

Microstructure features of dictionaries of linguistic terms

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Abstract. This article is devoted to the microstructure features of dictionaries of linguistic terms. The problem of an internal structure of a dictionary entry deals with its organization and construction. In the article basic lexicographic elements of the entry are characterized and on the basis of their analysis microstructures of English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries are compared. The comparison of the internal structure of the entry is performed by eleven lexicographic elements. The typical structure of the entry is a really detailed description of a term and its interconnection with other terms in linguistics as a separate branch of science.

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Introduction

Linguistics as the other branches of science and technology is developing rapidly widening its terminological apparatus by a variety of linguistic concepts. Dictionaries of linguistic terms present not only metalanguage of linguistics in a full and visible form, but also help the users to understand the meaning of linguistic terminology. Therefore, “a lexicographer (terminographer) who has a task to compile a dictionary, at first glance, should reconcile contraries: the dynamism of language as a living organism and the static nature of language material as an object of research and processing within a dictionary” [1].

As a rule, the dictionary is compiled for consultation rather than for reading. Every single paragraph that constitutes an entry in a dictionary is headed by a short graphic sequence, the entry form, which is generally – but not necessarily – the object of the information contained in the entry [2]. It means that the entry presents the dictionary microstructure and is of great importance for users.

The structure of the entry depends on a type of dictionary. However, according to a general theory of lexicography, the entry consists of the following parts: 1) a headword (lemma); 2) a grammatical description; 3) a term description in its use, stylistic coloring and origin; 4) a semantic description [3].

The main aim of research is to identify the main lexicographic elements of dictionary entries and compare their organization in microstructures of English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms. The analysis of entries in dictionaries of linguistic terms confirms the fact that microstructure is the basic factor in the internal structure of dictionaries in whole.

Methods

The problems related to the microstructure features required the use of a descriptive method on

the basis of which each lexicographic element of entry is described and a comparative method to identify common and special among the microstructures of English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms.

Main Body

The body of a dictionary contains an alphabetical list of headwords. Each headword is accompanied by a number of pieces of information, which together with the headword constitutes the entry. The microstructure of a dictionary refers to the arrangement of the information within the entries. The range and type of information within an entry will vary according to the kind of headword, but will typically include a number of lexicographic elements [4]. Microstructures of terminological dictionaries, proposed by foreign scientists Ch. Lehmann [5], H. Bergenholz and S. Tarp [6], make it possible to distinguish the main lexicographic elements typical for the entry in English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms:

1. *Lemma* (term) – a definiendum which is a standard of spelling. For example: **abbreviation** [7]; **acrophony** [8]; **allomorph** [9]; **ADSTR'AT** [10]; **ARKhA'IZMY** [11]; **Alliteratsiya** [12]; **Adverbialdanu** [13]; **ALLEGORIYa** [14]; **AD'EKTIVTENU** [15].

It should be noted that the spelling of lemmas (terms) noticeably differs. In some dictionaries terms are capitalized, while in others - lowercased. In some dictionaries of linguistic terms lemmas are in bold. “Dictionary in Linguistics”, edited by E. Suleimenova is bilingual. Therefore, in this dictionary the entries are arranged in Russian and Kazakh. Perfect one-one equivalence between Russian and Kazakh term systems is impossible due to peculiarities of each language. For example, in the term system of the Kazakh language there are terms

which do not have analogies in the Russian system and vice versa. In the second language the term is given without translation equivalent to emphasize its idiolect nature. Within the research in this dictionary just Kazakh entries are analyzed.

In whole, in compared dictionaries the terms are written with a new paragraph and in the alphabetical order. Lemmas are not only terms, but also terms-collocations. If the term is a collocation it is also arranged in the alphabetical order of the first word.

