,267,048 words

US Law Journals issued in 2008 (shortened by US LJ): 1,303,223 words

We downloaded the above data from the following official sites:

<http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk/>

<http://www.supremecourt.gov/>

UK law journals we used to compile our UK Law Journal corpus are:

Cambridge Law Journal (2008), Oxford Journal of Legal Studies (2008), Law Quarterly Review (2008), Edinburgh Law Review (2008), Modern Law Review (2008)

US law journals we used to compile our US Law Journal corpus are:

Harvard Law Review (2008), Stanford Law Review (2008), Columbia Law Review (2008), Yale Law Journal (2008), The University of Chicago Law Review (2008), New York University Law Review (2008), Michigan Law Review (2008), University of Pennsylvania Law Review (2008), California Law Review (2008), Virginia Law Review (2008), Duke Law Review (2008), Northwestern University Law Review (2008), Cornell Law Review (2008), Georgia Law Review (2008)

2. 3. Methodology

I am going to use the corpus software *Sketch Engine* and some statistical indexes built into the software.

3. Data analysis

3. 1. How frequently are the 12 light verbs actually used in legal discourse?

In order to find the answer to this question, I researched the frequencies of these 12 verbs in our four legal corpora. I also researched the frequencies of the same verbs used in *the British National Corpus* (hereafter *BNC* for short) to compare the frequencies of these

Table 1 Frequencies of the 12 Light Verbs

| | UK JDG | UK LJ | US JDG | US LJ | BNC |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| give | 1963 | 1363 | 692 | 962 | 1100 |
| make | 2587 | 1838 | 1214 | 1636 | 1874 |
| have | 10982 | 8525 | 5970 | 7501 | 11722 |
| take | 1504 | 1260 | 625 | 845 | 1545 |
| do | 3392 | 3138 | 2978 | 2984 | 4720 |
| offer | 73 | 241 | 116 | 359 | 256 |
| pay | 378 | 285 | 169 | 377 | 333 |
| put | 332 | 239 | 105 | 173 | 600 |
| raise | 308 | 263 | 196 | 385 | 170 |
| bring | 394 | 328 | 317 | 302 | 376 |
| enter | 257 | 115 | 150 | 109 | 124 |
| file | 45 | 7 | 299 | 217 | 12 |

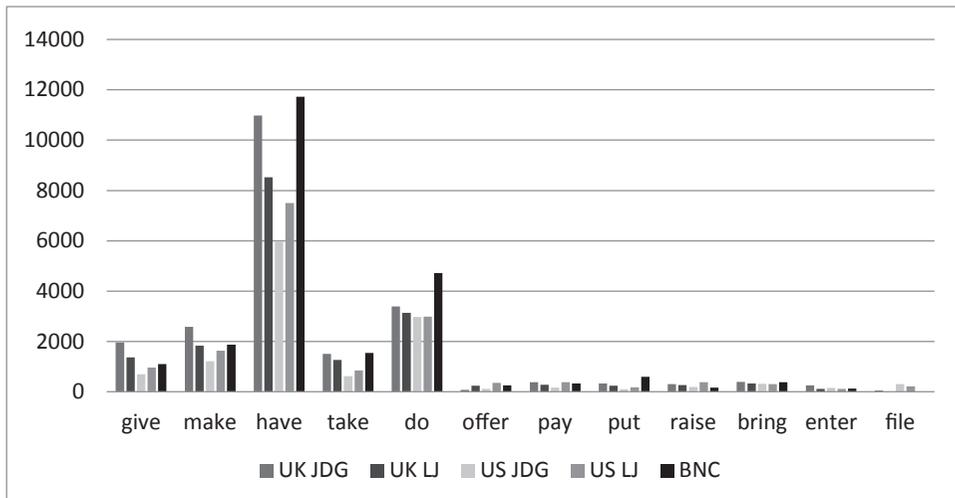
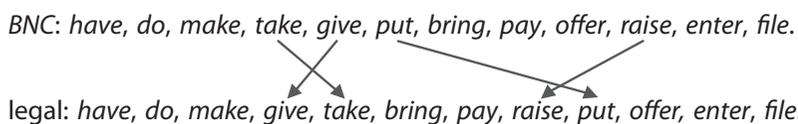


Figure 1 Frequencies of 12 Light Verbs

12 verbs in the general corpus with those in the legal corpora. The research results are shown in Table 1. (All the frequencies are normalized per million in this table.)

The 12 light verbs in the *BNC* and in the legal corpora are arranged from the most frequent to the least in Chart 1 below:

Chart 1



Have and *do* which are classified as “primary verbs” in *CGEL* (1985: 64) are far more frequent than other verbs both in the legal corpora and the general corpus. The frequency order of these 12 verbs is basically the same, except that *give* is ranked higher than *take* in legal corpora, *put* drops from 6th place to 9th and *raise* goes up from 10th place to 8th.

3. 2. How frequently are the 12 verbs used in light verb constructions in legal corpora?

I investigated the frequencies of the object nouns these 12 verbs take in the S (subject) + V (verb) + O (object) construction. I used *Sketch Engine* and calculated the total number of objects each light verb takes in each legal corpus. Table 2 below shows the research results.

Table 2 Frequencies of 12 Light Verbs in the SVO Construction

| | UK JDG | UK LJ | US JDG | US LJ |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| give | 1904 | 1306 | 763 | 955 |
| make | 2282 | 1487 | 1028 | 1386 |
| have | 2943 | 2437 | 1944 | 2377 |
| take | 1347 | 1032 | 660 | 724 |
| do | 312 | 447 | 293 | 387 |
| offer | 57 | 227 | 124 | 349 |
| pay | 227 | 189 | 134 | 314 |
| put | 180 | 118 | 63 | 104 |
| raise | 318 | 271 | 206 | 389 |
| bring | 275 | 233 | 237 | 238 |
| enter | 83 | 37 | 144 | 70 |
| file | 23 | 6 | 357 | 208 |

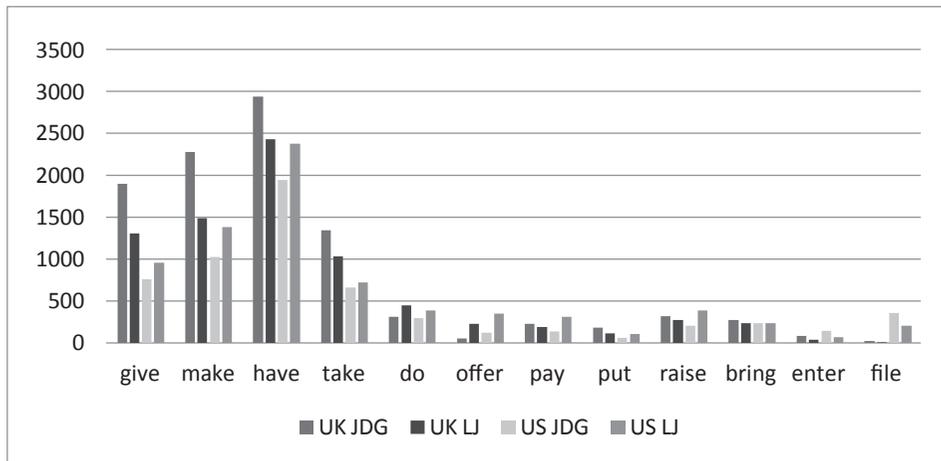


Figure 2 Frequencies of 12 Light Verbs in the SVO Construction

Next, I extracted all the object nouns of these light verbs from the legal corpora to see what kind of nouns are actually used as the object of these light verbs. The research results are shown in Table 3 to 14 in the Appendix. (Due to the space limitations, the object nouns lower than 10 in frequency are omitted from the tables. The frequencies of these object nouns are not normalized. Due to the software limit, 25 object nouns are the maximum that can be extracted.)

