**Obese vs. Portly**

**CorpusMate**

The words obese and portly are both synonyms of the word *fat*. What is the difference between them?

Study this difference using a corpus.

1. Go to CorpusMate – a tool developed specifically for English learners by Peter Crosthwaite: <https://corpusmate.com/>
2. In the search box type ‘obese/portly’. The query means you will be comparing the use of these two words. Click the *Search* button.
3. Study the results. You can change between the sentence and KWIC display. Can you see the difference between the two words?
4. Let’s compare the results. Click the *Compare results* tab. What difference do you see?
5. Let’s refine the comparisons. Search for each word individually. Put the word ‘obese’ in the search box at the top of the screen. Click on the Distribution tab and Study the information on the page. Do the same for the word ‘portly’. Can you see the difference between the words?