The Grammatical Performativity of Exclamatory Such in Declaratives: A Corpus-Based Study

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Abstract

This study has theoretical and practical sides. Theoretically, it investigates the grammatical performativity of exclamatory such. That is, its significance as a grammatical means in achieving the exclamative illocution or force in declaratives. Practically, this study focuses on the grammatical surroundings in which exclamatory such occurs, i.e., the kinds of nouns it co-occurs with.

The aim of this study is to elaborate on the role which the word such plays in declaratives to perform the illocution or force of exclamation, an illocution or force different from the typical one usually associated with decalartives. The procedures followed here is: theoretically surveying the word such in English syntax focusing on its exclamative identity in declaratives, providing a description of the semantics of exclamation where the researcher tries to give special draw on exclamatory such, giving a pragmatic account on exclamation as a speech act with an attempt to focus on exclamatory such, choosing a corpus from the BNC and Webcorp searching engines, depending on a concordancing or co-occurring program as searching tool to discover the kind of environment exclamatory such is expected to be found in.

The study concludes that the exclamatory such can be a rare word at least in the chosen corpora. Basing on the chosen corpora, another conclusion is that the kind of nouns exclamatory such tends to mostly co-occur with is the singular countable noun.

Keywords: *Grammatical Performativity, Exclamatory, Declaratives*

1. Introduction:

Language is communication. When communicating, speakers share information or messages via linguistic units like sentences, phrases or words. Most of this communication varies from stating situations, asking about situations to requesting a situation to be performed. The pragmatic terms for these communicative functions are statements, questions and orders. Speakers syntactically realize these communicative functions by declaratives, interrogatives and imperatives respectively. Still, not all communication is about statements, questions or orders. As mentioned earlier, language is communication between people and their emotions and feelings will surely emerge to the surface during this process. In this case, they are exclaiming or making exclamations. This is a completely different communicative function.

Exclamation is a term common in pragmatics. It can be defined as "the physical act of producing utterance that expresses an emotion like anger, surprise, pain, etc. (Aarts, 2001:290). By this definition, exclamation is just one type of speech acts, a theory common in pragmatics. To illustrate, when exclaiming, the speaker is uttering his words to express his strong emotions or feelings. That is why, he is said to perform the illocutionary act of exclamation. To perform the illocution of exclamation, the speaker needs to puts his words in a special way. This is the locution side of the exclamation speech act. Locution is a matter of syntax. That is, just like any other speech act, exclamation is associated with a certain clause type

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of a special word order. This clause type is thus called exclamative and it is usually introduced by 'what' or 'how'. See below
- **What** a great time we had yesterday !
- **How** wonderful her dress was !
- **How** gracefully she talks !
 Obviously, the first exclamative clause requires a noun phrase to follow what and then a subject and a verb; while the other two exclamatives require an adjective or adverb to follow how and then a subject and a verb. The three exclamatives can be considered the default or basic clause type if one wishes to exclaim.
 Following Cruse (2006:78), when grammatical means are employed to indicate the illocution or force of a certain speech act, this is known as "grammatical performativity".
 Still, the and how clause types are not the only way to signal exclamation. It is said that other clause types like declaratives, interrogatives and directives can be used to perform the function of exclamations. That is why Langacker (2008:472) claims that "speech acts have different manifestations". To illustrate, it is typically known that speakers use declaratives, interrogatives and directives to respectively fulfill the functions of making statements, asking questions and issuing orders. Thus, one expects to find a perfect match between the form of these clause types and its intended function. Well, sometimes the match is not that perfect. To be specific, declaratives which is concerned with issuing statements can also be employed to express exclamations. Huddleston (1999:337) puts it this way:

What on earth is it ! would be an exclamatory inquiry. Get the hell out of here! an exclamatory directive, but in these cases the exclamatory component of meaning is not grammaticalized into a distinct clause type category as in the how what constructions. With statements, moreover, there are many other ways of conveying exclamatory meaning than by the use of the exclamative clause type – e.g. by prosodic modulation or by means of intensifiers (he was so hungry: he made such a fuss !: It is absolutely delicious): exclamatives thus account for only quite a small proportion of exclamatory statements.