Table 3, for example, shows the top 25 frequent object nouns the verb *have* takes in the SVO construction in UK JDG, in UK LJ, in US JDG and in USLJ. We can understand from the table that in UK JDG *have* takes *advantage* as its object noun most frequently (208 times) followed by *regard* (179 times). Likewise, Table 4 shows the top 25 object nouns the verb *make* takes in each legal corpus. We can understand that *order* is taken as the object of the verb *make* 344 times in UK JDG, followed by *claim* (116 times). The least frequent verb which takes the object noun in the SVO construction among the 12 verbs is *offer*. It takes only three different kinds of object nouns (totally 43 times): *reason* (20 times), *account* (10 times) in UK LJ and *product* (13 times) in US LJ. The second least frequent verb is *put* with also three different kinds of object nouns: *case* (23 times) and *point* (16 times) in UK LDG and *way* (13 times) in US LJ.

I added all the frequencies of the object nouns in these tables each light verb takes in the four legal corpora. The research results are shown in Table 15 and Figure 3. We can understand at least two important aspects on the use of these 12 verbs with major object nouns in the SVO construction in legal corpora. The first is: that *have* is most frequently used (4743+ times) followed by *make* (3209+ times), *take* (2364 times) and *give* (2076 times) and the rest of the verbs are rather low in frequency. The second is: that these four

verbs, namely *have*, *make*, *take*, *give*, are constantly used well with major object nouns in the SVO construction in UK JDG, while in other legal corpora the number is constantly decreasing after *have*.

Table 15 Total Number of Object Nouns taken by 12 Light Verbs

| | UK JDG | UK LJ | UA JDG | US LJ |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| have | 1594 | 1053 | 1011 | 1085 |
| make | 1384 | 742 | 479 | 604 |
| take | 994 | 631 | 384 | 355 |
| give | 1217 | 510 | 201 | 148 |
| raise | 210 | 152 | 98 | 231 |
| bring | 147 | 94 | 208 | 112 |
| file | 0 | 0 | 245 | 141 |
| pay | 158 | 63 | 12 | 150 |
| do | 102 | 163 | 34 | 63 |
| enter | 19 | 0 | 67 | 0 |
| put | 39 | 0 | 0 | 13 |
| offer | 0 | 30 | 0 | 13 |

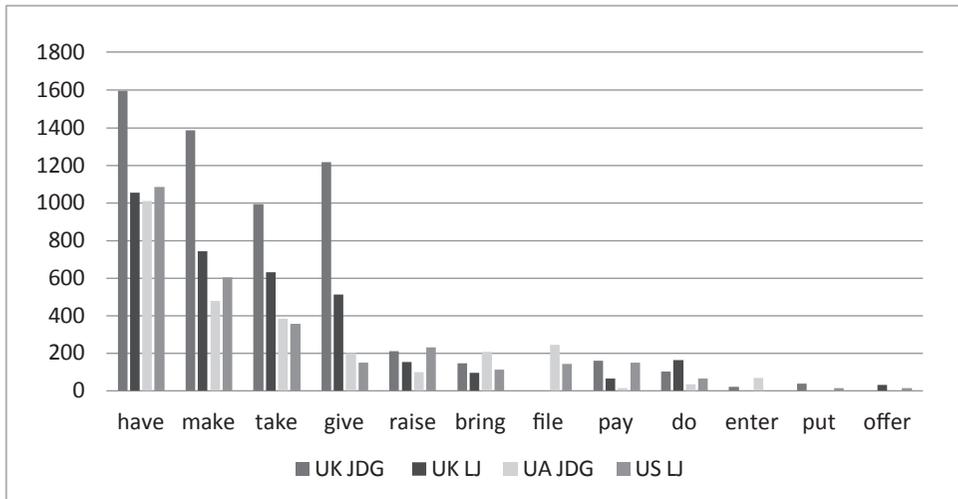
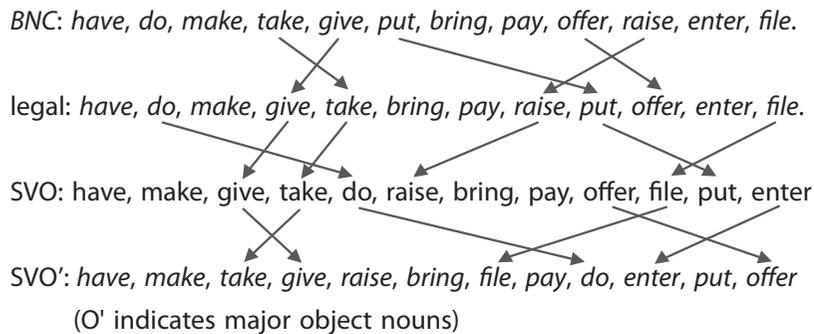


Figure 3 Total Number of Major Object Nouns

Figure 4 Total Number of Object Nouns taken by 12 Light Verbs

I arranged below the ranking orders based on the research results so far:

Chart 2



Do, put and *offer* drop the ranking widely from the *BNC* to *SVO'* while *raise, file* and *enter* improve their ranking. This indicates that some light verbs are more likely to be used in legal discourse than in general discourse or vice versa.

3. 2. The nature of associated object nouns in the legal corpora

As you may have already noticed, not all these object nouns appeared in Table 3 to 14 are associated object nouns. For example, one of the most frequent object nouns, *decision*, is morphologically derived from the verb, *decide*, thus it can be an associated verb object noun. Object nouns like *order* and *claim* are the same in form as their associated verb, but they are the nouns derived from the verbs *order* and *claim*. On the other hand, object nouns like *right, jurisdiction* and *power* are obviously not derived from any verbs, but they are legal technical terms. The object nouns like *point, effect, sense, opportunity* and *nothing* are non-legal technical terms. They are nouns from the beginning. Some other object nouns are rather difficult to classify. For example, the object noun like *information* is morphologically derived from the verb *inform*, but we do not feel any kind of action in this noun. Putting all the above discussion together, we can categorize the object nouns as follows:

[1] derived from the associated verbs

[1-1] the same form

[1-1-a] nouns used in the light verb constructions

(e.g. *order, claim*)

[1-1-b] nouns not used as associated object nouns

(e.g. *interest*)

[1-2] with suffixation

[1-2-a] nouns in the light verb constructions

(e.g. *decision, statement*)

[1-2-b] nouns not used as associated object nouns

(e.g. *information*)

[2] legal technical terms

(e.g. *jurisdiction, right, power, authority*)

[3] other nouns

(e.g. *point, effect, sense, opportunity, nothing, incentive*)

I will discuss some unique features of light verbs, *have, make, bring, file, and enter*, and an associated object noun, *provision*, in detail in the next section.

