Howard Jackson, ed. *The Bloomsbury Companion to Lexicography*

The Bloomsbury Companion to Lexicography presents a broad overview of contemporary research and trends in lexicography. It contains some twenty substantive chapters by eminent scholars in their fields, and includes additional reference materials. Although the *meta-* prefix is not attached to *lexicography* in the book's title, sometimes the frame of *metalexicography* is helpful in emphasizing the distinction which is repeatedly stated in the text: the *Companion* is meant to accompany not the practical craft of dictionary-making, but the theoretical work of lexicographical criticism and dictionary research. In day-to-day life, the two disciplines are probably not truly separable, but given the number of manuals intended for practitioners, a theoretically-oriented introductory compendium is a promising prospect.

Chapter Overview

The introduction explains that the *Companion* "is aimed primarily at students of lexicography who are proposing to undertake research in one of the areas covered by 'lexicography'." It "aims to give a broad overview of the discipline, dealing with the main trends and issues in the contemporary study of lexicography" (1). Lexicography is a big enough field that reasonable people may have differing opinions about all sorts of questions, large and small. The *Companion* makes no attempt to offer a unified point of view, but puts forth a menu of perspectives from which its readers may launch or expand their own research.
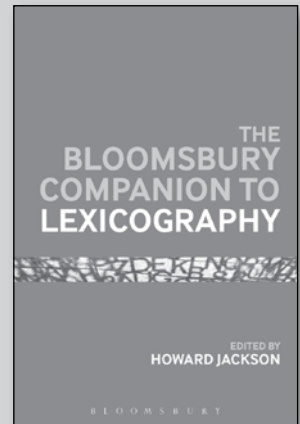
After the editor's introduction, the late Paul Bogaards' "A History of Research in Lexicography" gives a historical overview. Beginning in the mid-twentieth century, Bogaards covers the development of studies in lexicographical history, criticism, and typologies; dictionary macrostructure and microstructure, usage, and corpus methods. The chapter runs for ten pages of text, plus three full pages of references to works in English, French, and German. This breadth of references is a reassuring opener for anyone who suspected that a *Bloomsbury Companion* might prove Anglo- or English-centric, and its diversity of perspective is further broadened throughout the book. Bogaards' typology of lexicographical scholarship does not completely correspond to the one presented by the *Companion* as a whole: for example, Bogaards (by way of Béjoint (2010) mentions research in encyclopedic, children's, and onomasiological dictionaries. These are indeed fruitful areas of lexicographical study, but they are not discussed in the *Companion*.

Next, Lars Trap-Jensen's "Researching Lexicographical Practice" is a reasonable textbook account of major topics in lexicographical practice: conceptualization, design, semantic description, dictionary writing systems, interfaces, and the specter of a future where all reference is mediated by Google (a major topic indeed!). Compared with Bogaards' chapter and many of the others, this chapter is light on connections to ongoing research. I was puzzled to find no references to any of the detailed manuals to lexicographical practice. Not that the reader likely needs to be told that they exist (nine are listed in the book's Annotated Bibliography) but a connection with these manuals could have provided an understanding of areas of relative consensus and divergence. Trap-Jensen begins by asserting a focus on monolingual native-speaker dictionaries, but the overview is unspecific enough that it can apply just as well to bi- and multilingual resources.

Kaoru Akasu's "Methods in Dictionary Criticism" describes the team-review methods used by the Iwasaki Linguistic Circle. As described by Akasu, these methods appear to be an excellent way to perform an intensive analysis of a dictionary by combining multiple reviewers' expertise; Akasu argues convincingly for rigorous procedure and comparative reviewing. Along the way, Akasu points to an interesting challenge of dictionary criticism. It is vanishingly rare for dictionaries to document their editorial practices and style guide in any detail (Sinclair (1987) being a cherished exception). As a result, critics must reverse-engineer a dictionary's intent in order to guess what its goals were, and thence evaluate its success.

