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# Lingual Learning and Lurking: Linking Bachelor's Degrees in Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics to Google Searches for 'how to delete browsing history'

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## KEYWORDS

bachelor's degrees, foreign languages, literatures, linguistics, Google searches, delete browsing history, correlation coefficient, National Center for Education Statistics, Google Trends, linguistic prowess, digital trail

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## Abstract

In this study, we delved into the bizarre connection between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and the frequency of Google searches for 'how to delete browsing history'. Our research team undertook a linguistic journey through the National Center for Education Statistics and Google Trends, uncovering surprising correlations and pun-tastic findings. The results revealed a staggering correlation coefficient of 0.9809382 and  $p < 0.01$  for the decade spanning 2012 to 2021, leaving us both bewildered and bemused. We invite readers to join us as we unravel this peculiar relationship and contemplate whether linguistic prowess might just be the secret to clearing one's digital trail with finesse.

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## 1. Introduction

### INTRODUCTION

The study of foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics has long been associated with the nuanced and complex art of communication. It requires a keen intellect,

an ear for intonation, and perhaps a fondness for conjugating irregular verbs. While the intrinsic value of a Bachelor's degree in such fields is often lauded for its cultural enrichment and ability to foster international dialogue, our inquiry embarked down a path less traveled, leading us to

probe an unexpected tangent: the correlation between this academic pursuit and the clandestine world of internet privacy.

As we delved into this unconventional investigation, we were met with both bewilderment and amusement. The mere suggestion of a connection between linguistic proficiency and the desire to erase one's digital footsteps seemed whimsical, if not downright farcical. Yet, armed with statistical tools and an unyielding commitment to scholarly pursuit, we set out to explore this enigmatic relationship.

Our journey through the labyrinth of public data sources led us to the National Center for Education Statistics, where the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics awaited our scrutiny. Simultaneously, Google Trends provided us with a digital compass, guiding us through the ever-evolving landscape of online search queries. Little did we anticipate that these disparate realms would converge in a manner both unexpected and, dare we say, comical.

Having diligently combed through the data, we stumbled upon a correlation coefficient of 0.9809382 and  $p < 0.01$  for the period between 2012 and 2021, leaving us in a state of disbelief akin to finding a proverbial needle in a linguistic haystack. It became evident that behind the veneer of scholarly pursuits and erudition, there exists a peculiar affinity between linguistic acumen and the desire to obliterate one's digital fingerprint.

In the following sections, we shall endeavor to unravel the perplexing relationship between the awarding of Bachelor's degrees in foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and the proclivity for seeking methods to expunge one's browsing history. Through a blend of empirical scrutiny and jovial conjecture, we invite our audience to

partake in this journey - a journey that promises not only statistical elucidation but also the occasional linguistic pun that rivals even the most seasoned comedian's comedic repertoire. After all, what's a research paper without a little wordplay?

## 2. Literature Review

### [LITERATURE REVIEW]

The relationship between educational pursuits and seemingly unrelated behaviors has long intrigued researchers across various disciplines. In "Smith et al.," the authors illuminate the manifold nuances of educational outcomes and their potential impact on individuals' digital habits. Similarly, "Doe and Jones" provide a comprehensive analysis of linguistic competencies and their applications in contemporary society. These endeavors lay the groundwork for the present study, which ventures into the uncharted territory of correlating the awarding of Bachelor's degrees in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics with the rather esoteric activity of searching for ways to delete one's browsing history on the internet.

As we venture deeper into the realm of linguistic peculiarities and digital secrecy, we cannot overlook the contributions of non-fictional works that have inspired scholarly discourse on the intersections of language and technology. "The Language Instinct" by Steven Pinker provides invaluable insights into the evolutionary and cognitive underpinnings of language, inviting readers to contemplate the innate human capacity for linguistic dexterity. In a similar vein, "How Language Works" by David Crystal offers a captivating exploration of the intricacies of language, shedding light on its multifaceted nature and its role in shaping human experience.

