

The background features several concentric circles, some solid and some dashed, in a light gray color. A large red speech bubble shape is centered on the page, containing a white rectangular box with the title text.

**Vocabulary of a  
language as a System**

## Vocabulary as an Adaptive System



Vocabulary is constantly adjusting to the changing requirements and conditions of human communication and cultural and other needs.

Language – constantly developing but systematic whole.

Groupings of words within vocabulary are the result of the analysis of various relations between words.

The English language is an organized system.  
We call vocabulary systematic because the sum  
total of all words in it may be considered as a  
structural set of interdependent and interrelated  
elements.

**1. Major types of semantic  
relations of lexical units  
(syntagmatic, paradigmatic)**

<https://present5.com/lecture-4-semantic-classification-of-the-english-lexicon/>

# Major Types of Relations Between Language Units:

- 1. Syntagmatic relations** (linear sequence relations of lexical or any other language units in speech that can be presented as a horizontal line)
  - *e.g. He feels happy/uncomfortable/good.*

## 2. Paradigmatic relations

(non-linear relations of language units based on their common function and similar meaning in a language system).

Lexical substitution in a phrase is possible due to paradigmatic relations of certain lexical units.

The words that are in paradigmatic relations and may be substituted in a phrase can be presented in a vertical line:

- *The person became uncomfortable*
- *The boy turned uneasy*

## I. BASIC PRINCIPLES OF GROUPING WORDS

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- Two basic principles of grouping words:
  1. to classify words proceeding from the basic types of semantic relations;
  2. to group words together starting off with associations connecting the given words with other vocabulary units.



# Types of semantic relations between words



1. **Proximity** – partial similarity of meanings of words;
2. **Equivalence** – implies full similarity of meaning of two or more language units. Extremely rare in case of separate words. Could be observed more regularly in case of phrases;
3. **Opposition** – the contrast of semantic features.

<https://slide-share.ru/vocabulary-of-a-language-as-a-system-169819>

The adjectives are characterized by certain features of semantic dissimilarity which shows that they are not absolutely identical in meaning

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>Beautiful</b>  | Extremely <u>good-looking</u> , much more than most women   |
| <b>Pretty</b>     | <u>Good-looking</u> in an ordinary way but not really beautiful or sexually exciting  |
| <b>Attractive</b> | <u>Good-looking</u> , especially in a way that makes you feel sexually interested   |
| <b>Striking</b>   | <u>Very attractive</u> , especially because a woman has a particular feature, such as hair or eyes, that is beautiful and unusual |
| <b>Handsome</b>   | <u>Good-looking</u> in an unusual way, especially because a woman is tall or strong or looks as if she has a strong character     |

## 2.2. Equivalence

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- implies full similarity of meaning of two or more language units;
- is very seldom observed in words;
- Is oftener encountered in case of sentences:

*John is taller than Bill = Bill is shorter than John.*

*She lives in Paris = She lives in the capital of France.*

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## Polar oppositions

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- are those which are based on the semantic feature uniting two linguistic units by antonymous relations,
- *rich – poor*,
- *dead – alive*,
- *young – old*.

## 2. Relative oppositions

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imply that there are several semantic features on which the opposition rests. The verb *to leave* means 'to go away from' and its opposite, the verb *to arrive* denotes 'to reach a place, esp. at the end of a journey'.

### 2.3. INCLUSION. HYPONYMIC STRUCTURE -

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type of semantic relations which exists between two words if the meaning of one word contains the semantic features 'constituting the meaning of the other word'.

The semantic relations of inclusion are called **hyponymic relations**:

Vehicle: *car, lorry, motorcycle, jeep...*

Hyperonym: hyponyms.

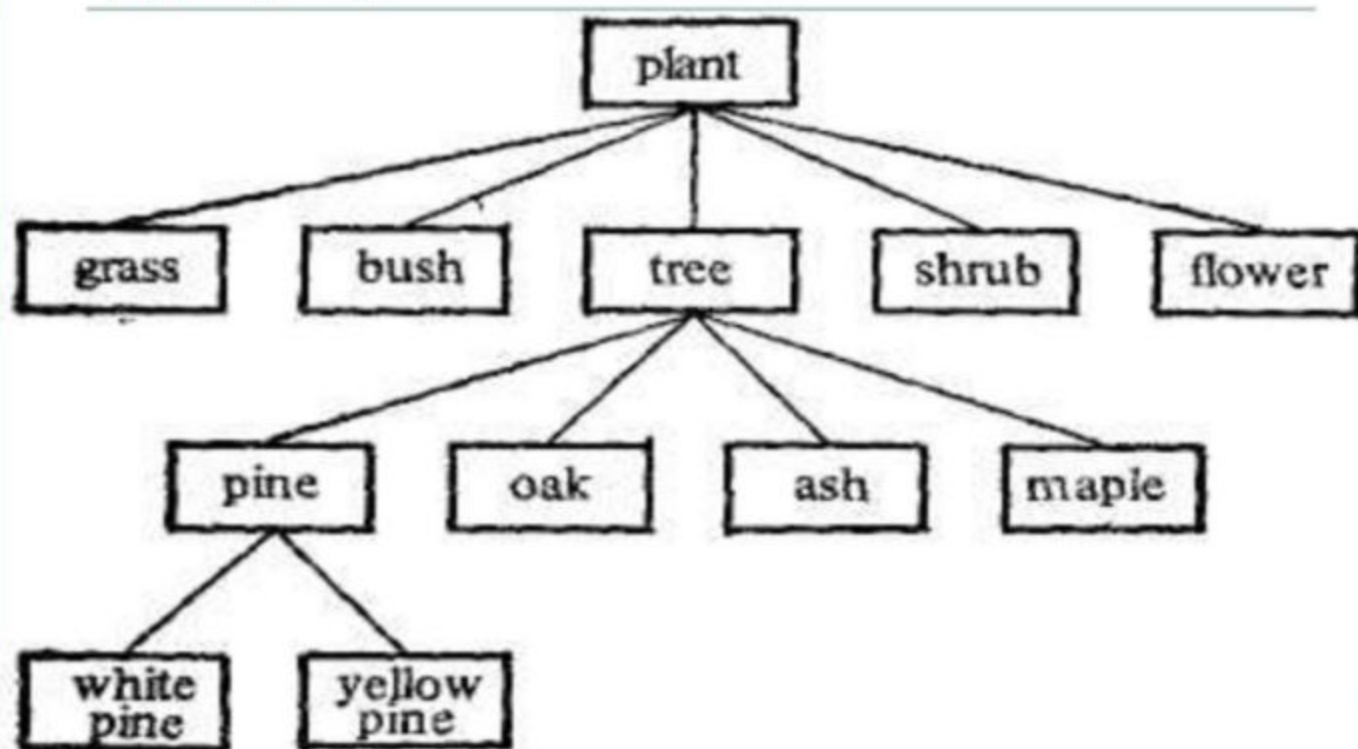
- The general term – *vehicle, tree, animal* – is referred to as the classifier or the **hyperonym**.