Hilary Nesi's "Researching Users and Uses of Dictionaries" is a thorough overview of usage studies to date, with references to a broad array of user studies. Potential areas of study, and potential approaches, are so varied that it is not feasible to exhaustively survey user research in the space allotted. Nevertheless Nesi's account provides a clear, generously cited map to the enormous territory currently covered, categorizing existing work by its focus on user types, usage contexts, user preferences, or usage strategies.

Adam Kilgarriff's "Using Corpora as Data Sources for Dictionaries" draws heavily from the author's own work. This is unavoidable, since the Sketch Engine (Kilgarriff et al 2004) has been preeminent in spurring a technological shift that he describes: "from [a methodology] where the technology merely supported the corpus-analysis process, to one where it pro-actively identified what was likely to be interesting and directed the lexicographer's attention to it" (85). Beyond his own work, Kilgarriff also cites research by others, some of which was new to me despite my own focus on corpora. The chapter could very well serve as a practical introduction for new corpus lexicographers. Its fundamentally future-looking orientation leaves an impression that this chapter will stand the test of time quite well: it describes practices that will surely continue to develop and gain ground.

Verónica Pastor and Amparo Alcina's "Researching the Use of Electronic Dictionaries" is an expanded version of their 2010 IJL paper (Pastor and Alcina 2010) and presents a classification of electronic-dictionary search methods. It is a descriptive study of existing facilities, rather than a speculative wish-list of potential new features. Although it describes the present state of an art which is constantly developing, Pastor and Alcina's paradigm is quite likely to accommodate yet-unforeseen dictionary features. As a result, much like the previous chapter, this one, too, ought to remain useful long past its publishing date.

John Considine's "Researching Historical Lexicography and Etymology" is exemplary in conveying a specialist's thorough survey of the subject matter, supported with extensive references to resources for deeper understanding. Although the OED is obviously the 137-pound gorilla of historical dictionaries, Considine does not neglect historical dictionaries in many other languages, and he makes the case for creating even more.

Amy Chi's "Researching Pedagogical Lexicography" is another outstanding contribution; right around the midpoint of the book, Chi frames her subject in ways that reach far beyond the chapter's nominally pedagogical focus. For example, Chi describes user studies showing that "most users exploit only a narrow range of dictionary items in their consultations, focusing predominantly on meanings," while ignoring guidance on abstractions like syntactic patterns or count/mass distinctions. She suggests that future studies ought to ask whether "English language curriculum and/ or teaching…[has] promoted this narrow usage" (180). This question is about usage

at least as much as it is about teaching. Any user is likely to bring established habits with them when they use new dictionaries, and to look only for the information they are accustomed to finding. As we create resources with far more data behind them, our efforts may be squandered if users never explore deeply enough to benefit from novel dictionary developments.

Shigeru Yamada's "Monolingual Learners' Dictionaries – Where Now?" details the history, present and future of learner dictionaries, with the author's characteristic comprehensiveness. Although I do not always agree with the way that Yamada evaluates individual features or frames particular dichotomies in this chapter, I heartily agree with his ultimate conclusions and vision of a possible future. The conclusion draws from Yamada (2011) to show a 'dismembered' LDOCE entry in an improved electronic layout, in which I saw very promising implications for the underlying data. Most of the other contributions use endnotes only for references or supplementary information, but Yamada's enjoyable endnotes sometimes convey bolder positions than the ones he takes in the main text.

Arleta Adamska-Sałaciak's "Issues in Compiling Bilingual Dictionaries" digs deep into the most challenging and interesting issues in bilingual lexicography. Although the chapter purports to focus largely on print dictionaries, much of the discussion – audience, scope, directionality, resource planning, microstructure, data sources, and challenges of inter-cultural conceptual equivalence in general – is highly illuminating for both print and electronic work, and much of it arguably for monolingual work as well.