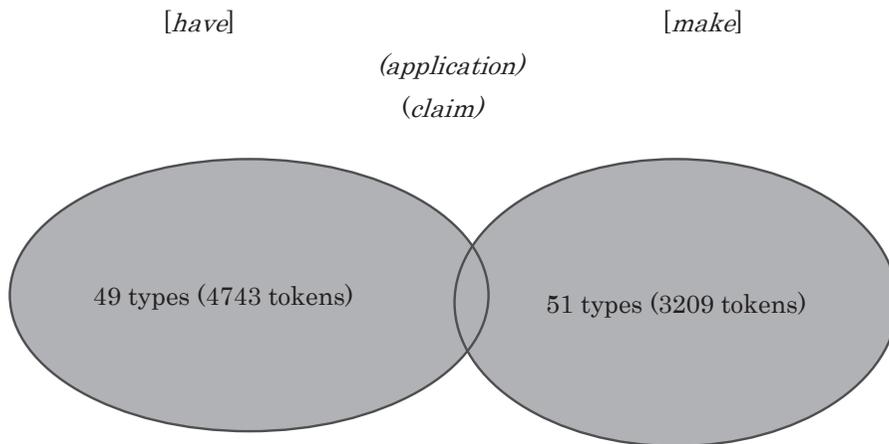
4. The uniqueness of legal discourse in the use of light verb constructions

4. 1. *Have* and *make*

Have is the most frequent verb in the legal corpora and in the *BNC*, and the most frequent verb in the SVO construction in the legal corpora. *Make* is the third most frequent verb in the legal corpora and in the *BNC*. It is the second most frequent verb in the SVO construction in the legal corpora. I will compare these two frequent verbs and see how differently they codify the legal concepts in legal discourse.

First, I compared Table 3 with Table 4 to see if there is any difference in the choice of the object nouns between these two light verbs. The findings are quite interesting. In terms of word types, *have* takes 49 different types of words totaling 4743 tokens, while *make* takes 51 different types of words totaling 3209 tokens in our legal corpora. The interesting thing is that these object nouns are almost complementarily different. The object nouns taken by both *have* and *make* are only *application* and *claim*. *Have* takes *application* as its object noun 66 times and *claim* 32 times while *make* takes *application* 87 times and *claim* 180 times. The relationship of the object nouns these two verbs take can be shown in Chart 3:

Chart 3



$$have \cup make = 98 \quad have \cap make = 2 \text{ (application and claim)}$$

The nouns in Table 16 are the top most frequent 10 nouns *have* and *make* take in our four legal corpora.

Table 16 Top 10 most frequent object nouns with *have* and *make*

| | have | freq | make | freq |
|----|--------------|------|------------|------|
| 1 | effect | 536 | order | 392 |
| 2 | right | 506 | decision | 274 |
| 3 | jurisdiction | 337 | sense | 224 |
| 4 | power | 315 | statement | 181 |
| 5 | regard | 252 | claim | 180 |
| 6 | interest | 211 | point | 136 |
| 7 | advantage | 208 | provision | 124 |
| 8 | authority | 173 | use | 101 |
| 9 | opportunity | 168 | difference | 97 |
| 10 | reason | 137 | reference | 94 |

Listed below are typical examples. Each example is taken from the legal corpus in which the object noun appears most frequently of the four. Thus, it is safe to say that they show the typical usage of each object noun in legal discourse.

Extracts 2 *have*

the HRA will have the effect of restricting the likelihood of change in common law (UK LJ)

At common law, any subject of the Crown has the right to enter and remain in the United Kingdom (UK JDG)

The Court of Appeal raised the question of whether they had jurisdiction to entertain this argument, (UK JDG)

They have power to provide housing accommodation by building or acquiring it (1985 Act, s 9). (UK JDG)

the court must have regard to the definition in subsections (1), (4) to (8) and (11) of section 447 of POCA. (UK JDG)

However, given that politicians will also have an interest in the outcome of the democratic process (UK LJ)

I have had the advantage of reading in advance the opinion prepared by my noble and learned friend Lord Hope of Craighead (UK JDG)

the Tribe had authority to regulate the business conduct of persons who “voluntarily deal with tribal members;” (US JDG)

The House has had the opportunity of considering the Framework Decision on two previous occasions: (UK JDG)

we have reason to be confident that well-functioning constitutional orders are a necessary element in realizing those goals. (UK LJ)

As we argued in Section 3.2, not all the object nouns in the above examples are associated object nouns. Among the 10 most frequent object nouns *have* takes, *effect*, *right*, *power*, *authority*, *opportunity* and *reason* are ordinary nouns used in a general sense. They are not etymologically derived from any verbs. *Jurisdiction* is a legal technical term used in a legal sense. *Interest* and *advantage* are general nouns. They have the verb usage in the same form but their noun usage is more dominant. *Regard* is the only object noun that also has a good etymological background of a verb. Thus, it could be considered as an associated object noun. But it is quite unnatural to use *regard* as an associated verb as follows:

? the court must have regard to the definition in subsections (1), (4) to (8) and (11) of section 447 of POCA.

the court must regard the definition in subsections (1), (4) to (8) and (11) of section 447 of POCA. (UK JDG)

In sum, among the top 10 most frequent object nouns, only *regard* could be classified as the associated object noun in the light verb construction. The rest of nine object nouns are either general nouns or legal technical terms.

I did the same analysis with the object nouns *make* takes. The examples are as follows:

Extracts 3 *make*

I would make the order that Lord Hoffmann proposes. (UK JDG)

the President makes executive decisions that engender widespread condemnation; (US LJ)

This made sense in the era of the old-fashioned telephone network, (US LJ)

A number of statements made by the Attorney General on behalf of the Government were relied on in argument. (UK JDG)

Nast had not made a claim within a reasonable time from (at latest) 5 August 2002, (UK JDG)

This was a point made by Lord Keith in Hill (UK JDG)

Articles 8 and 9 make provision for the duration of a life prisoner's licence on release (UK JDG)

he asserted that lawyers make use of social science methods.

It can...make no difference if A and B agree to kill their victim by beating him to death with baseball bats, (UK JDG)

Reference was made to four authorities in particular. (UK JDG)

Among the above 10 object nouns, *order*, *decision*, *statement*, *claim*, *use* and *reference* are all associated object nouns. *Sense*, *point* and *difference* are general nouns used in a general sense. An interesting noun is *provision*. Morphologically, *provision* derives from the corresponding verb, *provide*, but the meaning of this verb in legal discourse is different from the general use. The *Collins COBUILD Advanced Learner's English Dictionary* (2006) defines *provide* and *provision* as follows:

① VERB

If you **provide** something that someone needs or wants, or if you **provide** them **with** it, you give it to them or make it available to them.

② VERB

If a law or agreement **provides that** something will happen, it states that it will happen. [FORMAL]

① N-UNCOUNT

The **provision of** something is the act of giving it or making it available to people who need or want it.

② N-VAR

If you make **provision for** something that might happen or that might need to be done, you make arrangements to deal with it.

③ N-UNCOUNT

If you make **provision for** someone, you support them financially and make sure that they have the things they need.

④ N-COUNT

A **provision** in a law or an agreement is an arrangement which is included in it.

⑤ N-PLURAL

Provisions are supplies of food [OLD-FASHIONED]

The second definition of the verb *provide* and the fourth definition of *provision* are legal use. The meaning of *provision* in Table 4 and 16 derived from this *provide*. Thus, we could conclude that *provision* in Table 4 and 16 is an associated object noun.

