

A person is holding a large, dark blue Oxford Dictionary of English behind their face. The person's eyes are visible through a horizontal blue rectangular overlay. The dictionary's cover is dark blue with white text. The spine on the left shows 'Oxford' and 'DICTIONARY' vertically. The front cover features 'Oxford' in a large serif font, followed by 'Dictionary of' in a smaller font, and 'ENGLISH' in a large serif font. A red label on the right edge of the cover says 'New'.

LEXICOGRAPHY

Oxford
Dictionary of
ENGLISH

Overview of Important Points

- Lexicology & Lexicography
- Lexicography & Types of Lexicography
- Practical Lexicography.
- Theoretical Lexicography
- History of Lexicography
- Lexicography & Electronic Revolution
- E-lexicography
- Compiling a Dictionary
- **TYPES OF DICTIONARIES**
- Classifying words in a Dictionary
- Lexemes Formation
- **Evaluating a Dictionary**

Lexicography is the process of writing, editing, and compiling a dictionary. It is the theory and practice of compiling dictionaries. It is an important branch of applied linguistics.

Dictionaries are the most
widely-used source of
information about languages.

Lexicography is the oldest subdiscipline of linguistics.

Lexicology & Lexicography

- Lexicology is the scientific investigation of the lexicon of a language, including, for example, its historical development, its social stratification, its quantitative composition, or the way in which some thematic area is encoded. Lexicography, the oldest subdiscipline of linguistics, deals with the compilation of dictionaries.

Lexicography & Types of Lexicography

- Lexicography is concerned with dictionaries, both with the processes of compilation and with the study of the finished products. The latter is sometimes called “metalexicography” or “dictionary research.” The distinction is also drawn by referring to the compilation of dictionaries as “practical lexicography” and to the study of dictionaries as “theoretical lexicography.”

Kinds of Lexicography

- Lexicography is divided into two related fields.

- Practical Lexicography.

- Theoretical Lexicography.

Practical Lexicography

- Practical lexicography focuses on writing and editing of dictionaries.
- Defining words.
- Choosing appropriate structures for presenting the data in the dictionary.
- Selecting words and affixes for systemization as entries.

- Selecting phrases and examples.
- Organizing definitions.
- Specifying pronunciation of words.

Theoretical Lexicography

- It is the analysis or description of the vocabulary of a particular language and the meaning that links certain words to others in a dictionary.
- Theoretical lexicography also deals with:
 - Dictionary criticism
 - Dictionary history
 - Dictionary typology
 - Dictionary structures
 - Dictionary use
 - Dictionary IT

History of Lexicography

History of Lexicography

Definition of Lexicographer:
"a writer of dictionaries; a harmless drudge, that busies himself in tracing the original, and detailing the signification of words."

1755

Samuel Johnson writes
A Dictionary of the English Language
First comprehensive dictionary in English



Over
42,000
entries

1828

Noah Webster
publishes
An American Dictionary of the English Language

Over
70,000
entries

Started
1884

James Murray edits the *Oxford English Dictionary*



Over
400,000

entries in first edition

Projected to take ten years, but at the five-year mark, the editors were only at ant.

1889

The Century Dictionary

Over
500,000
entries

1961

Webster's Third New International Dictionary

Over
450,000
entries in first edition

The only capitalized word was

included
ain't

God

1995

Dictionary.com
launches most popular dictionary

Currently over
1,400,000
searchable terms



History of Lexicography

- Lexicography, both practical and theoretical, has a long history, which predates the development of modern linguistics and has developed independently of it. Samuel Johnson's "Plan of a Dictionary" (1747) is an example of an early contribution to theoretical lexicography, and Philip Gove, editor-in-chief of *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (1961) was the first dictionary editor to acknowledge explicitly the influence of modern linguistics on his lexicographical practice. This raises the question whether lexicography can be considered as a sub-discipline of linguistics.

Lexicography & Electronic Revolution

- Lexicography has seen wide-ranging and radical changes in the last couple of decades, as it has been heavily influenced by the electronic revolution. Not only are most current dictionaries now available in a digital version, many older dictionaries have also been digitized and made accessible via the Internet. Electronic lexicography, or e-lexicography, is a fast-moving area, as dictionary makers grapple with the potential opened up by digital formats.



E-lexicography

- The development of e-lexicography pushes lexicography further in this direction, as electronic dictionaries take their place among a plethora of reference resources on the Internet, all of which may be accessed by a single Google search.



How does a dictionary
come to be?

Compiling a Dictionary



- No lexicographer of English starts with blank sheet of paper while some lexicographers find themselves revising and updating an existing dictionary to produce a new addition
- Others take on the challenge of innovation and hack a fresh path of lexicography even then they build on the work of previous generations of lexicographers both in determining the head word list and in deciding what kind of information to provide.

