

# **English Lexicology**

## **(digest)**

**Prof. Ludmila Modestovna LESHCHOVA,**  
**Dr of Philology**

**Department of General Linguistics**

**Minsk: MSLU, 2018**

# Lecture 1. Introduction to ME Lexicology.

## *Plan*

1. English Lexicology: general overview.
2. Lexical units.
3. Categorization and naming.
4. Universal ways of naming.
5. Motivation, demotivation, remotivation.

# 1. English Lexicology: General Overview

## **Major issues under discussion:**

1. *origin* of English words;
2. their *semantic, morphological and derivational structures*;
3. major *ways of replenishing the English vocabulary*;
4. their *interrelation* within the language system;
5. their *combinability* in speech;
6. major *standard variants of English*;
7. traditions of *British and American lexicography*
8. the mental lexicon of an English native speaker.

## 2. Lexical units

**Lexical units are:**

- **two-faceted** (двусторонние), i.e., have meaning and form, and
- **ready-made** (готовые), i.e., registered in a dictionary and reproducible in speech.

- 2) **a morpheme** -- the *smallest* lexical unit;
- 3) **a phraseological unit, or an idiom** -- the *largest* lexical unit;
- 4) **a word** -- the most *typical, central* two-faceted ready-made lexical unit;

### 3. Categorization and naming

All living beings **categorize**, i.e., match sense data and other information with ***prototypes*** and classify information into ***categories***.

Human beings in addition **name**, or **lexicalize** categories.

### 3. Categorization and naming

1. We lexicalize, name only important categories to survive, to communicate, to make a further research.

Each community has its own list of important categories  
(*a knuckle, a caboose, пятилетка*).

The most important lexicalized (named) categories have several names (synonyms: *intoxicated, boozy, balmy, jolly, tight, D and D, loaded*, etc.).

They also may have a more detailed lexical subdivision into lexicalized subcategories (e.g., *camels* for Arabs or *snow* for Eskimos).

2. The boundaries of the named (lexicalized) categories are arbitrary: in different languages usually do not coincide (*door, finger, table, рука, нога, etc.*)

### **Major universal ways of naming:**

---

**I. By borrowing from another language;**

**II. By creating a new name by means of:**

- 1) by secondary use of the existing name (by lexical-semantic means);**
- 2) by a new word derivation (by morphological means);**
- 3) by lexicalization of a free word-combination (by syntactic means).**

## 5. Motivation and demotivation

### ***Motivation:***

---

The form and meaning of one name may give incentive (motive) to creation of another name for another concept:

*roam* – ***roaming***;

*cat* – ***bearcat*** (панда); ***fat cat*** (богач, денежный мешок);

***catfish*** – 1) сом 2) зубатка 3) каракатица; головоногий  
МОЛЛЮСК

***chicken*** 1) a young domestic fowl

2) the flesh of such a bird used for food

3) any of various similar birds, such as a prairie chicken  
'луговой memepев'

4) slang a cowardly person

5) slang a young inexperienced person

***By and large, kick the bucket, to have a look***



## 5. Motivation and demotivation

---

### ***Motivation:***

The semantic and formal relation of one name to another name, more simple in meaning and form, is called **motivation**.

The name thus related to another, simpler name is called **motivated name** (*a teacher, a blackboard, eatery*).

## 5. Motivation and demotivation

Three types of motivation: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **phonetic motivation** (*a cuckoo, buzz, click, giggle, hum, boom, chirp, clap, bang, mumble, etc.*);
2. **morphological motivation** (*a teacher — a person who teaches, a sunflower — a plant with a flower looking like the sun, etc.*);
3. **semantic motivation** (*fox — a cunning person {like a fox}; chicken — meat of a chicken, etc.*).

## 5. Motivation and demotivation

### *Demotivation:*

---

**Partial motivation:** *blackboard, cupboard; cranberry; breakfast; pocket; hamlet;*

**Complete demotivation:** **book** [Old English *bōc* ; related to Old Norse *bōk* , Old High German *buoh* book , Gothic *bōka* letter ; see BEECH 'бук' (the bark of which was used as a writing surface)];

**paper** [from L *papyrus*]

**afford** [origin: late Old English *geforthian*, from *ge-* (prefix implying completeness) + *forthian* "to further", from *forth* . The original sense was "*promote, perform, accomplish*", later "*manage, be in a position to do*"]

## 5. Motivation and demotivation

---

### ***Folk motivation:***

**copper** ‘policeman’ **not** from copper ‘медь’ **but:**  
from cop ‘arrest, catch’ [fr, L capere];

**the Canary Islands** means in L Insularia Canaria  
‘the island of dogs’;

**gooseberry** [L. Grossularia]

## Lecture 2

### NAMING BY BORROWING

---

1. Etymological survey of the English vocabulary.
2. Native words in English.
  - a) Anglo-Saxon words (Indo-European words; Common Germanic words; Continental borrowings).
  - b) Early insular borrowings from Celtic and Latin.
3. Later borrowings in English.
  - a) The main waves of borrowing.
  - b) Loans and native words relation.
  - c) Assimilation of borrowings.

## ETYMOLOGY –

*the study of the **origin of words***

*and the way in which their meanings have  
changed throughout history*

## NAMING BY BORROWING

only **30% of English words are native**

**70%** of the Modern English vocabulary are  
**loans, or borrowed words** from 80  
languages

So, the English vocabulary has **a mixed character.**

# Celtic peoples





The *Dying Gaul*, a Roman marble copy of a Hellenistic work of the late 3rd century BC Capitoline Museums, Rome



# The end of the Roman rule

---

- An appeal for help by the British communities against the barbarians attacks was rejected by the Emperor Honorius in 410.
- The pagan Germanic tribes **Saxons** were invited by Vortigern to assist in fighting the Picts and Irish

