

LEXICOLOGY COURSE

LECTURE 1 LANGUAGE AND LEXICOLOGY

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английского языкознания/учебные
материалы/кафедра английского языкознания/папки
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Syllabus

- Lectures 20 hours
- Workshops 8 hours
- Supervised self-guided work (YCP) 6 hours
- TOTAL 34

RESOURCES

- Антрушина Г.Б. Лексикология английского языка: Учеб. пособие для студентов / Г.Б. Антрушина, О.В. Афанасьева, Н.Н. Морозова.— М.: Дрофа, 2004.— 288 с.
- Арбекова Т. И. Лексикология английского языка (практический курс). Учеб. пособие для II – III курсов ин-тов и фак. иностр. яз. М., Высш. школа, 1977. — 240 с.
- Бабич Г.Н. Lexicology A Current Guide. Лексикология английского языка: учеб. пособие / Г.Н. Бабич. — М.: Флинта: Наука, 2009. — 200 с.
- Гвишиани Н.Б. Современный английский язык. Лексикология / Modern English Studies: Lexicology / Н.Б. Гвишиани М.: Академия, 2009. — 224 с.
- Дубенец Э.М. Современный английский язык. Лексикология: Пособие для студентов гуманитарных вузов. — М./СПб.: ГЛОССА/КАРО, 2004. — 192 с.
- Катермина В.В. Лексикология английского языка. Практикум. — / В.В. Катермина. — М.: Флинта: Наука, 2010.— 120 с.

LECTURE 1

The questions under consideration

1.What is lexicology?

1.1.The definition of lexicology

1.2.The object of lexicology

1.3.The theoretical and practical value of English lexicology

1.4.The connection of lexicology with other branches of linguistics

TEST 1

Name the type of lexicology which deals with

- the origin of various words, their change and development, the linguistic and extra linguistic forces modifying their structure, meaning and usage
- the general study of vocabulary, irrespective of the specific features of any particular language
- the comparison and description of the vocabularies of different languages;
- the vocabulary of a given language at a given stage of the development;
- the description of the characteristic peculiarities in the vocabulary of a given language.



2. Answer the following questions

- 1.What is the subject-matter of lexicology as a branch of linguistics?
- 2. What is the only common characteristic of outstandingly successful people?
- 3.What are the two approaches in linguistic science to the study of language material?
- 4.What types of Lexicology do you know? Comment on the difference between them.
- 5.What aspects of research do vocabulary studies include? What do these aspects deal with?

- 6.What are the points of interactions between lexicology and phonetics?
- 7. Morphological indicators can help to differentiate the meanings of the words. Can you give examples other than in the lecture to illustrate the statement?
- 8. The lexical meaning of the word depends on the grammatical context in which it occurs. Can you give any examples?
- 9.Discuss the relationship between lexicology and stylistics.
- 10.Give your reasons why lexicology is considered to be essentially a sociolinguistic science?



1.1. The definition of lexicology

1.2. The object of lexicology

What is it - Modern English Lexicology?

It is the science of the English word;

It's an important branch of general philology,

And it's OK to give it a good thought.

It makes you a good expert in morphology

Because it treats the structure of the word.

In speech, it opens for you the words' "psychology"

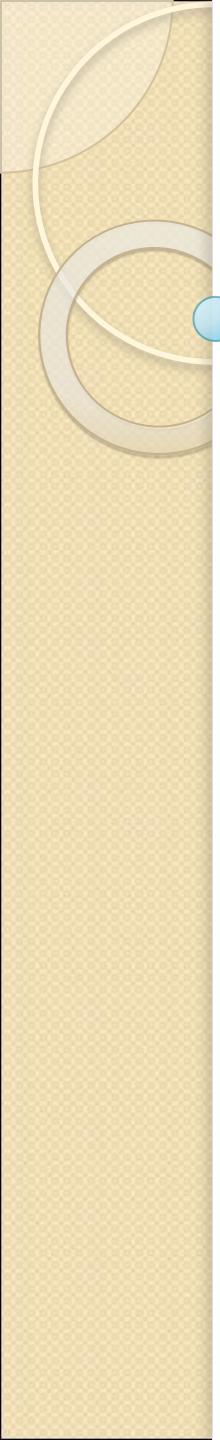
And shows that they are in full concord.

