

ENGLISH LEXICOLOGY

Практикум

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SEMINAR 1

What is Lexicology?

1. The object of lexicology.
2. The theoretical and practical value of English lexicology.
3. The connection of lexicology with phonetics, grammar and other branches of linguistics.

Literature:

1. I.V.Arnold "The English Word" М, ВШ. 1986, p.p.9-21
2. Г.Б.Антрушина и др. «Лексикология английского языка М, «Дрофа» 1999, с.с. 6-11

Exercises

1. *Examine the following definitions of 'lexicology'. What do they agree on as the scope of lexicology? And where do they disagree?*
 1. An area of language study concerned with the nature, meaning, history and use of words and word elements and often also with the critical description of lexicography. (McArthur, ed. 1992)
 2. The study of the overall structure and history of the vocabulary of a language. (Collins English Dictionary 1998)
 3. A branch of linguistics concerned with the meaning and use of words. (Longman Dictionary of the English Language 1991)
 4. The study of the form, meaning, and behaviour of words. (New Oxford Dictionary of English 1998)
2. *Consider the following 'deviant' sentences. In which of them would an alternative selection of words make an improvement, and in which does the arrangement of the words (syntax) need to be adjusted?*
 1. Visitors are aggressively requested to remove their shoes before leaving the temple.
 2. You put can table the the on bread you bought have.
 3. All mimsy were the borogroves and the mome raths outgrabe.
 4. Off you go, up the apples and pears and into uncle ned.

SEMINAR 2

Lexicography

1. Lexicography as a branch of lexicology. Types of dictionaries.
2. Annotations of dictionaries:
 - 1) monolingual / unilingual
Hornby A.S. The Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English. London. NY, 1974
Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English. London, 1978
Random House Dictionary of the English Language. Ed. by J.Stein. NY, 1971
Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language. Springfield Mass., 1961
 - 2) bilingual
БАРС: в 2-х т. / Под общим рук. И.Р. Гальперина, М. 1979
Англо-русский словарь под ред. В.К. Мюллера, М. 1978

A list of phrases for annotation of a dictionary

The 1st, 2nd edition of the dictionary (revised and updated edition)

To be published by...

An editor of the dictionary...

To contain ... units

To meet the needs of a learner

To achieve international recognition

A valuable reference book

To be arranged in an alphabetical order

To be printed in bold type

A section

An appendix

A glossary

The bulk of a dictionary

The entry

A head-word

To handle a dictionary

To derive the full information about a word

Etymological meaning

Figurative meaning (emotive)

Derivatives

Word usage

Collocations

Grammar characteristics

Stylistic field labels

Abbreviation

Hyphen

Contemporary (current) usage

Specialized usage

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" М. ВШ, 1986 p.p. 272-276
2. Касарес Х. Введение в современную лексикографию. М., 1958
3. Ступин Л.Г. Словари современного английского языка. Л., 1973

4. Рей А., Делесаль С. Проблемы антинормы лексикографии // Новое в зарубежной лингвистике. М., 1985. Выпуск XIV

Exercises

1. Using a desk or concise size general-purpose dictionary, read carefully the entries for the following words: *face, narrow-minded, soap, walleye*. Note for each item:

- (a) how many entries (headwords) your dictionary has;
(b) how your dictionary treats compound words.

2. Examine the following entry for **discriminate**, taken from CED (1998):

Discriminate *vb* (di'skrimi,neit). **1** (*intr*, usu. foll. by *in favour of* or *against*) to single out a particular person, group, etc., for special favour or, esp., disfavour, often because of a characteristic such as race, colour, sex, intelligence, etc. **2** (when *intr*, foll. by *between* or *among*) to recognize or understand the difference (between); distinguish: *to discriminate right and wrong; to discriminate between right and wrong*. **3** (*intr*) to constitute or mark a difference. **4** (*intr*) to be discerning in matters of taste. *Adj* (di 'skriImInIt). **5** showing or marked by discrimination. [C17: from Latin *discriminare* to divide, from *discrimen* a separation, from *discernere* to DISCERN] **dis'criminate** *adv* **dis'crimi,nator** *n*

What information does it give about: pronunciation, morphology, syntax?

3. Examine the entries for the following words in two or three dictionaries of a similar size: *height, nucleus, subjective*.
How many numbered meanings does each dictionary identify, and do they identify the same range of meanings?

4. (a) Look up the words *postprandial, potation, prevenient, psittacism, repast* in a dictionary other than the COD. Does the dictionary use the same ('formal') or alternative labels for these words? In particular, is the 'taboo' label used?

(b) Do you think that etymological information should be included in a dictionary aiming to describe the contemporary language? How might its inclusion be justified?

5. (a) Would you expect the following words to be entered more than once in a dictionary (as homographs), or to be treated in a single entry (as a case of polysemy)? First make a guess, then consult a dictionary.

Coach (bus, give training); cobble (stone for paving, mend shoes); fence (round a field, sport using a sword); mount (ascend, mountain); rook (bird, chess piece); stable (firmly fixed, place for horses); table (piece of furniture, of figures); whim (fancy, machine used in mining).

(b) Find the following idioms in your dictionary. Which word are they under? Are they cross-referenced from the entries for any of the other words in the idiom?

Fly in the ointment; fly off the handle;

Turn in one's grave; turn over a new leaf;

Spill the beans; full of beans.

SEMINAR 3

The Word

1. Difficulties in the definition of the word.
2. Characteristics of words.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 27-31
2. Antrushina G.B. and others "English lexicology" p.p. 6-10

Exercises

1. *For each of the following sets of words, say what the principle is that groups them into a set. Is the principal one of a common meaning, related forms of a lexeme, or something else (please specify)?*

1. dawdle, saunter, meander, wander, swan, tootle
2. speak, speaks, spoke, speaking, spoken
3. telephone, dial, number, answer, ring, engaged
4. rich, wealthy, well-off, loaded, affluent, well-heeled, oofy

2. *Count the number of words in the following sentence. Make a separate count of: (a) orthographic words; (b) grammatical word forms; (c) lexical words (lexemes).*

In their conceptual world, words are at once containers, tools and weapons, just as in the physical world a bag is a container, a screw-driver is a tool, and a gun is a weapon. (Adapted from McArthur 1998: 38)

3. *What does the word 'bull' mean in each of the following sentences?*

1. Beware of the bull!
2. I think the elephant is a bull.
3. Stop acting like a bull in a china shop!
4. There was a bull market on the stock exchange today.
5. Well done! You've hit the bull's eye.
6. Don't give me all that bull.
7. I'm afraid that you'll just have to take the bull by the horns.

SEMINAR 4

Etymological Survey of the English Vocabulary

1. Historical development of English vocabulary.
2. The opposition of native and borrowed words. Types of borrowings.
3. Assimilation of borrowings.

4. International words.
5. Etymological doublets.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 252-261
2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p. 44-77
3. Маковский М.М. «Английская этимология» М, VIII 1986

Exercises

1. *Look up the history of the following words, preferably in the (Shorter) Oxford English Dictionary, otherwise in a dictionary with good coverage of etymology (e.g. Collins English Dictionary, New Oxford Dictionary of English). How has their meaning changed since their first entry into the language?*

Cousin, hose, knight, nice, span, spell, starve, train

2. *Study the etymologies in your dictionaries and list five words that have been borrowed into English at some time or other from each of the following languages:*

French, Italian, Spanish, Latin, Greek.

3. *Here are some English words that still betray which language they have been borrowed from. Without looking them up, make a guess at their language of origin.*

Addendum (plural, addenda), baguette, canneloni, con brio, criterion (plural, criteria), id est (i.e.), in loco parentis, manana, sang-froid, vis-a-vis, zucchini.