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- The specific term is called the **hyponym** (*car, tram; oak, ash; cat; tiger*).
- The more specific term (the hyponym) is included in the more general term (the hyperonym), e.g. the classifier *move* and members of the group – *walk, run, saunter*. The individual terms contain the meaning of the general term in addition to their individual meanings which distinguish them from each other.



In hyponymic structure certain words may be both classifiers (hyperonyms) and members of the group (hyponyms):



- 
- The principle of such hierarchical classification is widely used by scientists in various fields of research: botany, geology, etc.
  - Hyponymic classification may be viewed as objectively reflecting the structure of vocabulary and is considered by many linguists as one of the most important principles for the description of meaning.

According to the principles of classifying linguistic units the following semantic classes can be singled out:

Synonyms

Lexical and terminological sets

Lexico-semantic groups

Semantic fields

Antonyms

## II. SYNONYMY

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- **Synonymy** - the kind of semantic relations that implies the coincidence in the essential meanings of linguistic elements, which usually preserve their differences in connotations and stylistic characteristics.
- Synonymy does not present a perfect type of a linguistic category.

<https://en.ppt-online.org/157156>

# Synonyms:

words different in their sound-form, but similar in their denotational meaning or meanings and interchangeable at least in some contexts.

The only existing classification of synonyms was established by academician V.V. Vinogradov:

- **ideographic** (words differ in their denotational meaning); *e.g. to walk, to pace, to stroll, to stride*
- **stylistic** (words differ in the connotational meaning); *e.g. hearty, cordial; post, mail*

## Types of synonyms:

**1. absolute synonyms** – have exactly the same meaning and belong to the same style

- *to moan, to groan;*
- *homeland, motherland.*

**3. stylistic** – appear when one of the absolute synonyms is specialized in its usage.

- *to begin* (native) – *to commence* (French, rather formal).



## 4. slang synonyms

- *head – attic, nut, upper storey;*
- *mad – daft, potty, loony, touched, nutty.*

**6. contextual synonyms –**  
similar in meaning only under  
some specific distributional  
conditions.

- *to bear, to stand, to suffer* – are not synonyms and cannot substitute each other, except when used in the negative form: *I can't stand = I can't bear.*

## Dominant Synonym:

a word whose meaning is equal to the denotation common to the entire synonymic group

- *to surprise – to astonish, to amaze, to puzzle, to strike;*
- *to shout – to yell, to roar;*
- *to shine – to flash, to sparkle.*

## Features of the Dominant Synonym:

- high frequency of usage;
- broad combinability, i.e. the ability to be used in combinations with various classes of words;
- broad general meaning;
- lack of connotations.

## SYNONYMIC DOMINANT –

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a dominant element, which is the most general term potentially containing the specific features rendered by all the other members of the synonymic group.

In the series *leave* – *depart* – *quit* – *retire* – *clear out* the verb *leave* is a synonymic dominant.

## 2.3. EUPHEMISM –

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is substitution of words of mild or vague connotations for expressions rough, unpleasant.

The word ***to die*** has the following euphemisms: *to expire, to pass away, to depart, to join the majority, to kick the bucket*, etc; ***pregnant*** – *in the family way*.

# Euphemisms:

## 1. social taboos.

- *lavatory – powder room, washroom, restroom, retiring room, comfort station, ladies' or gentlemen's room.*
- *pregnancy – in an interesting position, in a delicate condition, in the family way, with a baby coming.*

2. Superstitious taboos – people believed that there was a supernatural link between a name and the object it represented.

- *a dangerous animal – the one-lurking-in-the-wood;*
- *a mortal disease – the black death.*



The Christian religion also made certain words taboo.

- *devil – the Prince of Darkness, the black one, the evil one, dickens, old Nick.*
- *god – Good Lord! By Heavens! My Goodness!*

## **Antonyms:**

are words characterized by semantic polarity or opposite meaning.

## **Antonyms:**

words different in sound-form and characterized by different types of semantic contrast of denotational meaning and interchangeability at least in some contexts

Antonyms are words belonging to one part of speech sharing certain common semantic characteristics and in this respect they are similar to such semantic classes as synonyms, lexical sets, lexico-semantic groups

- We use the term **antonyms** to indicate words of the same category 

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of parts of speech which have contrasting meanings, such as
  - *hot — cold,*
  - *light — dark,*
  - *happiness — sorrow,*
  - *to accept — to reject,*
  - *up — down*
  - *cold — warm,*
  - *sorrow — gaiety*

## 3.2. CLASSIFICATION OF ANTONYMS

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**Structurally**, antonyms can be divided into antonyms of the same root, e.g. *to do – to undo; cheerful – cheerless;* and antonyms of different roots, e.g. *day – night, rich – poor.*

## SEMANTICALLY ANTONYMS ARE CLASSIFIED INTO

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1. **Contradictories** represent the type of semantic relations that exist between pairs like, e.g. *dead – alive, single – married*.
2. **Contraries** (gradable antonyms) are antonyms that can be arranged into a series according to the increasing difference in one of their qualities: in *cold – hot*, *cool – warm* are intermediate members.
3. **Incompatibles** – antonyms which are characterized by the relations of exclusion: *morning – afternoon, evening – night*.