The next two chapters, Danie J. Prinsloo's, "Issues in Compiling Dictionaries for African Languages" and Inge Zwitserlood et al's, "Issues in Sign Language Lexicography" are extraordinarily welcome and eye-opening. These two chapters are the deepest explorations of these challenging-but-important topics that I have seen in a single-volume lexicography book. Typically, if these topics are addressed in generalist books, it is with passing citations to other sources for specialists in those languages. Their inclusion here gives them a rightful position at the core of things that lexicographers should be concerned with, rather than as fringe topics for specialists. They merit broader attention not exactly for the languages in themselves: a monolingual lexicographer focuses on a single language, after all. But lessons learned from other languages may enrich everyone else's work, and these languages have some very

The Slownik Norweski website was launched by DTC PRO in 2012 and serves mainly Polish learners of Norwegian. It features KD's GLOBAL Polish/Norwegian dictionaries, and offers also specialized dictionaries along with study and test materials for free and to subscribers.

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challenging things to tell us about unsolved lexicographical problems.

Robert Lew's "Identifying, Ordering and Defining Senses" is very satisfying and on point. It touches all the urgent and relevant issues of lexical and semantic analysis, frames interesting problems in an engaging way, and, like almost all the chapters, has excellent references. It is not hard to imagine future-dictionary scenarios where 'ordering' of senses is not a crucial task – a contextually-disambiguated word lookup doesn't need to tell you about senses *b* or *c* if it knows that you've come for sense *d* – but even in that future, Lew's treatment of structure in sense-enumerative semantics is excellent.

Tadeusz Piotrowski's "A Theory of Lexicography – Is There One?" is concerned with a question many of us have heard before. The fantastically incisive thing here is that Piotrowski frames the question in a way that allows for a positive answer, instead of the traditional rejection or minimization of the question. "Lexicography produces dictionaries, not theories, while metalexicography does not produce dictionaries but general statements about them. Accordingly, metalexicography can be a science, while lexicography is not" (309). Piotrowski notes that existing, practically-oriented lexicographical theories "have a strong prescriptive bent," as distinguished from scientific theories, which aim at description and prediction. The chapter does not go so far as to actually formulate a theory of lexicography, but it demarcates a space where such a more general lexicographical theory would be meaningful for critics and practitioners alike.

Piotrowski is a tough act to follow. In the next chapter, "e-lexicography: The Continuing Challenge of Applying New Technology to Dictionary Making", Pedro A. Fuertes-Olivera argues that many online dictionaries are really just print dictionaries recapitulated on a screen, and that only a few dictionaries are really conceived from scratch in the electronic domain. Although I fully agree with that evaluation, I find that when Fuertes-Olivera gets into specifics, much of his discussion of e-lexicography still feels conceptually grounded in print dictionaries. I fear Fuertes-Olivera takes insufficient account for the ways that computational intermediation can more deeply change the products and processes of lexicographical consultation.

Charlotte Brewer's "The Future of Historical Dictionaries, with Special Reference to the Online OED and Thesaurus" addresses the insights made possible by digitization. Fast search over massive resources can expose both the history of a language and the history of its lexicography. Brewer speaks from experience about the other edge of this sword, whereby digital editorial workflows can erase parts of this history and distort the historical record of the dictionary at a keystroke: another efficiency that was not possible in print.

On his way to describing "The Future of Dictionaries, Dictionaries of the Future", Sandro Nielsen takes a moment to define what he means by dictionary. This definition is a useful exercise for anyone talking about the future of dictionaries, since the future of 'hardbound printed books with speckled edges and thumb indexes' is very different from the future of 'semantic tools to aid linguistic production and reception.' Unfortunately Nielsen's proposed definition moves the goalposts just a few meters: "dictionaries are reference tools made up of several surface features" (356). These surface features are subsequently described, but the meaning of 'reference tool' is not. I am not feigning ignorance when I say I don't know what precisely a 'reference tool' might be. The relevance of the question for this review is that some of what Nielsen discusses, around different interfaces to electronically-mediated information, is not unique to dictionaries and can potentially enhance any information channel previously mediated through print. Enhancements like voice search, video results, and the intriguing "three-dimensional form, including holograms" (368) could enrich newspapers and gasoline pumps just as well as dictionaries, but newspapers are not prototypical reference tools. Lexicography has some unique features that Nielsen does not consider, but many of them are covered elsewhere in the *Companion*; in return, Nielsen offers several useful handles on contemporary problems that are not covered elsewhere in the book. His discussion of "information costs" (369) is a good frame for the distinctive tradeoffs of lexical reference, where a user's main task can be assumed *not* to be consulting the dictionary, but instead learning an answer so they can get back to what they were doing. Nielsen's conclusion that "dictionaries are in a transitional phase from the manufacturing sector into the service sector" (370) is also quite well taken.