4. *Which of the following Russianisms are better known in English?*

Arsheen, balalaika, beluga, borshch, borzoi, boyar, chernozem, cosmonaut, dacha, dessiatine, Duma, gosplan, isba, kefir, komsomol, Kremlin, KGB, kurgan, menshevik, pirozhki, politburo, ruble, samovar, shaman, smetana, steppe, (beef) stroganoff, telega, troika, zakuska.

5. *What is the first meaning of the Russianism babushka in American English?*
6. *How many Russian words for the names of the Russian royal family are registered by lexicographers?*
7. *What fur is named in English after a Russian town?*
8. *Speak of the meaning and origin of the word 'waitnik' in the following sentence: "Thousands of Soviet Jews who have left now have become 'waitniks' stuck in a dreary seaside resort just outside of Rome" (Christian Science Monitor).*
9. *Analyze the structure of the word 'gorbomania' in the following sentence:*

“A syndrome has been spreading in the West, reaching epidemic proportions particularly in Western Europe. Dubbed Gorbomania, the syndrome manifests itself in a hypnotic fascination with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and external policies associated with him.” (Des Moines Register).

10. *What Russian religious sects have fled to the U.S.?*

11. *What species of fish have Russian names in English?*

12. *Separate Russianisms from words of other origin:*

Picnic, sputnik, beatnik, refusenik, nudnik

13. *Point out the Russianism in the following sentence:*

(The Oxford English Dictionary) is here again, updated and expanded, a mammoth historical progress report on a language with a vocabulary, the world's largest, that grows by an estimated 450 words a year. (Time)

14. *Use the model okroshka soup (i.e. an unassimilated loan in juxtaposition with a generic term) to refer to the following:*

Матрешка, ПТУ, папироса, аспирантура, зачет, валенки, кулич (пасхальный), перестройка, буфет, куратор, староста (студенческой группы).

15. *In the left-hand column are ten French loan-words frequently used in English. Match these words with their definitions in the right-hand column.*

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. argot | a. File |
| 2. dossier | b. Environment |
| 3. milieu | c. Slang |
| 4. connoisseur | d. Competent judge |
| 5. amateur | e. Nursery |
| 6. creche | f. Evening party |
| 7. soiree | g. Non-professional |

16. *Put each of these foreign words into one of the sentences below:*

Ad hoc	ad infinitum	alfresco
Aplomb	avantgarde	blase
Bona fide	carte blanche	coup d'etat
De facto	curriculum vitae	detante
Ex officio	extra-curricular	faux pas
In camera	kudos	non compos mentis
Non sequitur	per capita	per se
Bravo	persona non grata	prima facie
Rapport	quid pro quo	status quo
Tete-a-tete	vice versa	vis-a-vis

- The General overthrew the President and became the _____ ruler of the country.
- What is the average _____ income in your country?
- It says in the invitation that wives are allowed to bring their husbands and _____. So I shall certainly take Anne with me.

4. If you ask me, most of this _____ music is rubbish. Give me Beethoven or Mozart and day!
5. You made a terrible _____ when you asked how his wife was. Didn't you know that she'd recently run off with his best friend?
6. They decided to set up an _____ committee to deal with the urgent problem that had come up.
7. He was thrown out of the country two years ago and has been _____ since then.
8. Generally speaking, students are against preserving the _____ in a country. They usually want change and reform.
9. She gained a lot of _____ after her third successful novel.
10. He came to power in a violent and bloody _____.
11. As President she will be a(n) _____ member of several important committees.
12. The car park is for _____ customers only. No one else is allowed to use it.
13. As there seems to be a _____ case against him, they decided to press for a trial immediately.
14. When Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher met for the first time, there was an instant _____ between them.
15. Don't mention golf when Charles is around; otherwise he'll go on _____ about it.
16. It is hard to believe in the present _____ that the two countries were at war with one another less than two years ago.
17. The Prime Minister handled the hostile questioning of the journalists with great _____.
18. Your argument is a _____ and totally irrelevant.
19. I'd like to see you tomorrow, John, the proposed new changes. I'd like to hear what you think of them.
20. It was a very nice house _____, but it wasn't quite the sort of place we were looking for.
21. The case involved discussing matters which were top secret, so it was held _____.
22. No one told me what to do. I was given _____ to organize things as I saw fit.
23. Applicants must send in a full _____ no later than Friday, March 24th.
24. We usually eat _____ in the summer.
25. He gave me a 10 per cent discount as a _____ for having helped him mend his car.
26. He was believed to have been _____ when he attempted to commit suicide.
27. Visiting Russia so often has made him very _____ about eating caviar.
28. Our school offers a wide range of _____ activities, including photography, karate and folk-dancing.
29. I had a very interesting _____ with the new manager last week. Now I think I understand what he plans to do.
30. You performed very well. _____!

SEMINAR 5

Morphological Structure of English Words.

1. Word structure. Morphological classification of words. Word families.
2. Morphemes. Free and bound forms. Allomorphs. Derivational and functional morphemes.
3. Affixation. Native and borrowed affixes. Productive and non-productive affixes.
4. The valency of affixes. Word-building patterns.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 77-96, 101-102
2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p.59-66
3. Кубрякова Е.С. Основы морфологического анализа. М., 1974
4. Мешков О.Д. Словообразование современного английского языка. М., 1976

Exercises

1. *Analyse the following words into their constituent morphemes.*
Beadiness, coagulative, deactivators, forbearingly, half-deafened, left-handedness, noncombatant, readability, temporarily, weedkiller.
2. *Give all the possible inflections for the following words:*
Bring, cow, forget, guest, high, stop, tall, tooth, weary.
3. *Identify the derivational affixes used in the following words. Give a meaning/function for each one, e.g. –ment: has the function of deriving a noun from a verb.*
Covariance, enactable, ungracious, preconnection, depressive, incriminatory, proconsulship, officialdom, declassify, troublesome.
4. *Divide the following words into morphemes. For each morpheme identify the type (free or bound, prefix or suffix, inflectional or derivational):*
Restate, strongest, actively, precede.
5. *State the morphological principle that each of the following forms violates:*
 - (a) cupsful for cupfuls
 - (b) loveding for loved or loving
 - (c) photographser for photographers
6. *What kind of evidence could be used to argue that action and package each contain two morphemes: {act}+{ion} and {pack}+{age}?*
7. *What kind of evidence could be used to argue that {age} in package is a derivational morpheme?*

SEMINAR 6

Word-Formation (1)

1. Affixation. Semantics of affixes. Classification of affixes.
2. Conversion.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 96-100, 153-165
2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p.83-103
3. Карашук П.М. «Словообразование английского языка» М.: ВШ, 1977
4. Архипов И.К. «Семантика производного слова» М.: Просвещение, 1984
5. Кубрякова Е.С. «Типы языковых значений. Семантика производного слова» М.: Наука, 1981
6. Мешков О.Д. «Словообразование современного английского языка» М.: Наука, 1976

Exercises

1. *Read the following short story. Write down the correct noun in the space provided beneath the story using the words in **bold** to help you.*

Whilst at college, I remember listening to a lecturer given by a rather pompous (1) who was discussing the values of strong (2) in politics. Firstly he presented his (3) of (4), then continued by arguing that (5) by a political leader was a positive attribute as resolute decisions could be made but that the basic (6) in society could still be maintained. He felt strongly that schools did not provide the kind of (7) needed for the development of good leadership qualities which should be instilled from early (8). He felt also that modern society encouraged qualities such as (9) and (10) to the young. However, when an earnest young student explained that he would like to become a (12) or a (13) in industry, and asked about courses to follow, the politician said, with a curt (14), "That's a silly question to ask me! I am a politician, not a career adviser!".

