Meaning 3

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Lexical semantic relationships

- **SYNONYMY**: Relation of sameness or close similarity in meaning.

- Some examples: Small and little; Rich and Wealthy; mother and mum; car and automobile…

- Are these exact synonyms? We rarely find exact synonyms. Sometimes they belong to different registers, styles or dialects.

- Synonyms also need to observe in collocation (Strong and powerful).

- Find 5 synonyms of some specific English words in American
Lexical semantic relationships

- **ANTONYMY** - relation of opposite in meaning
  - big and small / long and short / dead and alive

- Types of Antonyms
  - *Gradable antonyms* = allow intermediate degrees between the two opposite extremes. "big and small", "long and short", "up and down"
  - *Non-gradable antonyms* = don’t allow any intermediate degree between the two opposites "dead and alive" "fail and pass" "true and false" (the negative of one implies the positive of the other)

Provide 5 examples for each category
Lexical semantic relationships

- **Reverses** – Those which contrast with the direction of the meaning. There is normally a reversal of the action sequence

  - “Come and go” - ”Pull and push” – “Rise and fall” – “tie and untie” - ”pack and unpack”

- **Converses** – Describe the same relation from contrasting viewpoints

  - “he owns it/ It belong to him” – “I like it / it please me” – “Give and receive etc.”
Lexical semantic relationships

- **HYPONYMY** – The meaning of one lexeme includes the meaning of another.
- Ex: Hammer, screwdriver, pliers – ALL include the meaning of tool

In this sense, the previous words are hyponyms of tool and among them they are **co-hyponyms**.

Find 5 examples of hyponymy and mention its co-hyponyms
Lexical semantic relationships

- **Meronymy** – the part whole relation
- Examples:
  - Door and window are meronyms of “room”.
  - Pedal, handlebar and wheel are meronyms of “bicycle”
- Meronymic relations are typically represented following a hierarchical structure, here is an example:
Lexical semantic relationships

Hypernym

Hyponyms

Purple

Crimson

Violet

Lavender

Color

Red

Blue

Green

Co-Hyponyms
Lexical semantic relationships

- Provide 5 examples of meronymic relations

- Hyponymy, meronomy and transitive relation:
  
  Hyponyms possess these characteristic, for example “Alsatian” is a hyponym of dog but is also a hyponym of animal.

This does not happen in meronomy.

“Nostril is a meronym of nose” but not a meronym of “face”
Specify the meaning of “MOTHER”
Specifying lexical meaning

- The earth is the mother of us all
- She is my mother by adoption
- The stamp act is the mother of all mischiefs
Specifying lexical meaning

- How explanations of meaning of lexical items are best expressed.

**COMPONENTIAL ANALYSIS** – The semantic meaning of a lexeme is decomposed into small components or atoms of meaning.

- [Cow  Bull]
  + Animate    + Animate
  - Human      - Human
  + Adult      + Adult
  - Male]      + Male]

Semantic features

In case the word is not specific for that feature we give a -/+ symbol
Specifying lexical meaning

- Following the previous categorization, provide a component analysis for calf, woman, boy, girl, chair and man.

- Dependencies among features: If a word is specified as [-inanimate], that word would be [-human], [-adult], [-male].

- How can we economize the previous component analysis?