



**Methodology of glossary creating (on the example of the Caribbean Spanish Glossary)**

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**ABSTRACT**

Lexicographic resources are keepers of knowledge in a verbal form and an irreplaceable instrument of scientific research. In the article the concept of glossary is defined, concepts of glossary and dictionary are differentiated, structural principles of a glossary are described, and the typology of glossaries is given depending on their mission and structure. The purpose of a linguoculturological glossary is emphasized, that is to serve as means of system reflection for specific lexicon in all forms of its language expression. Experience of building a glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries being the result of complex linguoculturological research of national language varieties of the region is described. Stages of work on the glossary include creating a lexicographic database containing the lexical units that are characteristic of Spanish varieties of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries; filling the created base with information from the existing lexicographic sources; carrying out corpus and field research aimed at specifying the data obtained by introspective research; creating a glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries as a result of the comparative analysis of the yielded lexicographic sources and results of field and corpus research. The Glossary represents a valuable resource where the information on the specific lexicon of Caribbean countries is conveniently organized.

**Keywords:** lexicography resources, glossary, dictionary, cultural studies, Spanish language, Spanish varieties, Caribbean region.



## **INTRODUCTION**

Lexicography is the part of linguistics which is engaged in the theory and practice of building dictionaries and is closely connected with other linguistic branches and disciplines. For the first time in Russian linguistics this view on lexicography was stated by the famous Russian linguist L.V. Shcherba in 1974 in the work "Experience of general theory of lexicography" (L. V Shcherba ,1974).

Theoretical lexicography covers a complex of problems that are connected with the development of the macrostructure (selection of lexicon, volume and type of resource, principles of material arrangement) and the microstructure (structure of the entry, types of definitions, ratio of different types of information, types of illustrations, etc.) of a dictionary, as well as with creating the typology of dictionaries and the lexicography history.

Practical lexicography performs socially important functions, providing training in language, description and normalization of language, interlingual communication and scientific research. Lexicography seeks to find the optimum and most admissible ways of representation in the dictionary of all types of linguistic knowledge.

In the article the concept of glossary is introduced: on the one hand, as bases for the dictionary, and on the other hand, as an independent lexicographic resource. The structure of the glossary and its entry is described. The authors define the principles, the methodology and stages of creating the Glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries being the result of complex linguoculturological research of national language varieties of the region.

### **1. METHODS**

The research is conducted within the system approach which consistently unites studying of the theoretical questions concerning the concept and methodology of building a glossary, deepening of the available knowledge through the analysis of the gathered data on the studied problem and the gradual organization of the analysis of practical material received in the way to a new lexicographic resource.

During the work on the Glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries we used the following methods: the method of continuous selection of



lexemes from lexicographic sources, the comparative method for contrastive analysis of information, the method of semantic analysis for studying of semantic structure of the selected lexemes, the descriptive method for creating the dictionary entries, the method of corpus research and field study methods, especially the method of elicitation, for the verification of the data obtained during the introspective research.

## **2. RESULTS**

The lexicography operates first of all with the term "dictionary", meaning by it a collection of words located in a defined (often alphabetic) order for the purpose of system description of notions designated by them, and may include their translation into other languages.

With such value the term "dictionary" began to be used in the second half of the 18th century: before that the term "lexicon" was used - 17th century (from Greek "lexicon" – "dictionary"), "azbukovnic" or "alphabet" - 16th century. In the 16-17th centuries the term "interpretation" is used; in the Belarusian and Ukrainian languages the terms "lexicon", "leksis" are forced out by the term "slounik" (glossary); in Russian the term "slovnik" (glossary) is used as "the list of translated words in dictionaries" (Kozyrev,2004). In this understanding glossary is the list of words located in the alphabetic or systematized order, made in the course of work on a dictionary or encyclopedia. The glossary of the encyclopedia has the form of a table of contents reflecting its structure and profile. This may lead to understanding the glossary as a simple selection of words which will find further consideration and disclosure in the dictionary, but there are different types of glossaries depending on their further mission. As well as dictionaries, glossaries are divided into encyclopedic and philological (linguistic). The encyclopedic ones contain realities (objects, phenomena) on various events; respectively, the glossary of an encyclopedic resource presents a full list of names of articles, as a rule with a short summary and indication of the size of the article (in printed characters). In linguistic dictionaries words speak, their values are presented. They are in turn subdivided into two types: bilingual (or even multilingual), i.e. translated, and monolingual. The glossary of such dictionaries is an alphabetic list of dictionary units (words, phraseological units, etc.) which are subject to definition or



translation (Big encyclopedic dictionary (Electronic resource). URL:

<<http://dic.academic.ru/dic.nsf/enc3p/274362>> (reference date: 20.05.2017).).