2. *Pronunciation*, relating to the lemma, may either be placed in the lemma position, i.e. within the lemma field, or it may occur in a separate field after the lemma. Stress may be indicated by underlining the stressed vowel or syllable or by placing a mark immediately before the affected syllable. In English dictionaries the pronunciation element is usually placed after the lemma but before the grammatical information. For example: **accusative** /ə'kjuz:zətɪv/ *n.* or *adj.* ... [9]; **ANGLITs'IZM** ... [10]; **ANNAGR'AMMA** ... [11]; **Art'ikl** – ...; or **Älemdik tilder** orys. *mirov'ye yazyk'i* – ... [13].

In the English dictionary the phonetic description is expressed by transcription and stress and in the Russian and Kazakh – only by stress. It should be noted that in “Explanatory Dictionary of Linguistic Terms” by Ğ. Qaliyev the international terms are stressed (e.g. **Art'ikl**). If the term is in Kazakh and not international, in this way the stress is put on its Russian equivalent (e.g. **Älemdik tilder** orys. *mirov'ye yazyk'i*). Not all the analyzed dictionaries of linguistic terms have a pronunciation.

3. *Grammatical information*, addressed to the lemma. According to the standards of dictionary practice, the grammatical information is placed after the lemma. The grammatical features of lemma usually inform about word class, gender, morphology and syntax. Within the grammatical information this sequence is kept. However, in English dictionaries of linguistic terms the grammatical information about the lemma is limited by the indication of word class and number. For example: **accommodation** (*n.*) ... [7]; **allomorph** /'ælə,mɔ:rf/ *n.* ... [9].

In entries the word class of lemma is indicated (*n.* – noun, *adj.* – adjective, etc.) and placed either after the term or pronunciation. If the noun is an exception, the plural form is given (pl.). In Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms the grammatical information is not observed.

4. *Term analysis* (language of origin, formation, meaning of components). For example:

accent [Lat. *accentus*, from *ad-cantus* ‘that which is sung (together with)’] ... [8];

AKTs'ENT (lat. *accentus* – udareniye). ...[11];

Akts'ent (lat. *accentus* dauys köterilui, ekpin) – ... [13];

AKTsENTOLOGIYa (lat. *accentus* – ekpin jäne grek. *lógos* – cöz, ilim) – ... [14];

AKTsENT (lat. *accentus* – dauystyñ köterilui, ekpin) aғыl. *accent*, fr. *accent*, nem. *Akzent* – ...[15].

Many linguistic terms are modern formations and do not belong to etymology. In “Dictionary in Linguistics” edited by E. Suleimenova there are terms that were not previously added to the dictionary of linguistic terms as entries: **KOD ALMASTYRU**, **MEMLEKETTİK TIL**, **TIL TURALY ZAÑ** and many others.

5. *Equivalents* of the term in other languages. For example:

AGGLYuTIN'ATsIYA *angl.* *agglutination*, *fr.* *agglutination*, *nem.* *Agglutination*, *isp.* *aglutinaci'on.* ...[10];

Agglyutinatsiya (*agglutination*, *Agglutination*, *agglutination*, *agglutinazione*). ...[12];

Ayqyndauysh orys. *prilozh'eniye*, *appoz'itsiya* – ...[13];

AGGLYuTINATsIYA ... aғыl. *agglutination*, fr. *agglutination*, nem. *Agglutination* – ...[15].

Equivalents of term *agglyutinatsiya* are given in four languages: English, French, German and Spanish in “Dictionary of Linguistic terms” by O. Akhmanova and French, German, English and Italian in “Dictionary of Linguistic Terms” by Zh. Maruzo; also in three languages: English, German and French in “Dictionary in Linguistics” edited by E. Suleimenova. In “Explanatory Dictionary of Linguistic terms” by Ğ. Qaliyev Kazakh terms have an equivalent only in Russian. In this dictionary, as an example, term **Agglyutin'atsiya** is not given, as it is international and the spelling of Russian and English equivalents coincides. In other compared dictionaries the equivalents in other languages are not observed.