Dictionary Making is a Long Process

- Dictionary making is a long, complex and time consuming activity. The preparation of dictionaries takes several years. For example , Oxford English Dictionary was started in 1888 and completed in 1928. Dictionary entries require a million editorial decisions to be made about everything from font size and part-of-speech abbreviations to how to structure a definition.
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What do Lexicographers do ?

- Lexicographers are trained to notice not just new words, but emerging new uses of old words. They don't just sit around looking through great literature and scientific journals; every piece of text in the culture is another bit of evidence to consider. What sort of uses are quick and cook in the phrase “quick cook steel cut oats”? Evolving new uses? A good lexicographer cannot resist the impulse to clip out and file away the relevant piece of the oatmeal canister on which the phrase appears for future reference.

Where does the information in dictionaries come from?

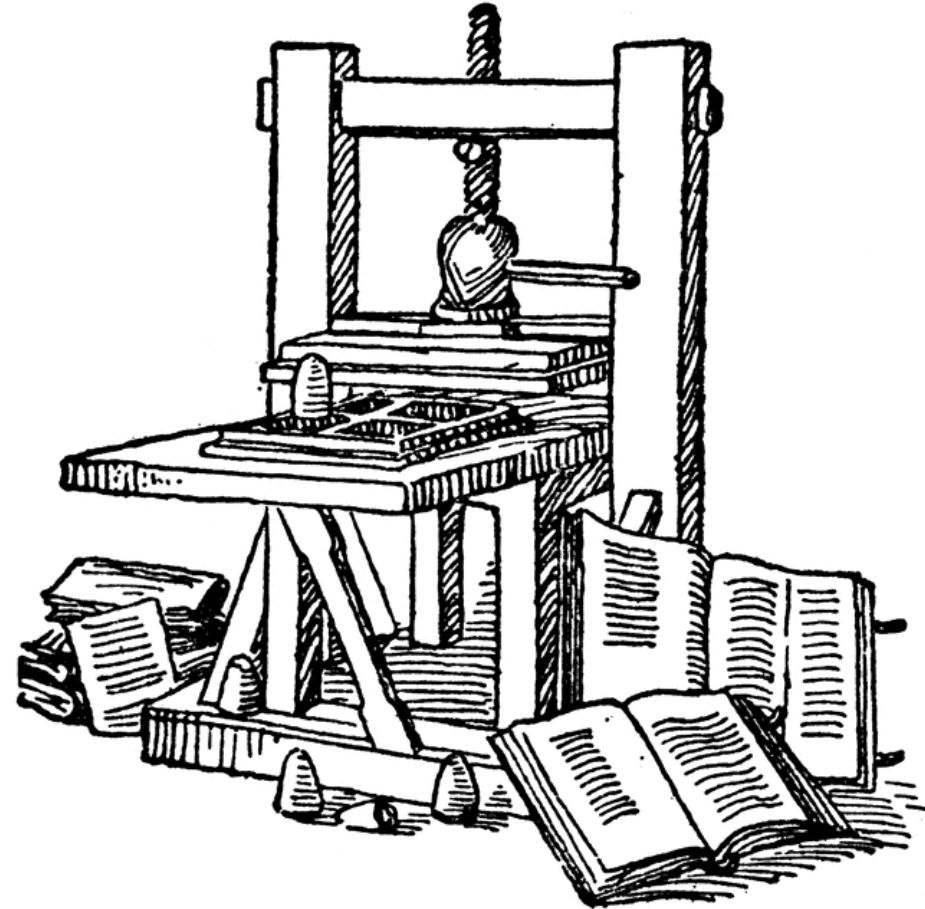
- There are two main sources of information about words: *introspection* and *observation*.
- introspection means 'looking inside' your own brain and trying to remember everything you know about a word
- observation means examining real examples of language in use (in newspapers, novels, blogs, tweets, and so on), so that we can observe how people use words when they are communicating with one another

Introspection

- It's obvious that a fluent speaker of a language must already know a lot about that language's vocabulary. So introspection can be a useful source of insights about what words mean and how they are used. But a dictionary has to give a complete and well-balanced account of a word's behaviour, and introspection alone can never provide enough information for this purpose. Consequently, lexicographers – since the time of Samuel Johnson in the 18th century – have preferred to base their dictionaries on observation. In Johnson's time, observing language was a laborious business: it meant reading hundreds of books and extracting good examples of words in use. But today's computer technology makes all this much easier. And it gives us access to so much good language data that we are now able to provide a really reliable account of English vocabulary.