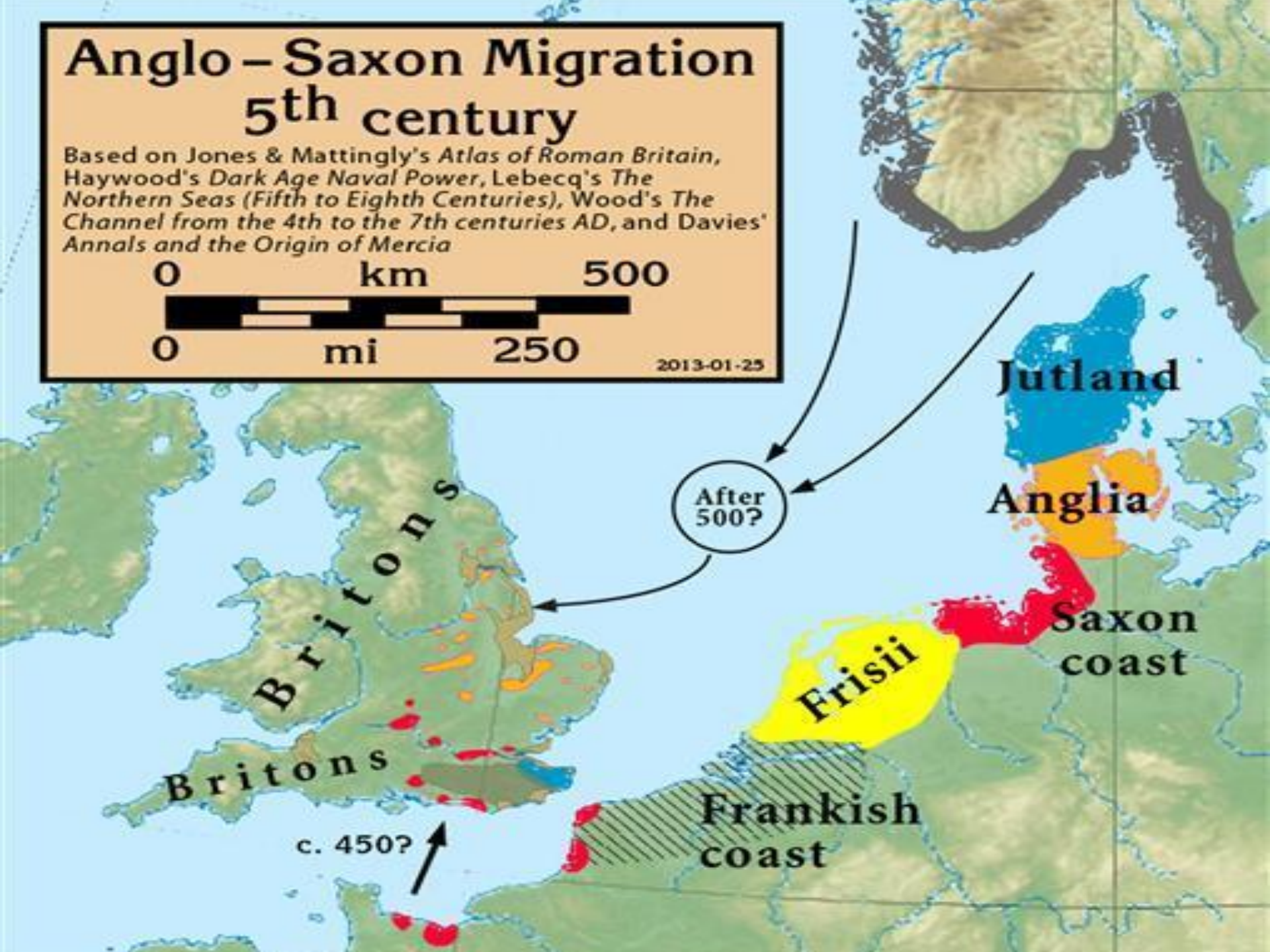


# Anglo-Saxon Migration 5th century

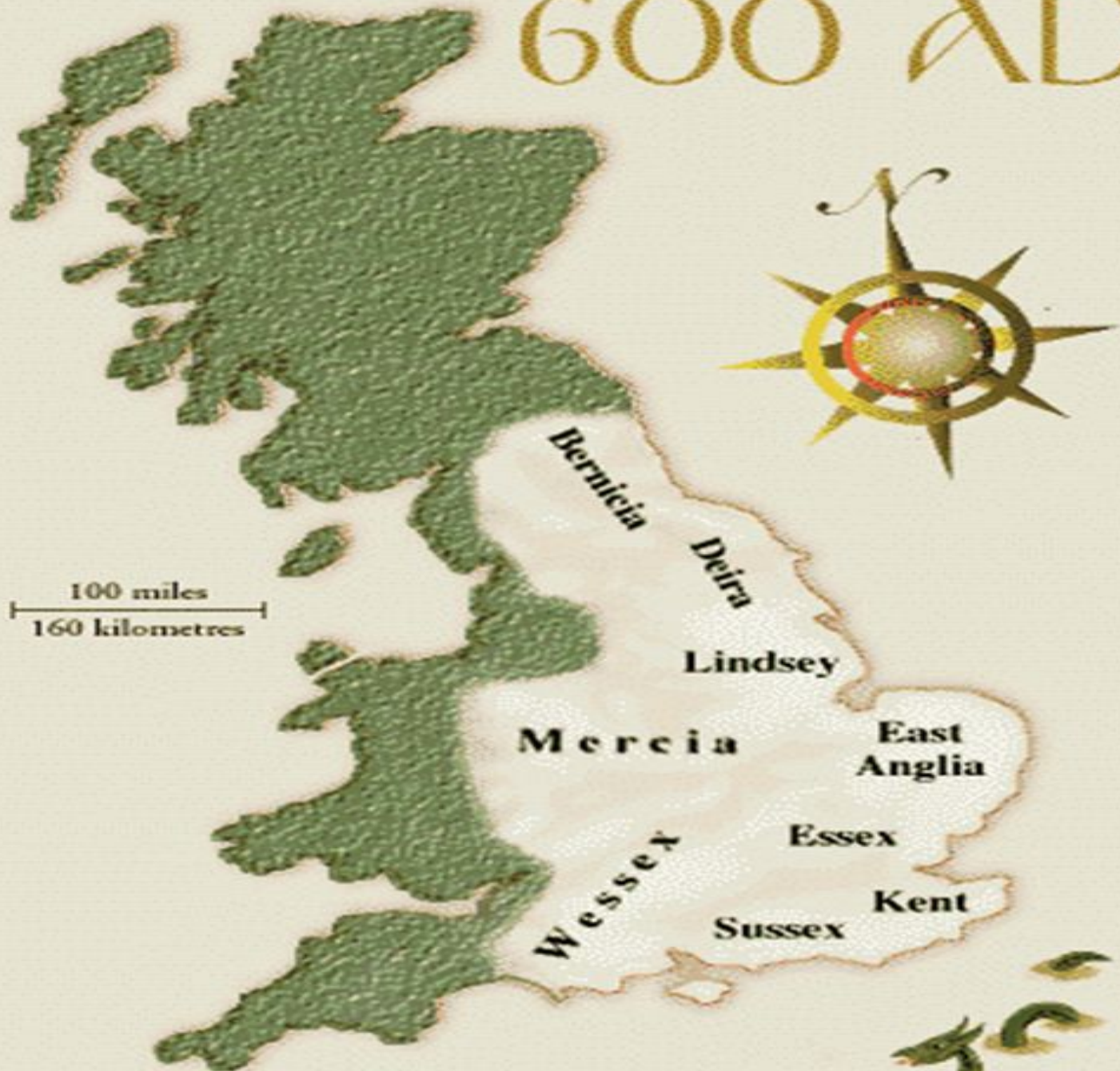
Based on Jones & Mattingly's *Atlas of Roman Britain*, Haywood's *Dark Age Naval Power*, Lebecq's *The Northern Seas (Fifth to Eighth Centuries)*, Wood's *The Channel from the 4th to the 7th centuries AD*, and Davies' *Annals and the Origin of Mercia*