The three remaining sections are reference material. Reinhard Hartmann's catalog of "Resources" is a general overview of societies, corpora, journals, and the like, with brief expository descriptions to accompany each section. In a book that appears otherwise carefully copyedited, this chapter has unusual inconsistency

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English Farsi
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English German
English Greek
English Hebrew
English Hindi
English Hungarian
English Icelandic
English Indonesian
English Italian
English Japanese
English Korean
English Latvian
English Lithuanian
English Malay
English Norwegian
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English Portuguese Portugal
English Romanian
English Russian
English Serbian
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English Slovene
English Spanish
English Swedish
English Thai
English Turkish
English Ukrainian
English Urdu
English Vietnamese

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kdictionaries.container/

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english/id672144357/

in the formatting of URLs and names in its informational tables, but this is not an obstacle to getting the useful information out of them.

Barbara Ann Kipfer's "Glossary of Lexicographic Terms" includes terms from lexicography, publishing, and parts of linguistics relevant to lexicography. Like all the other chapters, it represents its author's own viewpoint. In the case of a glossary this means that some of its terms are not used in the *Companion* itself (*back-formation*; *bogey*; *density*; *Sprachgefühl*). Considering that Kipfer's (1984) *Workbook on Lexicography* included Jennifer Robinson's (1983) glossary of lexicographical terminology, it was interesting to compare the two approaches some 30 years apart. The two glossaries have some overlap in their headword selection, and sometimes in the substance of the definitions and sense divisions. Robinson's glossary has example sentences taken from a reading list of lexicographical writing, and frequently uses *index entries*, variant headwords that are simply cross-references to a fully-defined synonym (a term I couldn't remember but that I found in Kipfer's glossary). Kipfer does away with illustrative examples and also with index entries, instead repeating definition content at variant headwords with small amounts of supplemental information at one entry or the other. I find the current approach more user-friendly and well-suited to the *Companion*.

Howard Jackson's "Annotated Bibliography" concludes the book. The whole book may be seen, in a certain light, as an annotated bibliography to the consistently great references sections of its individual chapters, and Jackson's bibliography presents a different kind of general overview. It turns out that both bibliographical streams are needed for the fullest picture of the available work. For example, Jackson's annotated bibliography lists a practical manual for field workers in indigenous languages (Bartholomew and Schoenhals 1983) but lists no work focusing on either any African languages or Sign languages. This is an honest reflection of their neglected place in mainstream lexicographical thinking, even as this book has done well in bringing them greater attention.

Evaluation
Many of the chapters address some of the same sub-topics from different perspectives and in varying levels of detail, and this to the book's great credit and advantage. Unfortunately, the *Companion* has vanishingly few cross-references between chapters. As a result, it is not possible to know beforehand that, say, corpus-driven

headword selection, discussed in general terms by Trap-Jensen on pages 40-41, is explored more concretely by Kilgarriff on pages 79-83. Nor is the index much help: it runs for only two pages of this 420-page book, and lists Kilgarriff's headword-selection pages under 'headword' but not at 'lemma selection', yet conflates twelve references to 'headword' without any subcategorization (e.g. between headword selection and headwords as part of access structure).

The limited coordination among the authors also leads to a certain unevenness between chapters. Again on the subject of headword selection, Prinsloo concludes a stunning section about lemmatization challenges in Bantu languages (246) by mentioning frequency cutoffs as a potential method for lemma selection. References to either Kilgarriff or Trap-Jensen would have been helpful here, but it would have been most interesting if Prinsloo had been able to engage with their positions, and to discuss the consequences of frequency cutoffs from the perspective of Bantu-family language users and lexicographers.