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. politics | 8. Child |
| 2. leader | 9. Lazy |
| 3. define | 10. Cynic |
| 4. leader | 11. Guide |
| 5. dominate | 12. Politics |
| 6. free | 13. Manage |
| 7. encourage | 14. Dismiss |

2. *–en, -ify, -ize combine with nouns and adjectives to form verbs. Look at the following lists of adjectives and nouns. Put the corresponding verb in the space provided.*

<u>ADJECTIVE > VERB</u>	<u>NOUN > VERB</u>
Hard	horror
Modern	memory
Deep	beauty
Intense	sympathy
False	apology
Fat	glory
Sterile	length

3. The following suffixes combine with verbs to form adjectives:

-able -ible -ed -ful -ive -ing

Look at the verb printed in **bold** and write down the appropriate adjective in space provided.

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Mr Quickwater has a great many
qualities. | admire |
| 2. There was an story in the paper this morning | amuse |
| 3. I have extra French lessons with a
schoolmaster. | retire |
| 4. He made himself By handling round
the coffee cups. | use |
| 5. Deaths caused by reckless driving are | Avoid |
| 6. He felt very towards her and loved her
dearly. | protect |
| 7. The coat was in shades of blue and green | pattern |
| 8. She slept on a bed with rough, prickly sheets | collapse |
| 9. Paper tissues are more hygienic than
handkerchiefs. | dispose |
| 10. The photos made him look quite | attract |

4. A large number of prefixes are used to form words with negative meanings. Some of the most common ones are listed below.

Dis- ir- il- non- im- un- in-

Now look at the words listed below. Write down their negative forms next to the appropriate prefix.

Legal	smoker	capable	practical	athletic
Security	relevant	possible	obey	officially
Agreement	loyal	happy	rational	willingness
Logical	mature	responsible	ability	convenient

Dis-

Il-

Im-.....

In-.....

Ir-.....

Non-

Un-

5. **anti-** can be used with two different meanings. Write "A" in the space provided if it means that one thing opposes another. Write "B" if it means that one thing prevents another from happening.

- Following the appalling behaviour of the English football fans in Italy many people were anti-English.

-
2. Anti-seasickness tablets should be taken two hours before starting a journey.
.....
3. After fitting the anti-theft device to her car, she hoped it would not be stolen again.
.....
4. The anti-apartheid movement in South Africa gained a lot of publicity when Nelson Mandela was released
.....
5. Although it is more than two years since his wife died, he is still taking anti-depressants.
.....
6. Put anti-freeze in your radiator to prevent the water from freezing overnight.
.....
7. It was the first serious anti-war demonstration for fifteen years.
.....
8. Toothpastes containing fluoride and anti-bacterial properties should be able to virtually eradicate tooth-decay.
.....
9. The General took control of the army at the height of the anti-Ceausescu protests.
.....
10. The Church is managing to survive in the face of a great deal of anti-religious propaganda.
.....

6. *–FUL CAN BE USED WITH TWO DIFFERENT MEANINGS. WRITE 'A' IN THE SPACE PROVIDED IF IT REFERS TO A QUANTITY. WRITE 'B' IF IT DESCRIBES A QUALITY.*

1. He drank a mouthful of cold black coffee.
.....
2. My legs and back are stiff but not painful.
.....
3. He is one of the most powerful men in the country.
.....
4. He ate a bowl of natural yoghurt served up with a spoonful of honey.
.....
5. She had a whole houseful of furniture.
.....
6. The park lay quiet and peaceful in the early morning.
.....
7. He had nice sad eyes with beautiful lashes.
.....
8. Roger gathered a handful of stones and began to throw them.
.....
9. Pour a bucketful of cold water on top of the ash.
.....
10. He was full of youthful curiosity and idealism.
.....

7. State in each case whether the word describes a creature of the feminine or masculine gender and give the word signifying the creature of the opposite sex:

Hero -	ancestor –
Widow -	sorcerer –
Abbess -	sultan –
Chairman -	tsar –
Duke -	maharaja –
Cat -	lion –
Nun -	bachelor –
Niece -	cow –
Duck -	fiance –

8. Put the words in the following lists according to their meaning.

Over-anxious	overdo	overhang
Overawe	over-eighteen	overhead
overcharge	over-emphasize	over-forty

<u>excess</u>	<u>age</u>	<u>position</u>
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

9. Put the words in the following lists according to their meaning.

Under-boiled	undergraduate	underpass
Underclothes	underline	underpriced
Under-equipped	under-manager	undersize
Underestimate	undernourished	under-tens

<u>Beneath</u>	<u>insufficient</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>rank</u>
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

10. Some affixes have more than one meaning. What are the meanings of the underlined affixes in each case?

- snowbound and northbound
- anti-vivisection and anti-coagulant
- hovercraft and stagecraft
- cross-channel and cross-cultural
- well-adjusted, well-documented and well-disposed
- newsworthy and seaworthy
- semi-invalid and semi-circular

- h) editorship, companionship and statesmanship
- i) suddenly and motherly
- j) tonsillitis and footballitis
- k) monogram and milligram
- l) forearm and foreknowledge

SEMINAR 7

Compound Words

1. Composition. Structural aspect and semantic aspect.
2. The criteria of compounds.
3. Semi-affixes.
4. Reduplicative compounds. Ablaut combinations. Rhyme combinations.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 108-133
2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p.104-144, 118-119
3. Мешков О.Д. «Семантические аспекты словосложения английского языка» М. 1986

Exercises

1. *What kind of words are itsy-bitsy and teeny-weeny which you find in the following refrain of the once popular song?*

"It was an itsy-bitsy, teeny-weeny,
yellow pocket down bikini.
That's she wore for the first time today..."

2. *Give the linguistic explanation of the mistake the pupil makes:*

"Yes," the teacher explained, "quite a number of plants and flowers have the prefix 'dog'. For instance, the dog-rose and the dog-violet are well-known. Can you name another?"

There was silence, then a happy look illuminated the face of a boy at the end of the class.

"Please, Miss," he called out, proud of his knowledge, "collieflowers."

3. *Analyze linguistically the device used by the author:*

"A fishmonger is the man who mongs fish; the ironmonger and the warmonger do the same with iron and war. They just mong them." (G.Mikes. How to be an Alien).

4. *What lexico-grammatical problems may be illustrated by the pair of words spymaster and master spy?*

...Casey was a spymaster, not a master spy ... (Herald Tribune).

5. *Many compounds, which on the surface seem very much alike, actually come from different structures. Take the following sets of compounds and for the purposes of comparison state the underlying statement for which the compound is a short cut.*

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| a) butter plate | a) baby bottle |
| b) butter cake | b) baby giraffe |
| c) butterball | c) baby-sitter |
| d) buttermilk | d) baby talk |

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| a) watchdog | a) catwalk |
| b) watchtower | b) cattail |
| c) watch duty | c) catnip |
| d) watchmaker | d) cat fight |

6. *Combine the words in capital letters with each word of the list below it, putting it either before or after according to the meaning. Explain the compound word you have formed in this way:*

Example: HOUSE

Hen:	henhouse – a house for hens
Wife:	house wife – the woman who runs a household

DAY	TIME	HORSE
Break	bomb	towel
Birth	night	cavalry
Pay	dinner	man
School	table	shoe
Time	keeper	race

7. *Match the words on the left with those on the right in order to make ten more examples of compound nouns.*

Bottle	fever
Bubble	air
General	tongue
Open	barrier
Current	public
Sound	opener
Junk	bath
Hay	meter
Parking	affairs
Mother	food

SEMINAR 8

Shortening and Minor Types of Word-Formation

1. Curtailment. Blending.
2. Graphical abbreviations. Acronyms.
3. Minor types of word-formation.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 134-154
2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p. 115-128
3. Борисов В.В. «Аббревиация и акронимия» М.: Воениздат, 1972.

Exercises

1. *Write the words that were used to make the following blends. Outline the blended parts so that the relationship is shown.*

Beefalo	broasted
Alcoholidays	spanglish
Slimnastics	bank Americard
Travelodge	spamwich

2. *What is the meaning and type of the word "advertorial" used in the following item:*

ADVERTORIAL

Competitors charge that Whittle's publications are nonmagazines, nothing but Bound "advertorial" – editorial copy that is desired to promote the interests of advertisers (Time).