0 km 500  
0 mi 250

2013-01-25



# 600 AD



British-held territories



## Lecture 2. Borrowing

### Native words in English (Englisch by 7<sup>th</sup> century)

#### I. **Anglo-Saxon words:**

- Common Indo-European roots (*father, mother, brother, son, daughter, birch, cat, cold, one, two, three, etc.*).
- Common Germanic roots (*arm, bear, boat, finger, hand, head, say, see, white, winter, etc.*)
- *Cannot be traced to any sources and were characteristic only of the Anglo-Saxon language (e.g. dog)*
- *Continental Latin borrowings (cup, cheese, butter, mill, line, ounce, pipe, pound, wine, etc.);*

## Lecture 2. Borrowing

### II. Early insular borrowings:

---

- **Celtic borrowings**

(*whiskey, bug, bog, glen, kick, creak, basket, dagger, lad*, etc.); names of *rivers* (***the Avon, the Esk, the Usk, the Thames, the Severn***, etc.), *mountains and hills* (***Ben Nevis*** (from *pen* ‘a hill’), the first elements in many *city names* (***Winchester, Cirencester, Clouchester, Salisbury, Lichfield, Ikley***, etc.) or the second elements in *many villages* (***-cumb*** meaning ‘deep valley’ still survives in *Duncombe* or *Winchcombe*);

- **Latin borrowings**

(*port, street, mile, mountain*, the element ***chester*** or ***caster***, retained in many names of towns [from L *castra* ‘camp’], etc.).

### The main waves of later borrowings in English

---

- The conversion of the English to Christianity
- The Danish invasion
- The Norman Conquest
- The Renaissance period
- The more recent borrowings

## Lecture 2. Borrowing

---

### **The conversion of the English to Christianity** (6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> centuries)

**Latin and Greek** words appeared in English (as ***altar, bishop, church, priest, disciple, psalm, mass, temple, nun, monk, creed, devil, school***, etc.).

Some pagan Anglo-Saxon words remained (***God, godspell, hlaford, synn, etc.***)



**The Danish invasion  
(8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> centuries)**



## Old Norse Words

---

*both, they, their, them;  
gap, get, give,  
egg, odd, ill,  
leg, fog, law, low, fellow,  
reindeer, call, die, flat, happy, happen, husband, knife, loan,  
sale, take, tidings, ugly, want, weak, window, wrong, etc.*

Some of them are still easy to recognize as they begin with **sk-**:  
*ski, skin, sky, skill, skirt, scrub, etc.*

At least **1,400** localities in England have Scandinavian names (names with elements *-beck* ‘brook’, *-by* ‘village’, *toft* ‘a site for a dwelling’: *Askby, Selby, Westby, Brimtoft, Nortoft, etc.*).

**William I  
(the  
Conqueror)**

**Hastings  
1066**



# French borrowings

government, social and military order: *Duke, count, baron, noble, parliament, government, servant, messenger, royal, market, state;*

law: *arrest, judge* (судья), *jury* (присяжные), *justice, court* (суд), *prosecution* (сторона обвинения), *plaintiff* (истец), *verdict, prison,*

military sphere: *battle, army, soldier, navy, enemy, spy, peace, demand, false,* etc.

cooking terms: *sauce, boil, fry, roast, toast, pastry, soup, jelly, beef,* etc.

arts, fashion : *art, painting, poet, chamber, labour, mansion, diamond, salon, mirror, scent, jewel, robe, coat, collar, curtain,* etc.

inner parts of the body: *vein, nerve, stomach, artery, tendon*

**But:** the outward parts of the body (with an exception of *face*), and most of the better known inner organs were untouched by the Norman French (*arm, hand, finger, nose, eye, skin, heart, brain, lung, kidney, liver, bone*)

# The borrowings of the Renaissance period (1500-1650)

**Latin, Greek, Italian:**

*allegro, anachronism, capacity, catastrophe, celebrate,  
chronology, confidence, contract, criterion, dogma,  
epic, expend, fertile, granite, hierarchy, laconic,  
museum, native, opera, piano, portico, soprano,  
sarcasm, system, type, etc.).*

About **85%** of the Anglo-Saxon words are no longer in use.

**2/3 of native Anglo-Saxon words died out:**

---

*wittagemot, wergild (cf.: werewolf), morgenmete*

But about **50,000** Anglo-Saxon words still remain in English today.

**Anglo-Saxon words are:**

- *communicatively important and very frequently used,*
- *mostly monosyllabic in character,*
- *highly polysemantic.*

**They:**

- *have a great word-building potential,*
- *enter a great number of set-expressions, proverbs and sayings.*

## Assimilation of borrowings:

*honour, garage, adult, alloy, psalm [sa:(l)m], psyche, Psaki*

*il+legal, a/im+moral*) [Gk; L]

but

*un+friendly, mis+understand* [OE]

Yet -- **HYBRIDS:**

*un-+reliable* [OE+OFr]

*un-+interesting* {OE+[L+OE]}

*false+-hood* [L + OE]

*love+-able* [OE+OFr-L]

**etymological doublets** - two or more words originated from the same source but having different form and meaning

---

more than 500 etymological doublets in English

*canal* [L] — *channel* [Fr],

*liquor* [L] — *liqueur* [Fr],

*major* [L] — *mayor* [Fr]

*senior* [L] – *sir* [Fr]

*discrete* [L] – *discreet* [Fr]

*disk* [L] – *dish* [L]

*circle* [L fr Gk] – *cycle* [L fr Gk]

*shirt* [OE] — *skirt* [Sc]

*shift* [OE] – *skip* [Sc]

**cattle-chattel-capital** [fr. L *caput* ‘head’].

*host, hostel, hotel, hospital, hospice, hostile, hostage* [fr. L. **hospes** ‘stranger, guest’]



**‘a translator’s false friends’(1928)** - words existing in two different languages, which have a similar form (either graphic or phonetic) but different meanings.

