



Modern Trends in Lexicography

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The contemporary period in the development of the lexicography of the English language can be called "scientific or historical", since it is based on the following concepts:

- 1) compilation of dictionaries according to the historical principle;
- 2) replacing the prescriptive or normative principle of compiling dictionaries with a systemic descriptive approach;
- 3) description of vocabulary as a system [1].

The first scientific dictionary was Roger's Thesaurus, but the pearl of English lexicography that best embodied these concepts is the Oxford English Dictionary, the largest lexicographic project of the 19th and 20th centuries. Roger's thesaurus belongs to a special group of dictionaries - ideographic. In thesaurus dictionaries, vocabulary is organized according to a thematic principle. Roger began his work by dividing the conceptual field of the English language into four large classes: abstract relations, space, matter and spirit (mind, will, feelings). These classes are further subdivided into several genera, which, in turn, are subdivided into a certain number of species. Each species includes numbered groups. These groups are designated by words with a sufficiently broad semantics, which makes it possible to combine under them a number of words that are close in meaning [2].

However, soon after the publication of the dictionary, it became clear that it is very difficult to use it. Practice required a reasonable synthesis of the ideographic and alphabetical arrangement of words. So Roger added an alphabetical index to the dictionary, giving each word information about its place in ideographic classification. Roger's thesaurus should be recognized as an outstanding phenomenon in world lexicography. Its main advantage is that it was the first scientifically substantiated attempt to create a kind of mock-up of a logically ordered language dictionary.

The study of lexicography is closely related to the problems considered in lexicology. Revealing the meanings of polysemantic words and ways of their representation in dictionaries, distinguishing homonymy and polysemy, synonymy of lexical units - these are just some of the problems faced by both lexicologists and lexicographers. Compilers of dictionaries use the achievements of lexicology in their works, and lexicologists very often turn to the data of dictionaries in their research [3].

Depending on the number of languages represented, all linguistic dictionaries can be divided into three types: monolingual, bilingual and multilingual. The last two types are often referred to as translation dictionaries.

By designation and purpose of creation, explanatory dictionaries are divided into descriptive and prescriptive (normative). In English lexicographic terminology, they are called descriptive and prescriptive, respectively.

Descriptive dictionaries are intended to fully describe the vocabulary of a particular area and



to record all its uses.

The quality of descriptive vocabulary depends on the degree of completeness with which its vocabulary reflects the area described, and on how accurate the definitions of the meaning of the words presented in the material are. The best example of a descriptive English dictionary is the Oxford English Dictionary.

By the way the vocabulary is organized in the dictionary, a special type of dictionaries can be distinguished - ideographic dictionaries or (as they are often called) thesauri. An example of such a dictionary is Roger's Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases. Unlike explanatory dictionaries, in which dictionary entries are arranged in alphabetical order of the headword, ideographic dictionaries organize vocabulary by topic.

By the nature of the vocabulary, explanatory dictionaries are divided into general and private. Oxford English Dictionary, Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Random House Dictionary of English are general explanatory dictionaries because they reflect the entire lexical system of the English language, and not any part of it.

Private explanatory dictionaries should include dictionaries that reflect only a specific area of the vocabulary of the national language. Such are, for example, dictionaries of phraseological units (idioms), dialectal or slang dictionaries. The Oxford Dictionary of American Slang (1992) and the Oxford Dictionary of Idioms (1999) are their own explanatory dictionaries.

Depending on the target orientation, dictionaries can be divided into general and private. Aspect orientation assumes the following levels of vocabulary description:

- 1) Phonetic (pronunciation dictionaries);
- 2) Spelling (spelling dictionaries);
- 3) Word-building (dictionaries of word-building elements);
- 4) Syntactic (collocation dictionaries);
- 5) Pragmatic (frequency dictionaries) [4].

Professor I.V. Arnold proposed her original classification of dictionaries based on the principle of oppositions to the distinctive features of a dictionary.

Some scholars refer to special monolingual and bilingual dictionaries terminological glossaries, concordances, dictionaries of antonyms and synonyms, borrowings, neologisms, abbreviations, proverbs, personal and surnames, toponyms.

Thus, in the history of lexicography, there is more than one classification of dictionaries. There are a lot of them. Summarizing the well-known category Dubichinsky V.V. One of the 9 differentiating bases developed their unification, one of which includes onomastic dictionaries from the point of view of culturology, that is, dictionaries of toponyms, anthroponyms, chrematonyms and others [5].

According to the most authoritative experts in the field of lexicography (in particular):

- 1) The desire for such a completeness of the characteristics of the word allows not only to understand it in a given context, but also to use it correctly in one's own speech. Thus, the transition to active type dictionaries is carried out.
- 2) Striving to overcome the traditional isolation of lexicography from theoretical linguistics in general and from semantics in particular.
- 3) Striving to overcome the traditional isolation of the dictionary description of the language



from its grammatical description.

4) Transition from a purely philological description of a word to an integral philological and cultural description of a word-concept, with the involvement of elements of ethnolinguistic knowledge.

5) Updating lexicographic techniques and means: the introduction of "guides" for a dictionary entry, an assessment of the correctness of the use of one or another word in different situations on the basis of a representative "linguistic collegium". This method has already been successfully tested in the compilation of the Dictionary of the English Language "American Heritage", the material of which was tested by a collegium of one hundred recognized native speakers of exemplary of English language [6].

The main theoretical problems of lexicography:

- 1) the problem of choosing vocabulary for vocabulary
- 2) the problem of the optimal structure of a dictionary
- 3) ways of interpreting the meaning of a word in a dictionary entry
- 4) the means used by compilers of dictionaries to illustrate the use of a word in speech,
- 5) development of parameters that underlie the classification and quality assessment of dictionaries.

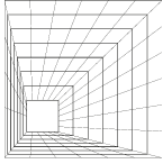
The theory of lexicography studies the history of dictionaries, their typology, and deals with the critical description of dictionaries.

The study of lexicography is related to the problems considered in lexicology. Highlighting the meanings of polysemous words and ways of representing them in dictionaries, differentiating homonymy and polysemy, lexical synonymy are just a few of the problems that both lexicologists and lexicographers deal with. Compilers use the achievements of lexicology in their works.

The field of modern lexicography presents a great number and variety of dictionaries of all types. Within English lexicography there are monolingual and bilingual general dictionaries, etymological and present-day English dictionaries, those which deal with jargon, dialects and slang. Modern lexicography distinguishes between historical and pragmatically oriented or learner's dictionaries. Pragmatically oriented dictionaries are those which side by side with meanings of words recorded in works of literature register functionally prominent meanings, thus giving the readers a clear idea of how the word is actually used in speech.

Refences:

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