It is the exclamatory use of the intensifier such in declaratives which the researcher concentrates on. Huddlestones (ibid.:337) claims above that the use of such in He made such a fuss is not grammaticalized. That is, it is not possible to consider this construction (the declarative with such) as a default clause type to express exclamation.
 In Support of this, Downing and Locke (2006: 200) also assume that intensifiers including **such** "also confer exclamatory force on a declarative" as in **He is such a bore.**
Thus, the aim here is to explore the grammatical performativity of such, that is, its role in assigning the exclamatory meaning in declaratives where this intensifier is used.
2. The Word Such in Syntax:
 Basically, the word such is not exclamatory. Rather, it is a determiner and specifically it is a post derterminer. According to Quirk et al. (1985: 253,865), determiners modify noun phrases and they are either central determiner like a, an, and the or post derterminer which precedes the central like half, double, such or postmodifier which follows the post derterminer like ordinals, cardinals, many, few. Thus, the sequence of the three types of determiners if they occur together in a noun phrase is post derterminer then central and then post derterminer.
- Here comes **all the five boys**.
As an example of such as a post derterminer, Leech and Svartvick (1994:272) give:
- They had no knowledge of **such** a letter.
Still, it is not necessary to find all the three types of determiners in a noun phrase. The word such could be the only determiner in the noun phrase and in this case it is just a determiner.
- To some degree, **such** differences of definition may be a function of the extension of the tongue.
   Finegan et al. (1999:258)
 Finegan et al. (ibid. :280-281) claim that words like same and other, former and latter, last and next and finally certain and such are not true determiners and it is better to call them "semi-determiners". It is claimed that one reason for this term is that most semi-determiners have a characteristic patterning when co-occurring with other determiners. That is, such for example "differ from other semi-determiners in being used only in indefinite noun phrases". As a result, it co-occurs with the indefinite articles a/an or with zero article.
- **Such** a maxim is usually called a row matrix.

- **Such** functions are not symmetrical.
Swan (1995:568) assumes that such in examples like the two above means "like this/ that" or "of the kind that has just been mentioned".
-The committee is thinking of raising the subscription. I would oppose **such** a decision.
Also, Finegan et al. (ibid. :282) describe such in similar examples as "classifying such" as in :
- We believe, however, that **such** a theory is possible.
Another use of such in indefinite noun phrases is to indicate high degree of a certain quality. Swan (ibid.:569) claims that such here is equivalent to the intensifier very.
- I am sorry you had **such** a bad journey.

Again, Finegan et al. (ibid.:282) call such in this case as "intensifying such". Another completely different use of such is its use as a pro-form. Pro-forms are the items which substitute for another item in the sentence and sometimes they substitute for a whole sentence. Pronouns belong to proforms and they usually replace noun phrases in the sentence (Crystal, 2008:390). As for such, Quirk et al. (ibid. :376) claim that such could be a pronoun substituting for nouns or whole sentence.
- No one in his senses would dream of taking an innocent maiden aunt (if **such** exist) to Seneca's Medea. (if innocent maiden aunts exist)
- If officialdom makes mistakes, officialdom deserves to suffer. **Such**, at least, was Mr. Boyd's opinion. (If officialdom makes mistakes, officialdom deserves to suffer) was Mr. Boyd's opinion
 the first such is a pronoun replacing a noun phrase and the second such replaces a whole sentence.
In addition, Finegan et al. (1999:282) give two more uses of such. The first one is the complex preposition it forms with as:
- There are crystals, of substance **such as** tourmaline, which are sensitive to the polarization of light.
The second one is the complex subordinator such that:
- That a generalization covers a multitude of items, **such that** it is impossible to nab each one, in no way makes the generalization unclear.
Swan (1995: 569-570) provides other structures with such like such....that, such....as to.... and finally such-and-such:
- It was **such** a cold afternoon that we stopped playing.
- It was **such** a loud noise as to wake everybody in the house.
-When you are studying medicine, you learn that **such-and-such** a symptom (=one or other symptom) corresponds to **such-and-such** an illness.

3. Exclamatory Such in Syntax:

 As for exclamatory such, Quirk et al. (1985:1414) consider it as one of the certain means in the domain of grammar to express emotive emphasis. Generally, emphasis means to bring something into attention. It should be noted that achieving emphasis is done in English either phonologically by stress or grammatically by special word order like clefting, fronting and postposing. Still, when the emotions and feelings of the speaker like surprise, joy, regret, annoyance etc. are the subject of the emphasis, emphasis is achieved by different devices. According to Quirk et al. (ibid. :1414-15), these emotions-generating devices include exclamation, interjection, persuasive do in imperatives and intensifiers. Downing and Locke (2006:177) are even more specific in saying that "the exclamative grammaticalises the expression of emotion".

