Third Lecture: Lexicology and Grammar

Grammar is a set of principles that determines how language is structured . The domains of morphology (word internal structure) , phonology (word sound) , accidence (word inflection) , and semantics all fall under the umbrella of grammar (the meaning and interpretation of words) . The right tense of a phrase , as well as the agreement of elements of speech such as adverbs and nouns , are determined by grammatical rules (Master Class staff , 2021)

Grammar , in the eyes of linguists , is essentially a set of rules that define how to construct a sentence . Some people claim that such - and - such a language ' has no grammar , ' yet this is not the case with any language . Every language contains rules about how words must be organized in order to form a sentence . Syntax principles impose such limitations . Every language has roughly the same amount of syntax as the others . For example , all languages have rules for constructing sentences that ask yes / no questions , such as Can you hear me ?, questions that invite a different kind of response , such as What did you see ?, sentences that express commands , such as Eat your potatoes !, and sentences that make assertions , such as Whales eat plankton (Chung & Pullum , n.d.)

A language's syntactic principles may require a specific order of words or allow for a variety of possibilities . English sentences , for example , must have words in the subject - verb - object order . ' Whales eat plankton ' is a sentence in which the subject is whales , the verb is eat , and the object is plankton . Even when a language allows for multiple arrangements of phrases in a sentence , the order in which they are used is rigorously controlled . For example , there may be a requirement that the first phrase refer to the subject of your discussion , or that whatever the first phrase is , the second phrase must be the main clause verb . Not only does every language contain syntax , but comparable syntactic concepts appear in many different languages . In English , Swahili , and Thai (all of which are completely unconnected) , word order is very similar ; sentences in Irish are

strikingly similar to those in Maori, Maasai, and ancient Egyptian (all of which are completely unrelated); and so on (Chung & Pullum, n.d.)

Lexicology and grammar are also inextricably linked. Each word has a place in a language's grammatical structure and belongs to one or more parts of speech. Lexicology investigates this relationship in terms of grammatical meanings as well as their connection to lexical meaning. Lexicology is still more closely tied to grammar in the subject of word production. Both are interested in word formation patterns (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

Lexicology and Lexicography

Lexiko (adjective from lexis, meaning 'speech,' 'method of speaking,' or 'word') is the root of both lexicology and lexicography. Both of them are concerned about the 'word,' or the lexical unit of a language. Lexicology is the science of words, from from lexico 'word' and logos 'learning or knowledge.' Lexicography is made up of the words lexico and graph, which means "word writing." The etymological meaning of these words demonstrates the breadth of various linguistic branches. Lexicology is the study of words as a science, whereas lexicography is the writing of words in a concrete form, such as a dictionary. As we'll see later, lexicology and lexicography are inextricably linked; in fact, the latter is a direct result of the former and is referred to as applied lexicology (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

The subject 'word' is shared by both lexicology and lexicography, as previously stated. Theoretically, lexicography is based on lexicology. Despite knowing all of the semantic elements of a lexical unit, the lexicographer may be forced to make judgements and incorporate aspects in the definition that are based on his personal observations. The study of words in lexicology is objective, guided by ideas of semantics and word formation. Individual deviations have no place in this world. Despite the best efforts of the lexicographer, many definitions in lexicography become subjective, i.e. they are not devoid of the bias of the dictionary maker (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

Lexicography is more concerned with the concrete application (i.e. results) of these theories, whereas lexicology is more interested with theory. "In a way, lexicography is a superior discipline than lexicology," says the author, "since

results are more essential than intentions, and the significance of theoretical concepts must be judged in terms of results." (Doroszewski, 1973, p.36).

General lexicology is concerned with the general characteristics of language terms. In this sense, lexicology is not language particular, whereas lexicography, despite its universal theoretical underpinning, is more or less language specific. Its theories are only supported by their actual relevance in the creation of dictionaries (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

The study and practice of compiling dictionaries is known as lexicography. John Garland, an Englishman, was the first to use the word 'dictionary' in this sense in the 13th century. In the 14th century, the term Dictionarium was employed. Sir Thomas Elyot's Latin-English Dictionary was the first book published under the English title Dictionary (1538). A dictionary was a collection of dictionaries or words compiled for the advantage of students studying Latin, according to a medieval researcher. Glossing texts and using synonyms for them was one of the functions of dictionaries in medieval times (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

Lexicology and Etymology

An etymology, as defined above, is a historical explanation of a linguistic item's origin and subsequent historical evolution. This is due to the fact that etymological accounts are essentially diachronic. In this sense, a linguistic object may have only one etymology, but not necessarily one origin (Mailhammer, 2014)

