

**Thomas Herbst, Gunter Lorenz, Brigitta Mittmann and Martin Schnell (Editors).** *Lexikografie, ihre Basis- und Nachbarwissenschaften. (Englische) Wörterbücher zwischen ‚common sense‘ und angewandter Theorie.* 2004, VI + 207 pp. ISBN 3-484-39118-9. *Lexicographica*. Series Maior 118. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer. Price: €72.

The main aim of this volume, a collection of contributions by different authors, is to illustrate that dictionary making draws on other disciplines, and that lexicographical practice, in its turn, can feed neighbouring disciplines. The authors assert that linguistics is the basic discipline underlying lexicography, but the practice of dictionary making can, vice versa, expose problems of language analysis and especially crucial features of language, which should be taken into consideration in language theory. Often, lexicographical practice is characterized by devising ad hoc solutions to such problems that might positively influence the stringent and consistent approach in theoretical studies. In this sense, the relation between lexicography and linguistics should be seen as a mutual one, with possibilities of cross-fertilization in both ways. The authors want to show which trends in theoretical linguistics could be, or have already been, reflected in the compilation of dictionaries. They also want to demonstrate that many branches of linguistics, from semantics, via phraseology to syntax, can be enriched by lexicographical description and problems of lexicographical description. According to the introduction of the volume, the subtitle, "between 'common sense' and applied theory", especially characterizes the nature of lexicography practised in a meaningful way on the one hand, and on the other aptly refers to lexicographers themselves in their daily task.

This volume consists of contributions made at a colloquium in 2002 at the University of Augsburg, Germany, on the occasion of the sixtieth birthday of Prof. Dr Dieter Götz. Prof. Götz himself, according to the introduction to the volume, always succeeded in combining insights from and developments in linguistic theory with the practice of lexicography — with the necessary 'common sense'. Therefore, the theme of this volume was considered suitable for honouring him on this important occasion, and for acknowledging his influence on his students and colleagues.

The scant reference to Hausmann's distinction between metalexicography and other types of lexicography, and the claim that metalexicographical dealing with dictionaries should primarily be seen as a branch of applied linguistics, does not really do justice to Wiegand's (1998) detailed and scholarly exposition of the nature of lexicography, metalexicography and their relationship with other linguistic disciplines. This volume, however, makes easy reading — especially in comparison with other publications in the *Lexicographica* Series Maior. The issues dealt with will be of interest to all students in lexicography, to practising lexicographers, as well as to linguists.

Although all the contributions are written in German, except the one by

Jehle which is in English, the German is not as technical as is usual in German publications, and the intricate constructions so characteristic of German academic writing are absent here. Since the contributions focus on, among others, examples from English dictionaries (such as OALD6, LDOCE3, COBUILD3 and CIDE), this volume will be useful to English-speaking readers, even though their reading abilities of academic German might not be on a very high level.

The volume contains contributions on several aspects of lexicography, including a historical look at the role of the dictionary in the teaching of a foreign language (Schröder), and the place and features of dictionaries within the new media landscape (Schäffler). Within the scope of semantics, it looks at the application possibilities for the "scenes-and-frames" theory (Bublitz and Bednarek) and prototype semantics (Jehle) as well as the effect of different cultural approaches to linguistic description on dictionaries from these cultures (Rothe), and the possibilities for the description of meanings (Wellmann). Other contributions focus on stylistic issues (Kamm), the corpus-based analysis of *time* (Lenk) and prefabricated units in spoken language (Mittmann). Aspects of bilingual lexicography and contrastive linguistics are investigated with a view to the description of idioms (Lorenz) and special-field languages (Schnell). Descriptive problems encountered in English and their treatment in dictionaries are dealt with when looking at formation compounds (Burgschmidt) and at valency (Herbst).

In his contribution "Zur Rolle des Wörterbuchs in der Fremdsprachendidaktik der frühen Neuzeit", Konrad Schröder gives an overview of the multilingual situation in Europe from 1500–1800, where aristocrats as well as the middle classes had to speak many languages in their daily lives. Thousands of reference works and learning materials resulted during this period, such as conversation books, grammars, lexicons, and pronunciation guides. About 20% of these publications focus on several languages at the same time, some including as many as eleven languages. Lexicons and vocabularies constitute roundabout 40% of the corpus under discussion, followed by grammars and conversation books. The borders between the genres are, however, vague. Up to the present, mainly works dealing with the lexicon have been investigated; nevertheless, conversation books and grammars will also have useful information and insights for linguists.