---

*sympathy* is not *симпатия*

*romance* is not *романс*

*solid* is not *солидный*

*angina* is not *ангина*

*Caucasian* is not only *кавказский*

*invalid* is not a full equivalent to *инвалид*

*public* is not only *публичный* (cf.: *public house*)

*policy* is not only *политика*

*conductor* is not only *кондуктор*

*cream* is not only *крем*

**International words**

are the result of

***simultaneous or successive***

***borrowings in many languages:***

*sputnik, killer, opera.*

(Cf.: *cat, father, mother* – I.-E.)

# Lecture 3-4. Lexical-semantic naming

## *Plan:*

### 1. Different approaches to word meaning:

- 1) *Ostensive approach.*
- 2) *Ideational approach.*
- 3) *Behaviouristic approach.*
- 4) *Semiotic (Referential) approach.*
- 5) *Structural approach.*
- 6) *Functional approach.*
- 7) *Cognitive approach.*

### 3. Typologies of word meaning.

Aspects of:

- *sign relation: denotational / connotational (referential/ pragmatic); free/ bound*
- *structure: lexical / grammatical*
- *history: primary/ secondary*
- *frequency: central/ peripheral*

### 3. Change of meaning. Causes, types and results.

### 5. Lexical-semantic naming. Polysemy. Lexical-Semantic Structure.

### 6. Semantic ambiguity. Polysemy versus homonymy.

### 7. Types of homonyms.

## 1. Different approaches to word meaning

### ***5a. Structural Approach to meaning:***

Word meaning can be seen as a complex cluster of smaller units – **semantic components**, or **semes/ features** organized in a **componential structure**.

#### **Componential analysis:**

*man, woman, boy, girl* || **the semantic features** [+HUMAN], [MALE] and [ADULT].

*man:*     [+HUMAN] [+ADULT] [+MALE]

*boy:*     [+HUMAN] [—ADULT] [+MALE]

*woman:* [+HUMAN] [+ADULT] [—MALE]

*girl*     [+HUMAN] [—ADULT] and [—MALE].

## 1. Different approaches to word meaning

### 6. *Functional approach:*

**The meaning of a word is a *contextual activation of the part of its potential:***

*warm* water: *warm* reception

dwarf/ early/ late *tulip*

*tulip* bulb/ field

a *sad* woman : a *sad* voice : a *sad* story : a *sad*  
scoundrel (= an incorrigible scoundrel) : a *sad*  
night (= a dark, black night - arch, poet.)

## Causes for change of meaning:

- **extralinguistic causes:** *atom, car, pen, window;*
- **linguistic causes:**
  - **differentiation** of synonyms: *land/ country*
  - **ellipsis:** *a soft; an elastic*
  - **linguistic analogy:** *white – ‘morally clean’; black ...; blue...*

### 3. Change of meaning. Causes, types and results

## Nature (types) of change of meaning:

### Associations of:

- similarity (metaphor):  
*broadcast* ['to cast seeds out'] → 'the transmission of audio and video signals'.
- contiguity 'nearness in space or time, cause and reason' (metonymy):  
*jaw* ['Old French *joe* 'cheek'] → 'mandible' (the bone in the lower jaw of a person or animal - НИЖНЯЯ ЧЕЛЮСТЬ).

### 3. Change of meaning. Causes, types and results

#### Results of change of meaning:

- *In the denotational component:*

- ✓ **restriction, or narrowing:**

*mare* ‘a horse’ → ‘a female horse’;

*mete* ‘any food’ → meat ‘flesh of animal’;

*girl orig.* ‘a child’ → a female child;

*a hound orig.* ‘any dog’ → ‘a dog for hunting’;

- ✓ **extension, or generalization:**

*hoover; cook; guy.*

- *In the connotational meaning:*

- ✓ elevation, upgrading: **amelioration** : *minister* – orig. ‘servant’

- ✓ deterioration: **pejoration**: *silly* – orig. ‘happy’



#### 4. Polysemy. Lexical-semantic naming. Patterned polysemy. Lexical-Semantic Structure.

**Polysemy** -- *the capacity of a word/any other lexical unit to have multiple but related meanings:*

*crane:* 1. a bird

2. a type of construction equipment

#### 4. Lexical-semantic derivation of a name. Patterned polysemy of lexical units in English

**LSV** (*lexical-semantic variant*), or meaning/sense of a polysemantic word is a *naming unit* (like a word).

*Minor meanings, or senses, or LSVs of a word are the result of a lexical-semantic naming process, or lexical-semantic derivation.*

All the meanings of a word make its *semantic structure*.

**Arbitrariness (произвольность)  
of semantic structure  
in different languages:**

## Semantic structures of correlated words are different in different languages:

- |             |                                  |               |         |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| <b>foot</b> | 1) лодыжка, ступня               | <b>ступня</b> | 1) foot |
|             | 2) фут (единица измерения длины) |               |         |
|             | 3) подножие горы                 |               |         |
|             | 4) лапка (у машины)              |               |         |
|             | 5) нижняя часть лепестка ...     |               |         |

# Homonymy. Types of homonyms.

## Classification of homonyms

- **homophones:** *tail* and *tale*;  
*buoy* and *boy*;  
*board* and *bored*
- **homographs:** *live* [liv] and *live* [laiv],  
*lead* [li:d] and *lead* [led],  
*minute* ['minit] and *minute* [mai'nju:t]
- **perfect homonyms:** *bank* I 'shore' [Sc.] and  
*bank* II 'financial institution' [It];

## Homonymy. Types of homonyms.

- **lexical homonyms:** *seal* (n) ‘a sea animal’;  
*seal* (n) ‘design on a piece of paper, stamp’;
- **grammatical homonyms:** *seals* – pl. of ‘sea animal’ and  
*seal’s* – sing. Poss. Case of ‘sea animal’;
- **lexical-grammatical homonyms:** *seal* (n) – ‘a sea animal’ and  
*seal* (v) – ‘to close tightly’;  
*court* (n) and *caught* (v);  
*sea* (n) and *see* (v), etc.