3. *What kind of formation is klandidate in the following?*

KU KLUX KLANDIDATE

David Duke claims to have abdicated the title of imperial wizard of the Knights of The Ku Klux Klan. Now he wants a new one: Louisiana state legislator (Time).

4. *What lexicological phenomenon is used in the formation of the words amerasian? Sexploration? Irrelephant (from the inscription on the badge "republican is irrelephant")? What might be the meaning of the words?*
5. *Why do you think B.Hornadge entitled his book "The Australian Slanguage"? What kind of word is slanguage?*
6. *Match these abbreviations with their meanings.*

1. BSc	compact disc
2. FBI	for example
3. Fr	Federal Bureau of Investigation
4. ext.	Personal identification number (usually on a bank card)
5. CD	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
6. asap	Bachelor of Science
7. PIN	extension
8. e.g.	Father (title for a priest)
9. Unesco	as soon as possible

7. *"Translate" this note from the boss to a group of workers in an office, into full words.*

Memo from: Mr Braneless (MD)

To: All staff

Date: 3/5/91

Ref: 04056/DC

May I remind you that all new lab equipment should be registered with Stores & Supplies, Room 354 (ext 2683). NB: new items must be notified before 1700hrs on the last day of the month of purchase, i.e. within the current budgeting month. All a/c nos must be recorded.

8. *Explain 1-5 and match them with the contexts on the right.*

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. students and OAPs: \$1.50 | on an aerosol can |
| 2. WC Gents | in a newspaper headline |
| 3. US forces take 5,000 POWs | on a museum entrance |
| 4. Ozone-friendly: CFC-free | on an airline timetable |
| 5. Dep 1500 Arr 1742 | on a door in a pub |

9. *The first part of each of the following words consists of a single letter. What do the letter-words mean?*

- | | | |
|---------------|---------|------------|
| A-bomb | T-shirt | U-turn |
| E-mail | V-neck | T-junction |
| V-information | X-ray | A-line |

10. *You probably won't be able to find the underlined words in these sentences in your dictionary but use both the context and what you know about the meaning of their constituent parts (prefix, root, suffix) to make a guess at what the word probably means.*

- a) Teleworking is becoming more and more frequent these days with improved and cheaper technology.
- b) New shampoos claim to have added a volumiser so that they can make your hair look even more attractive.
- c) An autonomerologist, interviewed in the newspaper today, says that there are two main types of popular plates.
- d) There has been talk of replacing the breathalyser with an eyelyser.
- e) Ecotourism is the latest trend in holiday-making.
- f) Jane is a clothesaholic. She spends all her spare cash on things that I'm sure she hardly ever wears.

11. *Give linguistic explanation of the humorous effect of this sentence?*

After the debacle of introducing Jennifer to her potential in-laws ("Do I call them outlaws now?" she asked), I did not look forward with any confidence to my meeting with her father (E.Segal. Love Story).

12. *What lexico-grammatical transformation occurs in this sentence?*

Let me say in the beginning that even if I wanted to avoid Texas I could not, for I am wived in Texas and mother-in-lawed and uncled and aunted and cousined within an inch of my life. (J.Steinbeck. Travels with Charlie).

13. *What was the nickname for President Reagan's economic policy and what way of word-formation was used to give this name?*

14. *Give linguistic explanation of the following jokes:*

Worker to his friend: "I'm taking a honey-day vacation this year. You know, that is when you stay home and the whole time your wife says: "Honey, do this and Honey, do that."

Tell us this – "Does a doctor doctor a doctor according to the doctored doctor's doctrine or doctoring, or does the doctor doing the doctrine doctor the other doctor according to his own doctoring doctrine."

Telling of a member expelled from her club, a woman said: "They dismembered her."

This is the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps. Its members are called "Neurotics."

Two men. Who were visiting a museum, were seen standing in front of an Egyptian mummy, over which hung a placard bearing the inscription: "B.C. 1187."

Both visitors were much mystified thereby.

"What do you make of that, Jim?"

"Well," said Jim, "I dunno; but maybe it was the number of the motor car that killed him."

"Mother," said Johnny, "is it correct to say you "water a horse" when he's thirsty?"

"Yes, quite correct."

"Then (picking up a saucer), I'm going to milk the cat.

"That bashful boyfriend of mine is a G-man."

"A government man?"

"Naw. All he can say is "gee!"

SEMINAR 9

Lexical Meaning

1. Lexical meaning. Referential approach.
2. The structure of lexical meaning.
3. Contextual analysis.
4. Componential analysis.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V "The English Word" p.p. 37-49, 56-59
2. Antrushina G.B. "English lexicology" p.p. 129-131, 136-142
3. Никитин М.В. «Курс лингвистической семантики» С-П, 1997
4. Плотников Б.А. «Основы семасиологии» Минск. 1984

Exercises

1. *What does the word bull mean in each of the following sentences?*

1. Beware of the bull!
 2. I think the elephant is a bull.
 3. Stop acting like a bull in a china shop!
 4. There was a bull market on the stock exchange today.
 5. Well done! You've hit the bull's eye.
 6. Don't give me all that bull.
 7. I'm afraid that you'll just have to take the bull by the horns.
2. *What are the connotations of the italicized words in the following sentences?*
1. We are away to sunnier *climes*.
 2. I had to *fork out* a lot for that present.
 3. Give mummy the *doggy* then.
 4. If we do that, they'll call down *fire and brimstone* on us.
 5. Let's get rid of this little *beastie*.
 6. I suppose *muggins* will have to do it.
 7. Let me get you the *afforementioned*.
 8. We'll meet upon the *greensward*.
3. *What semantic feature or property differentiates the following sets of nouns?*
1. niece, daughter, sister vs. nun, woman, girl
 2. mailman, nephew, priest vs. gander, stag, bull
 3. hen, ewe, cow vs. rooster, ram, bull
 4. table, chair, pencil vs. love, thought, idea
 5. table, chair, pencil vs. water, dirt, cream
4. *What sense relation is illustrated by the following words: rectangle, parallelogram, and square?*
5. *True/False.*
1. the meaning relation illustrated by *hen*, *mare*, and *vixen* is overlap
 2. the phrase *French literature teacher* constitutes a case of lexical ambiguity.
 3. Two words overlap in meaning if they share the same specifications for at least one semantic feature.
 4. The sense relation illustrated by *rooster*, *bull*, *stallion*, and *buck* is hyponymy.
6. *Construct a componential analysis for sister-in-law using the components PARENT, MARRIED, and FEMALE.*
7. *What logical relation do (a) and (b) stand in?*
- (a) John read journals until 10 o'clock
 - (b) John read journals before 10 o'clock.
8. *Charles Fillmore has observed that a gun need not look like a gun, but an «imitation gun» must. Discuss this in regard to definitional and associated components.*

9. *What explanations can you offer for the fact that one might say*

I am dying

But not

I am fainting (rather: I am going to faint).

SEMINAR 10

Polisemy. Semantic Change.