As for exclamatory such, Quirk et al. (ibid. :834-35) ascertain that the exclamative function can be achieved, in addition to the regular what and how, by "the emphatic degree item *such* (as a determiner) ....in statement and question". Of course, this paper is dedicated to exclamatory such in statement. The degree items or intensifiers including such usually are "modifiers of an adjective or adverb and express the degree to which the quality expressed by that item is present" (Trask, 1999:74). Still, intensifiers, including such as a subclass of adverbs, can modify noun phrases (Quirk et al., ibid. :450). Even more specifically, Swan (1995:145) considers such as a modifier of noun phrases "which can emphasize gradable nouns", that is, nouns referring to qualities whose degree can be specified according to a scale and express the speaker's emotions at these qualities.
- You' ve been **such** a help!
- They are **such** idiots!
In addition, Swan (1995:569) claims that, beside emphasizing what the speaker is saying, such can be used to "give new information".

- She has **such** a marvellous voice!

That is, (a marvellous voice) is being introduced as information which is newly added to develop information processing in addition to expressing the speaker strong emotion.

Leech and Svartvik (1994:153) approach exclamatory such in a slightly different way. That is, they call it "emphatic such" and also consider it as a way of achieving emotion emphasis. But, it is assumed that the emotive emphasis given by such is "similar to that of exclamation" and not the same.

- The whole place was **such** a mess!

- I did not know he was **such** a nice man!

As for mood, which is a grammatical category of clauses, Young (1984:79) describes exclamative sentences as "other moods" besides sentences used for greetings and echoes. That is, an exclamative sentence is not considered as "principal" mood together with the indicatives and imperatives. Here, mood is defined as having to do with "expressing the communicative force of the speaker utterance". In the case of exclamations, including such, the communicative force involved is that of expressing strong feelings and emotions.

It should be noted that exclamatory such differs structurally from the typical how exclamatives. That is, while exclamatory such is followed by a noun phrase with a/an or without an article, how can be followed by an adjective or an adverb or a verb.

- **How** lucky you are!

- **How** quickly the time passed!

- **How** we laughed!

Eastwood (1994:24)

- The whole place was **such** a mess!

On the other hand, exclamatory such and what are alike in this structural point.

- **What** a stupid mistake you made!

- **What** a journey we had!

- **What** idiots we've been!

  Eastwood (ibid.)

What is more, Lovinger (2000:338) explains the role of the "exclamation point !" as he calls it. It is assumed that this exclamation point "symbolizes emotions" and "can change the character of a word or a phrase". For example, (How big?) is just questioning but (How big!) is expressing surprise. The same case is with exclamatory such in declaratives. That is, the exclamation mark together with such helps to change the characteristic use of the declarative from making assertions into that of expressing strong emotions.

4. Exclamatory Such in Semantics:

As mentioned earlier, exclamation is about expressing strong feelings and emotions. According to Leech (1974:18), when language is used to reflect "the personal feelings of the speaker, including his attitude to the listener, or his attitude to something he is talking about", the kind of meaning involved here is called "affective meaning". Also, Crystal (2008:299) assumes that when "the relationship between language and the mental state of the speaker" is sought, "the personal, emotional aspects" of meaning are emphasized using terms like "attitudinal / affective/connative/ emotive/ expressive meaning".

In addition, while Lyons (1995:44) is making the distinction between descriptive (or propositional) and non-descriptive (non-propositional) meaning, he comments on what he calls "expressive meaning", giving alternative terms like 'affective', 'attitudinal' and 'emotive'. He considers this expressive meaning as included within non-descriptive kind of meaning. Starting with descriptive meaning, it is related to propositions. Generally speaking, a proposition is a semantic concept. The proposition of a sentence is that sentence basic or simple meaning which remains untouched or unchanged whatever grammatical form or order the sentence may take. To elaborate more, Kearns (2000: 25) claims that "The meaning of a declarative sentence - the kind that can be used to make a statement and can be true or false- is a proposition". That is, when the definition of proposition is sought, the simple declarative sentence is chosen. Typically, a declarative sentence (which is a grammatical sentence type) is called a statement (when viewed from sentence function point of view) and employed to fulfill the sentence function of giving information. With statements, the information concerned is of the describing type. In Lyon's (ibid.) words, these statements are "descriptive statements". Even more, Hurford, Heasley and

Smith (2007: 20) assume that a declarative sentence describes "some state of affairs" like persons or things involved in a certain situation. Like any other information, such information can be verified or be "subject to verification", in kreidler's terms (1998:63), to be sorted out as true or false. This is where the descriptive meaning comes from.