## Lecture 5-7. NAMING BY MORPHOLOGICAL MEANS

### (WORD-FORMATION/ WORD-DERIVATION IN ENGLISH)

Morphological naming is naming of a concept by morphological means, creating (derivation) of a new word *out of available morphological language means*.

It is the most obvious, prototypical and *productive way* of the English vocabulary growth.

# **Lecture 5. MORPHEMIC AND DERIVATIVE STRUCTURE OF ENGLISH WORDS**

## **PLAN:**

### **1. Morphemic analysis.**

- a) Morpheme. Classification of morphemes.**
- b) Variants of forms in morphemes (allomorphs).**
- c) Procedure of morphemic analysis.**
- d) Types of word-segmentability.**
- e) Morphemic structure and morphemic types of words.**

### **2. Derivational analysis.**

- a) Derivative structure.**
- b) Derivative types of words. Degree of derivation**



## 1. Morphemic analysis

**Morphemes** are the *smallest lexical units*:

a) **form-building, or inflectional morphemes**, as in *smiled, smiles, is smiling*;

b) **word-building, or derivational morphemes** as in:

reason- + -able

teach- + -er

## 1. Morphemic analysis

**Derivational morphemes are identified by a combination of criteria:**

- 1. *semantic,***
- 2. *structural and***
- 3. *distributional.***

## 1. Morphemic analysis

### Semantic criterion:

**A morpheme should have its own meaning.**

### Types of meaning in derivational morphemes:

#### Like words:

- Some derivational morphemes may have lexical meaning:  
    **denotational** (especially revealed in root-morphemes, like in *-girl-*) and  
    **connotational** (the suffixes in *piglet* and *horsy*; *woman-ly*, *woman-like*, *woman-ish*).
- Many derivational morphemes (except roots), like words, may possess part-of-speech meaning (*govern-ment*, *teach-er*).

**BUT:** word-building morphemes in contrast to words and to inflectional morphemes like *-ed* for the Past Indefinite

- **do not possess grammatical meaning:**  
    **the root morphemes** (*-man-* in *a man*, *man-ly*, *un-man-ly*) possess **neither grammatical** meaning of case and number, **nor the part-of-speech meaning**, while the word *a man* does.

## 1. Morphemic analysis

### Specific types of meaning in morphemes:

- *differential* — serves to distinguish one word from another (*over-cook*, *under-cook*, *pre-cook*; *re-ceive*, *perceive*), and
- *distributional* — the meaning of morpheme arrangement in a word (*un**effective*; *sugarless* and *lessen*).

Phonetic-semantic resemblances:

*flash*, *flicker*, *flame*, *flare*

## Classification of morphemes:

### *Semantic classification:*

- **roots** — lexical-semantic centers of words ;
- **affixes** — prefixes and suffixes with modifying meaning.
- **pseudo-morphemes** are semantically deficient: *re-* in *receive* or *con-* in *contain*.

# 1. Morphemic analysis

## Classification of morphemes:

### *In different contexts*

a morpheme may also have different forms  
(**allomorphs**):

*please – pleasure – pleasant;*

*price – precious;*

*fuse – fusion;*

*school – scholar*

## Classification of morphemes:

### Structural classification:

- **free** (coincide with a word-form, roots are usually free as *friend* in *friendship*),
- **bound** (always a part of a word (*friend-ship*); affixes and some roots as *histor-* in *history*, *cord-* in *cordial*, or *not-* in *notion* are bound),
- **semi-free (semi-bound)** (occur both as free and bound: *to do well* and *well-done*, *take a half of it* and *half-eaten*).
- **Combining forms:** neoclassical compounds (*phonology*, *telephone*, *telegram*, *gramophone*, *phonogram*) that have never existed in the language of borrowing.

## 1. Morphemic analysis

### *Morphemic analysis:*

How many meaningful constituents are there in the word?



## 1. Morphemic analysis

### Procedure of morphemic analysis:

The method of **I**mmEDIATE and **U**LTIMATE **C**ONSTITUENTS  
(the **IC** and **UC** method).

The **IC** method is:

identification of **two** *meaningful* and *recurring in other words* components  
that the word under analysis falls into (*immediate constituents, IC*):

*friendliness*

The IC are: 1) **friendly**-(*friendly, friendly-looking*) + 2) **-ness** (*dark-ness, happy-ness*)

The **UC** method is:

The procedure IC analysis goes on until the word is broken into the smallest  
meaningful parts (*ultimate constituents, UC*):

*friendly*- is finally divided into *friend*- and *-ly* (cf.: *wife-ly*).

So, the **UC** are *friend*-, *-ly* and *-ness*.

## 1. Morphemic analysis

### Types of word-segmentability:

1. **Complete** - segmentation into morphemes (*free* or *bound*) does not cause any doubt for structural or semantic reason: *teach-er*; *stud-ent*, and *nat-ive*.
2. **Conditional** - segmentation is doubtful for semantic reasons (*re-tain*, *de-tain*; *con-ceive*, *de-ceive*, *per-ceive*, *re-ceive*; *ac-cept*, *ex-cept*, *con-cept*, *per-cept*, *pre-cept*).
3. **Defective** - segmentation is doubtful for *structural* reasons (*ham-let*, *pock-et*, *dis-may*).

**Morphemic classification of words:**

- **monomorph**ic (*table*) and
- **polymorph**ic

**Polymorphic:** *monoradical* and *polyradical*

- *monoradical* words:

*monoradical suffixal* (*teacher, student*),  
*monoradical prefixal* (*overteach, overstudy*), and  
*prefixal-radical-suffixal* (*superteacher, superstudent, beheaded*).

- *polyradical* words:

*polyradical proper* (*head-master, blackboard*),  
*polyradical suffixal* (*head-teacher, graduate-student, boarding-school*),  
*polyradical prefixal* (*super-headmaster, post-graduate-student*),  
*polyradical prefixal-suffixal* (*super-headteacher, super-light-mindedness*).

## 2. Derivational analysis

### *Morphemic analysis:*

How many meaningful constituents are there in the word and what are their types?

### *Derivational analysis:*

How is the word derived?