Schröder discusses the factors which motivated the creation of lexicography during the period 1500–1800. These were, on the one hand, of a political nature, in order to promote the particular language in an international forum, and, on the other hand, of a practical kind in order to facilitate communication during trade and business encounters. The publications functioned as normative guidelines, especially to enhance the receptive competence of their users — understanding and reading — in a comparative approach. Idioms, phrases, and discourses were included, to help the user to read and understand literary texts in the foreign language. Syntactic information was obtained in the stride.

Hildegard Schäffler's contribution "Wörterbücher und Medienwandel aus bibliothekarischer Sicht" deals with modern media from the point of view of the librarian, and the role of dictionaries in the library. Since so many publications, including dictionaries, have become available in electronic format, she claims there has been a shift in use. One of the implications is that users have to be trained for successful consultation of these electronic publications. Nevertheless, Schäffler concludes that the electronic versions are much more user-friendly than the printed versions.

She continues with a discussion of the content and range of the OED Online (2001–), based on that which was already available as CD-ROM in 1992, and as printed version in 1989 (second edition), but also containing several additions from the years 1993–1997, as well as updates made every three months. The main advantage of this online version is that it enables regular updates from which the user largely benefits, obviating the consultation of the older, stagnant printed version. The original entries are still present, and are linked to the revised versions, which are provided with the dates on which they were added. This possibility of hyper-linking naturally has advantages over the linear approach of printed versions.

The online entry contains all the information of the printed version, but a date chart, which presents the sources in chronological order is added. Techniques of presentation not possible in a linear publication are used, such as hyper-linking between entries, and cross-references to etymology or sources. In addition, certain information can be faded out, better to highlight others. Each entry also has a so-called "entry map", which displays the structure of all the information for that particular entry. There is also an alphabetical list of entries on the left-hand side of the screen, by means of which the entries directly preceding and following the entry can be accessed.

The possibilities for retrieval of information in the online version are different from those in the printed version. Apart from a simple search, an advanced search, combining search questions by applying logic operators can be performed. Schäffler illustrates this with the example of searching for citations from Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park*.

She mentions two possibilities which have, up to now, not been included in the electronic version of the OED Online. These are hyper-linking to other Oxford dictionaries or linking to a corpus or even publications of competing publishers. (Incidentally, according to a footnote on page 25, COBUILD CD-ROM (2001) does have extracts from the Bank of English corpus.) Schäffler also feels that the OED Online could do more to visually present different levels of information with the technique of fading out or in. For example, encyclopedic information or word-field analyses could be presented in such a way that they can be faded in when needed, and afterwards faded out again.

The rest of her contribution deals with the licensing of online products, the types of licenses and the conditions for licenses.

In their contribution "Nur in begrenzten Rahmen: *Frames* im Wörterbuch", Wolfram Bublitz and Monika Bednarek focus on the use of frames in dictionaries. The concept of frames, which was developed by Minsky, Fillmore and others, is undoubtedly useful in semantic-pragmatic and text-analytical language description, even though it may be one of the concepts in cognitive linguistics which perhaps exhibits the highest degree of fuzziness. The authors deal with the question whether frames can be used to convey potentially context-dependent meanings in dictionary entries, in accordance with the belief in corpus linguistics that meaning cannot be separated from use.

After a critical discussion of the earlier contributions by Wierzbicka and Fillmore within the field of semantics, Bublitz and Bednarek look at the possibilities for using frames in an online dictionary or databank, by means of which a user may consult the databank in a basic or advanced search. Because frames can be linked, it becomes possible for a word (in this case, the word *blunt* used as illustration by them) to appear not only as an alphabetically ordered lemma, but also as a component of one or more frames which can be accessed in different ways. An electronic dictionary conceptualized in this way will differ drastically from a conventional, printed dictionary. Whereas the usefulness of frame-semantics is doubtful for traditional lexicography, it can certainly enhance electronic dictionaries.

In his article "Prototype Semantics and Learners' Dictionaries of English", Günter Jehle compares the semantic descriptions of the verbs *scurry*, *scuttle* and *hurtle* in OALD6, LDOCE3, COBUILD3, and CIDE. His analysis shows that OALD6, LDOCE3 and CIDE use the so-called Aristotelian definition or feature semantics approach. COBUILD3, however, employs complete sentences "which highlight the syntactic as well as the semantic valencies of the lexical item to be defined" (Herbst et al. 2004: 58). According to Jehle, COBUILD3 combines feature semantics and prototype theory, and therefore helps the foreign user to "come to terms with peripheral category members" (Herbst et al. 2004: 58), because it gives excellent guidance about the semantic restrictions applying to verbs in certain contexts.

