

THE PRESENTATION OF A PLANNED TRILINGUAL LOGISTICS TERMINOLOGY DICTIONARY FOR LEARNERS

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Abstract: This study is based on a previous article, where I presented the main features of this planned technical dictionary, on the basis of an aspect-list made by me. At that time it was not possible to introduce the planned microstructure of the dictionary, therefore I could not present the structure of the entries neither in theory nor in practice. This work is a supplementation in this regard. In the planned dictionary every entry is built up from text segments, which have determined functions, these are called formal and semantic commentaries. Under formal commentary we mean a lexicographical commentary, which defines the characteristic features of the headword. The semantic commentary contains information regarding the headword. In both commentaries different dictionary data and non-linguistic elements are to be found.

Keywords: logistics terminology, learner's dictionary, editing ground rules, microstructure

1. Introduction

Prior to determining the main editing ground rules and structures (macro-, micro- and mediostructure) of the learner's dictionary the main decisions were made, which were based on an aspect-list containing 13 steps [3, 4], just to mention a few: the range of dictionary users, definition of the functions of the dictionary, exhaustive/selective characteristics, deciding on alphabetical/non-alphabetical arrangement etc. The above aspects and decisions make the structure planning of the logistics terminology dictionary for learners possible. For instance, prior to the shaping of the microstructure it is important to set the primary and secondary target group (see dictionary users, 2nd aspect), since the structure of the entries needs to be tailored according to the needs of the target groups. Because a different structure is needed for dictionaries targeting translators or for dictionaries targeting language-learners.

2. Microstructure of the dictionary

Concerning the microstructure of the dictionaries there are plenty of researches available [5, 8, 9, 10]. According to my opinion based on Schaefer [8] and Muráth [6] microstructure is the structure of a whole entry, which contains the headword (lemma), dictionary data and other, non-lingual elements (symbols). Different types of entries are known, we can talk about simple entries, complex entries and referential ones. In case of simple entries the entry does not contain sub-entries (so-called sublemmas) nor entries in a block. In most cases it is built up as a text-block.

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Examples for a simple entry from the planned logistics terminology dictionary for learners (Fig. 1).

Achslast, die [-en] <fn>
 «~ eines Fahrzeugs ist der Anteil der Gesamtmasse (Eigenmasse und Masse der Ladung), der auf eine Achse entfällt»
U: *tengelyterhelés* **E:** *axle load*

Fig. 1. Simple entry from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

It can be seen, that in case of simple entries after the lemma, which is in the above example the German *Achslast*, we give grammatical details, which are followed by a semantic commentary. Since we are dealing with a multilingual dictionary, Hungarian and English equivalents are also attached to the given lemma. After the entry we do not place „new” entries (sub-entries).

In contrast with the simple entry, a complex entry may consist of more text-blocks. Here we can separate two main types: on one hand the headword may be the „leading element” of a syntagm, on the other hand a sub-entry may follow the entry.

In our example in the first case the adjective element of the syntagm appears as the headword, which is a unique element only in the logistics terminology (see *frei an Bord*), this is why we do not give the everyday meaning of the lemma (*frei*). Only the terminological meanings and equivalents of the syntagm are given in the entry (Fig. 2.).

frei <mn> ~ **an Bord**
 «~ bedeutet, dass die Lieferung erfolgt ist, wenn die Ware die Schiffsreling in dem vom Käufer benannten Verschiffungshafen überschritten hat. Von diesem Punkt an trägt der Käufer sämtliche Risiken und Kosten des Transports der Waren»
U: *bérmertve hajóra rakva* **E:** *free on board*

Fig. 2. Complex entry (1st type) from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

In the following case an entry is followed by a sub-entry. In the logistics terminology the lexeme *Anbieter* has an independent terminological meaning, therefore the relating meanings and equivalents are also listed in the entry, but we do not give the everyday meaning. The term *Anbieter logistischer Dienstleistungen* is the sub-entry of *Anbieter*, and its structure follows the „main” structure of the entry (Fig. 3.).