In short, it turns you into a linguistic prodigy

For you just grasp the nature of the WORD!

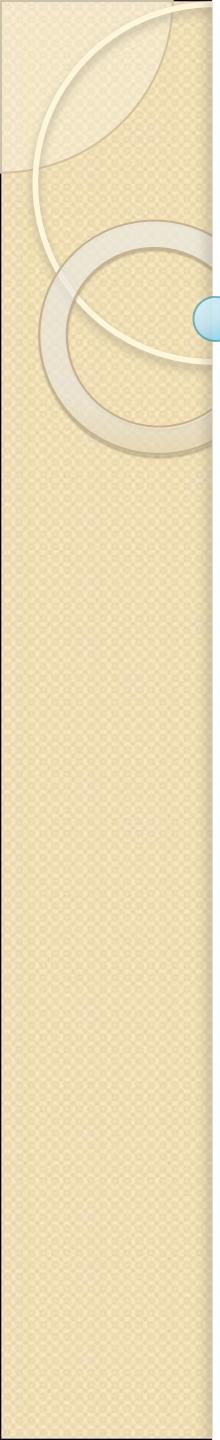
The definition of lexicology

- Lexicology is the part of linguistics dealing with the vocabulary of the language and the properties of words as the main units of language.(Arnold I.V.)
- Lexicology, a branch of linguistics, is the study of words. (Г.Б. Антрушина)



The term lexicology

- lexicology
- *lexis* 'word'
- *logos* 'learning'.



The object of lexicology

- a study and systematic description of vocabulary in respect to its origin, development and current use.



The theoretical value of English lexicology

- forms the study of its vocabulary
- meets the demands of many different branches of applied linguistics, namely of lexicography, standardization of terminology, information retrieval, literary criticism and especially of foreign language teaching
- is important in training a would-be teacher of languages



Lexicology and a would-be teacher of languages

- it helps to stimulate a systematic approach to the facts of vocabulary and an organised comparison of the foreign and native language
- it helps to build up the learner's vocabulary by an effective selection, grouping and analysis of new words



Lexicology and the general linguistic training of every philologist

- sums up the knowledge acquired during all his years at the foreign language faculty
- imparts the necessary skills of using different kinds of dictionaries and reference books
- prepares for future independent work on increasing and improving one's vocabulary



The practical value of English lexicology

To study words is very important. Here's the proof. The results of the experiments.

- 1. That if your vocabulary is limited your chances of success are limited.
- 2. That one of the easiest and quickest ways to get ahead is by consciously building up your knowledge of words.



The proof

- 3.That the vocabulary of the average person almost stops growing by the middle twenties.
- 4.And that from then on it is necessary to have an intelligent plan if progress is to be made.
- 5.A high executive's skill in words was a tremendous help in getting him his job

The results of a vocabulary test

- The participants 100
- in the upper 10 per cent
- lower 25 per cent
- had executive positions
- not a single young man had become an executive



Vocabulary and success

- the one and only common characteristic of outstandingly successful people is an extensive knowledge of the exact meaning of English words



What is vocabulary?

- One indication of intelligence
- Words are the tools of thinking
- Words are your medium of exchange
- Words are explosive
- Words can also change the direction of your life
- Words can make you great!



The basic task of lexicology

- a study and systematic description of vocabulary in respect to its origin, development and current use.
- Lexicology is concerned with words, word-groups, phraseological units, and with morphemes that make up words.