It seems that there are some light verbs that are more likely to be used in the light verb construction than others. *Make* is probably one of the light verbs that constitutes a light verb construction very well. Seven out of 10 most frequent object nouns in Table 4 are used as associated object nouns; frequency-wise, it is 1346 times out of 1803 times (75%). Meanwhile, as for *have*, associated object noun is one out of 10; frequency-wise, it is 252 out of 2843 (9%). This difference seems to be attributed from the core meaning of

these two light verbs. The very basic core meaning of *have* signifies 'possession or existence'. The *OED* explains the original meaning of *have* as follows:

B. Signification.

From a primitive sense 'to hold (in hand)', *have* has passed naturally into that of 'hold in possession,' 'possess,' and has thence been extended to express a more general class of relations, of which 'possession' is one type, some of which are very vague and intangible.

The very first meaning of *have* listed in the *OED* is:

1. a. *trans.* To hold in hand, in keeping, or possession; to hold or possess as property, or as something at one's disposal.

Thus, *have* indicates that the subject of the sentence 'holds or possesses in hand' the object of the verb. Here, we do not feel any sense of dynamic action of obtaining or capturing the object item with effort. The object item is just there within the subject's domain from the beginning. The object nouns listed in Table 16 are not something we obtain or capture with effort, but something already there legally and all we need to do is to make use of it. On the other hand, *make* express a more dynamic sense. The *OED* lists the very first meaning of this verb as follows:

I. Senses in which the object of the verb is a product or result.

* To bring into existence by construction or elaboration. ...

1. *trans.* a. To produce (a material thing) by combination of parts, or by giving a certain form to a portion of matter; to construct, frame, fashion.

The above definition of *make* suggests that the object of the verb is the product or result brought into existence by working hard to make it happen. That is why we feel a sense of dynamic action in this verb, which we do not in *have*. Linguistically, all the seven associated object nouns *make* takes are categorized as either the product or result of the action conducted by the subject noun of the sentence.

4. 2. *Bring, enter and file*

These three light verbs are not included in the list of the *CamGEL*, but they raised their ranking higher as their use becomes more legal in Chart 2. This indicates that they are relatively more frequent in legal discourse. Since the frequencies of these verbs are

rather low in comparison with *have* and *make*, I checked all the object nouns they take and listed them in Table 17, Table 18 and Table 19. The object nouns whose frequencies are lower than two times are omitted from the tables. The numeral number right to each corpus title indicates the total frequency of the verb in that corpus.

4. 2. 1. *Bring*

Bring appears 573 times in UK JDG (395 times per million), in UK LJ 416 times (328 times per million), in US JDG 500 times (317 times per million), and in US LJ 394 times (301 times per million).

The meaning of *bring* in legal discourse is different from the one in general discourse. The *OED* and the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (2009) (hereafter *LDCE* for short) define *bring* in legal discourse as follows:

6. a. To prefer or lay (a charge or accusation); to institute, set on foot (an action at law); to advance, adduce (a statement or argument).

7. bring charges/a lawsuit/a court case/a prosecution/a claim (against sb) to begin a court case in order to try to prove that someone has done something wrong or is legally responsible for something wrong:

The total number of the top four object nouns *bring* takes in our four legal corpora are, from the top, *claim* (141 times), *action* (128 times), *proceeding* (82 times) and *appeal* (31 times). The details are listed in Table 17 below.

Table 17 Frequent object nouns of *bring*

| UK JDG | 573 | UK LJ | 416 | US JDG | 500 | US LJ | 394 |
|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| proceeding | 57 | action | 44 | suit | 116 | claim | 37 |
| claim | 37 | proceeding | 25 | claim | 42 | suit | 30 |
| action | 30 | claim | 25 | action | 31 | action | 23 |
| appeal | 23 | case | 8 | case | 19 | lawsuit | 11 |
| application | 7 | charge | 6 | lawsuit | 7 | case | 11 |
| charge | 5 | litigation | 5 | charge | 5 | charge | 9 |
| case | 5 | prosecution | 4 | prosecution | 4 | challenge | 4 |
| complaint | 4 | law | 4 | petition | 2 | appeal | 4 |
| prosecution | 2 | suit | 3 | appeal | 2 | litigation | 4 |
| | | petition | 3 | | | law | 4 |
| | | application | 3 | | | complaint | 3 |
| | | appeal | 2 | | | information | 3 |
| | | | | | | motion | 2 |

The examples of *bring + proceeding/suit/claim/action* are shown below:

Extracts 4

He brought proceedings for judicial review, claiming that the decision to remove him was unlawful both at common law and under the Human Rights Act. (UK JDG)

Here, respondents are authorized to bring suit on behalf of the payphone operators, (US JDG)

None of the exonerates brought federal claims directly challenging forensic evidence, (US LJ)

In parallel, Mr. Sison brought a separate action seeking the annulment of the Council Decisions relating to his inclusion on the list. (UK LJ)

4. 2. 2. *File*

The original meaning of *file* meant 'thread' to keep pieces of paper or documents together. Later, this word was used as a verb, meaning 'to put papers and documents together with a string of thread'. This original meaning is still retained in the following *OED* definition.

b. spec. To place (a document) in a due manner among the records of a court or public office; esp.

Black's Law Dictionary (1999) defines *file* as follows.

1. To deliver a legal document to the court clerk or record custodian for placement into the official record.
2. To commence a lawsuit.
3. To record or deposit something in an organized retention system or container for preservation and future reference.

We can understand that the above definitions are arranged from the old or original one to the extended one. The present day meaning of *file* in legal discourse is given in the following *LDCE* definition.

3 [I always + adv/prep, T] *law* to give a document to a court or other organization so that it can be officially recorded and dealt with **file a complaint/lawsuit/petition etc (against sb)**

For the historical reason of this verb, the associated object nouns in Table 18 indicate papers or documents to be submitted to the court or delivered by the legal authorities.

Table 18 Frequent object nouns of *file*

| UK JDG | 66 | UK LJ | 10 | US JDG | 472 | US LJ | 284 |
|-----------|----|-------|----|---------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| notice | 9 | | | motion | 43 | notice | 49 |
| appeal | 3 | | | suit | 41 | petition | 24 |
| affidavit | 2 | | | petition | 37 | suit | 16 |
| | | | | complaint | 23 | appeal | 14 |
| | | | | action | 20 | claim | 14 |
| | | | | claim | 19 | complaint | 12 |
| | | | | notice | 18 | lawsuit | 12 |
| | | | | brief | 16 | motion | 9 |
| | | | | appeal | 16 | report | 5 |
| | | | | lawsuit | 12 | brief | 3 |
| | | | | charge | 9 | charge | 2 |
| | | | | application | 8 | challenge | 2 |
| | | | | cross-appeal | 5 | statement | 2 |
| | | | | counterclaim | 5 | | |
| | | | | affidavit | 5 | | |
| | | | | notification | 4 | | |
| | | | | cross-motions | 3 | | |
| | | | | exception | 3 | | |
| | | | | grievance | 2 | | |
| | | | | indictment | 2 | | |

Table 18 reveals that *file* is predominantly used in the US and quite rare in the UK. The following are typical examples:

Extracts 5

Courts are split on whether the ten-day deadline to file a notice of appeal in Rule 23(f) is jurisdictional. (US LJ)

Petitioners filed a motion to compel arbitration of respondents' claims pursuant to § 3 and § 4 of the Federal Arbitration Act, (US JDG)

Respondent filed his own suit under the Jones Act and general maritime law, alleging negligence, (US JDG)

Petitioner then filed a federal petition for a writ of habeas corpus on July 19, 2005.(US JDG)

4. 2. 3. *Enter*

The original meaning of this verb is as defined in the *OED* below:

1. To go or come into a place, building, room, etc.; to pass within the boundaries of a country, region, portion of space, medium, etc.