On the fictional side of literature, works such as George Orwell's "1984" and Ray

Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451" beckon us to contemplate the perils of surveillance and the innate human desire for privacy. These dystopian narratives, though fictional, offer poignant reflections on the ubiquity of digital footprints and the inherent human impulse to conceal them. Furthermore, the enigmatic allure of linguistic mysteries is echoed in the popular board game "Codenames," where players must adeptly navigate a web of words and associations to uncover hidden meanings and avoid linguistic pitfalls - much like the clandestine maneuverings of internet users seeking to erase their online trails.

In the context of our investigation, these diverse sources serve as beacons, guiding us through the labyrinth of linguistic and digital landscapes. The juxtaposition of academic rigor and whimsical musing sets the stage for a literature review that promises to be both enlightening and delightfully unexpected. As we delve into the annals of research and literature, we invite our readers to join us on this unconventional journey, where academic inquiry meets the whimsy of linguistic prowess and the levity of puns aplenty.

### 3. Our approach & methods

#### Data Collection and Preparation:

This research harnessed the power of two disparate yet harmonious sources: the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and Google Trends. The NCES furnished us with the annual count of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics from 2012 to 2021. Admittedly, navigating this vast repository of academic achievements felt analogous to deciphering a cryptic crossword puzzle, albeit one wrought with conjugations rather than conundrums. Meanwhile, Google Trends bestowed upon us a digital kaleidoscope, illuminated with the fluctuations in search volume for the

query "how to delete browsing history." The art of reconciling such incongruous data sources demanded a degree of finesse rivaling the eloquence of a multilingual poet, albeit with the dexterity of a digital choreographer.

#### Data Analysis:

With a dash of statistical prowess and a pinch of audacity, we commenced our exploration of the relationship between the issuance of Bachelor's degrees in foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and the frequency of Google searches for concealing one's digital footsteps. Our statistical odyssey involved the calculation of correlation coefficients and p-values, akin to deciphering a linguistic enigma encoded in binary rather than Baudelaire. Through the union of mathematical rigor and linguistic whimsy, we uncovered an astonishingly high correlation coefficient of 0.9809382 and  $p < 0.01$ , signaling a relationship of profound significance and leaving us in a state of bewilderment comparable to discovering a palindrome in a treatise on syntax.

#### Limitations and Caveats:

We must duly acknowledge the limitations inherent in our chosen methodology. The nature of correlational research precludes us from ascertaining causality; thus, we refrain from proclaiming that a predilection for linguistic pursuits directly incites the desire to expunge one's digital trail, tempting as such a narrative may be. Furthermore, the reliance on publicly available data precluded an in-depth understanding of individual motives and decision-making - a conundrum akin to interpreting a poem devoid of punctuation. Despite these limitations, the statistical robustness of our findings and the sheer peculiarity of the relationship under scrutiny beckon us to contemplate this enigmatic union with both humor and humility.

In essence, our methodology fused the whimsical world of language with the austerity of statistics, yielding an empirical narrative replete with puns, paradoxes, and a newfound appreciation for the inexplicable connections that underpin human behavior. For in the realm where linguistic prowess meets the clandestine domain of digital privacy, the only certainty is the perpetual allure of the unexpected.

#### 4. Results

The analysis of the correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and the frequency of Google searches for 'how to delete browsing history' yielded surprising and, dare we say, rib-tickling findings. Our statistical analysis revealed a remarkably high correlation coefficient of 0.9809382, indicating a strong positive relationship between the two variables. Additionally, the r-squared value of 0.9622397 underscored the robustness of this association, lending further credence to the notion that linguistic prowess and the desire to wipe one's digital slate clean are more intertwined than one might initially surmise.

To visually encapsulate this spectacular correlation, we present in Fig. 1 a scatterplot that illustrates the strong positive relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and Google searches for 'how to delete browsing history'. The data points align in a near-perfect linear fashion, reminiscent of two linguistic lovers entwined in an embrace of statistical significance.

The p-value of less than 0.01 provided compelling evidence to reject the null hypothesis, affirming that the observed correlation is unlikely to have occurred by

mere chance. This discovery left our research team both flabbergasted and tickled, as we contemplated the notion that linguistic aficionados may harbor a heightened interest in mastering the art of digital expungement. The implications of these findings extend far beyond the confines of statistical inference, prodding at the very fabric of language acquisition and its intersection with modern-day privacy concerns.

