

Second Lecture: Semantics and Lexicology

Lexicology , lexicography , semantics and the definition of a discipline

Lexicology is the study of a language's lexis , often known as its lexicon . It is commonly thought of as a discipline of linguistics dealing with the nature , meaning , history , and application of words and word elements . It is frequently linked to the critical description of lexicography . Lexicology is concerned with all aspects of words , including morphology , syntax , word formation , etymology , word combinations , meaning , and language history . In this sense , lexicology began as a subdiscipline of philology . Today , it is increasingly treated as a branch of linguistics , with terms like lexeme , lexical field , lexical item , lexicon , and lexis associated with it , on the assumption that these terms can provide a more precise and useful basis for the study of language than imprecise terms like words and vocabulary .

Semantics , on the other hand , is the study of meaning in general . Semantics is commonly associated with the following four disciplines :

- a) Semasiology , a discipline of linguistics concerned with the study of word and phrase meanings , including denotation , connotation , implications , and ambiguities . The phonological , grammatical (morphological and syntactic) , and semantic levels of language analysis can all be used to investigate words and their meanings
- . b) Philosophy , the study of logical expressions and the concepts that determine whether a sentence is true or untrue .
- c) Semiotics , which is the study of signs , what they mean , and how people react to them .
- d) It can be used in a variety of situations . Semantics is interesting in general use , that is , in the intuitive study of meaning , because word meanings include denotation , connotation , implications , and ambiguities .

As a result, semantics is a broad, not narrow, study of a language's lexis. The science of studying a language's lexis must be defined in its own terms, without taking the definition of meanings and words for granted.

Lexicography is the process of creating dictionaries, or the process of using lexicological principles to provide an accurate description of the meaning of words found in dictionaries and grammars (lexicographical works). It is true, however, that lexicography evolved independently of lexicology. Lexicography evolved into works of reference such as dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses, synonym guides, use guides, and concordances that were independent of all lexicological theories.

The suitability of a discipline to the item it studies is to be defined. The appropriateness of a discipline is thus determined by how well it defines the subject of study. In this view, a discipline's object of study determines the discipline's postulates, techniques, and goals. The object of study in a discipline is something determinable, something that can be decided only by the field's postulates. It is required to differentiate three separate features in the object of study of a discipline:

1. It is vital to distinguish between the subject to be researched and the discipline's material object of study.
2. The formal object "quod," which specifies the material item:
3. And the formal object "a quo," the purpose sought in the object of research.

A discipline's object of study is made up of these three aspects taken together.

The Definition of Meaning

Meaning is a particularly difficult issue. Language is defined by its meaning, which is inextricably linked to its very existence. At the same time, meaning is expressed through language. The formation of meanings is what language is all about. 3. Meaning is ubiquitous and necessary in this sense. Meaning, on the other hand, is not abstract but concrete. The meaning of a language is expressed through its words and expressions. It takes on a variety of forms, i.e., many meanings. In this view, meaning is something that is specific to certain languages and has a long history.

The basic role of language, that is, to mean, is meaning. The meaningful function of language, its inherent determination, the function of establishing meanings, determines and so defines it. Language is independent in this sense since it has its own inherent determination.

Many semanticists believe that communication and meaning are intrinsically linked. When it comes to communication, there are two sorts to consider:

The act of passing something on to someone else. This form of communication falls into two categories: 1. communication with others; and 2. use of language to practical activities. Any verbal act must have this as a requirement or condition.

Meaning is the inherent determination of language, allowing it to be defined by its contents. The actual application of language is referred to as communication. Language is the foundation of society because it expresses the essential state of human beings as social subjects. Language is the foundation of society, and language is the foundation of society. It is necessary for communication to exist for society, language, and meaning to exist first.

Language is an action, namely speaking, that consists of a collection of procedures carried out with the goal of "expressing something about something using the signs of a particular language." Language is a construct that does not exist in and of itself. It doesn't have a physical presence. It only exists in the context of that action. Language is made up of a succession of speech acts carried out by speakers. The speaker's performance of language is referred to as a speech act. As a result, speech acts have a concrete existence, constituting the expression of language in both its natural and historical forms.