## 4.1. LEXICAL AND TERMINOLOGICAL SETS

Lexical sets are words denoting things \_\_\_\_\_  
correlated on extralinguistic groups form: *lion, tiger, leopard, puma, cat* refer to the lexical set of 'the animal of the cat family' .

Terminological sets are lexical sets, which acquire a more specialized character:

e.g. names of 'musical instruments' : *piano, organ, violin, drum;*

names of 'parts of the car mechanism' :  
*radiator, motor, handbrake, wheels.*

## Lexico-semantic group

unites words describing sides of one and the same general notion if:

1. the underlying notion is not too generalized and all-embracing, like notions of 'time', 'space', 'life', 'process', etc.
2. the reference to the underlying notion is not just an implication in the meaning of the lexical unit but forms an essential part in its semantics.

Verbs of 'destruction': *to ruin, to destroy, to explore, to kill*, etc.

## 4.3. SEMANTIC FIELDS

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- **A semantic field** – is a large group of words of different parts of speech in which the underlying notion is broad enough to include almost all-embracing sections of vocabulary. The main feature of a semantic field is its **national specifics**.
- E.g., *cosmonaut* (n), *spacious* (adj.), *to orbit* (v) belong to the semantic field of ‘space’.



## Semantic field of 'space':

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1. nouns: **expanse, extent, surface, etc.**;
2. verbs: **extend, spread, span, etc.**;
3. adjectives: **spacious, roomy, vast, broad, etc.**

Words making up semantic fields may belong to different parts of speech.

- *space* – nouns: *expanse, extent, surface*;  
verbs: *extend, spread, span*;  
adjectives: *roomy, vast, broad*.

There may be comparatively small lexical groups of words belonging to the same part of speech and linked by a common concept.

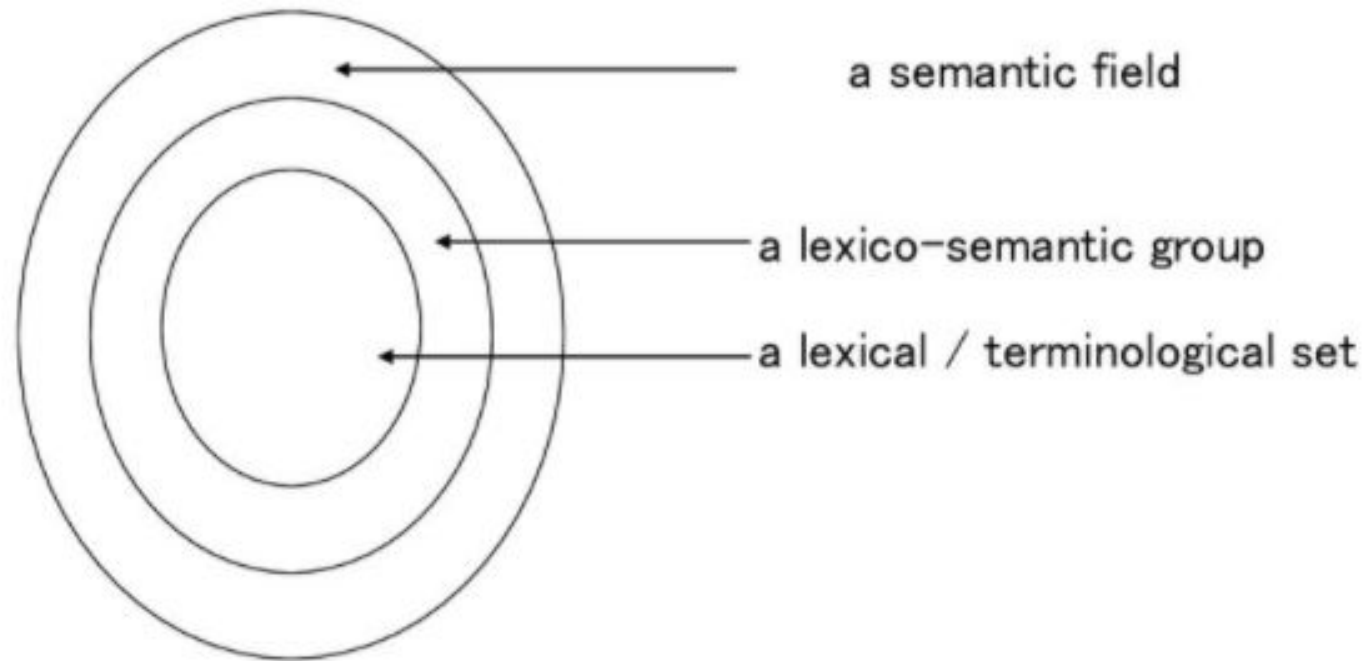
- concept of *food* – *bread, cheese, milk.*

## Lexical-semantic Groups:

smaller lexical groups consisting of words of the same part of speech.

The correlation between the semantic classes may be graphically presented by means of concentric circles (diagram).

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## The **morphological** classification of words :

1. one root morpheme — a **root word** (*girl*),
2. one root morpheme plus one or more affixes — a **derived word** (*girlish, girlishness*),
3. two or more stems — a **compound word** (*girl-friend*),
4. two or more stems and a common affix — a **compound derivative** (*old-maidish*) or a **parasyntetic word**.