Anbieter, der [-s, -] (fn)
 «(~ bedeutet eine Person, Firma oder
 Institution, die etwas anbietet)»
 U: *ellátó* E: *provider*
 ♦ ~ **logistischer Dienstleistungen**
 U: *logisztikai szolgáltatást nyújtó* E: *logistics
 service provider*

Fig. 3. Complex entry (2. type) from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

The third type of the entries are the referential entries. Dictionaries usually use referential entries if a contextual-logical connection can be found between the entries, e.g. see the synonyms. In this case only one of the entries is detailed, and a reference is made from one entry (referential entry) to another entry (leading entry). In the logistics dictionary, three types of referential entries can be defined: the referential entry may be a synonym or quasi-synonym (Fig. 4.), an abbreviation (Fig. 5.) or an orthographical version (Fig. 6.). In the followings examples from the logistics dictionary are displayed regarding all three types (Fig. 4., 5., 6.).

Hub-and-Spoke → Nabe-Speiche-Netz

Fig. 4. Referential entry (1. type) from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

AE → Ausfuhrerklärung

Fig. 5. Referential entry (2. type) from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

Cargo → Kargo

Fig. 6. Referential entry (3. type) from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

The leading entry is always referred to from the referential entry, and it differs from the referential entry in several ways: concerning its functions, the supply of the dictionary data and the structure of the entry. The leading entry contains much more data and it also has a more complex structure than the referential entry. Let us give an example: we referred from *Hub-and-Spoke* to *Nabe-Speiche-Netz* (Fig. 7.).

Nabe-Speiche-Netz, das [-(-e)s, -e] (fn)
 «~ verbindet jedes Depot speichenförmig mit einem Hub»
U: *csillagpontos elosztási hálózat* **E:** *hub and spoke*

Fig. 7. Leading entry from the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

Another important issue is the placement of abbreviations and acronyms in the dictionary. If we have a formal (and superficial) look, similarities may be found between abbreviations and acronyms. There is no possibility to show the main differences between them within the framework of this study, we can only emphasize: abbreviations and acronyms make up a separate category in the logistics dictionary, they can not be dealt with collectively. Most of the abbreviations are referential entries (see above *AE*→*Ausfuhrerklärung*) but they can also make up one simple entry (*ArbZG* for *Arbeitszeitgesetz*). Acronyms may only turn up in simple or complex entries in the logistics dictionary. The following example also demonstrates the above simple entry (Fig. 8.).

ADR, das [=Accord européen relatif au transport international des marchandises Dangereuses par Route]
 «~ ist ein europäisches Übereinkommen für die internationale Beförderung gefährlicher Güter auf der Straße; 30. September 1957»
U: *Veszélyes Áruk Nemzetközi Közúti Szállításáról szóló Európai Megállapodás* **E:** *European agreement concerning the international carriage of dangerous goods by road*

Fig. 8. Acronym in a simple entry in the planned German-Hungarian-English logistics terminology dictionary for learners

In the followings we will outline the structure of simple entries. Every entry is built up from text segments, which have determined functions, these are called formal and semantic commentaries [10]. Under formal commentary we mean a lexicographical commentary, which defines the characteristic features of the headword. The semantic commentary contains information regarding the headword. In both commentaries different dictionary data and non-linguistic elements are to be found.

The structure of the planned logistics terminology dictionary for learners is demonstrated with the help of trial entries, first the planned dictionary data of the formal commentary, then the semantic commentary is to be dealt with.

2.1. Formal commentary. In the logistics dictionary terminology dictionary data play an important role. We can draw a conclusion from the type of the dictionary (terminology dictionary for learners) that the target user group (primarily the German logistics specialists learning German logistics terminology) needs information on the terminology. This is why the formal commentary contains grammatical data connected to the headword.

In case of nouns we give the plural, the gender, the case and of course the part of speech (in Hungarian). In case of adjectives and verbs the part of speech is given, and if the verb is irregular the conjugation is also given.

Noun entry (formal commentary):

- information on the headword,
- morphological information: information on gender, case or the plural of the noun,
- syntactical information: information on part of speech.

Adjective entry (formal commentary):

- information on the headword,
- syntactical information: information on part of speech.

Verb entry (formal commentary):

- information on the headword,
- morphological information: information on conjugation,
- syntactical information: information on part of speech.