Jehle proposes that dictionaries should follow a prototypical approach, because this corresponds to the way native learners learn their mother tongue. They link the visual, extralinguistic impressions in reality to the corresponding phonological form of the linguistic sign. Therefore, he continues, the dictionary of the future, which implies that it will be electronic or online should also provide illustrations such as video clips and animations to help foreign language learners to link the linguistic information to the extra-linguistic phenomenon at hand. Each lemma should have a short entry, but should be accompanied by a longer, more detailed entry containing information on the grammar, semantics, semantic prosody, collocation, colligation, as well as examples and video clips or animations.

Ulrike Rothe has done previous work on the influence of cultural aspects and linguistic trends within specific cultures on the content and nature of dictionaries (Rothe 2001). In her contribution to this volume, "Das einsprachige Wörterbuch als Produkt von ‚Kultur‘: Lexikographische Definitionen und Artikelbaupläne im Licht semantischer Theorien", she investigates the same issues, namely, whether lexicographical definitions and the structures of dictionary articles are influenced by specific semantic theories in the countries where the dictionaries originate. In other words, she poses the question whether the methods used in lexicography are determined by cultural factors. If this is the case, she argues, then dictionaries from one specific country should be conceptualized in the same way, showing common features, and it should be possible to distinguish them from those compiled in other countries.

In French linguistics, structural semantics were very influential during the 1960s. In the Anglo-American world, however, prototype semantics was popular in the 1980s. In view of this, Rothe investigates lexicographical definitions in several English and French dictionaries, only to come to the conclusion that the French dictionaries indeed draw on structural semantics, and the English ones on prototype semantics. She warns, however, against the claim that there is a direct link between the linguistic model of meaning and the techniques of writing lexicographical definitions.

In addition, the structures of French dictionary articles differ from English ones, showing French articles to have more hierarchical levels of description than English ones (which usually have only two levels). This can, once again, be attributed to the viewpoints of structural semantics and prototype semantics respectively.

The next contribution, that by Hans Wellmann, "Der Definitionswortschatz des einsprachigen Wörterbuchs", investigates the vocabulary used in definitions of monolingual dictionaries, in this case German dictionaries for advanced foreign learners. Wellmann asserts that learners' dictionaries should be simple, clear, understandable and applicable. Users should be able to find the looked-for information quickly. Cross-references often cause them to give up their search.

There are several interesting differences between the vocabulary used to describe lemmas in German and English learners' dictionaries. These can be attributed to structural differences between the two languages. For example, stylistic labels differ: some words which are regarded as "colloquial" in German, such as *Ding*, *Objekt*, *brechen*, and *tun*, are part of standard speech in English, namely, *thing*, *object*, *break*, and *do*. In selecting vocabulary to define lemmas, however, it is necessary to use "ordinary language", which might include the basic words normally learnt by foreign learners right at the beginning of their language studies, and which can also be easily understood. Internationalisms (e.g. "Telefon" instead of "Fernsprecher") should also be included, because it increases the chances that users will understand them.

Another distinguishing characteristic of German vocabulary is the tendency to form compounds. These may cause problems when used in descriptions, especially with changes in meaning occurring when the meanings of the separate constituents of the compound are no longer transparent.

In her article "Stilistische Angaben in einsprachigen Lernerwörterbüchern des Englischen: Fortschritte, Probleme, Grenzen", Heike Kamm investigates stylistic items in several monolingual English learners' dictionaries, and compares the labelling systems used in the OALD5, CIDE, COBUILD2 and LDOCE3.1. Especially with regard to special-field labels, and labels indicating regional variety, differences occur among the dictionaries. Kamm makes out a case for including the stylistic information in the definition of the meaning, because she believes that users may not always take the time to consult the introduction of the dictionary, where the labelling system is explained. In addition, assumptions should not be made about any previous theoretical-linguistic knowledge of users.

In Uta Lenk's contribution, "Korpuslinguistik und Lexikographie am Beispiel eines hochfrequenten Lexems", corpus linguistics and lexicography are scrutinized on the basis of the frequent lexeme *time*. Certain so-called "stabilized expressions" containing the lexeme *time* are analyzed, such as *from time to time*, *at the same time*, and *take your time*, and their function as semantic prosodies. Lenk proves that stabilized expressions have not been studied in detail, even in the era of corpus linguistics.