1. The semantic structure of polysemantic words.
2. Types of semantic change.
3. Linguistic causes of semantic change.
4. Extralinguistic causes of semantic change.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. «The English Word» p.p. 50-56, 60-77
2. Antrushina G.B. «English Lexicology» p.p. 131-136, 147-165
3. Беляевская Е.Г. «Семантика слова» М. 1987
4. Стернин И.А. «Лексическое значение слова в речи» Воронеж, 1985

Exercises

1. *List all the meanings that you can think of for the lexemes lemon (noun) and review (verb).*
2. *Explain the “pun” in*
He gave the house a coat of paint and his wife one of suede.
2. *Are the following phrases susceptible of metaphoric interpretation?*
Cloud of fragrance / invisible cloud / cloud of suspicion
3. *Different languages use different metaphors. From your own study of the English language collect the names of five items which are based on a metaphor. Explain the feature that the named item has in common with what is named after. For example, Persian speakers call turtles sang posht which means ‘rock back’. A turtle’s back is hard and so is rock. They call walnuts chachar mags which means ‘four brains’. If you have ever seen a preserved brain or a drawing of a brain you can see the resemblance in shape between a brain and one quarter of a walnut.*
4. *There are dozens of metaphors in English based on animals and the way they compare to people and objects. Choose a group of animals such as farm animals, zoo animals, fish, jungle animals or whatever, and jot down as many as you can think of that come from these animals. Note the semantic feature that the animal and the namesake are supposed to have in common. For example, cranes (both the bird and the machine) have long skinny necks, and a dove’s tail and a dovetail joint both spread out.*

5. *There is an ambiguity in each of the following advertisements. The double meaning is based on a metaphor. Find the metaphor and explain how each of the meanings reinforces the message of the advertisement.*

1. Once you've tried Pringles' new-fangled potato chips, other potato chips just don't stack up.
2. The garden of eatin'. (advertisement for a grocery store).
3. Joy cleans dishes clear down to the shine. Isn't that a nice reflection on you?
4. Our shampoo is Head and Shoulders above the others.
5. Are you still up in the air about reservations? (a hotel advertisement placed in an airport)

6. *Each of the following advertisements contains a word or a phrase illustrating personification or animalification. Read through these statements looking for the metaphors.*

1. Betty Crocker presents the two best friends (Supreme and Traditional brownies) a glass of milk ever had.
2. L & M cigarettes: the proud smoke.
3. Philadelphia Whipped Cream Cheese... a sweetheart of a desert.
4. Crow Light. The whiskey that whispers.
5. Moon Drops by Revlon: Introducing the not-so-innocent pastels. Sweet young colors seduced with gold and silver.
6. Mr. Muscle (over cleaner) works while you sleep.
7. Southern Railway system: We gave this train a split personality to give you faster service.
8. Nothing runs like a Deere (tractor).

7. *Read these verses from Roger McGough's poem On and on and on. Explain the pun in each verse.*

Is a shoplifter
A giant
Who goes around lifting shops?

Is a cat-burglar
a thief
Who likes stealing cats?

Does a baby-sitter
Really
Sit on tiny tots?

Is a waiting room
a room
That patiently waits?

Is a train-spotter
An artist
Who paints spots on trains?

Is a gatekeeper's
hobby
collecting gates?

8. *Give the lexicological explanation of the blunder:*

"An engineer named Monroe, found himself sitting next to a very plain girl at a rather imposing dinner. Looking desperately around the table for inspiration he came up with the opening remark, "I see they've seated me next to the goose." Then realizing what he has said, he added, "I mean the one on the table." (R.Morley. A book of Bricks).

9. *Elaborate on the joke:*

A teacher asked the class to use a familiar word in a new way. One boy read: "The boy returned home with a cliché on his face." Asked to explain his phrase, he said: "The dictionary defines cliché as a "worn-out expression."

10. *Give the linguistic commentary to the following sentence:*

"In most gardens", the Tiger-lily said, "they make the beds too soft – so that the flowers are always asleep." (L.Carroll. Through the Looking Glass).

11. *Produce the linguistic commentary of the verse.*

Little Willie from the mirror
Licked the mercury right off,
Thinking in his childish error,
It would cure the whooping cough.
At the funeral, his mother
Smartly quipped to Mrs.Brown:
'Twas a chilly day for Willy
when the mercury went down!

12. *Comment on the semantic shift of the words Polar Bear and Smirnoff.*

(Advertisement) To make a Polar Bear, pour Smirnoff into a glass with ice, add twice as much milk and a drop of maple syrup. Stir.

13. *Give the linguistic analysis of the jokes:*

The king looked anxiously at the White Rabbit, who said in a low voice, "Your majesty must cross-examine this witness."
"Well, if I must, I must," the King said with a melancholy air, and, after folding his arms and frowning at the cook till his eyes were nearly out of sight, he said... (L.Carroll. Alice in Wonderland).

"Papa, what kind of a robber is a page?"
"A what?"
"It says here that two pages held up the bride's train."

SEMINAR 11

Synonyms.

1. Sources of synonymy.
2. Criteria of synonymy
3. Types of synonyms.
4. Euphemisms.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 194-207

2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p. 184-216
3. Апресян Ю.Д. «Лексическая семантика. Синонимические средства языка» М., 1974

Exercises

1. *Explain the differences in meaning of the following set of synonyms:*

Plentiful, plenteous, ample, abundant, copious.

They all suggest 'more than enough but not too much.'

2. *What distinguishes each of the following pairs of synonyms – dialect, formality, connotation?*
 1. astonished – flabbergasted
 2. chat – gossip
 3. earwig – clippers
 4. give – donate
 5. hate – loathe
 6. ice lolly – icy pole
 7. insect – creepy-crawly
 8. much – mickle
 9. slippery – slippy
 10. throw – hurl
3. *How do steal and rob relate to embezzle, pilfer in terms of components? Is steal closer to embezzle/pilfer, or is rob closer?*
4. *Look up panther and leopard in a dictionary and discuss whether they should be regarded as synonymous.*
5. *Are deprive/spare, abnormal/unusual sets of synonyms? Are they logically equivalent?*
6. *Explain the difference between the following pairs of sentences from different court situations. Use a dictionary or other reference book, if necessary.*
 - a) the vase that was stolen was priceless
the vase that was stolen was worthless
 - b) the witness said the attacker was a stranger
the witness said the attacker was a foreigner
 - c) the child was always very willing
the child was always very wilful
 - d) his behaviour was inhuman
his behaviour was inhumane
 - e) the defendant always seemed to behave in a very carefree way
the defendant always seemed to behave in a very careless way
 - f) Mr. Brown spoke very shortly to me
Mr. Brown spoke very briefly to me
 - g) He is a large man

- He is a great man
- h) Her husband was a heavy man
Her husband was a hard man
Her husband was a difficult man
- i) The brother he had told us he lived with turned out to be imaginary
The brother he had told us he lived with turned out to be imaginative.

7. *Explain the difference in meaning between the words in the groups below.*

- a) male / masculine
b) valueless / invaluable
c) sensitive / sensible
d) lone / lonely / alone
e) imagination / fantasy
f) distinctive / distinct / distinguished
g) boundary / border / frontier

8. *What lexicological phenomena make this comparison of British and continental young people funny?*

If a continental youth wants to declare his love to a girl, he kneels down, tells her That she is the sweetest, the most charming and ravishing person in the world... Often, to give a little more emphasis to the statement, he shoots himself on the spot. (...) In England the boy pats his adored one on the back and says softly: "I don't object to you, you know." If he is quite mad with passion, he may add: "I rather fancy you, in fact." (G.Mikes. How to Be an Alien).

9. *Elaborate on the jokes:*

Mrs. Webster, the wife of Professor Webster, who compiled the dictionary named after him, returned home one day to find her husband in the kitchen dallying with the maid. "Oh, Fred!" she exclaimed, "I am surprised!" "My dear," he replied unperturbed, "as the wife of an eminent lexicographer you should know that you are astonished. It is I who am surprised!"

Absent-minded professor (to Pharmacist) – "Give me some prepared monacetic-acidester of salicyllic acid."

Pharmacist – "Do you mean aspirin?"

Absent-minded professor – "That's right! I can never think of that name."

Euphemisms.

1. *Here are some difficult topics which English people often use euphemisms for.*

Birth	prison	crime	unemployment
lying	toilets	alcohol	warfare
strikes	obesity		

Match them to the sentences and decide what the sentences really mean in straightforward English.

1. Jill's got a bit of spare tyre these days, hasn't he?
2. Their TV fell off the back of a lorry.
3. When is the happy event going to be?
4. Would you like to wash your hands?
5. Her aunt's a guest of Her Majesty for six months.
6. My cousin's an actor but he's resting at the moment.
7. The politician seemed to be rather tired and emotional during the debate.
8. Pat's being rather economical with the truth, wouldn't you agree?
9. The trade union is organising a day of action tomorrow.
10. There were three hundred casualties in yesterday's battle for control of the pass.

