

## ***Strongly Correlated Verbs and Prepositions***

Verbs such as

Strike down  
Shut up  
Tease out  
Work out

are tightly correlated with the preposition. There may be several hundred cases.

If there is a tightly collocated verb/preposition, there seems no need to create a prepositional chain, as it would be simpler to see the verb/preposition object and then the object of the verb. Similarly, it would be easier to collapse a participial and a preposition in a prepositional chain.

We can note the juxtaposition of verb or participle and preposition, check for a tight correlation and create a CollocatedPrepositional. When we have the verb, the CollocatedPrepositional and the object, we check that it matches the relation modelling, convert the verb and the prepositional into a verb, or turn it back into a prepositional if it does not match.

We have several cases

He struck down the statute – active verb

The statute was struck down – passive verb

He ended the case, striking down the statute in the process – present participle

The statute, struck down by the judge, was reinstated. – past participle

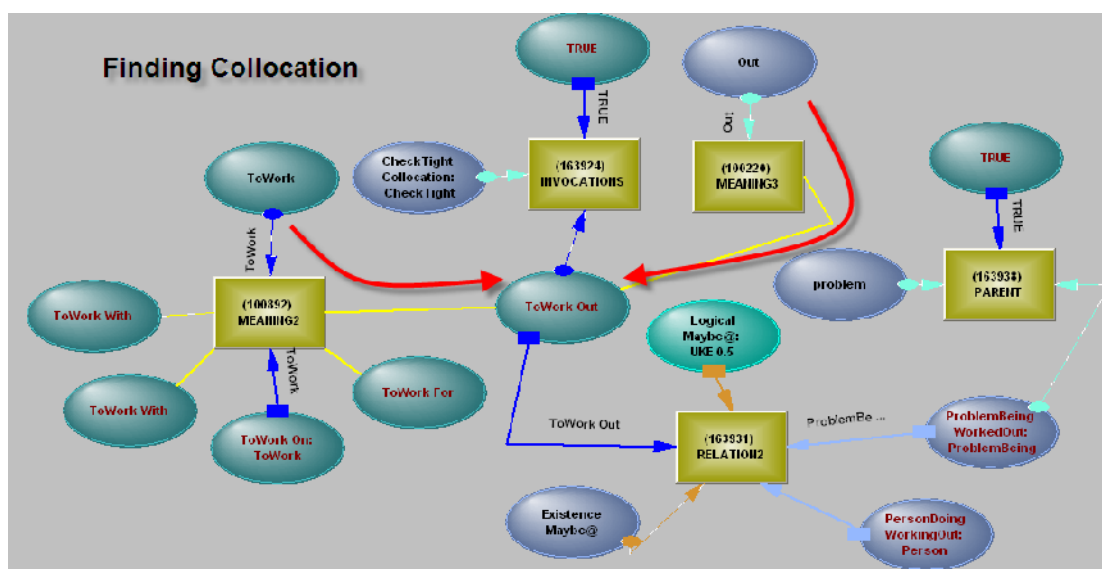
Striking down the statute was commendable. – participle as subject

We find the possibility of a collocation in the parse chain using

STRUCTURE1(CheckTightCollocation, {Participle, Preposition})

In “The person working on the problem”, the structure would recognise “working” and “on” and create a CheckTightCollocation in the parse structure.

When the structure CheckTightCollocation is created, it uses the relation and preposition to look for a tight collocation. It moves up to the relation “ToWork” and the preposition “On” – the word objects in the parse chain are instantiations of the dictionary objects.



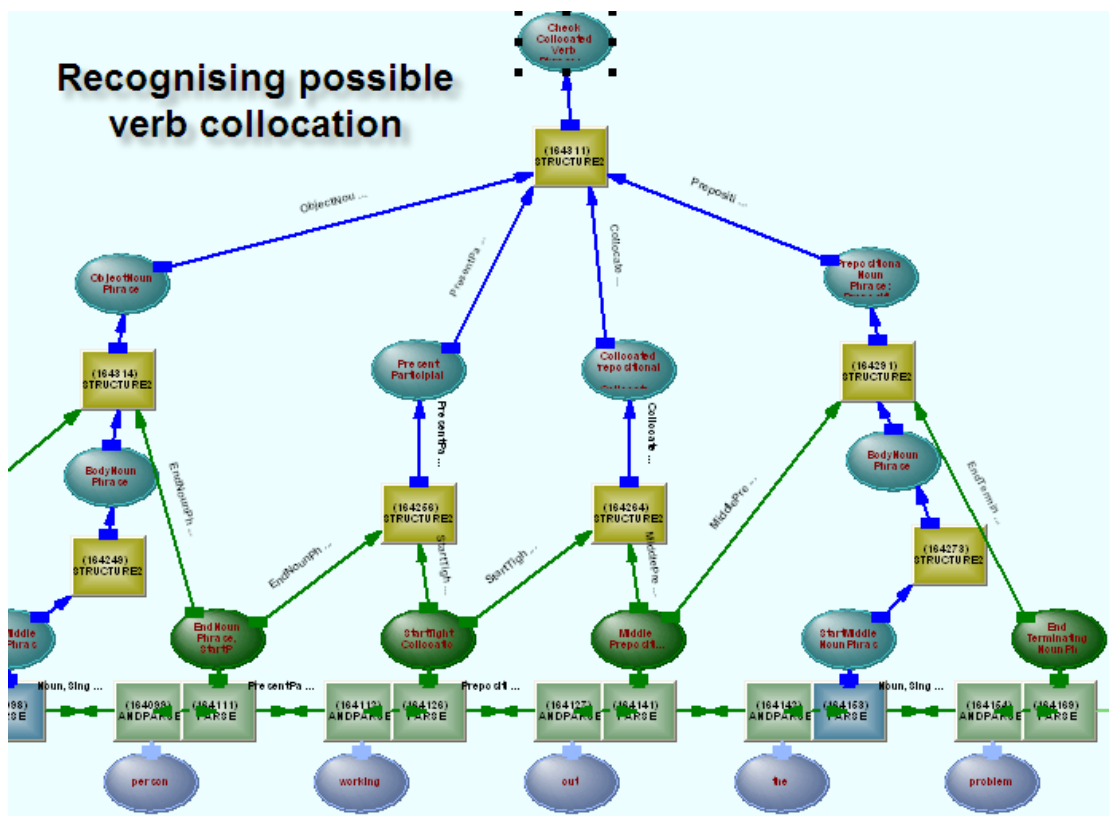
The particular collocation is an invocation of TightCollocation, so the prepositional becomes a CollocatedPrepositional – we cannot conclude it is verified until the semantic modelling around the collocation is checked, and for that we need the subject and object of the relation.