## 2. Derivational analysis

### The morphological structure:

*do-gooder*

*dress-maker*

**polyradical-suffixal words**

## 2. Derivational analysis

### The derivative structure:

*do-gooder*: *(do good)+-er*, or *(v \_adv)+-er*

*dress-maker*: *dress-+(make-+-er)*, or *n +(v+-er)*

## 2. Derivational analysis

### The morphological structure:


*unmanly*      *discouragement*

**prefixal-radical-suffixal words**

## 2. Derivational analysis

The derivative structure:

*unmanly*

*un- + (man + -ly)  Adj*

*discouragement*

*(dis- + courage) + -ment  N*



## 2. Derivational analysis

The basic elements in the **morphological structure** are

- *morphemes* (the ultimate meaningful units in a word).

The basic elements in the **derivative structure** are:

- 1) *a derivational base,*
- 2) *a derivational affix* and
- 3) *a derivational pattern* of their arrangement .

**1) A derivational base** is *the starting point for new words*.

It is the word constituent to which a rule of word-formation is applied.

Structurally **derivational bases** fall into 3 classes:

1) bases that **coincide** with **morphological stems** of different degrees of complexity.

-- a *simple* morphological stem as father- in the verb *to father*,

-- a *derived* morphological stem as computer- in the word *computerize*;

-- a *compound* morphological stem as week-end- in the word *weekender*, etc..

This is the most numerous class of bases.

2) bases that **coincide** with **word-forms** as the base known in *unknown* or dancing in *a dancing-girl*;

3) bases that **coincide** with **word groups** of different degrees of stability as the derivational base narrow mind in *narrow-minded* or *blue eye(s)* in *blue-eyed* or *second rate* in *second-rateness*)

**3) A derivational pattern** is *an arrangement of IC* which can be expressed by *a formula* denoting their type of a morpheme and part-of-speech of the derivational base:

**pref + adj  $\rightarrow$  Adj      (adj + n) + -ed  $\rightarrow$  Adj**

or being written in a more abstract way not taking into account the final results:

**pref + adj      (adj + n) + suf**

or vice versa, taking into account the final results and individual semantics of some of the IC, like in:

***re-* + v  $\rightarrow$  V      or   pref + *read*  $\rightarrow$  V.**

## 2. Derivational analysis

### Derivative types of words

**Derivationally all the words in a language are subdivided into:**

- **simplexes**

(monomorphic words as *read*, *dead*, *table*, and polymorphic words of conditional and defective types of segmentability like *deceive* or *hamlet* ), and

- **complexes, or derivatives**

(*reader* –  $v^{+}-er \rightarrow N$ ; *to snow* –  $n + \text{conversion} \rightarrow V$ , and *student* ( $v^{+}-ent \rightarrow N$ )).

## 2. Derivational analysis

### Degrees of derivation:

- derivatives of the first degree of derivation: *reader* (v+-er→N); *reading* (v+-ing→N); *readable* (v+-able→Adj); *reread* (prf-+v→V);
- derivatives of the second degree of derivation: *unpredictable* un-+(v+-able)→Adj;
- derivatives of the third degree of derivation: *aircraft-carrier* (n+n)+(v+-er)→N.

## 2. Derivational analysis

### Major types of derivation (word-formation) in English:

In English there are **three major types of word-derivation:**

- *affixation* ,
- *zero derivation, or conversion, and*
- *composition, or compounding.*

### Minor types of word-formation:

- ✓ *back-formation,*
  - ✓ *shortening,*
  - ✓ *blending,*
  - ✓ *extension of proper names,*
- and some others.

# **Lecture 6-7. Major and minor ways of word-formation (Naming by morphological means)**

## **PLAN:**

### **I. Major ways of word-formation:**

#### **1. Affixation**

**a) prefixation**

**b) suffixation**

#### **2. Conversion**

#### **3. Compounding (word-composition)**

### **II. Minor ways of word-formation.**

## Prefixation

### Semantic classification of prefixes :

1. **negation, reversal, contrary** (***un**employment, **und**ress, **in**correct, **ine**quality, **dis**loyal, **dis**connect, **am**oral, **non**-scientific, **anti**freeze, **de**centralize);*
2. **sequence and order in time** (***pre**-war, **post**-war, **fore**see, **ex**-president, **co**-exist);*
3. **space location** (***inter**-continental, **trans**-Atlantic, **sub**way, **super**structure);*
4. **repetition** (***re**assert, **re**write, **anabaptize** ‘to baptize again’);*
5. **quantity and intensity** (***uni**sex, **bi**lingual, **poly**technical, **multi**lateral);*

++

- **pejoration** (***ab**normal, **miscal**culate, **mal**treat, **pseudo**-morpheme);*
- **amelioration** (***super**-reliable, **super**market, **ultra**modern).*



# Suffixation

**suffix** [from L. *sub*-‘under’ + *fix* ‘to attach’]

**from 130 to 64** suffixes in English

**Suffixation** in English is mostly characteristic of  
***nouns*** and ***adjectives***.

- ***receive*** – is *not* derived in modern English
- ***rewrite*** – is a derivative of the first degree

# Conversion

**Conversion** -- phonetic identity of words belonging to different parts of speech:

***round*** *adj, n, v, adv;*

***back*** *n, adj, adv, v;*

***water , eye , jump*** *(v, n)*

## Stress-interchange

It takes place in some *disyllabic* **verbs** and **nouns** of Romance origin:

V	N
<i>com'pact</i>	<i>'compact</i>
<i>trans'port</i>	<i>'transport</i>
<i>im'port</i>	<i>'import</i>
<i>in'sult</i>	<i>'insult</i>
<i>re'cord</i>	<i>'record</i>
<i>pro'ject</i>	<i>'project</i>
<i>pro'gress,</i>	<i>'progress</i>
<i>prod'uce</i>	<i>'produce</i>
<i>pro'test</i>	<i>'protest</i>

- but *to re'cruit – a re'cruit*

# Word compounding (word composition)

In English:

combination of *two derivational bases*:

❖ *without a linking element:*

*house-dog, day-time, a baby-sitter; early-riser; oil-rich, power-driven;*

❖ *or with it:*

*Anglo-Saxon, sociolinguistics, handicraft, sportsman.*

## Most common types of word-compounding in English:

1. **n+n→N** (*ice-cream*) and
2. **adj+n→N** (*software, a blackboard, a red-breast*);
3. **(n+adj→Adj)**: (*value-free, airtight, life-long* )

Word compounding (word composition)