Then, it is used in an extended sense in legal discourse as the *OED* and the *LDCE* indicate below:

6. To make a beginning, engage (in any action, course of conduct, discourse, etc.)

10 OFFICIAL STATEMENT

[T] *formal* to make an official statement:

(EX) ♦ *Wilson entered a plea of not guilty* (=said that he was not guilty at the beginning of a court case).

Black's Law Dictionary (1999) lists three definitions of this verb with very simple but clear example use.

1. To come or go into; esp., to go onto (real property) by right of entry so as to take possession <the landlord entered the defaulting tenant's premises>.

2. To put formally before a court or on the record <the defendant entered a plea of no contest>.

3. To become a party to <they entered into an agreement>

The sequence of these examples indicates how the meaning of *enter* has developed historically in legal discourse.

The object nouns taken by *enter* are listed in Table 19. They are either legal documents or actions.

Table 19 Frequent object nouns of *enter*

| UK JDG | 373 | UK LJ | 146 | US JDG | 237 | US LJ | 143 |
|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|------------|-----|-----------|-----|
| agreement | 5 | contract | 7 | judgment | 22 | judgment | 8 |
| plea | 3 | partnership | 2 | plea | 19 | agreement | 4 |
| contract | 3 | transaction | 2 | injunction | 13 | order | 4 |
| transaction | 2 | | | order | 13 | decree | 2 |
| negotiation | 2 | | | award | 4 | | |
| arrangement | 2 | | | agreement | 4 | | |
| | | | | stay | 2 | | |

The example use is shown below:

Extracts 6

the Tribal Court entered judgment awarding the Longs \$750,000 plus interest.
(US JDG)

At trial, he entered pleas of not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity (NGI).
(US JDG)

On remand, the District Court entered a new preliminary injunction allowing ...
(US JDG)

Courts may enter protective orders to prevent “unreasonable annoyance, ... (US
JDG)

4. 3. Three frequent object nouns: *proceeding*, *suit* and *plea*, and their collocations

Collocations often reveal the nature of the collocated words which we cannot observe directly when they stand alone. Collocations also help us understand how the legal concepts referred in legal discourse are perceived by the English speakers. I will choose three frequent object nouns, *proceeding*, *suit* and *plea*, and investigate what kind of nouns, adjectives and verbs they collocate, so that we can understand even better the lexico-grammatical properties of these frequent object nouns in legal discourse.

4. 3. 1. *Proceeding*

Etymologically, *proceeding* is obviously derived from the corresponding verb *proceed*. It is defined with some example use in the *Collins COBUILD Advanced Learner's English Dictionary* (2006) as follows:

1 N-COUNT [usu pl]

Legal **proceedings** are legal action taken against someone. [FORMAL]

EX ♦ [+ against] ...*criminal proceedings against the former prime minister.*

♦ *The Council had brought proceedings to stop the store from trading on Sundays.*

The definitions of *proceeding* Black's Law Dictionary (1999) lists are as follows:

1. The regular and orderly progression of a lawsuit, including all acts and events between the time of commencement and the entry of judgment.
2. Any procedural means for seeking redress from a tribunal or agency.
3. An act or step that is part of a larger action.
4. The business conducted by a court or other official body; a hearing.
5. *Bankruptcy*. A particular dispute or matter arising within a pending case — as opposed to the case as a whole.

The first two definitions are commonly applied in legal discourse.

The word *proceeding* is rather a neutral term. In UK JDG this word occurs 1,023 times (704.90 per million), and pre-modified by nouns and adjectives 551 times. That is, more than half of them are pre-modified by a noun or an adjective. Table 20 shows those nouns and adjectives. Among these pre-modifiers, *criminal*, *civil* and *legal* indicate basic categories of *proceeding*. *Possession*, *confiscation* and *extradition* indicate more specific categories of *proceeding*. Two interesting pre-modifiers are *judicial* and *review*. All of the 16 instances of *review* are used together with *judicial* as shown below:

Extract 7

In the present case, the judicial review proceedings, like the possession proceedings, did not provide any opportunity for an independent tribunal to examine whether...(UK JDG)

Table 20 Pre-modifiers of *proceeding*

| modifiers | |
|--------------|----|
| possession | 55 |
| confiscation | 49 |
| criminal | 49 |
| civil | 39 |
| early | 25 |
| judicial | 22 |
| legal | 20 |
| review | 16 |
| such | 16 |
| extradition | 15 |
| present | 15 |
| English | 13 |
| care | 12 |
| first | 11 |

We can also understand the nature of *proceeding* when we look at the verbs that take *proceeding* as its object noun. In legal English *proceeding* is something we *bring, take, commence, institute* and *issue*. This is particularly so in UK JDG where *proceeding* is most highly used as Table 21 shows.

Table 21 Frequent Verbs of the Object Noun *proceeding*

| UK JDG | 366 | UK LJ | 90 | US JDG | 108 | US LJ | 32 |
|-----------|-----|-----------|----|-----------|-----|-----------|----|
| bring | 57 | bring | 25 | include | 16 | initiate | 4 |
| take | 39 | stay | 5 | conduct | 12 | state | 3 |
| commence | 30 | commence | 5 | reopen | 10 | institute | 2 |
| institute | 25 | be | 5 | stay | 6 | prefer | 2 |
| issue | 19 | total | 3 | be | 4 | affect | 2 |
| be | 13 | initiate | 3 | initiate | 3 | | |
| raise | 12 | start | 3 | institute | 2 | | |
| begin | 11 | issue | 3 | commence | 2 | | |
| settle | 10 | include | 3 | list | 2 | | |
| initiate | 9 | institute | 2 | entertain | 2 | | |
| start | 9 | relate | 2 | begin | 2 | | |
| adjourn | 7 | require | 2 | mandate | 2 | | |
| pursue | 7 | take | 2 | exclude | 2 | | |
| stay | 6 | | | continue | 2 | | |
| control | 4 | | | underlie | 2 | | |
| conduct | 4 | | | avoid | 2 | | |
| enable | 4 | | | involve | 2 | | |
| treat | 4 | | | | | | |
| dismiss | 4 | | | | | | |
| serve | 4 | | | | | | |
| concern | 4 | | | | | | |
| hold | 4 | | | | | | |
| defend | 3 | | | | | | |
| render | 3 | | | | | | |
| include | 3 | | | | | | |

Among those five verbs, *bring* and *take* are light verbs, while *commence*, *institute* and *issue* are not. But The last three instances in Extract 8 could be rewritten in light verbs like *bring*, *bring* and *give* respectively.