With regards to non-descriptive meaning, Lyons (ibid.) considers it as including "an expressive component" and thus calls it expressive meaning. Expressive meaning is defined as where "the speakers express, rather than describe, their beliefs, attitudes and feelings".

Even more, Löbner (2002: 32-33) calls exclamations of various types as "expressives". Here, it is claimed that the expressive meaning is found in certain expressions[1] as part of their lexical meaning. Two kinds of expressives can be located. The first is "with exclusively expressive meaning" like the exclamations Gosh!, Jesus!, Oh my goodness!. The second is "with both descriptive and expressive meaning. For, the last type, Löbner (ibid.) gives the expression (That hurts!) to express pain. This sentence has the descriptive meaning or the proposition (that hurts) together with the expressive meaning indicating the feelings of being in pain. The researcher thinks that exclamatory such in declaratives can be approached in a similar way as expressives from the second type. Examine:

- You've been **such** a help!

this expression has the descriptive meaning or the proposition (that someone helps somebody). The expressive meaning is that of showing the emotions of gratitude or appreciation. This expressive meaning could be attributed to such as part of its lexical meaning.

Lyons (ibid.:194) claims that excalmatives as (How tall he is!) "are best seen, semantically, as a subclass of expressive declaratives". Statements with exclamatory such can be seen in a rather similar way as an expressive declarative. Still, it is claimed by that the exclamatory meaning in exclamatives with how is grammaticalized and thus can be seen as a distinct clause type. On the other hand, exclamatives with such has no distinct clause type. That is why not every statement with such can function as an exclamation.

[1]Expression is just a general term for words, phrases and sentences.

5. Exclamatory Such in Pragmatics

Yule (2000: 53) lists five general functions performed by speech acts. These are declarations, representatives, expressives, directives and commissives. He claims that expressive speech acts "state what the speaker feels". To be specific, the function of expressing the speaker's feelings like pleasure, pain, joy, sorrow, likes, dislikes etc. is typically fulfilled by exclamations. Downing and Locke (2006:167) describe exclamation, along with statements, questions and directives, as "basic to everyday interaction". Others like Jurafsky (2007:594) describe exclamations as "minor acts". Whether basic or minor, exclamation can be defined as when the speaker is physically producing language to express his emotions like anger, surprise, pain, etc. As mentioned earlier and by virtue of this definition, exclamation is just one type of speech acts. That is, when exclaiming, the speaker is saying something with the purpose of expressing his strong emotions or feelings. In this way, he is performing the illocutionary act of exclamation. To exclaim successfully, the speaker needs to choose the appropriate word order or the appropriate clause type. This is the locution side of the exclamation speech act. That is, just like any other speech act, exclamation is typically related to the exclamative clause type, which is usually introduced by 'what' or 'how'. See below

- **What** a great chance we missed !
- **How** elegant the king was !
- **How** beautifully she sings !

Exclamation via these clause types is an example of a direct speech act. A speech act is direct when its form (clause type) corresponds or matches its function or use. The examples above are direct exclamation acts since the exclamatives with what and how are the main forms the speaker of English typically uses to express exclamation.

Still, performoing exclamations is not always directly realized. As mentioned in the introduction, other clause types like declaratives, interrogatives (What on earth is it!) and directives (Get the hell out of here!) can also be used to perform the function of exclamations. It is typically known that speakers use declaratives, interrogatives and directives to respectively fulfill the functions of making statements, asking questions and issuing orders. Still, that perfect match between the form of these clause types and its intended function can get loose. Just like any other speech act, exclamation can be manifested by a clause type different from the typical exclamatives. To be specific, Huddleston (1999:337) claims that declaratives,

which are concerned with issuing statements, can also be employed to express exclamations with the help of intensifiers. (See p. 3-4)

Even more specifically, Downing and Locke (2006:200) assume that intensifiers including **such** "also confer exclamatory force on a declarative" as in **He is such a bore!**. It is the exclamatory use of the intensifier **such** in declaratives which the researcher concentrates on. Let us take the last example for analysis. Clearly, the sentence is a declarative, that is, the sentence type which is typically realizing the speech act of statements. As a speech act, the sentence is expected to be analysed into locution represented by the sentence type and illocution or force of stating that (somebody is a bore). Here, it is claimed that the presence of the intensifier such endows the declarative with an illocution or force away from its typical one. With such, this declarative is turned into a locution with exclamatory illocution or force as indicated by the exclamation mark. Thus, Saeed (2009:234) assumes that "...even in sentences with the grammatical form of declaratives, not all are used to make statements." He calls these declaratives "declarative speech acts".