Different branches of Lexicology

- General lexicology
- Special lexicology
- Etymology
- Semasiology
- Onomasiology
- Historical lexicology
- Descriptive lexicology
- Contrastive and Comparative lexicology

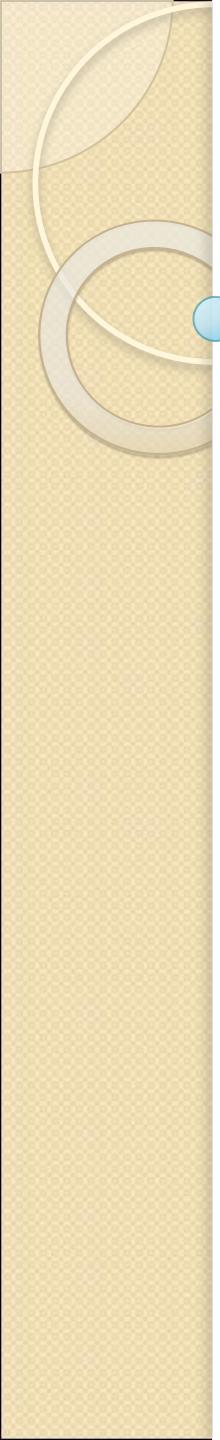


General lexicology

- is a part of general linguistics.
It is concerned with the general study of vocabulary, irrespective of the specific features of any particular language.

Special lexicology

- is the lexicology of a particular language (e.g., English, Russian, French, etc.).
- It devotes its attention to the description of the characteristic peculiarities in the vocabulary of a given language.



Etymology

- is the branch of linguistics which studies the origin or derivation of words. In many cases the etymology of a word reveals itself in comparative historical studies.



Semasiology

- is the branch of linguistics whose subject-matter is the study of word meaning.
- The term “semantics” is used to denote the lexical meaning of words or phrases.



Onomasiology

- is the study of the principles of the signification of things and notions by lexical and lexico-phraseological means of a given language. It is especially important in studying dialects where one and the same object finds its different signification in different regions of the country.



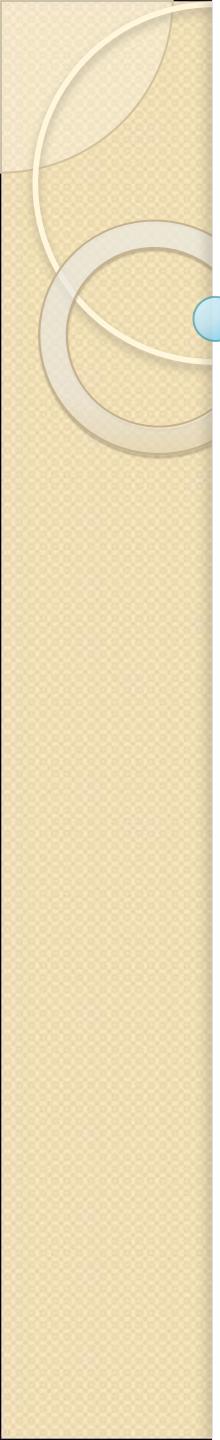
Two different approaches in linguistic science to the study of language material

- the **synchronic or descriptive**
(Descriptive lexicology)
- the **diachronic or historical** (**Historical
lexicology**)



Descriptive lexicology

- deals with the vocabulary of a given language at a given stage of its development. It studies the functions of words and their specific structure.



Historical lexicology

- discusses the origin of various words, their change and development, the linguistic and extra linguistic forces modifying their structure, meaning and usage.



Contrastive and comparative lexicology

- This relatively new branch of study provides a theoretical basis on which the vocabularies of different languages can be compared and described. Of primary importance in this respect is the comparison of the foreign language with the mother tongue.