In her contribution "Pragmatik und Wörterbücher: *prefabs* und gesprochene Sprache", Brigitta Mittmann discusses so-called "prefabs (prefabricated expressions)" such as *You're welcome* in spoken language, and their treatment in dictionaries. Once again, the examples she analyzes are from English dictionaries such as OALD6, LDOCE3, COBUILD3, and CIDE. According to Mittmann, one interesting aspect of spoken language, namely intonation, is not reflected in any of the four dictionaries she investigated. For example, falling or rising tones may have an effect on the meaning of spoken phrases, such as *There you are*: in the case where it means "So, I've found you!", a falling tone will be heard on the component *there*, in the case where it means "This is for you", a fall-rise will be heard, and in the case where it means "That supports or proves what I've said", a falling tone on *are* will be heard. The question remains whether dictionaries, which ought to focus on the needs of language learners, are the most suitable means to convey such detailed descriptions of spoken language. She refers to Moon (1998), who proposes a completely new concept for a dictionary of spoken language, with a completely different structure and special consideration for phraseological-collocational and pragmatic aspects, as well as new models for the description of different viewpoints. Summers (1999), according to Mittmann, also argues that spoken language has in the past few years been part of the examinations for foreign learners, which implies that there should be dictionaries dealing with typical features of spoken language.

Mittmann suggests that the spoken demographic part of the British National Corpus or the Longman Spoken American Corpus could serve as basis for such a type of dictionary. Of specific use would be information on the frequency of prefab clusters, for, at the moment, LDOCE3 and COBUILD2 only give information on the frequency of single words. Supplying such information would be very difficult, however, because expressions such as *That's that* could stand on its own, but could also form part of *That's that man over there*. But, providing this type of information could also be useful for research on phraseology and in psycholinguistics.

Indications of word stress, descriptions of the situational frame within which expressions can be used, and the question whether the suggested dictionary should be ordered alphabetically or onomasiologically are some of the issues discussed by Mittmann.

In his contribution "*Gilding the Lily? Überlegungen zur zweisprachigen Idiom-Lexikographie*", Gunter Lorenz investigates the treatment of idioms in bilingual lexicography. From a lexicographical point of view, idioms are difficult to lemmatize. For example, it is not clear under which headwords the individual components of the idiom *to cut a long story short* should be placed in the alphabetical order of the dictionary. Variants such as *to make a long story short* complicate matters even more. It has to be decided whether the target group will be native speakers or foreign learners, whether a general dictionary or a special dictionary will be compiled, and whether it will be a monolingual or bilingual dictionary. Of course, when idioms are considered from a contrastive perspective, there are many "idiomatic voids", where one language has an idiom which is not present in another language. There are also so-called "false friends", "near-misses" and "almost-congruences", which complicate the bilingual treatment of idioms.

Martin Schnell's contribution, "*Zum Problem der Äquivalenz in zweisprachigen juristischen Fachwörterbüchern Englisch-Deutsch/Deutsch-Englisch*", which deals with bilingual (i.e. German-English) special-field dictionaries of law, connects with Lorenz's argument, because he too illustrates this situation of incongruence. For example, the German *Notar* and the English *notary* have different meanings within the judicial systems of the two countries. Therefore, lexicographers have to make use of options to describe partial equivalence relations. They could even, in cases where equivalents do not exist, work with so-called "pseudo-terms", which are basically neologisms. Taken for granted is the fact that lexicographers have to provide glosses in which more detailed information can be given. In electronic publishing, this will be increasingly possible, because limitations of space will in future be less problematic.

The last two contributions by Ernst Burgschmidt and Thomas Herbst deal with the way word-formation theory and valency theory respectively are reflected in lexicography. In his article "*Theorie der Wortbildung und ihr Reflex im Wörterbuch*", Burgschmidt illustrates his discussion by means of typical

types of word formation in English, compared to that in German. Herbst's article, "Valenzlexikografie und Valenztheorie — Grenzen der Beschreibbarkeit eines sprachlichen Phänomens", analyzes several examples from dictionaries such as the *Valency Dictionary of English*, which was still forthcoming at the time of publication of this volume.

In spite of certain terminological problems — e.g. Rothe and Wellmann both use the term *definition* in a sense rejected by Wiegand, who feels that it should only be employed with reference to scientific terms — this volume will be informative to several user groups, and it is therefore strongly recommended.

### Dictionaries

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- LDOCE3 = Gadsby, Adam et al. (Eds.). 2001<sup>3</sup>. *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*. Harlow: Pearson Education.
- LDOCE3.1 = Summers, D. (Ed.). 1995<sup>3.1</sup>. *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*. Harlow: Longman.
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### Corpora

- British National Corpus <<http://info.ox.ac.uk/bnc/>>
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