The principles of selection of a glossary for linguistic dictionaries is an important differentiating parameter which includes selection of words on the basis of novelty, on signs of synchronism and diachronism, on the basis of their origin and regional belonging, on the basis of fixing of words in the speech of a certain author or in a certain text. According to this parameter there are general glossaries and stylistically glossaries containing colloquial lexicon, abusive lexicon, household lexicon, etc. Glossaries may contain both grammatical and semantic features of the selected lexicon. The dictionary entry consists from the name of the concept and the text that explains it and describes its main characteristics. The dictionary entry of any dictionary begins with the headword (heading word, lemma, black word - after the bold type usually used for the headword). The set of headwords forms a glossary, or the left part of the dictionary. The choice of the glossary (words to be included into each particular dictionary) depends on the purpose of the dictionary (highly specialized, universal, etc.). The glossary can consist of different language units:

- phonemes (sounds) - recently gain popularity due to the development of automatic speech recognition;
- morphemes (prefixes, roots, suffixes) - for dictionaries of morphemes, grammatical dictionaries, word-formation dictionaries;
- lexemes (words in "the main form") – main criterion for the majority of dictionaries;
- word forms (words in a certain grammatical form) for grammatical dictionaries, dictionaries of rhymes;
- phrases - for phraseological dictionaries, dictionaries of idioms, dictionaries of cliches.

Sometimes the glossary consists of both lexemes and phrases, for example, for encyclopedic dictionaries. Often in the dictionary entry there can be area with stylistic or grammatical marks that are usually placed down right after the heading word (for



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example: old. - outdated meaning, rare. - seldom used meaning, sci. – meaning used in scientific background).

When developing the concept of glossary, the terms for the glossary are selected, the ratio of volumes of sections and articles is established, the reference system is developed. The defining factor of terms selection is the completeness of initial materials guaranteeing the completeness of the glossary (Krychkov,1984).

The volume of a glossary depends on the volume set for the dictionary and the available lexicographic data. Nevertheless, the volume of the dictionary does not necessarily reflect the volume of the glossary. Dictionaries of small volume contain not a small number of words but only the most necessary, a sufficient minimum of units that can characterize a subject covered by the dictionary. Dictionaries of average volume contain the quantitative structure of the glossary by means of which the bulk of the speech cases corresponding to the subject of the dictionary is described. Dictionaries of large volume cover all the glossary units describing the corresponding area it with academic completeness.

Another way of understanding a glossary is as an independent lexicography resource. Creating a glossary describing the linguo-culturological component is a new round of development of lexicography and therefore presents numerous difficulties. In this regard we started creating the model of the Glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries after studying of theoretical bases of building dictionaries and glossaries, at the same time without losing sight of its basic purpose - to be means of reflection of the system of specific lexicon in all forms of its language expression. Building the Glossary of specific lexicon of Caribbean countries was carried out in several stages.

Stage 1. Creating the model of the lexicographic database containing the lexical units characteristic of linguistic varieties of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries. The lexical base has the excel format and allows carrying out the selection of units by alphabetic, geographical and linguistic principles that is convenient for realization of linguo-culturological research. The description of each lexical unit in the database includes the semantization area, i.e. encyclopedic interpretation and if necessary the



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linguo-culturological reference, and the zone of technical information in form of grammatical and thematic marks.