6. *Explanation of meaning* (for each generally accepted meaning). Sometimes, this lexicographic element is called *encyclopedic label* which provides further semantic information about definiendum. In specialized monolingual dictionaries the encyclopedic labels refer to the lemma. “Semantic description is the main and complex part of the entry of any dictionary. In terminological dictionaries built by the alphabetic order, the semantic description of the term is realized either through a logical definition of its meaning – that is usually found only in monolingual dictionaries or

through a translation equivalent in translation terminological dictionaries”[3].

The semantic description is expressed in the form of a dictionary definition, the object of which is the meaning of the term. The function of definition consists in semantization of the term using the elements of metalanguage.

It should be noted that the logical requirements (conciseness, accuracy, proportionality and absence of the vicious circle) of the definition are not always observed. As for the typology of the definition, in dictionaries of linguistic terms generic-specific, operational and enumerative definitions are often practiced. As a rule, genus proximum and differentia specifica are inherent only in generic-specific definitions. For example:

acrolet (*n.*) A term used by some sociolinguists, in the study of the development of Creole languages, to refer to a prestige or standard variety (or lect) to which it is possible to compare other lects. An **acrolectal** variety is contrasted with a mesolect and a basilect [7];

anthroponymy ... Subdiscipline of onomastics concerned with the development, origin, and distribution of personal names [8];

Ablaut ... Grammatical inflection by variation in the vowel of a root, as in English *sing, sang, sung*. ... [9];

AMPLIFIK'ATsIYa ... 1. Figura rechi, sostoyashchaya v sopolozhenii (nakoplenii) sinonimov s narastaniyem ekspressivnosti, v ispolzovanii giperbolicheskikh sravneniy i t.p.; ... 2. Uvelicheniye protyazhennosti teksta pri perevode s odnogo yazyka na drugoy. ... [10];

ARTIKUL'YaTsIYa ... Rabota organov rechi, neobkhodimaya dlya proizneseniya zvukov [11];

Antiteza ... Simmetrichnoye raspolozheniye vyskazyvaniya, imeyushcheye tselyu podcherknut' protivopolozhnyy (gr. anti-thesis) smysl dvukh slov: ... [12].

All'onim ... – adam attarynyň, geografialyq ataulardyň t.b. jaryspa türleri: ... [13];

ASSIBILYaTsIYa – šuğyl (eksploziv) dauyssyzdardyň yzyň dauyssyzdarmen almasuy [14];

ANTIFRAZIS ... mağynasy jağynan kerisinši (keri mağynada) qoldynalatyn sözder men söz oramdary. ... [15].

The semantic description shows that definitions of terms **acrolet**, **anthroponymy**, **Ablaut**, **AMPLIFIK'ATsIYa** (first meaning), **ANTIFRAZIS** are generic-specific; **AMPLIFIK'ATsIYa** (second meaning), **ARTIKUL'YaTsIYa**, **Antiteza**, **ASSIBILYaTsIYa** – operational, and **All'onim** is enumerative. All definitions of terms are formed on the basis of logical-conceptual analysis. Such types of

definitions as enumerative and operational do not possess a generic-specific structure. However, in enumerative definitions the conceptual content of definiendum is fixed by listing the elements included in it as its specific representatives. And in operational definitions, despite the lack of a generic concept, differentiating features state a method of formation, construction or origin of definiendum. This implies that the generic concept is not always obligatory for the definitions of linguistic terms. First, this phenomenon depends on the type definition.

In English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms there are lemmas which have several meanings. These meanings are given in the text of the same entry under numeric characters separated by a point, such as in the definition of term **AMPLIFIK'ATsIYa**.