<https://present5.com/the-morphological-classification-of-words-1-one/>

Another type of lexical grouping is known as word-families.

## Word-families:



Word grouping according to the root-morpheme:

E.g.: *dog, doggish, to dog, dog-days, dogcart etc.*

## Lexico-grammatical group



A class of words which have a common lexico-grammatical meaning, common paradigm, the same substituting elements and possible characteristic set of suffixes rendering the lexico-grammatical meaning

# Lexico-grammatical groups in English:

1. Personal names;
2. Animal names;
3. Collective names (for people);
4. Collective names (for animals);
5. Abstract nouns;
6. Material nouns;
7. Object nouns;
8. Proper names for people;
9. Toponymic names

## Thematic/Ideographic groups:



Groups of words joined together by common contextual associations within the framework of the sentence and reflecting the existing link between things and event in reality.

Contextual associations are formed as a result of regular co-occurrence of words in similar repeatedly used contexts.



# General characteristics of English vocabulary

- Peculiar features of English vocabulary
- Changes of English vocabulary
  - Neologisms
  - Archaisms

<https://en.ppt-online.org/91554>

# English is the world's most important language

- The number of speakers of the language
- The geographical dispersal of the language
- The functional load of the language
- The language of science and literature
- English has become the object of studying

# Peculiarities of English vocabulary

- A great number of mono-disyllabic words

**e.g. *ask, add, age, bad, big, girl***

- Abnormal growth of homonymy

**e.g. *silence (n) – silence (v)***

- Highly developed polysemy

**e.g. *pod***

1. *A long narrow seed container that grows on various plants*
2. *A part of space vehicle that can be separated from the main part*
3. *A long narrow container for petrol or other substances*

# Peculiarities of English vocabulary

- The role of context is great  
**e.g. *to catch* (ловить, поймать), *to wash* (умываться, стирать, мыть)**
- Phrasal verbs, set expressions are very common in English  
**e.g. *to hurry up*, *to look after*, *to take a shower***

# Peculiarities of English vocabulary

- Rich synonymic sources

**e.g. *to gather (E) – to assemble (F) – to collect (L)***

- A great abundance of borrowed words

***Yacht, tattoo***

***Seminar, hamburger***

***Cuisine, elite***

***Mosquito, macho***

***Casino, piano, ballerina***

***Tundra, tsar, pelmeni, blini***

# Changes of the English vocabulary

- The word-stock of any language is always developing
- Vocabulary is sensitive to the changes in political, social and cultural life of the society

***e.g. political, politics, parliamentary, the Secretary of state; lyric, epic, dramatic, fiction, critic (16 th century)***

***Jet-plane, X-rays, broadcasting, nuclear fission, antibiotics (19 th century)***

# Neologisms

- Neology
- A neologism is a new word, new in form and content
- 800 words appear annually. This factor creates some problems for the linguists

# What word can be a neologism?

- **Paul McFedries** (American linguist and writer) defined the following criteria for neologisms:
  - The word is not included in the dictionaries
  - The first usage of the word was registered not earlier than in 1980
  - The word had already appeared in three different sources and was used by three different authors



# Types of neologisms

## Classification by Dubenez, E.M.

- Proper neologisms – new words and expressions which were coined to name a new object or phenomenon

e.g. **bio-computer** (computer which can imitate the nervous system of a human being)

- Transnominations – new words which appear to name the existing things or phenomena (semantic coloring)

e.g. slum=ghetto=inner town

# Types of neologisms

## Classification by Dubenez, E.M.

- Semantic neologisms – the lexical units change their primary meaning to name new things or objects of reality

e.g. **umbrella** is used in the meaning of “political shelter”

- Occasional neologisms – words created by writers, journalists, ordinary people and children

## Examples of occasional neologisms in Russian

- **Широкошумные дубровы** (А.С. Пушкин)
- **Огнекистные веточки бузины** (М. Цветаева)
- **Открывалка, распакетить, перегрустить.**
- **Я намакоронился. Смотри как налужил дождь. Я уже не мальчишечка, а большишечка.**

## The appearance of new words

- The needs of society
- The result of new associations
- The result of elimination of homonymy

# Stages of creating a new word

- In the course of communication
- The stage of socialization
- The stage of lexicalization
- The acquisition of the word by the native speakers

A new word has a quality of neologism, i.e. it has a temporal connotation of newness, until the people react to it as something new

# Development of vocabulary

- Vocabulary is an open system
- Some words come in, others drop out
- The general tendency of vocabulary development is its enrichment and enlargement

# Ways of vocabulary enlargement

- **Word-building**

e.g. **superbrand, self-gift, to butter, e-book**

- **Borrowing** new words from other dialects, professional and social spheres of communication

e.g. **loxx**

# Ways of vocabulary enlargement

- **Semantic change/semantic derivation**

Semantic change takes place when new meanings are developed for familiar notions and words. The process of semantic change is based on developing a primary meaning of the word and creating a new secondary figurative meaning

e.g. **bird** (any flying object), **паралич власти, гастролер**

- **Forming phraseologisms**



# Causes of creating new words

- Linguistic factor (it's necessary to give a name to a new object of reality)
- Extra-linguistic factor (the development of new technologies, Internet, the brain of people producing words – “mini-word producing factory”)

# Archaisms

- A certain amount of words may drop out of the language in the course of its history. This is a gradual process. Words grow old and perceived by the speakers as archaic. The disappearance of words may be caused by two factors:
  - Extra-linguistic factor
  - Linguistic factor

# Extra-linguistic factor

- Extra-linguistic factor is the disappearance of a thing or a notion because it became outdated and has no value for the nation. Words denoting such things are called **historisms**. These are numerous names for ancient weapons, types of boats, carriages, musical instruments, agricultural implements e.g. **sword, sabre, diligence, phaeton**

# Linguistic factor

- Linguistic factor – a new name is introduced for the notion that continues to exist

Two words with exactly the same meaning can not exist in the language for a long time. One of them is bound to change its meaning or disappear.