Extracts 8

the appellant was entitled to bring the present proceedings on behalf of her daughter. (UK JDG)

The applicant took civil proceedings against those who were responsible for the nursing home and against the Minister of the Interior, (UK JDG)

On 16 October 2002, the claimant commenced new proceedings against APSA (UK JDG)

If the claimant has instituted proceedings against someone whom he describes as the producer, (UK JDG)

the Ofulues issued fresh proceedings in the Bow County Court for possession of the property against Ms Bossert (UK JDG)

4. 3. 2. *Suit*

Suit and *sue* are etymologically related. Both derived from a Latin word '*sequēre*', meaning 'to follow'. This associated object noun *suit* is an interesting noun in the sense that it is used predominantly in the US legal discourse and the two light verbs *bring* and *file* also predominantly collocate.

Table 22 Frequent Verbs of the Object Noun *suit*

| UK JDG | 2 | UK LJ | 8 | US JDG | 265 | US LJ | 84 |
|--------|---|--------|---|-----------|-----|-----------|----|
| | | follow | 4 | bring | 116 | bring | 30 |
| | | bring | 3 | file | 41 | file | 16 |
| | | | | entertain | 9 | follow | 7 |
| | | | | bar | 7 | initiate | 3 |
| | | | | allow | 7 | base | 3 |
| | | | | permit | 7 | allow | 3 |
| | | | | base | 7 | be | 3 |
| | | | | hear | 5 | preclude | 2 |
| | | | | authorize | 5 | dismiss | 2 |
| | | | | maintain | 4 | encourage | 2 |
| | | | | dismiss | 4 | maintain | 2 |
| | | | | follow | 4 | | |
| | | | | be | 4 | | |
| | | | | prosecute | 3 | | |
| | | | | pre-empt | 3 | | |
| | | | | damage | 2 | | |
| | | | | comprise | 2 | | |
| | | | | face | 2 | | |
| | | | | settle | 2 | | |
| | | | | preclude | 2 | | |
| | | | | pend | 2 | | |
| | | | | recognize | 2 | | |
| | | | | find | 2 | | |

Extracts 9

Respondents in fact brought a fair representation suit against the Union based on its withdrawal of support for their age-discrimination claims. (US JDG)

Respondents filed this diversity suit in the Eastern District of Kentucky against Bricolage, Arthur Andersen and others, (US JDG)

There are some other legal terms meaning the same as or similar to *suit*. *The Concise Oxford Thesaurus* (2004) lists synonyms for *suit*. Typical examples are as follows:

legal action, lawsuit, suit at law, case, court case, action, cause, legal/judicial proceedings, litigation, trial, legal dispute/contest, indictment, prosecution

All the terms except *case* are derived nouns from the corresponding verbs.

Black's Law Dictionary (1999) quotes Edwin E. Bryant, *The Law of Pleading Under the Codes of Civil Procedure* 3 (2d ed. 1899), and explains the difference between *action* and *suit* as follows:

"The terms 'action' and 'suit' are nearly if not quite synonymous. But lawyers usually speak of proceedings in courts of law as 'actions,' and of those in courts of equity as 'suits.' In olden time there was a more marked distinction, for an action was considered as terminating when judgment was rendered, the execution forming no part of it. A suit, on the other hand, included the execution. The word 'suit,' as used in the Judiciary Act of 1784 and later Federal statutes, applies to any proceeding in a court of justice in which the plaintiff pursues in such court the remedy which the law affords him."

Table 23 Frequencies of verbs taking *action* as its object noun

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|-----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|----|-----------|----|
| take | 61 | bring | 44 | take | 68 | take | 46 |
| bring | 30 | take | 37 | bring | 31 | bring | 23 |
| raise | 9 | be | 12 | file | 20 | base | 14 |
| allow | 9 | pursue | 9 | enjoin | 17 | challenge | 10 |
| base | 8 | base | 6 | dismiss | 17 | review | 8 |
| govern | 5 | give | 5 | propose | 13 | prohibit | 8 |
| institute | 4 | ground | 4 | challenge | 13 | require | 7 |
| found | 4 | continue | 4 | maintain | 8 | be | 7 |
| dismiss | 4 | justify | 4 | base | 8 | file | 6 |
| vest | 3 | see | 4 | prosecute | 7 | include | 5 |
| accrue | 3 | involve | 4 | bar | 7 | undertake | 4 |
| commence | 3 | consider | 4 | entertain | 5 | preclude | 4 |
| settle | 3 | sanction | 3 | encompass | 5 | motivate | 3 |
| pursue | 3 | bar | 3 | commence | 5 | allege | 3 |
| propose | 3 | warrant | 3 | pre-empt | 4 | evaluate | 3 |
| conform | 2 | assign | 3 | pend | 4 | pursue | 3 |
| entertain | 2 | defend | 3 | allow | 4 | maintain | 3 |
| defend | 2 | perform | 3 | stay | 3 | permit | 3 |
| bar | 2 | govern | 3 | relate | 3 | determine | 3 |
| prosecute | 2 | support | 3 | preclude | 3 | allow | 3 |
| foresee | 2 | determine | 3 | motivate | 3 | involve | 3 |
| render | 2 | raise | 3 | initiate | 3 | | |
| maintain | 2 | require | 3 | imply | 3 | | |
| authorise | 2 | use | 3 | forbid | 3 | | |
| avoid | 2 | | | defer | 3 | | |

Compared with *suit*, *action* is constantly used in the four legal corpora. It collocates with the same kind of verbs in each corpus. *Take* collocates very well with *action* in all the four legal corpora while it does not collocate with *suit* at all in any of the legal corpora.

4. 3. 3. *Plea*

According to the *OED*, this word meant ‘agreement, decision, decree, lawcourt, suit, action’ in Middle English, and in Latin it meant ‘which pleases or is agreed upon, a decision, decree, etc.’ The very first definition of this term in the *OED* is as follows:

1. a. A suit or action at law; the presentation of an action in court. Now *Hist.* and *Sc.* (esp. in phr. **a law-plea**).

The meaning became more specific later, as *Black’s Law Dictionary* (1999) shows:

1. An accused person's formal response of "guilty," "not guilty," or "no contest" to a criminal charge.
2. At common law, the defendant's responsive pleading in a civil action.
3. A factual allegation offered in a case; a pleading.

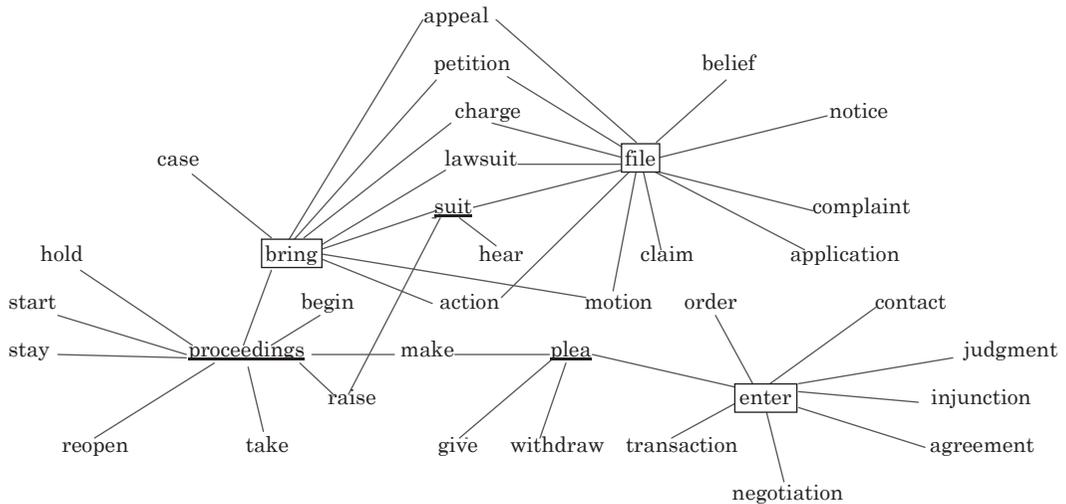
Table 24 shows the frequent collocates with *plea*. *Enter* is the most frequent collocated verb, followed by *withdraw*, *raise* and *vacate*.