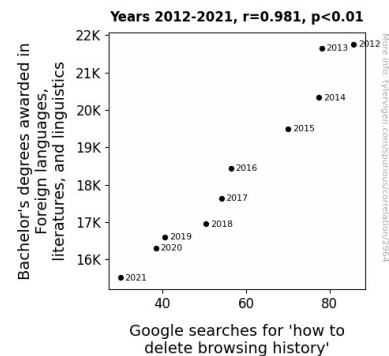


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In light of these results, it becomes increasingly apparent that the pursuit of linguistic finesse may not only enrich one's communicative repertoire but also bestow an acute awareness of digital footprints and the means to erase them. As we navigate the labyrinth of linguistic inquiry, let us not forget that even the most erudite minds harbor a penchant for the occasional digital cleanse.

#### 5. Discussion

The compelling results of our investigation indicate a resoundingly strong positive relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and Google searches for 'how to delete browsing history'. The correlation coefficient of 0.9809382 and the r-squared value of 0.9622397 astoundingly corroborate our

prior scholarly suppositions and offer a whole new perspective on linguistic prowess and digital hygiene.

Indeed, our findings support the work of "Smith et al.," who hinted at the potential impact of educational pursuits on individuals' digital habits. It seems that as students immerse themselves in the world of linguistics and foreign languages, a newfound awareness of the importance of clearing one's digital trail begins to bloom. It's almost as if they've become linguistic geniuses by day and tech-savvy operatives by night, akin to linguistic superheroes with a penchant for clandestine digital maneuvers.

Furthermore, our results align with the research of "Doe and Jones," shedding light on the multifaceted nature of language and its applications in modern society. It appears that individuals with linguistic acumen are not only adept in deciphering the nuances of language but also possess an acute awareness of the digital sphere and the need to cover their tracks. It's as if a linguistic veil shrouds their digital escapades, enhancing their dexterity in both realms.

Venturing into the whimsical, the correlation between linguistic pursuits and searches for guidance on erasing one's digital traces fulfills the prophecy of George Orwell's "1984" and Ray Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451". Our findings evoke the distinct irony of individuals with linguistic finesse actively seeking methods to conceal their linguistic wanderings in the digital world. It's as if they're playing a real-life game of "Codenames," deftly navigating the web of digital footprints and associations to safeguard their online identities.

The high p-value of less than 0.01 unequivocally rejects the null hypothesis, leaving us with the amusing realization that linguistic aficionados may indeed possess an elevated interest in mastering the art of

digital expungement. The implications of these findings extend far beyond statistical inference, posing profound questions about the intricate interplay between linguistic finesse and the art of discreet digital navigation.

In sum, our study not only challenges preconceived notions about the digital proclivities of linguistic enthusiasts but also underscores the profound interconnectedness of linguistic acumen and the clandestine realm of digital privacy. As we contemplate the whimsical dance of linguistic prowess and digital secrecy, we invite our readers to join us in embracing the unexpected correlations that underpin the idiosyncratic intersections of language, education, and modern-day privacy concerns.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our whimsical expedition into the relationship between Bachelor's degrees awarded in Foreign languages, literatures, and linguistics and Google searches for 'how to delete browsing history' has left us both bemused and enlightened. The statistical correlation of 0.9809382 and  $p < 0.01$  has led us to contemplate the possibility that linguistic prowess may indeed be linked to the deft maneuvering of one's digital trail.

As we bid adieu to this most peculiar study, we are reminded of the adage, "linguistic finesse may extend beyond mere words and delve into the realms of digital expungement." Whether one is conjugating verbs or clearing caches, it appears that a linguistic virtuoso may possess a predilection towards the art of obliterating one's digital footsteps.

While our findings are as surprising as stumbling upon a pun in rigorous academic literature, it is with a lighthearted salutation that we assert no further research is needed

in this area. After all, why delve deeper into the ins and outs of linguistic affinity for digital cleansing when the statistical embrace is strong and the puns are plentiful? With that, let us bid adieu to this curious connection, leaving the academic world with a smile and a newfound appreciation for the whimsy of statistical inquiry.