7. *Collocations* should not exceed more than three. If the term has the related collocations (terms) of a smaller semantic volume, they are given in the nest of the main term and can be placed in the entry as follows:

- in the alphabetical order of the second (if necessary, the third) component. The order of words in such collocations is identified by the fact that their common component is put on the first place, i.e. the word which is at the head of the entry. For example:

ABSOL'YuTNYy ... **Absolyutnyy**
ablative ... **Absolyutnyy artikl** ... [10];

AN'AFORA ... **Anafora zvukovaya**. ...
Anafora morfemnaya. ... **Anafora leksicheskaya**. ... [11].

- in the random order. For example:

adequacy ... **External adequacy** ...;
internal adequacy ... **Observational adequacy** ...;
descriptive adequacy; **explanatory adequacy** ... [7];

Analogiya ... **Materialnaya analogiya** ...
i formalnaya analogiya ... **Smyslovaya analogiya** ...
... **i grammaticheskaya analogiya** ... [12].

In other compared dictionaries the terms-collocations are given by a separate dictionary entry in the alphabetical order.

8. *Examples* in the entries are placed after the semantic description. Illustrative examples in dictionaries of linguistic terms help the users understand in detail the sphere of their use. For example:

ablative ..., e.g. *He did it with his hands* [7];

actor-action-model ...: *Louise (agent) plays the flute (action)* [8];

agentless passive ...: *My wallet has been stolen* [9];

ARGOT'IZMY ... *Russk. Vy zh takoye zagibat umeli, chto drugoy na svete ne umel* [10];

ANTIT'EZA ... *Ty bogat, ya ochen beden, Ty prozaik, ya poet* (Pushkin) [11];

Aferezis ...: angl. I am > I'm [12];

Alliter'atsiya ... Mys.: *Japalaq jalpyldaydy jar basynda. Jalğyz jalau jaltyldap* (Abay). ... [13];

ANTONIMIYA – ... Mys.: joğary – tömen, az – köp, jaqsy – jaman t.b. [14];

ANALOG ... Mys., or. t. *nadezhda*, qaz. t. *ümit* [15].

9. *Cross-references* to systematically connected terms. Cross-references are used for the additional information in the dictionary. Sometimes they constitute the major part of an entry. A typical referential entry contains lemma, grammatical information and cross-reference. For example:

acronym (*n*) see **abbreviation** [7];

affective meaning => **connotation** [8];

abbreviatory variable Cf. **essential variable** [9];

AKT'IV. To zhe, chto zalog deystvitelnyy (*sm. zalog*) [10];

AKT'IVNYE 'ORGANY R'ECHI – *sm. organy rechi* [11].

Adstrat (adstrat), *sm. Substrat* [12];

Akkuzativtik qurylys ... – q. *Nominativtik qurylys* [13];

AMPLIFIKATsIYA – qar. Pleonazm [14];

ATRIBUT ... – *Anyqtauysphen* barabar [15];

English dictionaries of linguistic terms may contain such cross-references as *see*, Cf. (compare), => (this sign is used as a cross-reference to the other entry in the dictionary); Russian – *sm.* (smotri – see), *sr.* (sравni – compare), *to zhe, chto* (the same as), etc.; Kazakh – *q./qar.* (qara – see), *barabar* (the same as), *salys.* (salystyr – compare). These cross-references help both to establish a definite link between the terms and compare their similarity or, on the contrary, difference.

10. Information on *synonymy* and *antonymy* may occur in several places in the entry. This information usually functions as some kind of secondary help to specialized dictionary users and may be placed in the end of the entry in the form of cross-references to point to the synonym or doublet, or to compare with the antonym as it was noted above in the lexicographic element about cross-references.

Synonyms and antonyms may also follow the main term in parentheses. For example:

ABBREVIAT'URA ... 1. (slozhnosokrashchennoye slovo). ... [10];

VARI'ANT MORF'EMY (allom'orf). ... [11];

AMPLIFIKATsIYA ... (keñeytu) – ... [15].

11. *Bibliographical references* are references to the special literature. For example:

absolute antonymy *Reference* Lehrer, A. and K.Lehrer. 1982. *Antonymy. Ling&P* 5. 483-501 [8].