Stage 2. Filling of the created database with information from the existing lexicographic sources. The sources included explanatory and bilingual dictionaries (Ispansko-russkii slovar'.2004; Diccionario de americanismos (Dictionary of Americanisms). URL: <<http://www.asale.org/recursos/diccionarios/damer>> (accessed: 5.04.2017). (in Spanish), electronic resources (Americanismos (Electronic resource). URL: <<http://www.diccionariosdigitales.net/>> (reference date: 21.05.2017); Diccionario Indigena (Electronic resource). URL: [http://www.proyectosalohnogar.com/Enciclopedia\\_Ilustrada/Diccionario1.htm](http://www.proyectosalohnogar.com/Enciclopedia_Ilustrada/Diccionario1.htm) (reference date: 21.05.2017). ). Selection of lexemes was carried out by method of continuous selection with fixation and further comparison of information which is contained in various lexicographic sources. To solve the discrepancies, corpus and field research were conducted.

Stage 3. Corpus research aimed at verifying the data obtained during the introspective research. It was preceded by analyzing the existing Spanish corpora from the point of view of their content, the principles of work, opportunities and representation in them of the lexicon that is specific to the Caribbean region (Corpus de Referencia del Español Actual (CREA) (Electronic resource). URL: <<http://corpus.rae.es/creanet.html>> (reference date: 21.05.2017); Corpus Diacrónico del Español (CORDE) (Electronic resource rce). URL: <<http://corpus.rae.es/cordenet.html>> (reference date: 21.05.2017); El Corpus del Español del Siglo XXI (CORPES XXI) (Electronic resource). URL: <<http://www.rae.es/recursos/banco-de-datos/corpes-xxi>> (reference date: 18.05.2017); Corpus PRESEEA (Electronic resource). URL: <<http://preseea.linguas.net/Corpus.aspx>> (reference date: 21.05.2017).).

Stage 4. Field research aimed at verifying the data obtained during the introspective research. The research was conducted remotely, in a questioning format, among volunteers in all countries of the considered region on platforms of Internet portals (Interpals (Elektronnyi ~ resource). URL: <<https://www.interpals.net>> (reference date: 20.04.2017); Facebook (Elektronnyi ~ resource). URL: <<http://facebook.com>> (reference date: 20.04.2017).).



Stage 5. Creating the Glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries. The Glossary was created on the basis of the above described lexical base as a result of comparative analysis of lexicographic sources and results of field and corpus researches.

### **3. DISCUSSION**

The traditional form of a lexicographic resource is the dictionary, while the subject of the article is the typology and structure of a glossary. Special attention is paid to the notion of linguo-culturological glossary whose mission consists in reflecting the system of specific lexicon in all forms of its language expression. An example of such glossary is the Glossary of specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries created by a group of scientists under the leadership of authors through work with dictionaries, corpus and field research. The Glossary is the only resource containing the Spanish lexicon of the Caribbean Region, but not all Latin America. During work on creating the base and the glossary, the research of national varieties of Caribbean countries (Yakubova et al, 2016 ) was conducted, separate thematic groups of lexicon (Klimchak et al, 2015 , Gazizova,2015), features of the biosphere of the countries of the region and language policy pursued in them (Dunyasheva . 2016;Gazizova,2015) were described.

### **4. SUMMARY**

The practical lexicography is designed to imprint in a lexicographic resource a certain part of language, and through it a certain fragment of a picture of the world of the corresponding linguoculture. The theoretical lexicography allows answering a question what has to be a form of this resource, its macro - and a microstructure for the maximum achievement of a goal. In spite of the fact that the most known form of submission of lexicographic information is the dictionary, there are other forms, in particular, the glossary.

There are different types of glossaries depending on their mission: first, it can be a selection of words which will be opened further in encyclopedic or linguistic dictionaries, and depending on principles of selection of words this can be a general type glossary or a glossary created by in advance defined principles. Secondly, it can be an independent lexicographic resource. An example of the second is the Glossary of



specific lexicon of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries created following the results of a complex research of the corresponding national varieties of Spanish.

Glossary creation was carried out in several stages: creating the model of the lexicographic database and filling it with lexical units characteristic the Spanish of Spanish-speaking Caribbean countries; carrying out corpus and field research to verify the correctness of the data obtained through the introspective analysis and finally creating the Caribbean Spanish Glossary taking into account the principles of building lexicographic resources.

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