The stand-alone chapters and skimpy index create an obligation to read the whole book in order to be sure that one has read everything that its contributors have to say about a subject. A professor who wished to assign selected readings from the *Companion* might need to assign two or more chapters to get full coverage of various issues that span subdisciplines. To be clear: it is a great strength of the book that it contains these complementary perspectives; it is regrettable only that the connections are not more accessible. The book is of manageable length and often illuminating, so 'reading the whole book' is in no way a burden.

It is clear from the start that the *Companion* is deliberately latitudinarian, permitting leading scholars to introduce their specialties and to describe their cutting-edge research on their own terms. The book covers far more intellectual territory than the average researcher could hope to have at the front of their mind all the time; making it available at arm's reach is surely part of what qualifies it as a *companion* rather than an *introduction*.

Is it necessary to distinguish between lexicography and metalexicography? We say that one field is concerned with practice and the other with theory, but the two are never truly separable. As Chi suggests in her chapter, people use dictionaries in certain ways because lexicographers have historically made dictionaries in certain ways. The study of users is therefore also the study of lexicographers. Beyond

being cultural artifacts, dictionaries are technological artifacts in a major transition, as all of the book's contributors would surely agree. We do not yet know what will be the end point of this transition, but Piotrowski makes me feel that theory can be our guide.

Piotrowski says that a theory of lexicography is not like a scientific theory, because it cannot successfully predict unobserved phenomena. Although this is probably true in absolute terms, it is interesting to consider what kinds of things theoretical lexicography can at least infer, if not predict outright. Akasu and the Iwasaki Linguistic Circle can guess at a lexicographical team's underlying principles based only on their finished dictionary: finding the proof of the pudding in the eating. Trap-Jensen's chapter somewhat frustratingly describes an array of possible lexicographical practices without much accounting for how people choose among them in practice. Yet every working lexicographer makes complicated choices in practice every day, and these choices are motivated by some kind of theoretical orientation, even if it is largely implicit or unexamined convention.

The chapters on Sign and African languages, where aspects of traditional practice are impossible, throw stark contrasts that help to reveal the shadow theories behind mainstream lexicography. As we work to document under-resourced languages at a level of quality that approaches that of resource-rich languages like English, we encounter features that cannot fit into the familiar paradigms of lexicography for Indo-European languages. It may turn out that a solution to a distinctively Xhosa or ASL challenge – be it lemmatization, gestural search, or semantic compositionality – could be usefully applied to lexicography of familiar western languages and enrich the entire lexicographic discipline, in both theory and practice.

Conclusion

Enough theorizing. These thoughts have been spurred by the *Companion*, but no doubt other readers will seize on different aspects and reach their own conclusions. The important thing is that I expect this book will be a strong catalyst for lexicographers of every stripe. It presents contemporary research, summarized for review at a readable scale, with the happy outcome that both specialists and new researchers may reach a clearly contextualized understanding of the trajectories of subfields other than their own.

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MULTILINGUAL

43-Language English Multilingual Dictionary

Recently the English core of PASSWORD Dictionary has undergone a major round of editorial revision, including the update of thousands of entries, the upgrade of the microstructure and XML format, and the introduction of well over 2,000 new entries and 6,000 examples of usage. Then, in the autumn of 2014, translation for all the new entries was carried out to 43 different languages, including:

Afrikaans | Arabic | Bulgarian | Catalan | Chinese Simplified | Chinese Traditional | Croatian | Czech | Danish | Dutch | Estonian | Farsi | Finnish | French | German | Greek | Hebrew | Hindi | Hungarian | Icelandic | Indonesian | Italian | Japanese | Korean | Latvian | Lithuanian | Malay | Norwegian | Polish | Portuguese Brazil | Portuguese Portugal | Romanian | Russian | Serbian | Slovene | Slovak | Spanish | Swedish | Thai | Turkish | Ukrainian | Urdu | Vietnamese

The total number of translation equivalents is 1.7 million, for 30,000 entries with 40,000 references.