Following Griffiths (2006:151), most speech acts have "content: propositions carried by the speech act". Accordingly, the researcher thinks that the above example with the exclamatory such can be analysed as a speech act having the proposition (**somebody is a bore**) with the exclusion of expressing emotions. In addition, Griffiths (ibid.) assumes that a proposition "figures differently according to the force of a range of speech acts". That is, if the force was that of a statement, then the proposition in question would be introduced as (**He is a bore.**). If it was a force of a question, the proposition would be (**Is he a bore?**).

Any declarative with exclamatory such can be viewed as indirect speech act. Downing and Locke (2006:178) define indirect speech acts as "When a clause type has any other but its typical force", then it is an **indirect speech act**. That is, it "counts as" as an act different from its typical correspondence". To illustrate, a declarative usually serves to make a statement. Thus, there is a stereotyped correspondence or relatedness between clause type and speech act, in this case, of the declarative-statement kind. And the speech act in this case is described as direct. Once this correspondence is breached, the speech act will be indirect. Since the declarative with such can be for the purpose of making an exclamation, which is away from the basic function of declaratives (that of stating), the speech act would be indirect.

Also, exclamatory such with declaratives can be explained in the light of primary illocutionary act and the secondary one. Following Mey (1993: 144), it is assumed that indirect speech act can be a "combination of two acts....where the primary act operates through, and in force of, the secondary one". Accordingly, (You've been **such** a help!) is primarily an exclamation and secondarily a statement. In addition, the exclamation operates or functions making use of the statement (declarative with exclamatory such in this case).

Cruse (2006: 60) clarifies that exclamation is showing emotion or attitude to "a presupposed fact". Presupposition is the facts or details that the speaker exchanges with the listener though not explicitly mentioned. That is, these facts are in the mind of the speaker who in his turn assumes them to be in the mind of the listener. This mutuality of information is necessary to ensure understanding and the sharing of this information should be done prior or before uttering the utterance. (See: Griffiths, 2006:83,147)

As for exclamation with exclamatory such, the researcher thinks it is not the exclamative sentence that is the presupposed fact. This is because it is already explained that exclamation is used to express emotions not facts. The facts are the presupposed states or details about which the speaker exclaims. Thus in (He made **such** a fuss!), the presupposed fact is somebody was making a fuss (unnecessary anger or complains) about something. This information is known for both the speaker and the listener. The speaker is just showing his attitude or feelings to this pre-existing fact. Lyons (1995:194) enhances this idea saying that exclamations can be caused by "something the speaker does or the hearer does, but they are about the speaker's experience".

6- The Corpus-based Study:

This research is supposed to be corpus-based in its practical side. A corpus is a body or collection of language data which is accessible to researchers by computers. Corpora can be either written materials or transcribed speech or both. Researchers use corpus to confirm whether a certain hypothesis about language is true or false, i.e., for the purpose of verifying. Being computer-accessed, a corpus can easily provide researchers with fast and extensive searches to discover for example patterns of words in samples varying from written texts, casual conversations, business letters, students writings, sport comments, etc.

To fulfill its purpose, corpora are equipped with searching tools like WordSmith tools, Corpus.byu.edu, Dante, British National Corpus and Webcorp. These search tools themselves are provided with search programmes that help answering the specific search questions. Some search programmes are word frequency, co-occurrence of words, distribution of words and collocation. (See: Wray and Bloomer 2012:205 and Crystal, 2008: 117)