2. *Match the euphemism on the left with what it stands for on the right.*

An approved school	financial trouble
Cash flow problems	spying organisations
Smalls	in the habit of stealing
To have a liquid lunch	to lock someone up (in prison or a mental hospital)
To drown one's sorrows	to drink a lot of alcohol in the middle of the day
Light-fingered	underwear
Intelligence agencies	a penal institution for minors
The oldest profession	to get drunk
Cuddly	prostitution
To put away	fat

3. *Some expressions, introduced for PC reasons, have become part of standard English now. Which do you think is the more PC expression in each case? Why?*

1. an unmarried mother or a single mother?
2. Children with special needs or educationally subnormal children?
3. A housewife or a homemaker?
4. Third World countries or developing countries?
5. A refuse collector or a dustman?
6. A fireman or a firefighter?
7. African-American or Black American?
8. Hearing-impaired or deaf?
9. Slum or substandard housing?

4. *Sometimes political correctness goes to such extremes to avoid hurting others' feelings that it verges on the ridiculous, creating expressions that are excessively convoluted.*

Can you match the PC expressions on the left with their translations on the right?

Charm-free	bald
Nontraditionally ordered	old
Chronologically gifted	tall
Cosmetically different	boring
Hair disadvantaged	disorganised
Vertically inconvenienced	stupid
Mentally challenged	ugly

5. *Account for the choice of words in the following extract.*

Housewives on television may chat about their sex lives in terms that a decade ago would have made gynecologists blush; more often than not, these emancipated women still speak about their children's "going to the potty." Government spokesmen talk about "redeployment of American troops", they mean a withdrawal. When sociologists refer to blacks living in slums, they are likely to mumble about "nonwhites" in a "culturally deprived environment." The CIA may never have used the expression "to terminate with extreme prejudice" when it wanted a spy rubbed out. But in the context of a war in which "pacification of the enemy infrastructure" is the military mode of reference to blasting the Viet Cong out of a village, the phrase sounded so plausible that millions readily accepted it as accurate. (Time, in: Language Awareness).

6. *Match the euphemisms on the right with the straight expressions on the left.*

Straight expressions

Calories
Stomachache
Policeman
Garbage collector
Travelling repairman
Old person
News reporter
Old people's home

Euphemisms

peace officer
field engineer
broadcast journalist
retirement village
gastric distress
food energy
senior citizen
sanitary engineer

SEMINAR 12
Homonymy and Antonymy

1. Homonyms. Sources of homonyms.
2. Classification of homonyms.
3. Antonyms.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. "The English Word" p.p. 182-194, 209-215
2. Antrushina G.B. "English Lexicology" p.p. 166-183, 216-219
3. Никитин М.В. «Курс лингвистической семантики» С-П, 1997

Exercises

1. *Which of the following pairs are homonyms and which are cases of polysemy?*

Barge – noun (boat), verb (intervene);
Court – noun (entourage), verb (woo);
Dart – noun (missile), verb (move quickly);
Fleet – noun (ships), adjective (fast);
Jam – noun (preserve), verb (block);
Pad – noun (thick material), verb (walk softly);

Steep – adjective (of gradient), verb (immerse);
Stem – noun (of plant), verb (stop);
Stuff – verb (fill), noun (material);
Watch – verb (observe), noun (timepiece)

2. *For each of the following words: (a) say whether it has an antonym and give if it does; (b) say what kind of antonymy is involved (gradable, complementary, converse).*

Emigrate, equine, freedom, frothy, new, proud, simple, speak, straight, triangular.

3. *True or False.*

1. *Fat* and *skinny* are binary antonyms
2. *Smart* and *stupid* are gradable antonyms
3. The sense relation illustrated by *rooster*, *bull*, *stallion* and *buck* is hyponymy.

4. *What kind of words are used by the author to create stylistic effect in the following passage?*

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the epoch of belief, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way – in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of the noisiest authorities insisted on its being received for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only. (Ch.Dickens. *A Tale of Two Cities*).

5. *What lexicological phenomenon is illustrated in the following passage?*

Here the Red Queen began again. “Can you answer useful questions?” she said. “How is bread made?”

“I know that!” Alice cried eagerly. “You take some flour”

“Where do you pick the flower?” the White Queen asked. “In a garden, or in the hedges?”

“Well, it isn’t picked at all”, Alice explained: “It’s ground – “

“How many acres of ground?” said the White Queen. (L.Carroll. *Through the Looking-Glass*).

6. *Give lexicological explanations of the jokes:*

When a reporter shoved a microphone in John’s face and asked, “Do you make Conscious use of onomatopoeis?” John snapped back from behind dark glasses. “Automatic pier? I don’t know what you’re going on about, son” (P.Brown, *St.Gains. The Love You Make. An Inside Story of the Beatles*).

“Do you like Kipling?”

“Don’t know. Never kippled.”

“Mine is a long and sad tale!” said the Mouse, turning to Alice, and sighing.
“It is a long tail, certainly,” said Alice, looking down with wonder at the Mouse’s tail; “but why do you call it sad?” (L.Carroll. Alice in Wonderland).

“How is it,” said a gentleman to Sheridan, “that your name has not O attached to it? Your family is Irish, and no doubt illustrious.”

“No family has a better right O than our family,” said Sheridan; “for we owe everybody.”

Chemistry Professor – “What can you tell me about nitrates?”

Student – “Well-er-they’re a lot cheaper than day rates.”

Walter Winchell attended a dinner party for which Beatrice Lillie (Lady Peel in private life) had trotted out the family pearls. A malicious rival murmured “I can’t believe those pearls are genuine, my dear. They say you can always tell by biting them. Would you let me try?” “Certainly,” said Miss Lillie promptly. “But remember, my sweet, that you can’t tell real pearls with false teeth.”

7. *There is a pun at the heart of the joke. Explain the pun.*

Having asked for shelter for the night at a monastery the traveller was surprised and delighted at being given a magnificent supper of succulent fish and chips. “That was absolutely magnificent,” he enthused to the monk who had been serving him. “Not only was that piece of fish superb and beautifully cooked, but the chips... Never have I tasted better chips. Well done, Brother.” It would be better were you to thank Brother Ambrose for those,” came the reply. “I’m the fish frier, he’s the chip monk.”

SEMINAR 13

Set Expressions

1. Definition. Set expressions and free phrases.
2. Classifications of set expressions.
3. Proverbs, sayings, cliches.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. “The English Word” p.p. 165-180
2. Antrushina G.B. “English Lexicology” p.p.225-258
3. Виноградов В.В. «Об основных типах фразеологических единиц в русском языке.» Л., 1947
4. Кунин А.В. «Фразеология современного английского языка.» М., 1972

Exercises

1. *Without using a dictionary, try to guess the meaning of these idioms from the context.*

1. It’s midnight. Time to hit the sack.
2. This is just kid’s stuff. I want something challenging!

3. He was down and out for two years, but then he got a job and found a home for himself.
 4. Don't get angry with him. His heart's in the right place.
 5. A: Hey! I'm talking to you! B: Sorry, I was miles away.
2. *Horoscopes in English language newspapers and magazines are often a good place to find idioms about moods and states, since the horoscope usually tries to tell you how you are going to feel during the coming day/week/month. Read these horoscopes. Spot idioms to do with feelings, moods and states in these horoscopes. Underline them, then check the meaning if necessary in a dictionary.*

Capricorn (21.12 – 19.1)

Don't get carried away by promises that won't be kept. Keep a cool head and take everything as it comes. On the work front, things are looking better.

Scorpio (23.10 – 22.11)

You may get itchy feet today, but be patient, this is not a good time to travel. Events at work will keep you on the edge of the day. Altogether an anxious time for Scorpions.

