New Approaches to Specialized English Lexicology and Lexicography

Isabel Balteiro (ed).
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The book *New Approaches to Specialized English Lexicology and Lexicography*, edited by Isabel Balteiro, is a collection of eleven relevant contributions aimed at analysing English and ESP lexicology and lexicography and relating them to other linguistic and non-linguistic disciplines. In fact, one of its main strengths is the fact that it links these areas with less academic or prototypically linguistic fields such as comics, fashion and even cinema.

The first part of the volume, devoted to ESP and general English lexicology and lexicography, consists of three chapters and can be considered a sort of introductory, more general approach to the topic. In Chapter 1, authored by RAQUEL MARTÍNEZ MOTOS, the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of our society, which results in the blurring of boundaries among many disciplines, is analysed from a lexicographical perspective. The author highlights the need to carefully analyse potential users' needs – as in the dictionary of Pharmacy presented in the chapter – in order to match the lexicographical tools to a real purpose. Chapter 2, written by MARIÁN ALESÓN, puts forward the close relationship between specialised languages (with a special focus on the language of tourism) and the communicative needs of the discourse communities that use them. From a thorough analysis of twelve dictionaries, glossaries and phrase books (the corpus of study), the author concludes that specialised lexicography in the area of tourism has undergone a great evolution driven by the increasingly present notions of "context" and "real needs", especially reflected in the changes experienced in the microstructure of the lexicographical works. Finally, Chapter 3, by MOISÉS ALMELA, PASCUAL CANTOS and AQUILINO SÁNCHEZ, shows these authors' disagreement with the techniques of lexical description usually employed in corpus linguistics by proposing that the manifestation of semantic structure in syntagmatic patterning is often distorted by a number of factors which these conventional techniques fail to consider. Consequently, they present a more sophisticated method based on the Lexical Constellation Model, which

represents different areas or domains of a constellation (node, collocates, sub-collocates) in terms of the conceptual entities underlying the semantic motivations of the phenomenon of collocation.

The second part of the book (Chapters 4 to 6) deals with specialised lexicology and terminology and starts with what ISABEL BALTEIRO calls "A few notes on the vocabulary of textiles and fashion", which she considers to be a very rich but still unexplored register or professional language. Accordingly, this fourth chapter introduces the reader to the main features that characterise the lexical resources of this type of English, focusing on the different degrees of scientificity or specialisation shown by English textiles terminology, and phenomena such as "banalisation" and internal word-formation mechanisms or loanword adoption. Chapter 5 presents MIGUEL ÁNGEL CAMPOS PARDILLOS' research, in which he reflects on anglicisms and false anglicisms and the ambiguity and lack of clarity of (many) of the labels adopted ("apparent anglicisms", "false borrowings", "pseudo-anglicisms"). He then goes on to analyse other problems in the study of false anglicisms, such as the lack of connection between research in different languages and the problems arising from attribution, documentation and sources. In the second part of the chapter, the author analyses borrowings in legal English and a series of false anglicisms created through different processes, concluding that ELF (English as a Lingua Franca) is very likely to be a major factor in the evolution and success of false anglicisms by blurring barriers between languages. Chapter 6, authored by MARÍA JOSÉ PERAL, introduces the reader to the study of informed consent (IC) forms by conducting a comparative analysis of the essential elements of British and Spanish consent forms, focusing on communicative skills and lexical selection. The chapter stresses the importance of communication skills and of making the consent form understandable to patients so that they can freely and consciously decide whether to undergo treatment. Likewise, it analyses the role of pseudo-legal language while also providing some suggestions for assessing comprehension and verifying understanding in writing.

The third part of the volume, dealing with lexicology and language teaching, starts with Chapter 7, by CARMEN GUERRERO-GALÁN and JOAQUÍN PASTOR PINA. There, the authors reflect on the key role played by motivation in the learning process and on the necessary determination on the part of teachers to find ways to enhance that motivation. To illustrate these aspects, the authors present a variety of different activities to learn and review law and

business vocabulary using ICT that have been carried out with proven efficacy in Specific English groups. Chapter 8, whose author is MANUEL PALAZÓN SPECKENS, presents an ICT-based experience made up of lessons and an interactive web page aimed at creating a blended learning atmosphere so that students can make the most of their English for Tourism courses. The results of this research based on the needs of both teachers and learners (focused mainly on terminology teaching-learning) show that eLearning or blended learning requires both the teacher and the learner to become involved in the language acquisition process and that new technologies are an interesting core virtual material for ESP lessons.

Finally, the fourth part of the book (Chapters 9 to 11) constitutes the most innovative approach to the field: lexicology, lexicography and their relation to the visual arts. In Chapter 9, ANA MEHREN introduces the reader to the "Peculiarities in the language of superhero comics: The names of the characters and their translation into Spanish", showing that the alias is a vital part of a superhero's identity and that, accordingly, its translation should be brought as closely as possible to the idea portrayed by the target language. Through numerous examples illustrating this and other related aspects, the author concludes that it is not difficult to find cases of inconsistency in the naming of important comic characters in Spanish over the last forty years. In Chapter 10, JOSÉ RAMÓN CALVO argues that the inadequacy often detected in the way movie titles are translated into Spanish is more likely to be attributable to marketing practices than to a lack of skill on the translator's part. The author offers a lexicological approach to the analysis of proper names in humour and the procedure concerning their translation into Spanish. Hence, the study concludes that preservation techniques are more common than substitution techniques in the translation into Spanish, even when a significant degree of modification has also been observed. Finally, in Chapter 11 JOSÉ RAMÓN CALVO and ISABEL BALTEIRO focus on the lexicological characteristics of nadsat, the dialect used by Anthony Burgess in his novel *A Clockwork Orange*, and on the challenge it represents to translators. The constraints in dubbing and subtitling into Spanish are analysed, together with a number of insights into the adequacy of each technique for the translation of the novel and, by extension, of any film with strong lexical components. The authors conclude that dubbed versions portray the original presence of slang better than subtitled versions, since fewer constraints are imposed on its characteristic elements and a stronger effect may be achieved.

The book satisfactorily explores the complex, multifaceted universe of specialised English lexicology and lexicography, providing a fairly complete approach to the traditional aspects related to them. Nevertheless, it also examines other less prototypically related topics that have usually received less attention from language scholars, which makes the work even more interesting and pleasant to read. However, an abstract at the beginning of each chapter would have helped the reader to better understand the contents in each case, and more so when the book is said to be intended for readers of all kinds, ranging from teachers and researchers to a semi-expert readership of students of English and ESP. For this very same reason, and also in line with current trends in the field, some more attention paid to pedagogical specialised lexicography and to the applications of ICT in the field could have been of interest to the potential reader.

In conclusion, overall, the book provides an interesting, refreshing and multi-perspective approach to the topic and is highly recommendable to anybody working or interested in the field.

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Reviewed by **Nuria Edo Marzá**
Universitat Jaume I, Castelló (Spain)
nedo@ang.uji.es