Regarding this study corpus, it consists of written and spoken materials of different genres. Actually, it falls into two parts taken from two searching tools: the British National Corpus and (hence BNC) and the Webcorp. The BNC was visited in 31/7/2019 and the Webcop was taken in 2/8/2019. The links for the corpora will be provided in the references. Following Wray and Bloomer (ibid. : 210-211), the World Wide Web is a huge source for corpora even for examples of rare words, but still it has some limitations. One such limitation is repetition of the material. Thus, the researcher has chosen both BNC and Webcorp to get examples of exclamatory such. To avoid the repetition of exclamatory such examples and other types of such, the researcher has to extract the examples of exclamatory such page by page. As for the BNC, the researcher has entered such as a key word and the results were (2,781) occurrences of this word. According to the design of BNC, these results are organized into four samples: 100, 200, 500 and 1000. Each sample consists of 28 pages. Thus, the researcher tries to extract only the examples with exclamatory such .The case is somehow the same for the Webcorp, that is, the word such has been entered as a query word in this search tool and the results were 2,361 occurrences. Again, the researcher extracts exclamatory such examples line by line. (See the appendices)

In choosing the two corpora, the researcher hopes that the chances for verifying the hypothesis of the research will be increasing and more examples of the word such, which is a rare word as it will be evident later in the results, will be obtained.

The research tries to seek verifying whether exclamatory such mostly co-occur with singular countable nouns, plural nouns or uncountable ones. According to Wray and Bloomer (2012:206), for doing any search, one needs a search programme. Since the study is trying to find the sort of nouns which co-occur in the environment following exclamatory such, the best search programme needed here is a concordance programme to account for the environment (the words co-occurring with) of the word in question. As search engines, the BNC and Webcorp provide the concordance or co-occurrence search for the word such. This word will be printed in a different color from its surrounding words.

7-Results Discussion

Theoretically speaking, some conclusions can be obtained. The researcher thinks that exclamatory such in declaratives can have both descriptive and expressive meanings. Also, declaratives with exclamatory such can be considered as indirect speech act. In addition, it is thought that declaratives with exclamatory such can be primarily an exclamation and secondarily a statement. Since exclamatives is about expressing emotions, declaratives with exclamatory such cannot be considered as presupposed facts. The facts are the presupposed states or details about which the speaker exclaims.

Practically, the concordance search reveals that exclamatory such is a rare word (at least in the chosen corpora). This is because out of the 2,781 occurrences of the word such in the BNC, only 83 occurrences of the word such are of the exclamatory type. Similarly, out of 2,361 occurrences of the word such in the Wepcorp corpus, only 63 occurrences of this word are exclamatory in type. Regarding the type of nouns co-occurring in the environment of exclamatory such, singular countable nouns are the nouns mostly occurring together with exclamatory such. That is, out of the 146 total occurrences of exclamatory such in both corpora, singular countable nouns make 117 co-occurences following exclamatory such; while Plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns make 18 and 11 oc-occurences respectively after exclamatory such. The results can be summarized in the following table:

Table (7-1)

The occurrences of exclamatory such in BNC and Wecorp corpora with the three types of nouns.

Corpus Type	Singular countable nouns	Plural countable nouns	non-countable nouns
BNC	74 occurrences	5 occurrences	4 occurrences
Webcorp	43 occurrences	13 occurrences	7 occurrences
Total	117	18	11

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Appendices

Appendix A: BNC corpus

Sample 100

Page 1

1-I feel **such** a natural!

Page 9

2-He was **such** a pompous pig anyway!

Page 11

3-Lord MacIntosh   I'm sure wouldn't do **such** a dastardly thing like that!

4-Well they made **such** a mess of this ring!

5-I always felt **such** a fool, you know!

6-he can not believe (pause) they've never met tha-- **such** a penny pinching guy (SP:PS04Y) Mm. (SP:PS04U) in all our life!

Page 13

7-Oh God it's ever **such** a high waist! Isn't it? 13

8- It is **such** a good machine that!

9-One little nervous cat, it's **such** a nuisance to me (unclear)!

Page14

10- I only did it cos it was **such** a long number to put in all the (SP:PS0E2) Mm. (SP:PS0DX) time! I did

11-So, the thing is you shouldn't be **such** a good cook Graeme!

12-I say well (pause) shouldn't be **such** a good cook!

13-she's **such** a swot it's unbelievable!

14-Because (pause) we're both **such** weak willed people, honestly! (

15-Right, cos she's **such** a selfish conservative bitch (unclear)! (

16-Because you're **such** an interesting person!

17- Yes I know, but it's **such** a long way to get up there!

18-Oh, he's **such** a waster, he's unbelievable!

Page 15

19-she really does think she's above everybody (pause) ever **such** a funny woman!

20-It was in **such** a state!

21-he's **such** a queer bloke and all!

22-he said she is in **such** a muddle and it wants such a lot doing to it!