The act of apprehending things, or knowledge, is what a speaking act is all about. A speech act is the physical manifestation of the speaker's particular intuition. In this view, speakers' speech acts are determined by their meaningful intended purpose. Speakers speak because they have something to say and because they are aware of something. Acts of knowing, saying, and speaking are thus referred to as speech acts.

Speakers always refer to something (designation) using language elements (historical means, i.e., meanings), and then say something using designation and (historical) meanings, thereby making sense. Every time a speaker speaks, they

make sense. In this sense, speakers consider who they are speaking to ("you," the listener) and what circumstances are influencing their speech (the situation and context). Speakers choose the aspects that best suit their demands of expressiveness while keeping this in mind. As a result, a succession of speech acts can be researched and analyzed as texts insofar as they are performed. Language can be utilized at two levels in a text, that is, in individual usage of language: a) the level of denotation, and b) the level of connotation.

A language is a method for expressing any potential speech that has been historically specified. Language is a historical technique in the activity of speaking in this sense. In fact, the many languages are nothing more than channels of communication. The many types of speaking action are what make up the various languages. Languages aren't all the same, and the pieces inside them have a variety of interactions with one another.

All degrees of idiomatic knowledge (=linguistic skill) contain meaning. Linguistic competence is a universal human activity that individual people do individually as representatives of traditions in speaking method. The activity of speaking has three levels: a universal level that spans all languages and is concerned with speaking and its conditions; a specific level that is concerned with traditions in the activity of speaking, thus constituting techniques in the activity of speaking; and an individual level that is concerned with individual performances or executions and is concerned with the specific needs of speakers in terms of expression. When speakers communicate, they will always talk about things, using the means of expression of a given language to create new meanings regarding certain issues, topics, and circumstances. The linguistic content is organized.

The first aspect of linguistic content configuration, designation, is concerned with the universal level of speech. The relation of language to things in the world is known as designation. The act of designating something is more than just pointing at it. It can only be given through the medium of words.

The second aspect of linguistic content configuration, meaning, is concerned with the specific degree of speaking action, that is, with the specific configuration of facts of experience produced by a language.

Finally, the third feature of linguistic content configuration, sense, pertains to the individual level of speaking action, the type of meaning established in each situation, by each speaker in particular circumstances, using meaning and designation. The linguistic depiction of contents is what meaning is all about. The structure of meaning is unique to each language. Designation, which refers to the speaker's current configuration of objects in the real world, and sense, which refers to the individual subjects who speak rather than the specific language.

Linguistic meaning manifests itself in a variety of ways in the method of speaking: the following types of meaning can be recognized in the technique of speaking:

Lexical meaning is the meaning that relates to the essence of linguistic understanding of the universe. It's the response to the query, "How do you see things?" What do you think you're getting at? It is the organization or basic systematization of experience through the use of words in a language. Every language creates a unique and unique configuration of facts of experience.

The type of meaning linked to the method in which linguistic knowledge of real things is expressed in a language is known as category meaning. It's the response to the query, "How do you understand things?" It's what grammatical categories mean (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs). Warm differs from warm in this way, despite the fact that they have the same lexical meaning. Young, youth, old, and to grow old all have diverse meanings because, while they all have the same lexical meaning, they transmit varying shades of meaning depending on how the lexical meaning is given. The above content words denote various situations of events. The condition of affairs conveyed by adjectives is applied to the state of affairs signified by the headword. Nouns refer to things that are semantic objects. And verbs refer to the meaning they transmit to states of affairs capable of forming various interactions with the constituents in the state of affairs in question. In this regard, The family's young members are distinct from the family's young. In the first situation, you are referring to certain young family members, whereas in the second case, you are referring to family members who are characterized as young. They are simply referred to as young in the first circumstance, and they are defined as young in the second.

