

THE CONCEPTS OF LEXICOGRAPHY, LEXICOLOGY, AND SEMASIOLOGY IN LINGUISTICS AND THEIR INTERRELATION ASPECTS

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ABSTRACT: This article examines the concepts of lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology in linguistics, focusing on their definitions, scope, and mutual interconnections. Lexicography is considered as the science and practice of compiling, editing, and analyzing dictionaries, while lexicology deals with the systematic study of the vocabulary of a language, including its origin, structure, and meaning. Semasiology, in turn, is explored as the branch of linguistics that studies the meaning of words and lexical units. The research highlights the theoretical and practical intersections of these disciplines, demonstrating how they complement each other in the study and organization of language. The article also addresses the role of modern technologies in integrating these fields for more effective linguistic analysis and dictionary compilation.

Keywords: lexicography, lexicology, semasiology, linguistics, meaning, vocabulary, dictionary compilation, language analysis.

INTRODUCTION

The study of language at the lexical level has always held a central place in linguistic research, as vocabulary constitutes the fundamental building block of communication. Within this framework, lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology represent three closely related yet distinct branches of linguistics, each contributing to the comprehensive understanding of words and their meanings. Lexicography focuses on the methodology and practice of compiling and designing dictionaries, providing structured and accessible repositories of lexical data. Lexicology investigates the nature, structure, and development of a language's vocabulary, exploring phenomena such as word formation, semantic change, and lexical borrowing. Semasiology, as a subfield of semantics, is concerned with the meaning of words and phrases, tracing how meaning is constructed, transformed, and perceived within a linguistic system. These disciplines are interdependent: lexicography relies on the theoretical foundations of lexicology and semasiology, while lexicology benefits from the empirical data gathered through lexicographic work. Semasiology, in turn, offers critical insights into meaning that are essential for both lexical analysis and dictionary compilation. In the modern era, the interaction among these fields has been further strengthened by the application of computational linguistics and corpus-based methodologies, enabling more accurate, comprehensive, and user-oriented lexical resources. Understanding the interrelation between lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology is therefore essential for both theoretical linguists and applied language researchers, as it provides a framework for more effective language description, preservation, and pedagogy.

MAIN BODY

1. Lexicography: definition, scope, and functions

Lexicography is both a theoretical and practical branch of linguistics that deals with the compilation, editing, and analysis of dictionaries. Theoretical lexicography, also known as metalexicography, studies the principles, methods, and typology of dictionary creation, while practical lexicography focuses on the actual process of collecting, organizing, and presenting lexical data. In this regard, lexicography not only serves as a reference tool for language users but also as a research resource for linguists. Modern lexicographic work increasingly employs corpus-based approaches, enabling dictionary compilers to rely on authentic language data for improved accuracy in definitions, examples, and usage notes.

2. Lexicology: nature and research focus

Lexicology is the branch of linguistics concerned with the study of a language's vocabulary, including the origin, structure, and semantic properties of words. It investigates morphological patterns, etymology, lexical fields, synonymy, antonymy, and polysemy, among other phenomena. Lexicology plays a crucial role in understanding how words enter the language (via borrowing, derivation, compounding, etc.), how they evolve in form and meaning, and how they are organized into systems. Its theoretical findings often inform lexicographic practice by providing the conceptual framework for categorizing and defining lexical units.

3. Semasiology: meaning as the core of lexical study

Semasiology, a branch of semantics, is primarily concerned with the study of meaning in linguistic signs. It examines the relationships between words and the concepts they denote, as well as the mechanisms of meaning change such as metaphor, metonymy, generalization, and specialization. Semasiology's findings are critical for lexicographers and lexicologists alike, as accurate meaning description requires an understanding of how context, cultural background, and pragmatic factors shape lexical interpretation. For example, a single lexical item may acquire multiple senses depending on the communicative situation, and semasiology provides the tools to account for such variation.

4. Interrelation of lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology

While each of these disciplines has its own objectives and methods, their interaction is fundamental to effective linguistic research. Lexicography depends on lexicological classifications to determine word entries, and on semasiological analysis to ensure accurate and comprehensive definitions. Conversely, lexicological studies benefit from the systematic data collected through lexicographic projects, and semasiology relies on both lexicological theory and lexicographic evidence to refine its understanding of meaning. This interrelation creates a feedback loop: theory informs practice, and practice provides empirical data for theoretical refinement.

5. The role of modern technology

In recent decades, technological advances have transformed the way these three fields operate and collaborate. Digital corpora, natural language processing (NLP) tools, and artificial intelligence (AI) have made it possible to process vast amounts of textual data, enabling more

precise lexical analysis and dictionary compilation. For instance, automated frequency analysis can help lexicographers prioritize entries, while semantic network modeling assists semasiologists in visualizing relationships between meanings. This integration of technology has enhanced the efficiency, accessibility, and user-friendliness of linguistic resources, fostering a more dynamic relationship between lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology

CONCLUSION

The interconnected nature of lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology highlights their indispensable roles in the study and organization of language. Lexicography provides practical tools for recording and presenting lexical data, lexicology offers theoretical frameworks for analyzing vocabulary structure and development, and semasiology deepens the understanding of meaning and its transformation over time. Together, these disciplines form a cohesive system in which theory and practice reinforce each other. In the contemporary linguistic landscape, their integration has become even more significant due to advances in digital technology, corpus linguistics, and artificial intelligence. These innovations have not only expanded the scope of research but also improved the accuracy, efficiency, and accessibility of lexical resources. By leveraging modern tools while maintaining a strong theoretical foundation, scholars can create more comprehensive, user-centered, and contextually rich dictionaries and lexical studies. Ultimately, the synergy between lexicography, lexicology, and semasiology contributes to preserving linguistic heritage, enhancing language teaching, and supporting cross-cultural communication. As languages continue to evolve, the sustained collaboration among these fields will remain crucial for documenting, analyzing, and understanding the ever-changing lexicon of human communication.

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