23-And just have the other one cos they're **such** a peculiar funny firm they are!

24-he said I've never known **such** catty (unclear) in all my life!

25-That's surprising he don't have **such** a bad head!

26-He's **such** a devious little tyke!

27-She said don't tell **such** bloody lies, I said he's going in caravan!

28-I said I've (SP:PS0FP) **such** a puny sickly looking thing!

29-**Such** a lot of trouble!

30-he said (pause) he is **such** a character!

31-Oh Phillip don't be **such** a swine! (SP:PS0GK)

32-**Such** a shame!

Page 16

33-Well, it's **such** a bloody palaver!

34-it's **such** long days this is the trouble!

35-I've run out of **such** a good dog food again!

36-Not **such** a good idea!

37-Oh, it's **such** a bloody fuss!

38-Well they're **such** pigs aren't they!

39-And now there's su--, there's **such** a gap a blooming draft comes in (SP:PS0JT) Hello!

40- You're **such** a pain!

41-And he's travelling along the road and the next thing there's **such** a bang and it wouldn't go any further!

42-they made **such** a (pause) palaver!

43-I bet that's **such** fun! (

44-though (pause) (laughing) everyone got in **such** mess!

Page 17

45-it was **such** a shock to him!

46-It's my last weekend (pause) but it was **such** a scramble!

47-had ever **such** a job getting them!

48-Oh you're **such** a bitch!

49-There was **such** a heavy frost!

50-Last time we were over here and when it came down it (pause) ever **such** a big thing!

51-Ever **such** a big (pause) thing, (unclear) or whatever you call it!

52-Oh I've never heard **such** a load of bloody rubbish in my life!

Page 18

53-Marion! Don't be **such** a nerdo!

54-She's **such** a friend!

55-Shall I ring up and say look John I've got **such** a problem!

56- Oh that that is **such** crap!

57-then two hours later he said he was in, in **such** great pain!

58-Daniel you're **such** a (pause) cunt!

59-He's **such** a flipping bastard! I

60-You're **such** a div!

61-**Such** a pervert!

62- He's alright to talk to but he's **such** a little pervert!

63- Yeah, she was **such** a soppy little cow!

64- She's just **such** a nice person!

65- He's **such** a girl!

Page 19

66-I mean s) **Such** a tosser! (SP:PS57V) (singing) (unclear).

67-What? he's **such** a shit actress!

68- God Jo, you're **such** a fool!

69-Well she's su-- **such** a scaredy cat!

70-That's why you got **such** a big head! (SP:PS6RG) What bigger or smaller?

71-But didn't it go on for **such** a long time! (SP:PS6TE) Yeah.

72-And I did use it once and I got in **such** a temper! (SP:PS6TD) Yeah.

73-Oh God! It's, he is **such** an awful actor!

74-I keep them it's **such** a waste!

75-**Such** a thing to do!

Sample 200

Page 12

76-They come also from (pause) orgasmic enters or whatever (pause) **such** programmes there are go around these days, (unclear)!

77- she said he makes **such** a funny noise!

Page 19

78- She was **such** a bitch

79- he's **such** a party (unclear) isn't he?

Sample 500

Page 13

80-I think it is (pause) and we're gon na get **such** a bomb!

Page 17

81-Ever **such** a big (pause) thing, (unclear) or whatever you call it!

Page 18

82-He's **such** a div, I hate him!

Sample 1000

Page 12

83-Mm, the thing is the guy that used to live here was **such** a bloody prat!

Appendix b: Webcorp corpus

1- (44:   what a shame to take him through the streets in **such** a helpless condition!

2- (129: politics, and gardening. I've never heard of **such** a thing! Pronoun It is a serious

3- (151:   on Twitter Resources for **such** Time Traveler! Explore the year a word first

4- (214:   there is an adjective before the noun: They're **such** snobs! They won't speak to

5- (217: phrase with the indefinite article a/an: This is **such** a wonderful kitchen! Not: We use

6- (232:   a long way to drive for just one day. You're **such** an idiot!

7- (342:di questo genere loc avv I have never seen **such** an amazing cake! Non ho mai visto

8- (349:   agg Take money from your purse? I never did any **such** thing! Prendere soldi dalla 9- (399: don't be **such** a pest!

10- (596:   that → dio lugar a tantos disgustos que ... **such** an honour! → ¡tanto honor!

