

## English Dictionaries

A Linguistic Introduction

Bearbeitet von  
Dr. Michael Klotz, Prof. Dr. Thomas Herbst

1. Auflage 2016. Taschenbuch. 287 S. Paperback  
ISBN 978 3 503 16751 7  
Format (B x L): 14,4 x 21 cm  
Gewicht: 371 g

[Weitere Fachgebiete > Literatur, Sprache > Angewandte Sprachwissenschaft > Lexikologie, Lexikographie](#)

schnell und portofrei erhältlich bei

  
DIE FACHBUCHHANDLUNG

Die Online-Fachbuchhandlung [beck-shop.de](http://beck-shop.de) ist spezialisiert auf Fachbücher, insbesondere Recht, Steuern und Wirtschaft. Im Sortiment finden Sie alle Medien (Bücher, Zeitschriften, CDs, eBooks, etc.) aller Verlage. Ergänzt wird das Programm durch Services wie Neuerscheinungsdienst oder Zusammenstellungen von Büchern zu Sonderpreisen. Der Shop führt mehr als 8 Millionen Produkte.



# GRUNDLAGEN DER ANGLISTIK UND AMERIKANISTIK

Herausgegeben von Rüdiger Ahrens und Edgar W. Schneider

Band 41

# **English Dictionaries**

A Linguistic Introduction

**Michael Klotz**  
and  
**Thomas Herbst**

with the assistance of  
**Kevin Pike**

**ERICH SCHMIDT VERLAG**

**Bibliografische Information der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek**

Die Deutsche Nationalbibliothek verzeichnet diese Publikation in der Deutschen Nationalbibliografie; detaillierte bibliografische Daten sind im Internet über <http://dnb.d-nb.de> abrufbar.

**Weitere Informationen zu diesem Titel finden Sie im Internet unter**  
ESV.info/978 3 503 16751 7

ISBN 978 3 503 16751 7

Alle Rechte vorbehalten

© Erich Schmidt Verlag GmbH & Co. KG, Berlin 2016  
[www.ESV.info](http://www.ESV.info)

Dieses Papier erfüllt die Frankfurter Forderungen der Deutschen Nationalbibliothek und der Gesellschaft für das Buch bezüglich der Alterungsbeständigkeit und entspricht sowohl den strengen Bestimmungen der US Norm Ansi/Niso Z 39.48-1992 als auch der ISO-Norm 9706.

Druck und Bindung: Strauss, Mörlenbach

## Preface

The purpose of the present volume is to introduce the reader to the world of English dictionaries. Dictionaries, along with grammars, are the most important tools for foreign language learners and indeed everybody who professionally deals with language. From the linguistic point of view they are fascinating because many aspects of the description of language are also dealt with in dictionaries. In that sense, an introduction to English dictionaries is also an introduction to many linguistic properties of the English language itself, which is why the present volume has the subtitle “A linguistic introduction”. The topic is therefore well-suited for exploration by foreign language students of English at university level and the present book will be useful as a basic text for seminars at intermediate to advanced level. A wealth of bibliographic references will enable students to go beyond the present introduction and conduct their own research.

However, English dictionaries are not only fascinating records of the English language; they are also practical tools which are meant to serve the users in the best possible way in their concrete reference needs. Dictionaries must always strike a balance between linguistic soundness of description and serving the needs of the user. This balance is reflected in the theory of lexico-parameters and lexicographic scope first developed in Herbst and Klotz (2003) and adopted here.

In fact, the present volume owes much to our above-mentioned earlier introduction to lexicography, but the text has been fundamentally reworked in several ways. Firstly, the book is now written in English and limits itself to English and English-German dictionaries making it more suitable to be used in English departments at German universities. Secondly, the chapters have been rearranged and in most cases also fundamentally rewritten. Thirdly, current editions of dictionaries as well as up-to-date research literature has been worked into the text.

We are indebted to the following publishers who graciously granted permission to reproduce entries from their dictionaries for purposes of illustration: Cambridge University Press, Walter de Gruyter, Langenscheidt, Macmillan, Oxford University Press, Pearson Education, Penguin Books.

Our sincere gratitude goes to everybody who has helped in bringing this book into the world. Kevin Pike has read the entire manuscript (several times!) with the eye of the English native speaker and has given important input as a fellow meta-lexicographer. Katharina Scholz has prepared the bibliography and the topical index. Finally, we would like to extend our gratitude to the general editor of the series *Grundlagen der Anglistik und Amerikanistik*, Prof. Edgar Schneider, for carefully reading our manuscript and picking up many residual errors as well as Dr. Carina

Lehnen and Verena Haun from Erich Schmidt publishers for their competent help in the final stages of preparing the text for the printers as well as angelic patience waiting for the book to be written. Thank you all!

