Course-final assignments – pick one!

1. This assignment is concerned with the word *run*. How do you think will *runs* be used as a noun? Which one – *runs* as a noun or as a verb – do you think is more frequent, and by how much? Generate a concordance of the word *runs* tagged as a noun or as a verb in files of the British National Corpus to see what the data tell you.
   
   Also, do you find tagging errors in the concordance for *runs* as a noun? Can you guess why they occurred? Comment on the accuracy of the tagging of *runs* as a noun. If you find errors, can you guess why they occurred? Compare the percentage of tagging errors to the official error percentage reported for the corpus on the website of the BNC at <http://www.natcorp.ox.ac.uk/docs/bnc2error.htm>.

2. One partially lexically-filled argument structure construction in English is the so-called *into*-causative:

   (1) a. He\(_x\) tricked [me]\(_y\) into [buying something]\(_z\).
   
   b. He\(_x\) talked [the others]\(_y\) into [voting for them]\(_z\).

   (2) \text{SUBJ}\(_x\) \text{V OBJ}\(_y\) into \text{V-ing}\(_z\)

   (3) \text{X ACT ON Y AND CAUSE Y DO Z}

   How many occurrences of the *into*-causative can you find in the files representing the British National Corpus? If you do not want to use tags, use the search pattern *into* *ing*, if you want use tags, which I would recommend here, use them to look for *into* (tagged as a preposition) followed by something that ends in *ing* (tagged as a verb).
   
   - Does this construction have a positive or negative semantic 'touch'?
   
   - Is this construction associated with particular semantic frames?
   
   - Are there some identifiable relations between cause and result predicates?

3. What is the semantic prosody of the (verb and/or noun) lemma CAUSE? Specifically, does CAUSE go with largely positive, neutral, or negative collocates and with which ones in particular? Answer this question by exploring only the noun and verb (but not forms of BE, DO, HAVE, or MODAL verbs) collocates of CAUSE in a L4 to R4 window in the 4 BNC SGML files.