11-(685 er machte es so, dass …; **such** wealth! → welch (ein) Reichtum!;12- **such** beauty!

13- (766:   emphasis. This is **such** a shock! They have been 14-**such** good friends to me! 15- (847: is often used in exclamations. Examples: Don has **such** a big house! I think it's a

16- (848: I think it's a little ridiculous. Shelly has **such** beautiful eyes! I have never seen that 17- (856:   is often used in exclamations. Examples: He is **such** an idiot!

18- 9857:   He says the stupidest things. She is **such** a genius! We could never do this work

19- (975:   see How and What Expressions. (What a disaster! **Such** a disaster!)

20- (981: sorganization. (adjective + noncount noun) It was **such** a sight! (adj + a + count

21- (1036: is great in degree, quality, or number I've been **such** a fool! [=I've been very

22- (1054:   prevents misunderstanding] I've never heard of **such** a thing! "You will apologize
23- (1055: thing! "You will apologize at once!" "I'll do no **such** thing!" [=I will not apologize]
24- (1081: We had **such** a good time [=a very good time] at the party!

25- (1085:   **such** a nice/ 26-beautiful day! I don't think that's

27- (1088:   I have never seen **such** a large cat!

28- (1385:   He is handsome, but I've never met anyone with **such** moods! "I don't b'lieve 29- (1386: "I don't b'lieve Eureka would do **such** a dreadful thing!" cried Dorothy, much

30- (1413: as Google exist to solve this problem. He has **such** a kind heart! A comfortable
31- (1418:   kindness aforethought go about doing good. At **such** a moment! Being able to
32- (1661: her voice. He says Count Orlov never gave **such** a dinner as ours will be!

33- (1663: said he. But one cannot delay, Prince, at **such** a moment!.. But I just wish to

34-(1681: Fancy, with his powerful mind, indulging in **such** nonsense! Michael Ivanovich did
35- (1691 a subordinate by me. Bring him a bottle for **such** news! Oh, my dear fellow, we're 36- (1701:   their muskets and run. I don't know where... **such** bad luck! He was always

37- (1704: and intelligent. For so young a girl, , **such** masterly perfection of manner! She

38- (1713: How happy I am now, and how happy I may be with **such** a friend and 39- such a husband! She felt that Sonya

40- (1716: I am, not to have written and to have given them **such** a fright! Is it worth thinking

41- (1723:   defeat these hirelings of England, inspired by **such** hatred of our nation!
42- (1727: friend that I burned my arm for her sake. We are **such** friends, such friends!
43- (1730:   How little we dreamed of **such** a thing when we were rejoicing at his happiness!
44- (1731: when we were rejoicing at his happiness! And **such** a lofty angelic soul as young
45- (1740: sons of the fatherland out there as he. He is **such** a lofty, heavenly soul!
46- (1741:   If I found **such** a one I'd give my life for her! And believe me

47- (1754: it is only the cabinet that says it. Ah, she is **such** an unfortunate and charming woman! There are

48- (1786:   bodice, settled herself beside him. Especially **such** a capital fellow as Bezukhov!

49- (1810:   count's house than at home. How could she say **such** a thing! He ceased

50- (1816: to reply that: 'We in France pay no attention to **such** trifles!' There was no need to

51- (1827: She could not do **such** a thing! I had heard that it happens like this,

52- (1829: Remember no one ought to interfere in **such** matters! To tell Marya Dmitrievna

53- (1858:   should make peace after all our sacrifices and **such** insane retreats! Tell me, for

54- (1870:   dear fellow," said he, "into the fire with all **such** things! You know, Count,

55- (1898: And it's **such** a beauty! Natasha was in a state of rapturous

56- (1923: spirits that this merely amused him. "I rescued **such** a lot of them!" said Nicholas.

57- (1938:   one capture a commander-in-chief from among **such** a mass of troops!

58- (1958: added inquiringly. "Really!" he cried, "you are **such** a hero!

59- (1980: Fancy bothering about **such** trifles now! You don't meet

60-(1984: stacked before anyone else had his harvest in. "**Such** an insolent scoundrel!" he

61- (1985: at the mere recollection of him. You always have **such** strange fancies! After the

62- (1991:   but was part of himself. But he is impossible: **such** a child!

63- (2226: They've brought things to **such** a pass that there are no carts or anything!...

Note: in the Webcorp corpus examples, the first numbers is the numbering of the researcher while second numbering is that of the corpus design.