## Three stages of turning a word into an archaism

- Obsolescent words – they sound a bit old-fashioned but they can still be used in the speech of the older generation, in literary works, in documents.

e.g. **fraught with** (full of), **kin** (relative), **to swoon** (to faint)

## Three stages of turning a word into an archaism

- Archaisms proper – words are hardly ever used in the speech, but understandable to the speakers

e.g. **methinks** (it seems to me), **nay** (no), **nether** (low), **very** (real)

## Three stages of turning a word into an archaism

- Obsolete words – the words have dropped out of the language. They are no longer understood by the speakers.

e.g. **lozel** (никчемный человек)

The simplest? Most obvious non-semantic grouping is the alphabetical organization of written words, as represented in most dictionaries.

## Lexicography

- is the theory and practice of compiling dictionaries
- a branch of applied linguistics

## Dictionary

- a book listing words of a language with their meanings and often with data regarding pronunciation, usage and/or origin



# Historical development of English lexicography

- In 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Old English period - glosses of religious books with translation from Latin
  - the 15<sup>th</sup> century - regular bilingual English-Latin dictionaries

<https://www.slideserve.com/dane/english-lexicography-powerpoint-ppt-presentation>

At the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Latin began to lose its status of an international language and English lexicographers turned to new West-European languages.

Dictionary-making methodology was gradually evolving over the period of nine centuries.

- the structure of the entry became complex and the reader could extract more and more information about the lexis of the target language;


- lexicographers commented on morphological structure of the word, its origin and field of usage;

- lexicographers took into account synonymy and dialectal differences, used different modes of definitions, examples, usage notes, illustrations

## ***Dr. Samuel Johnson's Dictionary of the English language:***

- ▣ it was the most comprehensive dictionary of English with extensive etymologies, complete and clear definitions, followed by quotations from reputable authors illustrating the use of a word, adding important dimensions to definitions.*
- ▣ Various senses of meanings of the same word were numbered and distinguished.*

<https://thepresentation.ru/angliyskiy-yazyk/lexicography-types-of-dictionaries-1>



There are about 250  
different kinds of  
dictionaries and their  
typology is not easy.

# Classification of Dictionaries

- ⦿ Object of description
- ⦿ Number of languages appearing in a dictionary
- ⦿ Size of the dictionary corpus
- ⦿ Lexicographic form
- ⦿ Differentiation of the vocabulary registered
- ⦿ Synchronic \ diachronic approach

# Object of Description

- ◉ **Linguistic dictionaries:** register language units, provide a description of their linguistic properties (lexical and grammatical meaning, stylistic value, etc.)
- ◉ **Encyclopaedic dictionaries:** are concerned with the denotata of the lexical units, give information about the extra-linguistic world
- ◉ Many modern dictionaries tend to include encyclopaedic information, so the division becomes less strict

- **Linguistic dictionaries** are word-books.

*Subject matter:* lexical units and their linguistic properties (pronunciation, meaning, peculiarities of use, etc)

- **Encyclopedic dictionaries** are thing-books that give information about the extra-linguistic world.

*Subject matter:* concepts, their relations to other objects and phenomena, etc.

# INFLUENZA

in a linguistic  
dictionary:



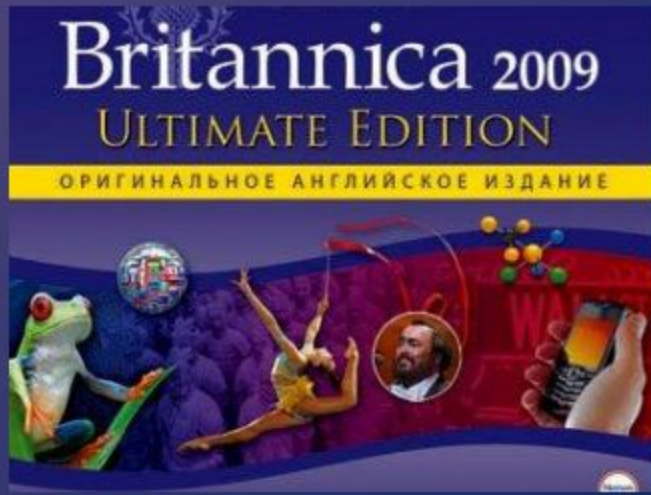
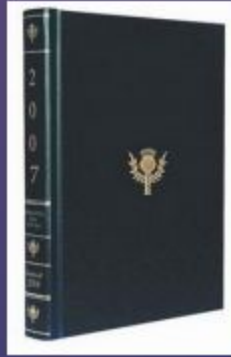
- spelling
- pronunciation
- grammar  
characteristics
- synonyms, etc.

in an encyclopedic  
dictionary:

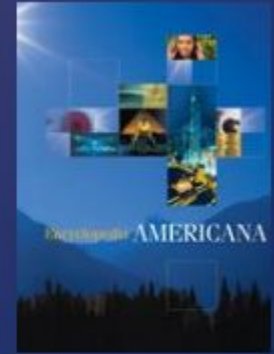
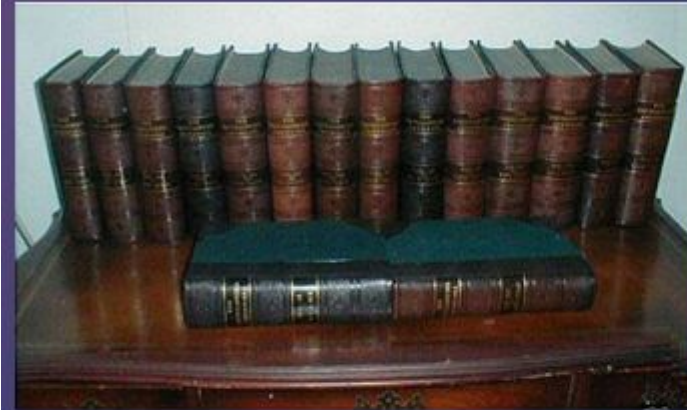


- the causes
- symptoms
- characteristics and  
varieties of this  
disease
- treatment, etc.