2.2. Semantic commentary. The semantic commentary directly follows the formal commentary in the logistics dictionary, therefore we may talk about a simple hierarchical microstructure [9]. The most important dictionary information that appear in the semantic commentary are: encyclopedic information, information on equivalents and examples. Encyclopedic information only appear in entries where the headword is terminologized, this means that a definition is attached to an entry and a terminology denomination is assigned to it. The information of the equivalents appear in every entry, while the examples are eventual elements.

The appearance of encyclopedic information in a multilingual dictionary may be surprising. In previous studies [3, 4] I already pointed out, what significant role the meaning explanations have in a “special” terminology dictionary, which primarily keeps the needs of the terminology learners in mind. They may come across situations (e.g. a language exam, or talking shop) where they might need the conceptual explanation of a given lexeme. Furthermore the encyclopedic information is intended to help the learning function (so that the dictionary may also be used as a textbook).

Rossenbeck [7] also emphasizes the importance of encyclopedic data in bilingual (or multilingual) dictionaries. He points out that without them, we can only talk about simple “word similarities”, word entries, which do not give a real hand in all searches for the professionals.

Rossenbeck underlines seven important questions concerning encyclopedic information, of which I will talk about five in more details:

- We only provide encyclopedic information in the logistics dictionary if they serve the better understanding of lexemes, furthermore it is an important aspect that to terminologize the given lexeme. So if the dictionary user is not aware of the meaning of an expression in a foreign language, he/she may just browse through the dictionary.
- The encyclopedic information is worded in such a way that they adapt to the needs and situations of the users.
- If needed we remake the encyclopedic information (we simplify and shorten them) – if they derive from an encyclopedia or a textbook/note or any other sources – keeping the user’s needs and the targeted users in mind.
- While giving the encyclopedic information we pay attention to the aspect the expressions that need further explanation should appear only if necessary. If this cannot be worked out, cross-references are made, however, only in the electronic version. Cross-references make one think: it would be extremely useful for the dictionary user if any – unknown – expression could be found among the headwords in the dictionary. This might seem utopian and not user friendly in the printed version: the definition would contain several symbols (e.g. arrows) endangering the understanding and the apprehension of the explanation of the meaning. However, in the electronic version we aim that the system of references (including cross references) is ever more properly detailed.
- During the development of the encyclopedic information, the meta-language gets an important role. Agreeing with Rossenbeck [7] we represent the viewpoint that in case of meta-language data the source language and the target language as well might be taken into consideration, in this case the target user group helps the decision. Concerning the logistics dictionary we agreed on the German language being the source language, since we assume that the targeted users are aware of the Hungarian meaning of the expressions, the foreign language explanation gives an additional information for them (either regarding the search or the educative function).

Apart from the encyclopedic information we need to talk about the equivalents and the user examples, both forming part of the semantical commentary. The equivalents appear as obligatory elements in the dictionary, the Hungarian meaning appears first, followed by the English one. There are two arguments for providing the English equivalent: first the significant number of English expressions in the German logistics language, so the two “elements” might be connected and dealt within the same system. Secondly it has an educative function too: if the search or the studies aim at e.g. a Hungarian equivalent, there is the possibility to learn the English equivalent appearing next to it.

Finally, a few words about user examples, placed in the dictionary after the Hungarian equivalents: we try to provide examples derived from sources (mostly logistics textbooks, logistics encyclopedias) chosen by us. We try to present typical, possibly realistic, authentic and short examples in the dictionary.

3. Summary

In this study I tried to introduce the microstructure of a planned logistics terminology dictionary for learners. We outlined the main elements of the microstructure (formal commentary, semantic commentary) and also presented some trial entries, which demonstrate our theoretic argumentation. After we emphasized the importance of encyclopedic data in bilingual (or multilingual) dictionaries. We pointed out that without them, we can only talk about simple “word similarities”, word entries, which do not give a real hand in all searches for the professionals. Rossenbeck underlines seven important questions concerning encyclopedic information, of which we talked about five in more details. The next step will be the elaboration of the macro- and mediostructure of the dictionary.

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