Etymologies are essential to the study of a language's history. Etymologies allow for generalizations about historical processes, such as the establishment of sound laws, or about a specific synchronically recorded phenomenon, such as a specific sort of stem production, and they are used as arguments to address issues concerning language genetic links. Etymology is more of a supporting tool in historical linguistics. It is nearly hard to investigate the history of a language without etymologies (Mailhammer, 2014)

Etymology must distinguish between the near and far origins of the word under question. Etymological studies of a language's vocabulary usually work backwards from the present language. Historians of each language or language

family must decide how far back in time to trace the word's origin based on the available linguistic and extralinguistic data (Dworkin, 2015)

The science of etymology is essentially a branch of lexicology. Because lexicology is concerned with the meaning of words and their semantic relationships, it frequently delves into the origins and evolution of a term. Etymologists use the comparative approach to examine related languages, which is a set of procedures that allows linguists to recover the ancestral phonological, morphological, syntactic, and other components of modern languages by comparing cognate material. This means that single words from the Proto-Indo-European language can be traced back to several word origins from distinct branches of the Indo-European language family. The English language, for example, has more borrowed terms (or loan words) than native words in its vocabulary (Lexicology)

Lexicography and Semantics

While lexicology, lexical semantics, and lexicography are all concerned with lexical items, they are frequently seen as three distinct but connected studies. Indeed, it's a moot matter whether the link is recognized and taken into consideration in lexicographic practice. The symposium that produced the papers in this collection was intended to bring their practitioners together and encourage them to work together more closely. The editors believe that lexicography, as a practical activity, should learn more from its sister fields. Some of the ideas gained in the more realistically oriented descriptions may be relevant and beneficial to people working in lexicography, lexical semantics, and other fields (Tomaszczyk & Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk, 1990)

The science of semantics is concerned with 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) (Castillo, 2012)

Lexicography and Linguistics

As previously said, lexicography's primary interest is the 'word,' which is examined in many fields of linguistics such as phonetics, grammar, stylistics, and so on. Lexicography is not only related to linguistics, but it is also a branch of the discipline. The application of linguistic findings to actual lexicography difficulties solves the problems. As we will see below, the lexicographer is assisted by the work of several departments of linguistics throughout his entire labor, from the selection of entries to the fixation of head words, the definition of terms, and the arrangement of meanings and entries (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

Frequency count is usually one of the most frequently acknowledged criterion for selecting entries in many dictionaries. The canonical or most often occurring form of a word is usually chosen by the lexicographer as the frequency of head words. This is discovered through grammatical analysis of the language. The difficulty of selecting the head word is not as tough in written languages and languages with established grammatical traditions as it is in unwritten languages. In this case, the lexicographer must act as his own linguist and rely on linguistic study of the language. He use field linguistics for data collecting and descriptive linguistics for analysis. The lexicographer provides encyclopaedic material for defining flora and animals, as well as artifacts and other cultural things. A lexicographer uses the notion of the hierarchical structure of the vocabulary in terms of folk taxonomy for this. As a result, he enters the field of ethnolinguistics.

The phonetic study of the language aids the lexicographer in providing spellings and pronunciations of words in his dictionary. He must rely on the

morphological study of the language for grammatical information (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

Historical linguistics aids the lexicographer in determining the central meaning of a polysemous word. Etymology provides him with the information he needs to determine the core meaning. The lexicographer must use linguistic procedures such as set collocations, valency, and selective constraints to determine the number of meanings and their relationships (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

In historical dictionaries, historical linguistics aids in tracking the origin and development of the form and meaning of words. Historical linguistics is used in descriptive dictionaries to decide on labels like archaic, obsolete, and others that denote the temporal condition of words. Historical linguistics, particularly etymological research, aids in the differentiation of homonymy and polysemy. Where etymological considerations are not applicable due to a lack of such studies, the native speaker's intuition is used to determine the outcome. Psycholinguistics assists the lexicographer in this. Psycholinguistics also contributes to the development of vocabulary by supplying material that may be utilized to create graded dictionaries (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

Slang, jargon, taboo, figurative, formal, graamya (vulgar), and other status descriptors are assigned by dictionaries. Sociolinguistic and stylistic studies are used to determine these labels. Dialectology is a required companion for dialect dictionaries.A contrastive investigation of the linguistic systems of the two languages is a prerequisite for bilingual dictionaries. Contrastive linguistics provides this (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

All of this demonstrates that the lexicographer must rely on the findings of many branches of linguistics to a great extent in his job. In reality, however, this is not the case. In many languages, lexicographical works came before grammatical ones. Linguistic discoveries are not only used by linguists to solve lexicographical difficulties; they are also used by linguists for various goals such as validating their hypotheses and assisting in the standardization of languages, particularly in the realm of technical terminology (Lexicology and Lexicography, n.d)

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