Table 24 Frequent verbs of object noun *plea*

| UK JDG | 27 | UK LJ | 27 | US JDG | 46 | US LJ | 4 |
|--------|-----|--------|----|----------|----|-------|---|
| vacate | 5 | raise | 9 | enter | 19 | | |
| accept | 5 | tender | 4 | withdraw | 5 | | |
| enter | 3 | uphold | 2 | be | 3 | | |
| | 111 | be | 2 | accept | 3 | | |
| | | | | mention | 2 | | |
| | | | | give | 2 | | |
| | | | | change | 2 | | |

4. 4. The network of legal terms

I investigated 12 light verbs to see how they are used in legal discourse. I chose three common associated object nouns and analyzed how they collocate with the light verbs. By investigating and analyzing light verb constructions from the light verb side and from the associated object noun side, it became clear that particular light verbs collocate almost exclusively with a particular group of associated object nouns. It also became apparent that some associated object nouns often take numerous light verbs and express a delicate but important difference in professional legal discourse. This interrelationship between the light verbs and the associated object nouns forms a kind of network in legal discourse. I will illustrate this lexical network of light verbs and associated object nouns below to summarize the discussion so far.

Chart 4 An image of the network of *bring*, *file*, *enter* and their object nouns

5. Conclusion: Sample *enter*

The ultimate purpose of our project it is to compile a corpus-based, production-oriented legal English dictionary for non-native speakers of English. Therefore, as the conclusion of this paper, I think it would be appropriate to show a sample image of the headword *enter*, one of the light verbs we took up in this paper.

enter

1. (V+(into)+objects) **legal technical terms**

1. 1. **Definition:** officially start, officially state

1. 2. **regional and genre info**

judgment (US JDG: 22, US LJ: 8), *plea* (US JDG: 19, UK JDG: 3, UK LJ: 1), *order* (US JDG: 13, US LJ: 4),

agreement (UK JDG: 5, US JDG: 4, US LJ: 4), *injunction* (US JDG: 13), *contract* (UK LJ: 7, UK JDG: 3), *transaction* (UK JDG: 2, UK LJ: 2)

1. 3. **structures**

enter a *summary/final* judgment (US JDG), *enter* judgment *awarding/ordering* (US JDG), *enter* (a) judgment *in favor of/against/for* (US JDG); *enter* plea of *guilty/not guilty* (US JDG), *enter* a *guilty* plea (US JDG); *enter* *appropriate/clarifying/consent/protective/such* orders (US JDG), *enter* an order *to protect/prevent* (US JDG), *enter* an order *granting* (US JDG), *enter* an order *of removal* (US JDG); an agreement *was entered into*, agreements *were entered into for/between*; (UK JDG), *enter* a *preliminary/permanent/nationwide* injunction (US JDG), *enter*

an injunction *allowing/imposing/requiring* (US JDG); at the time the *contract was entered into* (UK LJ)

2. (V+objects) legal technical terms

2. 1. **Definition:** move into

2. 2. regional and genre info

port (US JDG: 9), *market* (US JDG: 8), *country* (UK JDG: 19), *hospital* (UK JDG: 3), *territory* (UK JDG: 3), *house* (US LJ: 7), *home* (US LJ: 4)

2. 3. structures

ships entering the port (US JDG), *cement/private/interstate/competitive/nonmonopolized market* (US JDG), enters the/a *intermediate/safe country* (UK JDG), *unlawfully enter a country* (UK JDG), enter the country *illegally* (UK JDG), enter this country *at Heathrow Airport* (UK JDG), enter this country *via* (UK JDG), enter a house *when/where* (US LJ), Policemen can and should enter homes *when* (US LJ), enter the home *of an individual* (US LJ)

Note

- 1) The theme of this paper is based on the presentation done by the present author at the 36th ICAME conference at Trier, Germany, together with Masayuki Tamaruya of Rikkyo University. The present author revised his part of the presentation and added more detailed legal data.

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Appendix

Table 3

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|----------------|-----|--------------|-----|--------------|-----|--------------|-----|
| have | | have | | have | | have | |
| advantage | 208 | right | 153 | jurisdiction | 160 | effect | 141 |
| regard | 179 | effect | 152 | authority | 114 | power | 94 |
| right | 175 | regard | 73 | right | 107 | incentive | 84 |
| effect | 137 | interest | 70 | effect | 106 | right | 71 |
| power | 114 | power | 59 | interest | 57 | jurisdiction | 61 |
| jurisdiction | 91 | impact | 54 | opportunity | 56 | information | 60 |
| benefit | 76 | reason | 40 | power | 48 | authority | 59 |
| opportunity | 52 | intention | 37 | reason | 33 | interest | 55 |
| control | 50 | access | 32 | impact | 26 | impact | 44 |
| application | 45 | claim | 32 | meaning | 25 | opportunity | 39 |
| nothing | 44 | nothing | 29 | bearing | 23 | force | 33 |
| difficulty | 39 | potential | 28 | nothing | 23 | value | 33 |
| reason | 36 | consequence | 28 | cause | 22 | access | 32 |
| privilege | 35 | implication | 27 | standing | 21 | reason | 28 |
| discretion | 35 | duty | 26 | duty | 21 | implication | 27 |
| doubt | 32 | capacity | 25 | application | 21 | consequence | 26 |
| prospect | 31 | obligation | 25 | knowledge | 20 | benefit | 25 |
| duty | 30 | jurisdiction | 25 | occasion | 19 | ability | 24 |
| knowledge | 29 | discretion | 22 | discretion | 19 | advantage | 23 |
| meaning | 29 | opportunity | 21 | basis | 19 | duty | 23 |
| interest | 29 | connection | 20 | obligation | 16 | control | 22 |
| access | 27 | role | 20 | force | 16 | potential | 21 |
| responsibility | 25 | bearing | 19 | present | 14 | nothing | 21 |
| need | 25 | meaning | 19 | potential | 13 | role | 21 |
| excuse | 21 | title | 17 | option | 12 | difficulty | 18 |

Table 4

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|-------------|-----|--------------|----|---------------|----|-------------|-----|
| make | | make | | make | | make | |
| order | 344 | decision | 98 | decision | 69 | decision | 107 |
| claim | 116 | sense | 58 | sense | 64 | sense | 77 |
| provision | 98 | point | 55 | statement | 53 | law | 59 |
| application | 87 | statement | 48 | argument | 33 | choice | 34 |
| decision | 72 | order | 48 | determination | 29 | claim | 32 |
| statement | 61 | use | 41 | finding | 26 | appointment | 26 |
| point | 57 | contribution | 35 | choice | 25 | payment | 26 |
| submission | 53 | reference | 35 | difference | 23 | argument | 24 |