**The second base**

**is semantically more important, cf.:**

*ring finger* and *finger-ring*

*piano-player* and *player piano*

*armchair* and *chair-arm*

# Minor ways of word-formation

**Graphic Shortening:** Mr, Mrs (1447, 1582), Str., Prof.

## 1. Lexical Shortening

### a) Clipping of a word:

- ✓*initial*: **bus** (short for 'omniBUS', **phone** (short for 'telePHONE');
- ✓*final*: **pop** (short for 'POPular), **exam** (short for 'EXAMination');
- ✓*both initial and final*: **flue** (short for 'inFLUEnza', **fridge** (short for 'reFRIDGErator);
- ✓*middle*: **maths** (short for *MATHeMaticS*)



## Minor ways of word-formation

**b) Acronymy** [1940s: from Greek *akron* 'tip' + *onuma* 'name'] - abbreviation made of initial letters of a fixed phrase:

**SMS** for 'short *messages* service',

**DVD** for 'digital video *disk*',

**CD-ROM** 'Compact *Disk Read Only Memory*',

**hi-fi** (short for '*High Fidelity*'),

**UNO** for '*United Nations Organization*', **VIP** for '*Very Important Person*',

**jeep** for '*General Purpose vehicle*', **laser** for '*Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation*',

**V-day** for '*Victory day*',

**Pakistan** (1933) (*Punjab, Afghan Border States, Kashmir, Sind and the end of the name of Baluchis TAN*);

**SMART** (*Self-Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Technology*),

**MAESTRO, WASP**,

**oink** (*One Income No Kids*), **dinky** (*Dual Income No Kids*).

## Minor ways of word-formation

### 2. Blending (telescoping) of two words

**blog** for 'web **b** **log**' (registration), **brunch** for '**B****R**eakfast and **LUNCH**', **smog** for '**S****M**oke + f**O****G**',

### 3. Back-formation when a derived word looks shorter than its source:

*to edit* from *an editor*,

*to beg* from *a beggar*,

### 4. Reduplication

*bye-bye*

*walkie-talkie*

*wishy-washy*

*ping-pong*

## Minor ways of word-formation

### 5. The extension of proper names

*champagne, coffee* [late 16th cent.: from Turkish kahveh, from Arabic qahwa, probably via Dutch koffie], *Nicotine* [Jean Nicot], *magnolia* [Pierre Magnol (1638–1715), French botanist], *sandwich, hooligan*

### 6. Analogical word-formation

*hamburger — cheeseburger — fishburger*;  
*England — Disneyland — aqualand — dreamland*;

### 7. Adjectivization

-ed: *united, organized, elected*

### 8. Nominalization

*the recruiting, the terminating*

### 9. Word manufacturing

*Gas, Kodak*

# **Lecture 8. NAMING BY WORD GROUPS**

## **NAMING BY WORD GROUPS**

- 1. Free word-groups vs. multi-word naming units (compounds, complex taxonomies, set-expressions).**
- 2. Restrictions on word-combinability in free word-groups.  
Lexical and Grammatical valency of words in free word-groups.**
- 3. Classification of free word-groups.**
- 4. Phraseology. Clichés. Set expressions.  
Multi-word Latin and French set expressions.  
Idioms. Phraseological units.**
- 5. Classification of phraseological units.**

## 1. Free collocations vs. multi-word naming units

**sanding machine, sewing machine, whistle-blower,  
white flight, to kick the bucket**

**съедобный гриб, белый гриб, швейная  
машина, железная дорога, бить баклуши**

## 4. Phraseology

### Phraseological unit –

most inclusive term for the largest two-faceted lexical units.

Types:

- *cliches,*
- *set-expressions,* and
- *idioms.*

## Semantic classification of phraseological units by

Acad. V.V. Vinogradov:

based on the **semantic approach**, i.e. the different degree of semantic cohesion between the components:

- **phraseological combinations** (фразеологические сочетания: *to meet the demand/ necessity/requirement; a bosom friend*);
- **phraseological unities** (фразеологические единства: *to look a gift horse in the mouth*);
- **phraseological fusions** (idioms) (фразеологические сращения: *to spill the beans* ‘выдать секрет, проболтаться’).

## **Lecture 9.**

# **SEMANTIC RELATIONS OF WORDS. STRUCTURE OF THE ENGLISH LEXICON**

### **PLAN**

- 1. Ways of classifying lexemes.**
- 2. Major types of semantic relations of lexical units.**
- 3. Structure of the English lexicon.**
- 4. Lexicon structure in different languages.**