**The Encyclopedia Britannica**  
(24 volumes)



**The Encyclopedia Americana**  
(30 volumes)

## Number of Languages Used in a Dictionary

- 1) *unilingual (monolingual)* - dictionaries in which the words and their definitions belong to the same language
- 2) *bilingual or translation dictionaries* are those that explain words by giving their equivalents in another language.
- 3) *multilingual or polyglot dictionaries* are not numerous, they serve chiefly the purpose of comparing synonyms and terminology in various languages

## Monolingual Lexicography

“A Table Alphabetical, containing and teaching the true writing, and understanding of hard English words, borrowed from Hebrew, Greek, Latin or French” by Robert Cawdrew, published in 1604.

The dictionary concentrated on those words which could cause problems for native speakers of English.

**Samuel Johnson's Dictionary** produced an enormous impact on British and American lexicography of the eighteenth-nineteenth centuries.

“A Dictionary of the English Language in Which the Words are Deduced from Their Originals and Illustrated in Their General Significations by Examples from the Best Writers” (London, 1775) had two parts:

- 1) **The first part** consisted of “Preface”, “The History of the English language”, “The grammar of the English language”
- 2) **The second part** was the dictionary corpus, comprising 40, 000 entries.

A central concern of S. Johnson's research of the lexicon was the study of current English and selection of the words which could be considered to be the norm.

**Innovations of the Dictionary:**

- a) Clear differentiation of senses (separate meanings were neatly arranged and enumerated);
- b) Each meaning was illustrated by quotations from "the best writers"

**Examples in the Dictionary** perform the following functions:

- c) Prove that the word is not a fiction of a lexicographer's brain but a fact of language;
- d) Reinforce sense distinctions;
- e) Help the user to gain a deeper insight into the collocational, colligational and stylistic peculiarities of the headword;
- f) Point to the chronological limits of the language period under discussion.

The **“Oxford English Dictionary”**, originally called the **“New English Dictionary”** (1888-1928).

The OED is the most comprehensive and authoritative dictionary of the English language.

It was compiled by the English Philological Society.

The purpose of the dictionary – to record the history of all the English words since 1150.

The OED registers different spellings of the word, etymology, modern pronunciation, grammatical information and the account of usage over the period of the word existence.

The dictionary indicates the subject field for which this or that use is characteristic and provides senses with stylistic labels.

The OED comprises literary English words, scientific and technical words, neologisms and a great number of obsolete, archaic, and dialectal uses.

## Size of the Dictionary Corpus

- Large (in several volumes, over 600 000 vocabulary units)
- Medium (between 300 000 and 600 000 vocabulary units)
- Concise (between 30 000 and 300 000 vocabulary units)
- Pocket \ Gem (fewer than 30 000 units, pocket size)

## Lexicographic Form (way units are organized)

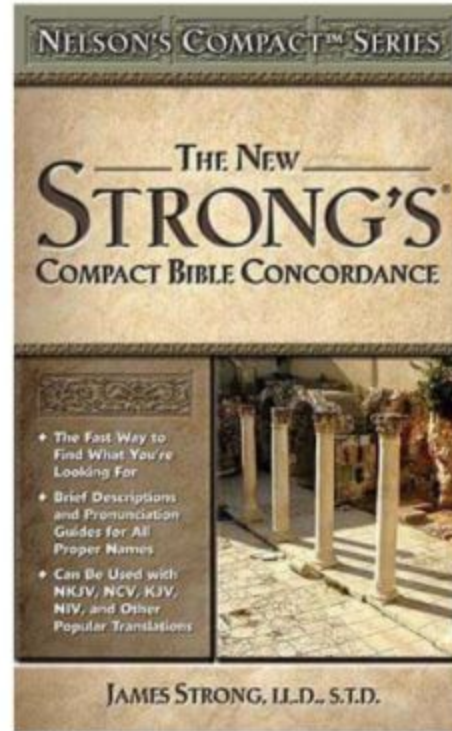
- ◉ Concordance (dictionary of quotations): organized in the alphabetical or chronological order of appearance of their headwords
- ◉ Index: dictionary of word frequency
- ◉ Alphabetical (explanatory) dictionary:



# concordances

It is an alphabetical list of the principal words used in a book or body of work, with their immediate contexts.

Because of the time and difficulty and expense involved in creating a concordance in the pre-computer era, only works of special importance, such as the Vedas, Bible, Qur'an or the works of Shakespeare, had concordances prepared for them.



<http://www.concordancesoftware.co.uk/webconcordances/>

## **Dictionaries of Word-frequency:**

inform the user about the frequency of occurrence of lexical units in speech.

## **Explanatory Dictionaries:**

provide information on all aspects of the lexical units entered: graphical, phonetical, grammatical, semantic, stylistic, etymological, etc.

Synchronic: deal with the form, usage and meaning of lexical units in modern English, taking no account of its past development.

- *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English;*
- *Universal Dictionary of the English Language.*

Diachronic: concerned with the development of words occurring within the written history of the language.

- *New English Dictionary on Historical Principles;*
- *The Shorter Oxford Dictionary on Historical Principles.*

## According to the nature of word entry

There are *general* and *special* dictionaries.

General represent the vocabulary as a whole.

Special dictionaries cover a specific part of the vocabulary.

There are dictionaries of synonyms and antonyms, dictionaries of neologisms and slang, pronouncing and so on.