Erlangen, April 2016

Michael Klotz and Thomas Herbst

# Table of Contents

<b>Preface</b>	5
<b>Table of Contents</b>	7
<b>1 Introduction</b>	13
1.1 Love at second sight: why most people dislike and some people love dictionaries.....	13
1.2 Lexicography and linguistics .....	14
1.3 Practical lexicography and metalexicography.....	16
1.4 The aims of this book.....	18
1.5 A note on the citations from dictionaries .....	18
<b>2 The Theory of Lexicographic Scope</b> .....	21
2.1 Dictionaries: a first look.....	21
2.1.1 Why we need dictionaries .....	21
2.1.2 Mono- and bilingual dictionaries .....	23
2.1.3 Dictionaries and encyclopedias .....	24
2.1.4 Dictionaries and grammars.....	25
2.1.5 Lexicography as an art .....	26
2.2 Dictionary types and lexico-parameters .....	26
2.2.1 Lexico-parameters of content.....	27
2.2.1.1 Lemma selection .....	27
2.2.1.2 Information types .....	29
2.2.1.3 Accuracy and completeness .....	31
2.2.2 Lexico-parameters of form.....	32
2.2.2.1 User-friendliness .....	32
2.2.2.2 Cost .....	33
2.3 The theory of scope in lexicography .....	34
<b>3 Dictionary Structures</b> .....	37
3.1 Dictionaries and the competent user .....	37
3.2 The component parts of a dictionary – a survey.....	38
3.3 The word list .....	40
3.3.1 Lemmatisation.....	40



3.3.1.1	Lexemes, words forms, citation forms .....	40
3.3.1.2	Super-lexemic items .....	41
3.3.1.3	Word Forms .....	42
3.3.1.4	Semantic aspects of lemmatisation: homonymy and polysemy.....	42
3.3.1.5	Affixes .....	44
3.3.2	Types of lemmatic ordering .....	44
3.3.2.1	Alphabetical and thematic ordering .....	44
3.3.2.2	Variants of alphabetical ordering .....	45
3.3.2.3	The placement of multi-word lemmata .....	48
3.4	The dictionary entry .....	48
3.4.1	Theme and rheme .....	48
3.4.2	Lemmata, sublemmata and non-lemmatic addresses.....	49
3.4.3	Thematic progression in the dictionary entry .....	51
3.4.4	Structural divisors, lemmatisation and entry structures.....	54
3.4.5	Convention and variation in entry structures.....	56
3.4.6	Multi-lemmatic dictionary entries .....	59
3.4.7	Representation forms: layout and typographic conventions in the entry .....	61
3.5	Representation forms beyond the entry.....	62
3.5.1	Pictorial illustrations .....	63
3.5.2	Charts .....	66
3.5.3	Usage Notes .....	67
<b>4</b>	<b>Information Types in Monolingual Dictionaries.....</b>	<b>71</b>
4.1	Information on meaning: describing senses .....	71
4.1.1	Linguistic considerations: distinguishing between different senses of a word.....	71
4.1.2	Lexicographic aspects: how can meaning be shown in monolingual dictionaries? .....	72
4.1.3	What do dictionary definitions do? .....	75
4.1.4	The vocabulary of definitions.....	77
4.1.4.1	The policy of using a flexibly applied controlled defining vocabulary .....	77
4.1.4.2	Defining vocabulary and the lexicoparameter of accuracy.....	78
4.1.4.3	The design of a controlled defining vocabulary .....	80
4.1.5	Syntax of definitions .....	81
4.1.5.1	Complexity of definitions .....	81
4.1.5.2	Full sentence definitions .....	82
4.2	Further aspects of meaning and use .....	83
4.2.1	Types of associative meaning.....	83

4.2.2	Forms of lexicographical representation .....	85
4.2.3	Lexicographical practice .....	86
4.3	Dialectal varieties of English .....	87
4.3.1	Standard and non-standard varieties.....	87
4.3.2	Information on dialectal variation to be given in dictionaries	88
4.3.2.1	Differences in linguistic form .....	89
4.3.2.2	Differences in meaning .....	90
4.4	Relations with other lexemes and other lexical units .....	92
4.5	Pronunciation .....	93
4.5.1	The status of information on pronunciation in English dictionaries .....	93
4.5.2	Representing pronunciation in dictionaries: transcription systems.....	94
4.5.3	Phonemes or phones?.....	95
4.6	Spelling.....	96
4.7	Grammatical information .....	98
4.7.1	Item-related grammatical features.....	98
4.7.2	Word class.....	99
4.7.3	Restricting the scope of a word class label – specifying particular grammatical features .....	101
4.7.4	Word forms .....	102
4.7.5	Information on valency .....	103
4.7.5.1	Valency and valency patterns.....	103
4.7.5.2	Lexicographic forms of representation.....	105
4.8	Multi-word units .....	110
4.8.1	Two views of collocation .....	110
4.8.2	The representation of collocational information in dictionaries .....	111
4.8.3	The idiom principle and its consequences for lexicography.	115
4.9	Frequency.....	120
4.10	Anticipating errors .....	122
4.11	Etymology.....	123
4.12	Examples.....	124
4.12.1	Importance and function of examples .....	124
4.12.2	Formal aspects.....	125
4.12.3	Types of examples: invented and authentic.....	126
4.12.4	Choosing examples .....	128

