## Contents

Chapter		Page
I	Historical introduction	r
2	General problems	11
	Criteria	13
	The course of an investigation	15
	Some definitions and conventions	17
3	Some statistical problems	21
	Linear and proportional scales	22
	Frequency distributions	26
	Number and size of samples	29
	Consecutive and non-consecutive sampling	32
	Diversity: a measure of richness of vocabulary	32
	The zero term: unrepresented groups	33
	Some definitions	33
4	Word-length and sentence-length	36
	Distribution of word-length in different parts of speech	41
	Available vocabulary and word-length	48
	Nouns in John Bunyan's Lite and Death of Mr Badman	52
	The frequency distribution of lengths of sentences	52
	Dialogue and descriptive writing	60
	The effect of rhythm on sentence-length	61
	D. 11 of markedowy	64
5	Problems of vocabulary Vocabulary, usage and parts of speech	68
	Consecutive and non-consecutive sampling	72
	Pattern of the frequency of usage of different words	76
	Nouns in Bunyan's Life and Death of Mr Badman	83
	Distribution of nouns in Macaulay's essay on Francis Bacon	84
	Rate of increase of vocabulary with increase of sample size	90

## CONTENTS

Chapter		Page
	The measurement of diversity	96
•	Simpson's Index of Diversity	96
	Yule's "Characteristic"	97
7	Verse, rhyme and rhythm	105
	Line and punctuation rhythm in different types of Shakespearean	TO 7
	plays	107
	Yardi's Discriminant Function	113 116
	Rhythm in Latin and English hexameter verse Differences in the proportions of different rhythm sequences in	117
	different writers	11/
	Ranking order in frequency of selection of different rhythmic	120
	patterns English hexameters—Longfellow's "Evangeline"	121
8	Miscellaneous problems and examples  Different approaches to De Imitatione Christi Function words and The Federalist Papers	125 125 132
	The use of $\kappa \alpha i$ in the Greek Epistles attributed to St Paul	133
	Comparison of vocabulary and usage in normal and in Basic	
	English	135
	Comparison of different languages	136
	Rare and abundant words	139
	Relative frequency of nouns and adjectives	143
	Frequency distribution of English nouns according to their initial	
	letter	144
	Greek texts of Gospels relative to size of papyrus sheets	145
9	Comments, summary, and conclusions	147
References		153
Index		159