Taurus (21.4 – 20.5)

Someone will say something that will make you swell with pride and you may feel on top of the world for a while, but the evening will not be so easy.

Leo (21.7 – 21.8)

You'll be up in arms over something someone close to you says rather thoughtlessly today, but don't let it spoil things. You may be in two minds over an invitation, but think positively.

3. *Some proverbs are similar in meaning to one another. Which proverbs on the left go with which on the right, and what do they have in common in terms of meaning?*

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. | Never judge a book by its cover |
| 2. Don't count your chickens before they are hatched. | Familiarity breeds contempt |
| 3. All that glitters is not gold | Never look a gift-horse in the mouth |
| 4. Absence makes the heart grow fonder | Don't cross your bridges before you come to them. |
4. *Find the idioms in each of these sentences. Say what the idiom means in plain English and then explain how the idiom may have originated. The first one has been done for you as an example.*
1. As soon as she mentioned his son, she realised that she had found the chink in his armour.
The chink in his armour = his weak spot (*chink* = *hole*, i.e. the point at which he could easily be attacked, an image from fighting in the days when soldiers wore armour).

2. He was refused the promotion he was hoping for but at least they sugared the pill by offering him a better office. (Clue: children and medicine)
3. Bob looks tired. He must have spent the night on the tiles. (Clue: cats).
4. The day we met for the first time was a real red-letter day for me. (Clue: calendars)
5. Amanda often doesn't get home until the small hours. (Clue: numbers).
6. The baby cries. I get hardly any sleep and then get cross easily next day. The baby senses I'm upset and cries still more. It's a vicious circle. (Clue: logic).
7. An election some time during the next three months is certainly on the cards. (Clue: fortune-telling).

5. *Comment on the following jokes.*

Splendid fellow – “There's nothing to beat an apple. You know the old saying. “An apple a day keeps the doctor away.”

Cynic – “Oh, isn't there? What about an onion or even peppermint? They'll keep everybody away.”

A woman submitted a torrid love story to a confession magazine and waited impatiently for several weeks for a reply. When none was forthcoming she wired, “Please report on my story immediately as I have other irons in the fire.” An answering wire-collect read, “We have considered your story and advise you to put it with the other irons.”

What is that which you can keep, after giving it to someone else?

“Well, Denis, I hear as how ye were the best man at Mike's wedding.”

“Well, no, mum, not exactly that I wuzn't in the weddin' – I were jist there; so I wuzn't the best man. But I wuz as any man there, an' that's no lie!”

“If you spend so much time at golf you won't have anything laid aside for a rainy day.”

“Won't I? My desk is loaded up with work that I've put aside for a rainy day.”

“I heard something this morning that opened my eyes.”

“So did I – an alarm clock.”

SEMINAR 14

Stylistically Marked and Stylistically Neutral Words

1. Functional styles and registers.
2. Informal style.
3. Formal style.
4. Basic vocabulary.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. “The English Word” p.p. 240-251
2. Antrushina G.B. “English Lexicology” p.p. 12-61

Exercises

1. *Rhyming slang is thought to have originated as a criminal language in London's Cockney-speaking East End. What do you think are the equivalents of the following rhyming slang terms? In some cases, they have been reduced to the first part of the expression, so the second, rhyming part is put in brackets.*

Apples and pears	bird (lime)
Butcher's (hook)	china (plate)
Half-inch	jam-jar
Pig's ear	porky (pie)
Raspberry (tart)	Rosie Lee
Tea leaf	tit for (tat)
Trouble and strife	Uncle Ned
Whistle (and flute)	

2. *Another common way of making slang words is by using short forms or loosely pronounced forms of ordinary words. Thus fab is a slang form of 'fabulous' and hubby is a slang form of 'husband'. Can you work out the meanings of the following underlined slang words?*

He's my <u>fella</u> .	Let's have <u>brekkie</u> .
It was a <u>freebie</u>	He's a <u>brickie</u> .
I took a <u>sickie</u> .	Let's have a <u>barbie</u> .

3. *Give a 'neutral' term for the following 'formal' words. If you cannot even guess at the meaning, look the word up in a dictionary. They are all marked as 'formal' in Collins Electronic Dictionary (1992).*

Hitherto, incumbent (adjective), inveracity, laudation, lavation, lubricious, mariner, natation, yesteryear.

4. *Give a 'neutral' term for the following words, which are marked as either 'colloq' or 'slang' in The Concise Oxford Dictionary Ninth Edition. You might also like to see which label a dictionary other than The Concise Oxford Dictionary uses for these items.*

Cold feet, floozie, footling, gamp, (play) hookey, lughole, miffed, piddle, slaphead, strop, twerp, unfazed, veggie, wag (verb), zilch, zit

5. *Match the slang expressions in the left-hand column with their meanings in the right-hand column.*

Straight up!	Don't be silly!
Leave it out!	He's in the pub.
He's a twit!	He's in prison
What's the damage?	It's far too expensive!
He's rolling in it.	You can't fool me!
He's awesome.	He's very rich.

He's inside.	Honestly!
He's down the boozier.	He's fantastic.
Pull the other one!	How much is it?
What a rip-off!	He's a stupid person.

6. *Some words have both an 'ordinary' and a colloquial meaning. For example, kid is a colloquial word for child or to trick, but its basic meaning is a young goat. Do you know the colloquial meanings as well as the 'ordinary' ones of these words?*

Bread	jaw
Cool	thick
Anorak	wet
Jerk	sack
Grub	flash

7. *Articles in popular music magazines are often written in an extremely colloquial style – they may use the language in such a creative and unusual way that they may be quite difficult to understand in places. The example of this style which you are going to read is about a band called The Make-Up, which was about to tour Britain.*

Underline the strikingly colloquial words and expressions.

MAKE-UP CALL

Flash, distinctly flash, THE MAKE-UP are the current coolest band in America.

They're jamming James Brown through the punk rock mincer and coming up with sexy, sassy anthems.

They've cut four hard-to-grab seven-inch singles and an album. They combine idealism, rock'n'roll and the funk with natty stage threads and an interview technique that makes the prime-time Manics look like shy nowt-to-say librarians.

The Make-Up are an unpinned grenade and they are coming this way in the spring. Currently the best undiscovered band out there. If you don't get this band, you're brain dead. It's that simple.

8. *Here are some sentences from lectures on various disciplines. What discipline does each sentence relate to? Underline the words and expressions which helped you to identify the discipline.*

1. I would like to begin by drawing your attention to the key factors which would eventually lead to the revolution. Firstly, there was considerable discontent with the reigning monarch who ruled as an autocrat but had lost the respect of many of his subjects...
2. ... was also remarkable as a poet as well as a dramatist. He may be most famous for his thirty-seven comedies, tragedies and histories but he also wrote a large number of sonnets, not to mention several other longer poems.
3. Chelonia is an order of reptiles – 244 species in all. They are characterised by a body which is encased in a domed shell of bones covered by large horny scales.
4. Torts are always dealt with in the civil countries. Individual torts include negligence, trespass and nuisance and the usual remedies and a/or an injunction.

5. Very occasionally complications may develop as a result of an attack of measles. The physician needs to be aware of the fact that otitis media, pneumonia or, in a very few instances, encephalitis may occur with measles. The normal course of action is to prescribe antibiotics if any such complications are suspected.

9. *Why should the Eaglet in the following passage ask to speak English?*

“In that case,” said the Dodo solemnly, rising to its feet, “I move that the meeting adjourn, for the immediate adoption of more energetic remedies – “
“Speak English!” said the Eaglet, “I don’t know the meaning of half of those long words, and what’s more, I don’t believe you do either!” (L.Carroll. Alice in Wonderland).