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|-------------|----|--------------|----|---------------|----|
| reference | 46 | claim | 32 | arrest | 23 | mistake | 21 |
| declaration | 43 | difference | 27 | effort | 19 | determination | 21 |
| payment | 40 | choice | 26 | use | 17 | use | 21 |
| assumption | 35 | provision | 26 | expenditure | 16 | treaty | 21 |
| difference | 34 | change | 24 | confession | 14 | statement | 19 |
| request | 34 | mistake | 22 | reference | 13 | judgment | 18 |
| finding | 33 | payment | 19 | showing | 12 | threat | 17 |
| amendment | 32 | gift | 18 | point | 12 | difference | 13 |
| representation | 30 | gain | 18 | request | 11 | effort | 13 |
| sense | 25 | distinction | 18 | contribution | 10 | change | 12 |
| assessment | 24 | profit | 15 | error | 10 | point | 12 |
| contract | 23 | restitution | 15 | | | mention | 11 |
| use | 22 | transfer | 15 | | | distinction | 10 |
| allegation | 20 | judgment | 14 | | | disclosure | 10 |
| attempt | 19 | investment | 13 | | | | |
| regulation | 19 | effort | 11 | | | | |
| supply | 17 | assessment | 11 | | | | |

Table 5

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|------------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|----|-----------|----|
| take | | take | | take | | take | |
| place | 200 | place | 124 | place | 69 | place | 62 |
| step | 187 | view | 104 | action | 68 | advantage | 49 |
| view | 105 | account | 75 | account | 54 | step | 47 |
| account | 78 | approach | 57 | step | 38 | action | 46 |
| action | 61 | form | 38 | position | 30 | position | 28 |
| measure | 59 | action | 37 | land | 29 | form | 25 |
| part | 43 | decision | 37 | care | 22 | approach | 25 |
| decision | 42 | step | 33 | advantage | 20 | measure | 17 |
| proceeding | 39 | position | 26 | approach | 17 | effect | 17 |
| care | 27 | advantage | 22 | effect | 15 | view | 16 |
| life | 24 | care | 21 | part | 12 | care | 13 |
| effect | 23 | measure | 16 | view | 10 | appeal | 10 |
| advantage | 22 | part | 16 | | | | |
| approach | 21 | example | 13 | | | | |
| course | 18 | risk | 12 | | | | |
| point | 14 | | | | | | |
| precaution | 11 | | | | | | |
| statement | 10 | | | | | | |
| value | 10 | | | | | | |

Table 6

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|---------------|-----|---------------|-----|---------------|----|-------------|----|
| give | | give | | give | | give | |
| effect | 200 | rise | 138 | rise | 47 | rise | 67 |
| rise | 186 | effect | 96 | effect | 44 | effect | 31 |
| reason | 164 | reason | 34 | weight | 32 | weight | 19 |
| evidence | 127 | consideration | 27 | notice | 28 | way | 16 |
| notice | 98 | weight | 25 | reason | 18 | opportunity | 15 |
| judgment | 81 | evidence | 21 | power | 11 | | |
| assurance | 35 | notice | 20 | party | 11 | | |
| consideration | 35 | power | 16 | consideration | 10 | | |
| answer | 31 | example | 14 | | | | |
| weight | 30 | priority | 13 | | | | |
| guidance | 28 | name | 13 | | | | |
| power | 26 | consent | 13 | | | | |
| protection | 23 | way | 13 | | | | |
| direction | 22 | answer | 12 | | | | |
| meaning | 19 | value | 12 | | | | |
| preference | 15 | guidance | 11 | | | | |
| detail | 15 | information | 11 | | | | |
| example | 15 | judgment | 11 | | | | |
| permission | 13 | meaning | 10 | | | | |
| care | 12 | | | | | | |
| opportunity | 11 | | | | | | |
| leave | 11 | | | | | | |
| explanation | 10 | | | | | | |
| assistance | 10 | | | | | | |

Table 7

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US LDG | | US LJ | |
|------------|-----|-----------|----|----------|----|----------|----|
| raise | | raise | | raise | | raise | |
| issue | 109 | question | 65 | question | 29 | question | 61 |
| question | 53 | issue | 52 | claim | 25 | claim | 51 |
| point | 21 | concern | 15 | issue | 16 | concern | 47 |
| argument | 15 | objection | 10 | concern | 15 | cost | 39 |
| proceeding | 12 | problem | 10 | argument | 13 | issue | 22 |
| | | | | | | problem | 11 |

Table 8

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|------------|----|------------|----|--------|-----|---------|----|
| bring | | bring | | bring | | bring | |
| proceeding | 57 | action | 44 | suit | 116 | claim | 37 |
| claim | 37 | proceeding | 25 | claim | 42 | suit | 30 |
| action | 30 | claim | 25 | action | 31 | action | 23 |
| appeal | 23 | | 94 | case | 19 | lawsuit | 11 |
| | | | | | | case | 11 |

Table 9

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|--------|-----|-------|-----|-----------|----|-----------|----|
| file | 111 | file | 111 | file | | file | |
| | | | | motion | 43 | notice | 49 |
| | | | | suit | 41 | petition | 24 |
| | | | | petition | 37 | suit | 16 |
| | | | | complaint | 23 | appeal | 14 |
| | | | | action | 20 | claim | 14 |
| | | | | claim | 19 | complaint | 12 |
| | | | | notice | 18 | lawsuit | 12 |
| | | | | brief | 16 | | |
| | | | | appeal | 16 | | |
| | | | | lawsuit | 12 | | |

Table 10

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|-----------|----|--------------|----|--------|----|--------------|----|
| pay | | pay | | pay | | pay | |
| rent | 27 | money | 23 | taxis | 12 | tax | 26 |
| sum | 26 | attention | 20 | | | fee | 22 |
| VAT | 24 | compensation | 10 | | | attention | 21 |
| tax | 21 | damage | 10 | | | chaplain | 19 |
| amount | 21 | | 63 | | | taxis | 15 |
| price | 15 | | | | | chaplaincy | 13 |
| attention | 14 | | | | | salary | 12 |
| money | 10 | | | | | debt | 11 |
| | | | | | | compensation | 11 |

Table 11

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|-----------|----|-----------|----|----------|----|----------|----|
| do | | do | | do | | do | |
| act | 25 | justice | 32 | nothing | 23 | nothing | 25 |
| something | 19 | nothing | 22 | business | 11 | work | 15 |
| nothing | 18 | thing | 20 | | | thing | 13 |
| thing | 14 | work | 20 | | | business | 10 |
| anything | 13 | something | 17 | | | | |
| work | 13 | anything | 15 | | | | |
| | | act | 14 | | | | |
| | | harm | 13 | | | | |
| | | job | 10 | | | | |

Table 12

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|---------|----|-------|--|------------|----|-------|--|
| enter | | enter | | enter | | enter | |
| country | 19 | | | judgment | 22 | | |
| | | | | plea | 19 | | |
| | | | | injunction | 13 | | |
| | | | | order | 13 | | |

Table 13

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|--------|----|-------|--|--------|--|-------|----|
| put | | put | | put | | put | |
| case | 23 | | | | | way | 13 |
| point | 16 | | | | | | |

Table 14

| UK JDG | | UK LJ | | US JDG | | US LJ | |
|--------|--|---------|----|--------|--|---------|----|
| offer | | offer | | offer | | offer | |
| | | reason | 20 | | | product | 13 |
| | | account | 10 | | | | |