Dictionary Making Process

- Making a dictionary involves collecting the data, sorting and lemmatizing, editing and printing. Dictionary making, General nature: The work on the compilation of a dictionary from the beginning to the final printing may be divided into the following three phases, each phase having different steps:
 - (1) Preparation,
 - (2) Editing,
 - (3) Preparation of the Press copy.
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Dictionary Making Process

- (1) Preparation: this phase includes the planning of the dictionary, the collection of the material and the selection of entries of the dictionary.
- (2) Editing: this phase involves the setting of entry. The work includes fixation of the head word, its pronunciation, grammatical characteristics and the fixation and selection of definitions etc. of the head word.
- (3) The third phase i.e. the phase for preparation of the press copy involves arrangement of entries, the use of notations and preparing an introduction for the dictionary, which includes general features of the dictionary, guide to pronunciation etc.

TYPES OF DICTIONARIES

Dictionary

- The term **dictionary** is used to denote a book listing words of a language with their meanings and often with data regarding pronunciation, usage and/or origin.



According to the language used

they can be:

- 1) *unilingual (monolingual)* - dictionaries in which the words and their definitions belong to the same language
- 2) *bilingual or translation dictionaries* are those that explain words by giving their equivalents in another language.
- 3) *multilingual or polyglot dictionaries* are not numerous, they serve chiefly the purpose of comparing synonyms and terminology in various languages

According to the nature of word entry

There are *general* and *special* dictionaries.

General represent the vocabulary as a whole.

Special dictionaries cover a specific part of the vocabulary.

There are dictionaries of synonyms and antonyms, dictionaries of neologisms and slang, pronouncing and so on.

Dictionaries may be classified into *linguistic* and *non-linguistic*.

The latter are dictionaries giving information on all branches of knowledge, the encyclopaedias. They deal not with words, but with facts and concepts.

“The Encyclopaedia Britannica”

“The Encyclopaedia Americana”.

There exist also biographical dictionaries and many minor encyclopaedias.

Specialized Dictionaries

- dictionaries of slang
- pronouncing
- reverse (words are arranged in alphabetical order starting with the end)
- etymological
- ideographic
- rhyme dictionaries
- concordances

Classifying words in a Dictionary

- We classify words into certain categories:
- Noun
- Verb
- Adjectives
- Adverbs
- Pronouns
- Determiner
- Preposition
- Conjunction.



Lexemes Formation

- Lexeme formation contains following processes:
- Compounding
- Derivatives
- Acronyms
- Loanwords

Compounding:

- Compounds are formed by joining two or more root morphemes or combining forms into single morpheme
- i.e. white board, seat belt , Sun flower, etc

Derivatives:

- The addition of a derivational prefix or suffix to a lexeme forms a Derivative. It may be simple or compound.
- i.e. Impossible, enjoyment, fighter etc

Acronyms:

- Initial letters of a phrase create a word
- i.e.
- ATM (Automated Teller Machine),
- HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus),
- FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Loanwords:

- When a word is borrowed from another language and added to the vocabulary it is known as loan word
- Pizza, Alcohol, Tycoon, Bungalow and Saree

Dictionary

- A dictionary is a reference book about words.
- It is a book about language.
- Its nearest cousin is the encyclopedia.
- Oxford English Dictionary
- Collins Cobuild English Dictionary
- Merriam-Webster English Dictionary
- Advanced English Learner

Dictionary and Encyclopedia

- It is not very easy to distinguish Dictionary and Encyclopedia but we may:
- A dictionary is a reference book about words. It is a book about language. It tells you about definition, etymology, pronunciation, spelling, word category and usage of word.
- Encyclopedia is about things, people, places and ideas

Use of Dictionary

- Dictionaries vary according to its users i.e.
- Dictionaries for advance learners and beginners
- Oxford English Dictionary for advance learners

- Monolingual Dictionaries
- Dictionaries for foreign or second language speakers
- Cambridge Dictionary of English.

- Specialist Dictionaries
- Dictionaries of lexicography, Dictionaries of Economics
- Dictionaries of Medical

Inside a Dictionary

- The microstructure of dictionary refers to arrangement of the information within the entries.
- These entries may vary according to the type of head word.

It includes:

*Spellings

*Pronunciation

*Inflections

*Word class

*Senses

*Definition

*Examples

*Usages

*Derivatives

*Etymology

Size of Dictionary

- A dictionary contains selection from total vocabulary of a language which is difficult to estimate but lies between one and two million words.
- A desk size dictionary may contain 100,000 headwords and the CD-ROM version of COD10 gives the head word count as 64,679.
- We can see a comparison between CED4 and NODE both published in 1998.
- CED4 claims that it contains 3.6 million words of a text and NODE 4 million.
- So we can say size of dictionary depend on its type and purpose.

Evaluating a Dictionary

- Like books, A dictionary needs to be published. Publishers invest an amount of money in their development.
- These dictionaries are reviewed and advertised in newspapers, magazines and journals.
- Dictionary faces criticism and Dictionary Criticism is an important activity. It contributes in further improvement and advancement of the volume.

Recapitulating Important Points of Discussion

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A decorative border of watercolor flowers and leaves in shades of yellow, pink, and green surrounds the central text.

thank
you