10. *“Words like phenomenon, element, individual, categorical, effective, virtual, basic, primary, promote, constitute, exhibit, exploit, utilize, eliminate, liquidate are used to dress up simple statements and give an air of scientific impartiality to biased judgements.” (G.Orwell. Politics and the English Language, 1946). What words, do you think, Orwell would prefer instead of those mentioned? Was Orwell’s criticism justified? Is it now?*

11. *Comment on the jokes.*

Traffic Cop – “Use your noodle, lady! Use your noodle!”

Lady – “My goodness! Where is it? I’ve pushed and pulled everything in the car.”

In order to discourage the use of objectionable words the father had evolved a system of fines, somewhat after this fashion:

Hang it – one cent

Darn it – two cents

Gosh – three cents

Gosh darn it – five cents

The boy who was to be reformed by this method studied the tariff with considerable interest, but it was some time before he spoke.

“Well,” he said at last, “I guess I know some words would cost a quarter.”

SEMINAR 15

Regional Varieties of the English Vocabulary

1. Standard English Variants and Dialects.
2. American English
3. Canadian, Australian and Indian Variants.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. “The English Word” p.p. 262- 271
2. Antrushina G.B. “English Lexicology” p.p. 259-275
3. Беляева Т.М., Потапова И.А. «Английский язык за пределами Англии» Л., 1971
4. Швейцер А.Д. «Литературный английский язык в США и в Англии.» М., 1971

Exercises

1. *If you saw words spelt in the following way would you expect the writer in each case to be British or American?*

Labor, centre, hospitalised, movie theater, favour, thru

2. *Translate the following into British English.*

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. I had a blow-out | 6. It's in the trunk |
| 2. Pass me the cookies | 7. One-way or round trip? |
| 3. It's in the closet | 8. He left the faucet on |
| 4. Open the drapes | 9. We're leaving in the fall |
| 5. We've run out of gas | 10. I hate waiting in line |

3. *Can you avoid some of the most common confusions arising between British and American speakers? Try the following quiz.*

1. Where would you take (a) an American visitor (b) a British visitor who said they wanted to wash up – the kitchen or the bathroom?
2. Would (a) an American (b) a Brit be expected to get something hot or something cold if they asked for some potato chips?
3. Which would surprise you more – an American or a British man telling you that he wanted to go and change his pants?
4. You have just come into an unknown office block. If (a) an American (b) a Brit says that the office you need is on the second floor, how many flights of stairs do you need to climb?
5. If (a) an American (b) a Brit asks for a bill, is he or she more likely to be in a bank or a cafe?

4. *What do you think these examples of Australian colloquialisms mean? They are all formed by abbreviating an English word which you probably know.*

1. Where did you go when you were in Oz?
2. She wants to be a journo when she leaves uni.
3. We got terribly bitten by mozzies at yesterday's barbie.
4. He's planning to do a bit of farming bizzo while he's in the States.
5. What are you doing this arvo?
6. We decided to have a party as the oldies had gone away for the weekend.

5. *The words on the left are more common in Indian English than British English. The words on the right are the equivalent words more frequently used in British English. Match the Indian word with its British English equivalent.*

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. abscond | catch (e.g. by police) |
| 2. nab | man who annoys girls |
| 3. bag (i.e. a seat in an election) | plimsolls, sneakers |
| 4. Eve-teaser | underwear |
| 5. the common man | flee |
| 6. fleetfoots | people awaiting trial |

7. undertrials
8. wearunders

the general public
capture/obtain

6. *Below you have some statements made by a Scot. Answer the questions about them.*

1. Mary had a bonny wee lassie last night.
What happened to Mary yesterday?
2. They stay next to the kirk.
What noise is likely to wake them on Sunday morning?
3. It's a bit dreich today.
Is it good weather for a picnic?
4. He's got a new job as janitor at the school.
What kind of duties will he have?
5. Would you like a wee dram?
If you say 'yes', what will you get?
6. 'Are you coming, Jim?' 'Aye'.
Is Jim coming or isn't he?
7. They have a wonderful view of the loch from their window.
What can they see from the window?

7. *Here are a number of words which cause particular confusion as they can have different meanings in British and American English. Explain what the two different meanings are.*

a billion	pants	to wash up
a professor	gas	biscuit
a purse	school	jelly
chips	the first floor	vest

8. *Here are some more examples of differences between American and British vocabulary. Can you match the American word on the left with its British equivalent on the right?*

Buffet	face flannel
Can	bumper
Candy	estate agent
Closet	estate car
Diaper	sideboard
Drug store	cupboard
Eggplant	power point
Elevator	tap
Faucet	chemist
Fender	drawing pin

Outlet	nappy
Realtor	braces
Sidewalk	boot
Station wagon	tin
Suspenders	windscreen
Thumbtack	spanner
Traffic circle	lift
Trunk (car)	aubergine
Washcloth	sweets
Windshield	roundabout
Wrench	pavement

9. *Comment on the following jokes.*

Bernard Shaw said that America and England were two great nations separated by the same language.

Englishman – “I’ll never forget my feelings the first time I had breakfast in America, when the waitress leaned over my shoulder, and whispered in my ear: ‘Are you through with the cereal?’ “ It was some time before I discovered that she meant: ‘Have you finished your porridge?’ “

American – “Wal, shortly after I landed in England a waiter came up to me at luncheon and said: ‘How did you find your chop, sir?’ I replied: ‘Oh, I looked behind the potato and there it was,’ before I understood that he was asking me how I liked it.”

Scotsman – “That’s nothing to what happened to me once. I was in lodgings in a small town in the West of Ireland. Half an hour after I had finished my supper an exceedingly pretty girl came into my room and said: ‘Will I strip now, sir?’ I fled into my bedroom and locked the door, but I found out afterwards that Irish girls always talk about ‘stripping the table,’ when they meant ‘clearing away the dishes.’ “

An Alabama man was talking with a man from Maine:

“As near’s I can see,” said the Alabaman, “there ain’t much difference atweens we-uns and you-uns, ‘cept that we-uns reckon an’ you-uns guess.”

“That’s ‘bout all, neighbour,” replied the Maine man, “‘cept that we can guess a playguy sight better than you can reckon!”

SEMINAR 16

LEXICAL SYSTEMS

1. The English vocabulary as an adaptive system. Neologisms.
2. Thematic and ideographic groups.
3. Terminological systems.

Literature:

1. Arnold I.V. “The English Word” p.p. 216 – 238
2. Заботкина В.И. «Новая лексика английского языка»

Exercises

1. *Here are some new words. Match them with their definitions.*

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. collectomania | a specially bred miniaturised form of vegetable |
| 2. bio-house | a hypothetical miniaturised device capable of making its way through bodily passages and performing various tasks |
| 3. bimbo | an irresistible urge to collect things |
| 4. mini-vegetable | an indoor version of American football |
| 5. arenaball | a house constructed solely from natural materials |
| 6. microbot | a female of limited intelligence but high sex appeal |

2. *If you meet a new word it is often possible to work out its meaning from its context. Practise by explaining what the underlined words in the following sentences must mean.*

1. I very much prefer restaurants where there is no microwavery.
2. They're building a new cineplex on the edge of the town so we should be able to choose from a variety of films on Saturday nights.
3. Upskiing, which uses small parachutes, is a rapidly developing sport in the USA.
4. World AIDS Day was inspired by the health globocrats of the World Health Organisation.
5. He is writing a thesis on humorology.
6. The boss is very much a hands-on manager who likes to be involved in all aspects of the company's work.
7. Many large shops now have their own store cards.
8. The post-war baby-boomers are now becoming grandparents.

3. *Here is the title and the beginning of an item:*

A ROUSING NO TO MINI-PULATION

American women send designers back to the drawing boards (Time).

What kind of word is mini-pulation?

4. *Analyse linguistically the mistake which appears in this graffito: air farce.*

5. *One of the issues of the AMERICAN SPEECH journal (1961) mentions "soaperatic lore". What kind of word is soaperatic and what might be its meaning?*

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