The most popular one-volume general-purpose dictionaries are:

- "The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English"
- "The Collins Concise Dictionary"
- Chambers English Dictionary
- the "Longman Dictionary of the English Language"

All of them contain detailed guidance on the understanding and the general use of current idiomatic English.

General-purpose dictionaries cannot satisfy those who are in need of expert guidance on some specific aspects of English. Special philological dictionaries are legion: pronunciation, etymology, usage, synonymy, idioms, slang and other phenomena.

Dictionaries may be classified into *linguistic* and *non-linguistic*.

The latter are dictionaries giving information on all branches of knowledge, the encyclopaedias. They deal not with words, but with facts and concepts.

“The Encyclopaedia Britannica”

“The Encyclopaedia Americana”.

There exist also biographical dictionaries and many minor encyclopaedias.



## Specialized Dictionaries

- phraseological
- new words dictionaries
- dictionaries of slang
- pronouncing
- reverse (words are arranged in alphabetical order starting with the end)
- etymological
- ideographic
- rhyme dictionaries
- concordances

## Phraseological Dictionaries:

have vast collections of idiomatic or colloquial phrases, proverbs.

- *An E.-R. Phraseological Dictionary by A.V. Kunin*

## New Words Dictionaries:

reflect the growth of neologisms in the English language.

## Dictionaries of Neologisms:

- *A Dictionary of new English. A Barnhart Dictionary (1973)* (covers the period of time from 1963 – 1972);
- *The Longman Register of New Words (1990)*;
- *Bloomsbury Dictionary of New Words (1996)*;
- *Beyond the Dictionary* by Brian Locket (1998).

*Dictionary of Slang* is a reference book containing an alphabetical list of slang, vernacular vocabulary not generally acceptable in formal usage, usually including information given for each word, including meaning, pronunciation, and etymology.

<https://thepresentation.ru/angliyskiy-yazyk/lecture-8-fundamentals-of-english-lexicography>

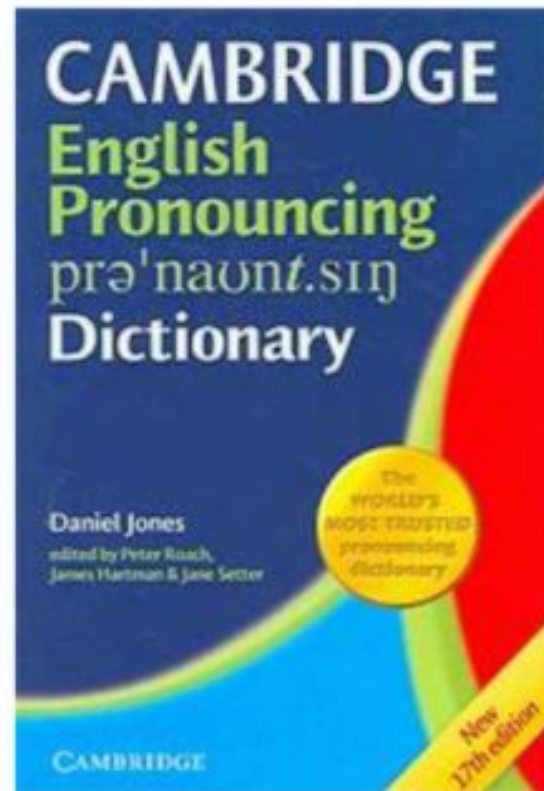
## Dictionary of Slang:

contain elements from areas of substandard speech (vulgarisms, jargonisms, taboo words, curse-words, colloquialisms, etc.)

- *Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English* by E. Partridge;
- *The Dictionary of American Slang* by H. Wentworth and S.B. Flexner.

# pronouncing

- The English Pronouncing Dictionary (EPD) is one of the most well-known works on English pronunciation. Its first edition, published in 1917 and written by Daniel Jones, used symbols of the International Phonetic Alphabet to represent the pronunciations of English words.



<https://en.ppt-online.org/319691>

## reverse

A reverse dictionary is a dictionary organized in a non-standard order, i.e. the organization is based upon sorting each entry word upon its last letter and the subsequent letters proceeding toward the beginning of that word.

Reverse dictionaries of this type were historically difficult to produce before the advent of the electronic computer and have become more common since the first computer sorted one (*Stahl and Scavnicky's Reverse Spanish Dictionary*) appeared in 1974.

# etymological

- An etymological dictionary discusses the etymology of the words listed.
- Etymological dictionaries are the product of research in historical linguistics.

## Etymological Dictionaries:

trace present-day words to the oldest forms available, establish their original meaning, point out the source of borrowing.

• *Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology*  
by C.T. Onions

## Nathaniel Bailey

In 1721 Nathaniel Bailey published “An Universal Etymological English Dictionary”.

Two editions of this dictionary (1721 and 1727) served the basis for “Dictionarium Britannicum”, which had 48,000 entries.

Nathaniel Bailey made a few **lexicographic innovations**: He was the first to indicate the stressed syllable in head-words and to use sayings and proverbs in order to make the senses more explicit.



# ideographic

- A *conceptual dictionary* (also ideographic or ideological dictionary) is a dictionary that groups words by concept or semantic relation instead of arranging them in alphabetical order. Examples of conceptual dictionaries are picture dictionaries, thesauri, and visual dictionaries.

## Ideographic Dictionaries:

contain words grouped by the concepts.

- *Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases* by P.M. Roget.