2. Major types of semantic relations of lexical units in the lexical system:

## **Paradigmatic relations of lexical units:**

### **1. The relations of inclusion:**

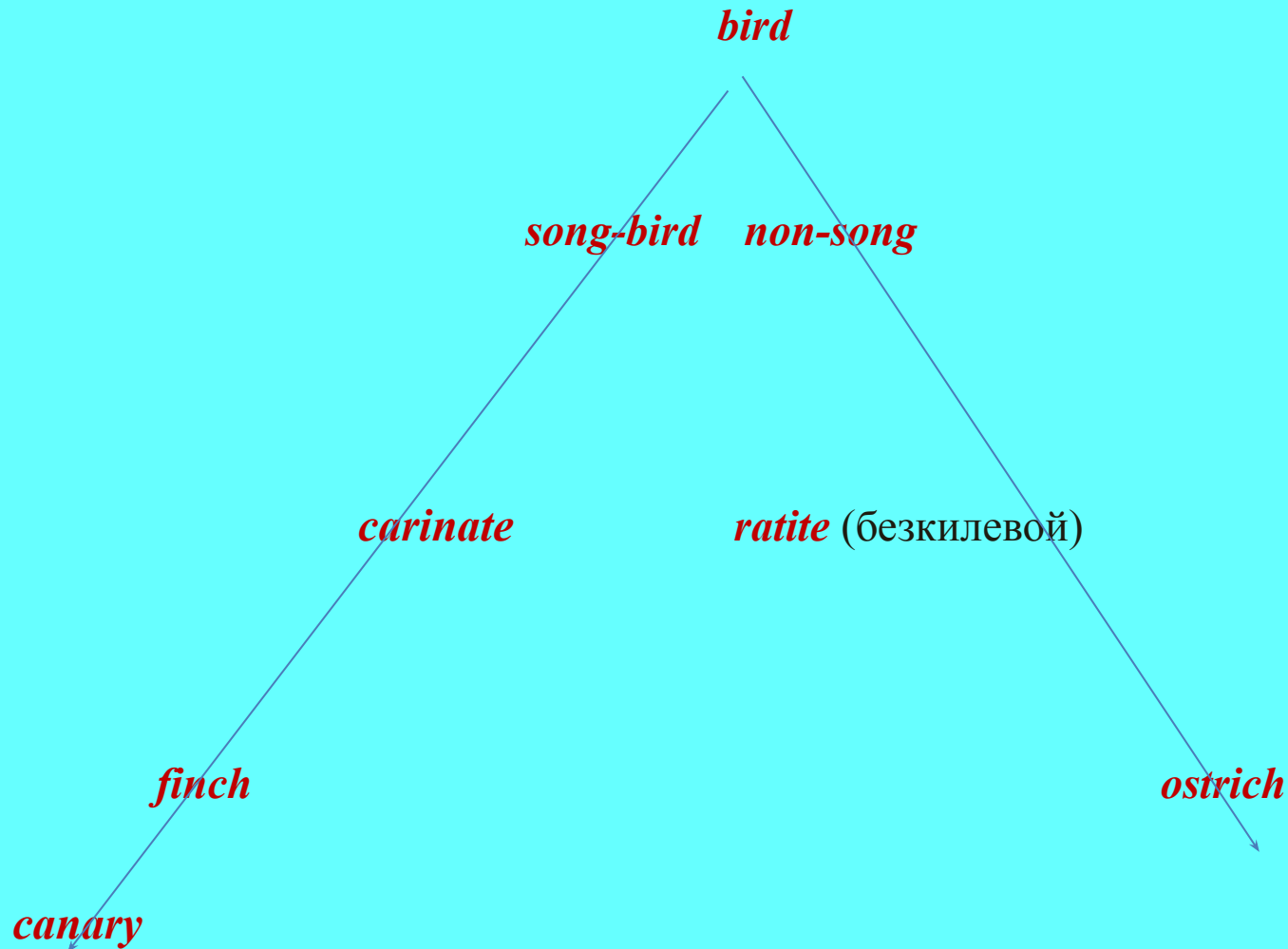
1. *hierarchical relations (hyponymy)*
2. *serial relations and*
3. *Meronymy (part-whole relations).*

### **2. The relations of partial compatibility:**

4. *synonymy,*
5. *antonymy and*
6. *distant compatibility.*

## 2. Major types of semantic relations of lexical units

Hierarchical, hypero-hyponymic relations, or hyponymy (*X is a kind of Y*):



Quasi-hyponymy:  
*cutlery* : *knife*, *fork* and *spoon*

## 2. Major types of semantic relations of lexical units

### Meronymy, or meronymic relations (X is part of Y; Y has X):

*body*

Δ

*arm*

Δ

*hand*

Δ

*finger, etc.*

### Quasi-meronymy:

*France – Europe*

(*France is part of Europe* but not \**Europe has France*).

# Lecture 10. Variation of the English vocabulary.

## Lexicography

Plan:

1. **Multidimensional nature of lexical variation**  
(*historical, regional, cultural and social dimensions;*  
*the qualitative, quantitative, and structural dimensions*).
2. **Lexicography.**

# Language variation: language, dialect, idiolect; variant

**Idiolect** – the language use typical of an individual person.

**Dialect** - a *regional* or *social variety* of a language characterized by its own *phonological, syntactic, and lexical* properties.

**A language** –any specific example of human language. Usually it is associated with *a standard norm* of speaking *in a country: Japanese, Armenian*, yet the situation is much more complicated. Estimates of the number of languages in the world vary between 5,000 and 7,000.

There is no clear distinction between a language and a dialect.

The aphorism attributed to **Max Weinreich**: *“a language is a dialect with an army and navy.”*

**Variant** – *a regional variety* possessing a **literary form**: *American/ English/ Canadian/ Indian/ Australian/ South African variants of English; in Gr. Br. there are Scottish English and Irish English.*

British vs. American English

The 6 cases of vocabulary differences  
between **AE** and **BE**:

**1. no equivalents in British English:**

*dude ranch* 'a sham ranch used as a summer residence for holiday-makers from the cities' = a guest ranch;

**2. different words are used for the same denotatum:**

*candy, cookies, movies, suspenders, truck* in **AE**, and  
*sweets, biscuits, pictures, braces, lorry* in **BE**.

**3. the same word for different denotata:**

*pavement*

**AE:** 'covering of the street made of asphalt, stones or some other material'.

**BE:** 'the footway at the side of the road'. (The Americans use the noun *sidewalk* for this).



**Samuel Johnson** (1709 – 1784),  
often referred to simply as  
**Dr Johnson**.

A portrait of Johnson from 1775  
by **Joshua Reynolds** showing  
Johnson's intense concentration  
and the weakness of his eyes.

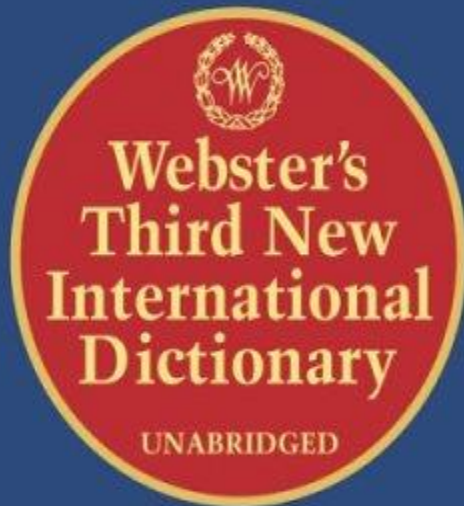


## Noah Webster (1758 – 1843)

His name became synonymous with "dictionary," especially the modern Merriam-Webster dictionary which was first published in 1828 as *An American Dictionary of the English Language*.



**Free!** One-year subscription to  
[www.Merriam-WebsterUnabridged.com](http://www.Merriam-WebsterUnabridged.com)



Merriam-Webster's  
great unabridged dictionary  
of the English language

Merriam-Webster Inc., an ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA Company

*Webster's Third New International  
Dictionary* **450,000 entries**

# Learner's Type of English Dictionaries (in hard copy and online)

- the [Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary](#) by A.S. Hornby (f.1942)
- The [Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English](#) (f.1978)
- [Collins Cobuild](#) English Dictionary, first published in 1987
- [Cambridge](#) International Dictionary of English, 1995, now published as the **Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary**
- [Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners](#), 2002
- [Merriam-Webster](#)'s Advanced Learner's English Dictionary, 2008