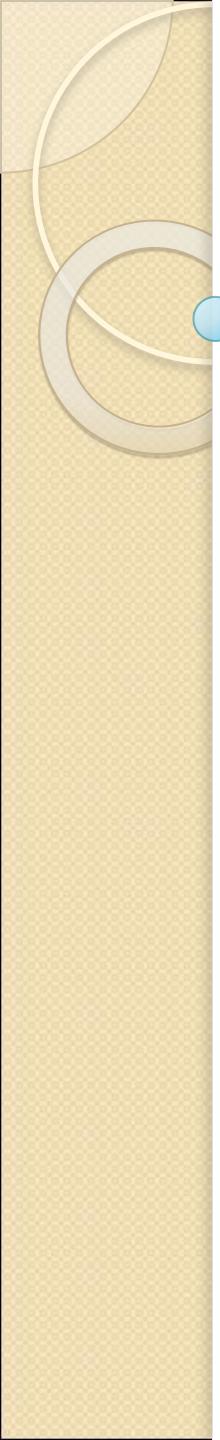
1.4.The connection of lexicology with other branches of linguistics

- is closely connected with
 - general linguistics,
 - the history of the language,
 - phonetics,
 - stylistics,
 - grammar
 - sociolinguistics,
 - paralinguistics,
 - pragmalinguistics



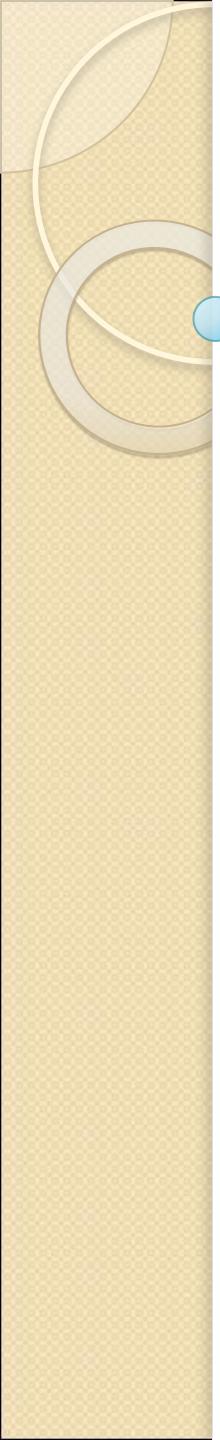
Lexicology and phonetics

- words acquire a different meaning because they are pronounced differently
E.g., *'import, n, im'port, v.*
- Stress also distinguishes compounds from homonymous word-groups
blackbird: 'black 'bird.



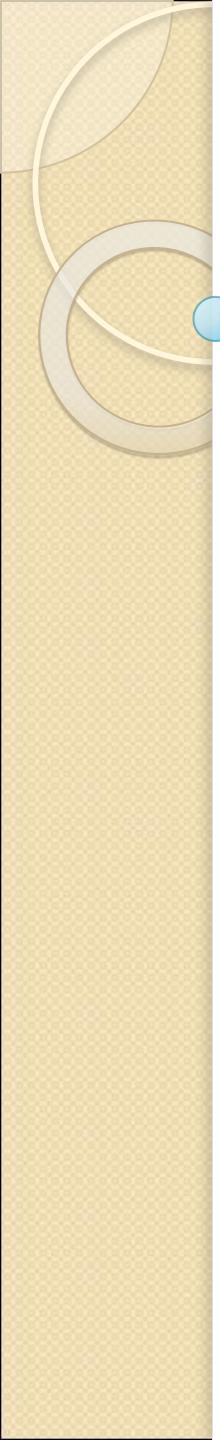
lexicology and grammar

- Morphological indicators often help to differentiate the meanings of the words. E.g., *plural forms* can serve to form special lexical meanings: *advice (counsel)*, *advices (information)*, *damage (injury)*, *damages (compensation)*.
- prefix "re" - can make verbs with the aspective sense of repetition: *remake*, *reorganize*.



lexicology and grammar

- Syntactic position of a word does not only change its function but its lexical meaning as well.
e.g., *library school* (A library school is an institution of higher learning (A library school is an institution of higher learning specializing in the professional training of librarians)- *school library*.



lexicology and grammar

- The grammatical form and function of the word affect its lexical meaning. E.g. *He is going to write a new book* - the verb expresses an action in the nearest future; *The house is gone* -the verb denotes absence.



