

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 pleases 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

Color

Hyponyms

Purple

Red

Blue

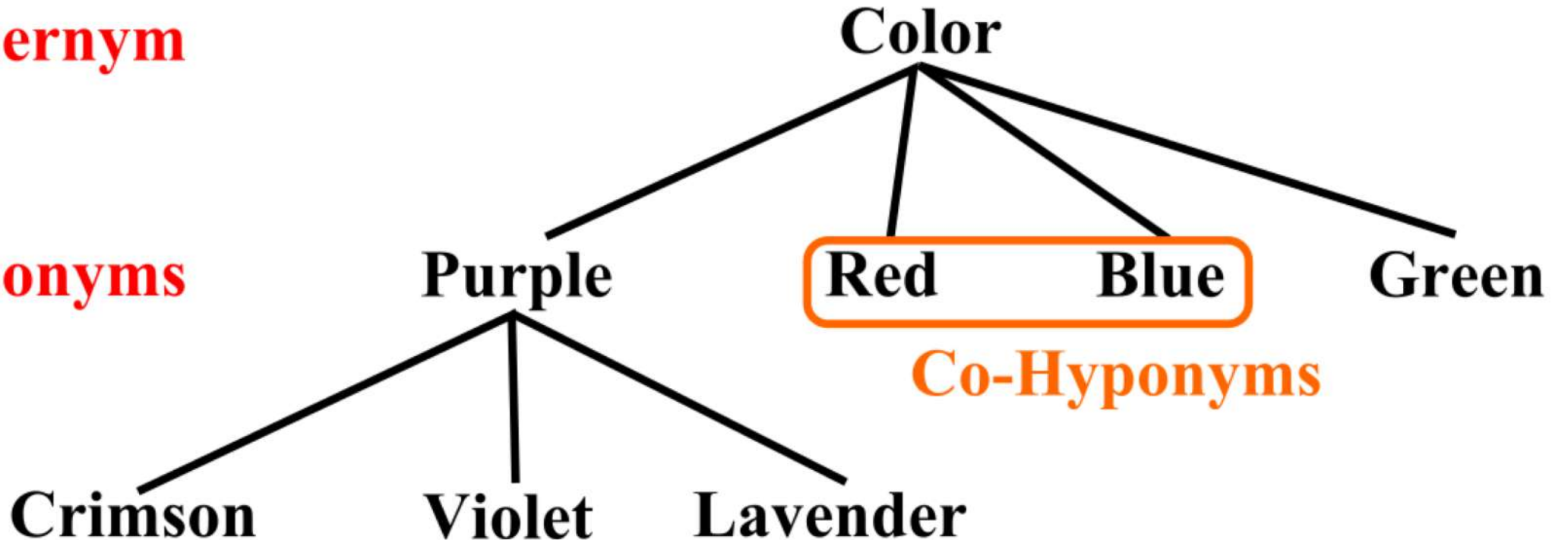
Green

Co-Hyponyms

Crimson

Violet

Lavender



Lexical semantic relationships

- ▶ Provide 5 examples of meronymic relations

- ▶ Hyponymy, meronymy 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 meronymy.

“Nostril is a meronym of nose” but not a meronym of “face”

[Hierarchical Relation](#)

Specifying lexical meaning

- ▶ **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	Semantic features
	- Male]	+ Male]	

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?