<b>5</b>	<b>Information Types in Bilingual Dictionaries .....</b>	<b>131</b>
5.1	Mono- and bilingual dictionaries .....	131
5.1.1	Expectations by users and language professionals .....	131
5.1.2	Direction of use: bi- and monofunctional dictionaries .....	132
5.1.3	Information types in mono- and bilingual dictionaries.....	134
5.2	Equivalence in bilingual dictionaries .....	135
5.2.1	Lexicographic equivalence as an information type .....	135
5.2.2	Equivalence in lexicography and translation theory.....	138
5.2.3	Interlingual equivalence and structural semantics .....	140
5.2.3.1	The arbitrariness of meaning.....	140
5.2.3.2	The complexity of equivalence relations.....	143
5.2.4	Lexicographic equivalence.....	146
5.2.5	Forms of representation of equivalence in bilingual dictionaries .....	147
5.2.5.1	Equivalent discrimination and lemma identification.	147
5.2.5.2	Labels.....	150
5.3	The indication of meaning in bilingual dictionaries .....	152
5.3.1	Culture specific words.....	152
5.3.2	Forms of semantic representation in bilingual dictionaries ..	153
5.4	Pronunciation, spelling and grammar.....	154
5.4.1	Direction of use and functionality .....	154
5.4.2	Pronunciation .....	157
5.4.3	Orthography .....	158
5.4.4	Grammar .....	160
5.4.4.1	Purposes of grammatical information in the bilingual dictionary.....	160
5.4.4.2	Grammatical models .....	161
5.4.4.3	The representation of grammatical information .....	163
5.5	Beyond the word: phraseological information in bilingual dictionaries.....	166
5.5.1	Lexemic and non-lexemic multi-word units.....	166
5.5.2	Equivalence relations of idioms .....	166
5.5.3	Collocation .....	167
5.5.3.1	The inherently contrastive character of collocation ..	167
5.5.3.2	The representation of collocations in the bilingual dictionary.....	169
5.5.3.3	The place of collocations in the bilingual dictionary	170
5.5.4	Translated sentences and phrases .....	171
5.5.4.1	Examples.....	171
5.5.4.2	Probabemes and the idiom-principle.....	172
5.5.5	Multi-word units and the lexico-parameter of accuracy .....	174

5.5.6	Multi-word-units and the lexico-parameter of completeness .....	175
5.5.7	The representation of multi-word units .....	176
5.6	The status of bilingual dictionaries .....	177
<b>6</b>	<b>Electronic Dictionaries</b> .....	181
6.1	Electronic dictionaries or dictionaries in the electronic medium?... ..	181
6.2	Content.....	183
6.3	Format .....	184
6.3.1	Text .....	184
6.3.2	Audio.....	185
6.3.3	Video.....	186
6.4	Medium .....	188
6.4.1	Hyperlinking .....	188
6.4.2	A flexible, usage-driven microstructure .....	189
6.4.3	Search routines in e-dictionaries .....	191
6.4.3.1	Lemma searches and phrasal searches .....	191
6.4.3.2	Advanced searches.....	193
6.5	The end of the printed dictionary? .....	195
<b>7</b>	<b>The Data of Lexicography</b> .....	197
7.1	The dictionary base .....	197
7.2	Langue data: introspection and elicitation.....	198
7.3	Parole data: citations .....	200
7.4	Parole data: corpora .....	202
7.4.1	The corpus revolution: advantages and limitations of corpora .....	202
7.4.2	The development of corpora in lexicography.....	204
7.4.3	The use of corpora in lexicography .....	206
7.5	Secondary sources.....	211
<b>8</b>	<b>A Survey of English Dictionaries</b> .....	213
8.1	The evolution of English dictionaries: a historical sketch.....	213
8.2	English dictionaries today: general and specialized.....	215
8.3	Historical dictionaries .....	217
8.3.1	Diachronic dictionaries .....	218
8.3.2	Period dictionaries.....	220

## Table of Contents

---

8.4	Idiom and phrasal verb dictionaries .....	221
8.5	Syntagmatic dictionaries .....	225
8.5.1	Collocation dictionaries.....	225
8.5.2	Valency dictionaries.....	228
8.6	Paradigmatic dictionaries .....	231
8.6.1	Synonym dictionaries and thesauri.....	231
8.6.2	Pictorial dictionaries.....	235
8.7	Pronunciation dictionaries.....	237
8.8	Learner's dictionaries.....	241
8.8.1	Characteristics of the monolingual learner's dictionary .....	242
8.8.2	The evolution of the English learner's dictionary .....	243
8.8.3	Encyclopedic learner's dictionaries.....	245
8.8.4	English lexicography and the learner's dictionary .....	246
<b>References</b>	.....	249
R.1	Dictionaries .....	249
R.2	Further references .....	258
<b>List of Reproductions</b>	.....	279
<b>Terminological Index</b>	.....	283