Lexicology and Stylistics

- **Stylistics**, although from a different angle, studies many problems treated in lexicology. These are the problems of meaning, connotations, synonymy, functional differentiation of vocabulary according to the sphere of communication and others. The expressive elements of a language cannot be studied outside of their relations to other styles, which are emotionally neutral.

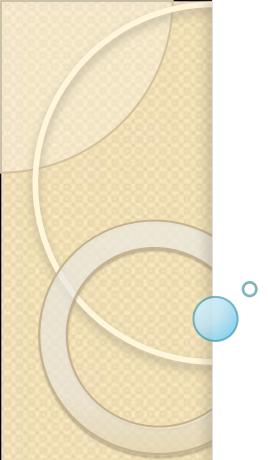


Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- Language is the reality of thought, and thought develops with the development of society. Every new phenomenon in human society finds a reflection in vocabulary, e.g., *computor*, *cyclotron*, *psycholinguistics*.

Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- The extra-linguistic factors influence usage and development of language. This influence is particularly strong in lexis.



The new language of *cyberspace* ("cyber*vocabulary*").

- As computers gradually extended their influence, so did *cyber-*, as a prefix having to do with computers and electronic communication. *Cybernetics* (1948)
- *cyberphobia*, *cyberpunk*, *cyberspace*, *cyberart*, *cyberhippy*, *cyberlawyer*, *cyberworld*, *cybermat*, *cybercop*, *cybercha*, *cyber-community*, *cybernaut*, *cybrarian* — the new language of cyberspace



Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- *PIN* (1981) is an abbreviation of personal identification number, a number allocated by a bank, etc., to a customer for use with a cash card. (1981 *Sunday Times*: Cards with *PINs* written on them have been stolen.)

Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- *E-mail* (1982) is an abbreviation of electronic mail, which by the middle of the 1980s has established itself as the standard term;
- *hacker* (1983), *Internet* (1986), *cellphone* (1984), *mobile* (1990), *spam* (1994), *web* (1994).



Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- The power of English is not confined to the invention and manufacture of new technology. *Dis-, diss-* (1986) is to put someone down, to show disrespect for a person by insulting language or behaviour. "Are you *dissing* me?" = Are you showing disrespect for me? *Dis-* is a permanent feature of political discussion that includes *disagreement, disputes, disappointments, disillusion, distress, dissidents, and disorder*.

Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- Another example: the suffix — *holic*, *-aholic*, *-oholoc* (*workaholic* [1968]) describes "all-consuming obsessions", not all of them serious. The suffix could be addicted to play, foods, shopping, news, credit, and junk: *golfaholic*, *footballaholic*, *computerholic*, *leisureholic*, etc.

Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- *Chocoholic*, a compulsive eater of chocolate, appeared in 1976.
- *Shopaholic*, a compulsive shopper, appeared in 1984.



New words comprise various structural types:

- **simple** (*cable, dude, rap*);
- **derived** (*buyout, to upchuck, animalist, synergy, whicked*);
- **compound** (*awesome, blockbuster, ecofriendly, high-maintenance, job-hunt, script-show*);
- **shortenings** (dis, to veg, ATM, WWW — 1994, the World Wide Wait, a nickname for the WWW as delays can be frequent depending on the speed of your Internet connection).

Lexicology and Sociolinguistics

- Over the years, many different meanings of *cool* have accumulated. *Cool* has meant "daring" (1839), "clever" (1924), "exciting" (1933), "stylish" (1946), "cautious" or "under control" (1952), and "satisfactory" or "OK" (1952). *To cool it* has meant "to stop" (1952), "to die" (1960), and "to relax" (1986). In the 1990s, among young people, *cool* in the sense "approval" or "appreciation" has even taken on a distinctive pronunciation closer to that of *cull*.



Lexicology

- To understand a word and to use it correctly, we must understand and know its semantics, its pragmatic aspect, and its cultural aspect. All this makes lexicology a branch of linguistics with its own aims and methods of research; its basic goal being a study and systematic description of vocabulary in respect to its origin, development and use.