Findings

The results of analysis show that each separate dictionary of linguistic terms (English, Russian and Kazakh) is characterized by its own internal structure of the entry where there is a lack of certain lexicographic elements marked in the common microstructure.

Table 1. Comparison of microstructures of dictionaries of linguistic terms

#	Lexicographic element of a dictionary entry	Dictionary								
		Crystal, D. Dictionary of Linguistics and Forensic Speech Edition	Bussmann, H. Dictionary of Language and Linguistics	Trask, R.L. A Dictionary of Grammatical Terms in Linguistics	Abdumurova, A.S. Dictionary of Linguistic Terms	Rezzental, D.A. Dictionary of Linguistic Terms	Murano, Zhi. Dictionary of Linguistic Terms	Quliyev, G. Explanatory Dictionary of Linguistic Terms	Schuybal, A. Abstran'ya. Linguistic Explanatory Dictionary	Dictionary in Linguistics, edited by E. Sulimeneva
1	Lemma	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	Pronunciation	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
3	Grammatical information	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-
4	Term analysis	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
5	Equivalents	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
6	Explanation of meaning	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
7	Collocations	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+
8	Examples	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
9	Cross-references	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
10	Synonymy and antonymy	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
11	Bibliographical references	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Such lexicographic elements as lemma, explaining of meaning (definition), examples, cross-references, and information on synonymy and antonymy are basic for English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms. Pronunciation is more specific for the microstructure of Russian dictionaries and less applied to English and Kazakh ones. Grammatical information about the term is observed only in English dictionaries. The special attention is paid to the term analysis in Kazakh dictionaries, then in English and Russian ones. The variety of equivalents in other languages is typical for Russian and Kazakh dictionaries. Collocations in the nest of the same term are met only in Russian dictionaries. Finally, from nine compared dictionaries of linguistic terms only in one English dictionary the microstructure contains bibliographical references.

Thus, the lack of certain lexicographic elements within the analysis of dictionary entries makes it possible to trace and identify more applied microstructure:

- for English dictionaries of linguistic terms:

1. Lemma. 2. Grammatical information. 3. Explaining of meaning. 4. Examples. 5. Cross-references. 4. Information on synonymy and antonymy;

- for Russian dictionaries of linguistic terms:

1. Lemma. 2. Pronunciation. 3. Equivalents. 4. Explaining of meaning. 5. Collocations. 6. Examples. 7. Cross-references. 8. Information on synonymy and antonymy;

- for Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms:

1. Lemma. 2. Term analysis. 3. Equivalents. 4. Explaining of meaning. 5. Examples. 6. Cross-references. 7. Information on synonymy and antonymy.

Conclusions

The structure of the entry is a meaningful constituent in the system of the dictionary. On the basis of comparative analysis eleven lexicographic elements of the entry are identified. They give a complex description of lemma (term) in English, Russian and Kazakh dictionaries of linguistic terms.

In general, a minimum microstructure of dictionaries of linguistic terms may be presented in two ways:

1. Lemma – Definition – Examples;
2. Lemma – Cross-reference.

However, the analysis of microstructure features of dictionaries of linguistic terms demonstrates their general tendency (keeping the basic structural elements) to widening scopes, complication of organization, improvement by new descriptions, and information of various kinds.

Such lexicographic elements as pronunciation, grammatical information, term analysis, equivalents, collocations and bibliographical references supplement the basic microstructure, making it more complex and meaningful. The format of entries, as well as their construction takes an important place in the dictionary microstructure. The research shows that the alphabetical arrangement of lemmas, an accurate sequence of lexicographic elements and their interconnection within the microstructure of dictionaries of linguistic terms leads not only to a quick view of the entry but finding the right piece of information.

The typical structure of the entry, consisting of eleven lexicographic elements, is a really detailed description of the term and its interconnection with the other terms in linguistics.

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