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STRUCTURE1(CollocatedPrepositional, {StartTightCollocation,
NOTWITH(MiddleBetweenAndPhrase, StartPrepositionalNounPhrase)})
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When other structures around the collocation have been identified, a structure such as

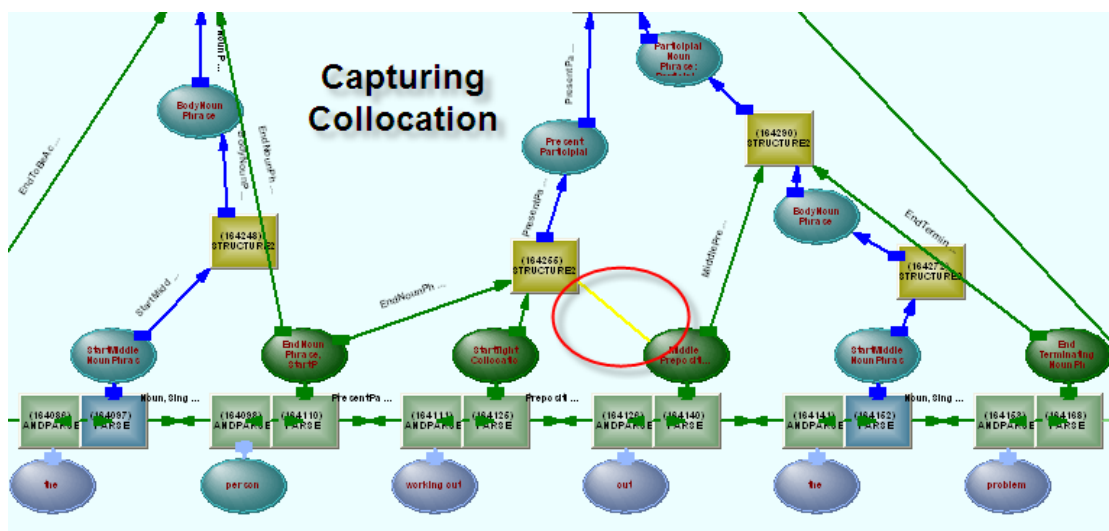
```
STRUCTURE1(CheckCollocatedVerbPhrase, {NounPhrase, PresentParticipial,
CollocatedPrepositional, NounPhrase})
```

is used to check the collocation.



If the semantic modelling fails, CollocatedPrepositional is converted to Prepositional and the capture of the PrepositionalChain proceeds normally. If the modelling succeeds, then the CollocatedPrepositional is merged with the verb or participial, reducing the difficulty in later untangling the PrepositionalChain.

I



The CollocatedPrepositional object has been removed, and the “on” object has been merged with the PastParticipial. The PrepositionalNounPhrase has been converted to a ParticipialNounPhrase.

The example should make clear the tight integration of grammar and semantics, and the plasticity of the parse structure.

To close down  
To count down  
To cut down  
To let down  
To pull down  
To run down  
To set down  
To shout down  
To shut down  
To strike down  
To write down

To close up  
To count up  
To cut up  
To face up  
To free up  
To freeze up  
To give up  
To hold up  
To look up  
To loosen up  
To pay up  
To put up  
To put up with  
To run up  
To scale up  
To seize up  
To set up  
To shore up  
To shut up  
To take up  
To tee up  
To throw up  
To tighten up  
To work up  
To write up

To check out  
To clear out (his desk)  
To close out  
To find out (clausal)  
To freeze out  
To give out  
To hold out  
To lock out  
To pay out  
To run out  
To see out  
To set out

To shout out  
To shut out  
To speak out  
To strike out  
To take out  
To throw out  
To try out  
To turn out  
To work out – (one meaning is clausal)  
To write out

To give in  
To lock in  
To see in  
To throw in

To fight over  
To hold over  
To start over  
To run over  
To take over (company)  
To take over (task)

To force through  
To see through  
To slide through  
To take through  
To think through  
To work through

To advise on  
To go on  
To take on  
To wait on  
To work on

To agree with  
To cope with  
To fight with  
To work with (material)

To dispose of  
To take charge of  
To tire of

To see to

To be for  
To find for  
To fight for

To hope for  
To look for (the looked for gain)  
To seek for (the sought for benefits did not eventuate)

To be against  
To find against  
To fight against  
To set against

To set upon

To look after  
To seek after (the award was sought after by many)

## ***Multiple Prepositions***

It was disposed of by the gardener

The matter was seen to without delay

He tried out for the Braves

The matter was taken charge of by John.