Specialised Lexicography for Learners: Specific Proposals for the Construction of Pedagogically-oriented Printed Business Dictionaries

Pedro A. Fuertes-Olivera

DOI: https://doi.org/10.7146/hjlcb.v22i42.96851

Abstract

The function theory of lexicography argues that specialised lexicographical products must help learners to transform their information needs into aspects of knowledge of the discipline, and of its discursive properties. Lexicographers, then, must combine information and data access with the user’s need for information and knowledge. To achieve this aim they need to devise theories providing solutions to different lexicographical problems. One such theory has recently been proposed by Tarp (2008), who claims that there are four categories which are central to a general theory of learner’s lexicography: users, user situation, user needs, and dictionary assistance. This paper focuses on dictionary assistance and addresses several lexicographical issues connected with polysemy: the selection of the lemmata of some printed English-Spanish/Spanish-English business dictionaries, their entry structures, sense differentiation, and sense ordering. The analysis leads the author to discuss some proposals with the aim of making business dictionaries more pedagogically oriented, and to include a set of principles pedagogically-oriented business dictionaries must have. They are illustrated in a model entry which has been compiled by rearranging one of the entries studied according to the proposals and principles previously discussed.

This book presents findings on how the dictionaries studied represent the 'noun-term', and on how they cope with the principles of lexicography. It advances in the theory of LSP metalexicography, yields new insights into the construction of pedagogically-oriented specialised dictionaries, and at the same time contributes to our understanding of how meaning is currently represented in monolingual and bilingual specialised dictionaries. — Enrique Alcaraz Varó, University of Alicante, Co-author of 10 bilingual English-Spanish / Spanish-English specialised dictionaries. Pedagogical Specialised Lexicography: The representation of meaning in English and Spanish business dictionaries. Pedro A. Fuertes-Olivera & Ascensión Arribas-Baño, Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2008.
come from English or Spanish speaking sources, but from a French speaking origin: the Dictionnaire d’apprentissage du français des affaires (DAFA, 2000), a dictionary compiled by Binon, Verlinde, van Dyck and Bertels and published by Didier in Paris. This is an innovative learner’s dictionary of Business French, presenting and describing 3200 words, most of them illustrated by means of examples.