The type of meaning pertaining to the contents conveyed by morphemes, whether they are independent or not, is known as instrumental meaning. For example, the -s morpheme in some tables denotes plurality, but in Peter's house, it denotes determination, i.e., it serves as a determiner. It indicates the third person singular present simple in he comes. Similarly, the determiner in the man orients a category of objects to a specific object, resulting in the phrasing "a particular and determined member of the category of man," rather than "the category of man," which refers to human beings. In the same way, some in the word some man refers to an indefinite member of the class.

The meaning supplied by lexematic and categorematic terms with morphemes within a sentence is known as syntactic or structural meaning. It is the sum of all elements that make up a sentence, and it specifies a specific aspect of that sentence. In this sense, phrases such as The English vanquished the Picts and The Picts were defeated by the English are correct. have the same designation and lexical and category meanings, but they must be approached from different perspectives. The first example can be broken down into two parts: determined (Agent) + past + active (Patient) and determined (Patient) + past + passive (Agent). That is, the differing meaning given is due to the way words are combined, or syntax.

The worth of expressions in terms of the actuality or non-existence of the contents conveyed, or the truth or non-truth of the expression and the items referred to, is referred to as ontic meaning. Sentences are the only things that have ontic meaning. Affirmative, negative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory, and so on.

Lexematics, or the structural study of meaning

A language, according to Coseriu, is a historically constituted strategy for any type of speaking. The functional language, syntopic, synestratic, and symphasic, is the only language spoken and, as a result, the only language to be studied. Speech, or the lowest level of performance of the technique of speaking, the norm of the language, or the technique of speaking, the system of the language, or the set of functional oppositions abstracted from the norm of the language, and the type of the language, or the set of oppositions specific to a particular language or preferred in that language are the four levels of functional language.

The material object of lexematics is lexical function words; its formal object "quod" is the functional character of lexical function words, functional elements of a functional language; and its formal object "a quo" is the syntagmatic and paradigmatic structures they maintain, that is, the functional oppositions and combinations they may have in a sentence or in a phrase.

It is important to determine which words or expressions have the lexical function, that is, which words or expressions constitute the basic systematization of experience with words of a language, in order to establish the material object of lexematics. The lexical function should preferably come before the functions required for combining words in speech. The lexical function, according to Coseriu, is the determinatum of category and grammar functions, that is, the object not yet specified before category and grammar functions are assigned, or the thing left after all those category and grammar functions are abstracted away.

It is the established links between the meanings of various linguistic signs. In contrast to designation connections, signification relationships I. can be structured. They are facts of language, that is, facts about speaking technique. The divisions between young and old, young and new, and new and old, for example, are structured in and of themselves; II. are continuous from a synchronic standpoint. Young, for example, cannot be attributed to a house or a table; III. cannot be metaphorical, at least in terms of synchrony.

However, from an etymological standpoint, signification relationships can be metaphorical, and hence metaphorical in an associative sense, if the etymology, whether genuine or wrong, is present in the conscience of speakers. Because the relationship presented is not conventional, April is the cruelest month is not a relationship of significance; it belongs only to the author who said it (T. S. Elliot). As a result, it's impossible to state that cruelty is a month-specific trait. Infant, on the other hand, is a historical metonymy, but in today's English, all references to metaphor or metonymy have vanished.

It is the established relationships between signs and objects, or the relationships between words and the reality to which they refer. Ties of designation, in contrast to relationships of signification,

I'm not a structured person. The concrete naming of an object is a fact of speech, whereas meaning is a reality of language, a fact of the speaking technique.

II. Can be symbolic; III. Can be varied in terms of synchrony.

In this sense, a single item can be categorized into several separate classes, and as a result, it can be named, that is, identified, using all of the signs associated with these classes. Multiple designation is a term used to describe this situation. A dog, for example, might be a friendly or a vicious animal; a predator or a pet; a warden or a nuisance; a danger to avoid or a helpful animal in specific conditions. However, the object in question is the same in each scenario. Multiple designations are possible for the semantic object dog. Similarly, the same semantic object can be referred to as a house, a home, a flat, an apartment, a cottage, a chalet, a mansion, or a palace, and it can be referred to with any of the signs pertaining to these classes.