# rhyme dictionaries

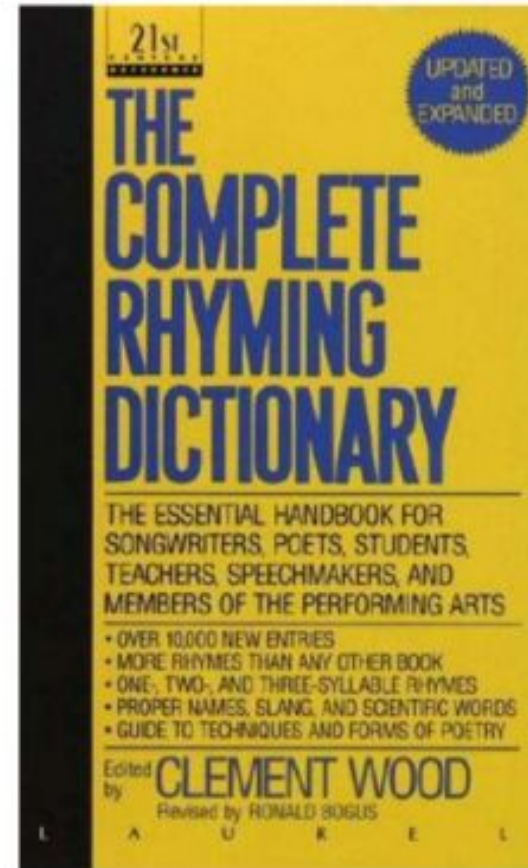
A rhyming dictionary is a specialist dictionary designed for use in writing poetry and lyrics. In a rhyming dictionary, words are categorized into equivalence classes that consist of words which rhyme with one another.

They will also typically support several different kinds of rhymes, and possibly also alliteration as well.

*Walker's Rhyming Dictionary*, one of the oldest, lists words in alphabetical order of the reversed word, with an appendix covering the differently spelled but homo-phonic endings.

<http://www.wikirhymer.com/words/nation/pure-rhymes>

<http://www.rhymer.com/>



*Thesaurus* is a reference work that lists words grouped together according to similarity of meaning (containing synonyms and sometimes antonyms), in contrast to a dictionary, which contains definitions and pronunciations. The largest thesaurus in the world is the Historical Thesaurus of the Oxford English Dictionary, which contains more than 920,000 entries.

A thesaurus is a book which lists words alphabetically in a similar way to a dictionary. □ Beside each word entry is a list of synonyms.

<https://www.slideshare.net/taylorrogers15/using-a-the-saurusppt>

**Visual Dictionary** is a dictionary that primarily uses pictures to illustrate the meaning of words. Visual dictionaries are often organized by themes, instead of being an alphabetical list of words. For each theme, an image is labeled with the correct word to identify each component of the item in question. Visual dictionaries can be monolingual or multilingual, providing the names of items in several languages. An index of all defined words is usually included to assist finding the correct illustration that defines the word.

**LATEST CATCHWORDS**


**macaroon technique** n.  
 He used PowerPoint to impart what he calls the "macaroon technique," referring to the sandwich-like French macaron pastry. This can be applied to most any product (including, presumably, a Xerox machine) and goes something like this: "Madam, this timepiece (or diamond or handbag) comes from our finest workshop and it has a value of \$10,000. If you buy it, your children are sure to enjoy it for generations to come."  
 Filed under: [Business](#), [Retail](#) / Posted Feb-19 / [comments?](#) / [more details...](#)

**sorry gift** n.  
 Because guilt over spending is playing a big role in the sales downturn, he teaches salespeople to suggest a "sorry gift"—of another timepiece—for a wife who might be disappointed that her husband just dropped a sizable sum on his own wrist.  
 Filed under: [Business](#), [Retail](#) / Posted Feb-19 / [3 comments](#) / [more details...](#)

**break the ton** v. phr.  
 When I was a kid we all drove muscle cars with enormous hemis. The term

**New Catchwords**

- [broccoli journalism](#) n. (10/19)
- [strap hanging](#) n. (10/8)
- [parclo](#) n. (10/8)
- [Dipper](#) n. (10/8)
- [jeggings](#) n. (10/5)
- [dittoism](#) n. (10/5)
- [crop](#) n. (10/3)
- [sliming](#) n. (10/3)
- [protestival](#) n. (10/3)
- [excessing](#) n. (10/3)
- [pencil top](#) n. (10/3)
- [trophy jacket](#) n. (10/3)
- [ball golf](#) n. (10/3)
- [Scottish cringe](#) n. (10/3)
- [bagel](#) v. (9/30)
- [shake and bake](#) n. (9/30)
- [supe truck](#) n. (9/30)
- [tribrid](#) n. (9/30)
- [dead money](#) n. (9/30)
- [secret squirrel mission](#) n. (9/30)

 [More catchwords...](#)

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[Dictionary Program](#)  
[Dictionary English](#)  
[English Dictionary](#)



A lexicon of fringe English, focusing on slang, jargon, and new words.

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**Recent searches:**

## Dictionaries of Synonyms:

- *A Dictionary of English Synonyms and Synonymous Expressions* by R. Soule;
- *Webster's Dictionary of Synonyms*;
- The best known bilingual dictionary of synonyms is *English Synonyms* compiled by Y. Apresyan.

# Types of dictionaries

| Aspect  | Dictionaries  |
|---|---|
| Semantics   | Explanatory   |
| Word –structure   | Reverse dictionaries  |
| Semantic ties   | Ideographic dictionaries  |
| Combinability with<br>a) free collocations<br>b) set collocability          | a) dictionaries of collocations<br>b) phraseological dictionaries |
| Division according to<br>a) similarity of meaning<br>b) polarity of meaning | a) dictionaries of synonyms<br>b) dictionaries of antonyms        |
| Value of occurrence   | Frequency dictionaries  |

## 2. Basic problems of dictionary-compiling

### Some basic problems of dictionary-compiling

1. Selection of lexical units
2. Arrangement of entries
3. Selection and arrangement of meanings
4. Definition of meanings
5. Illustrative examples
6. Choice of adequate equivalents
7. Setting of the entry
8. Structure of the dictionary



## 8. Structure of the Dictionary

### Parts of a dictionary:

1. **introduction or preface** (some separate sections designed to help the user in handling the dictionary);
2. **dictionary itself**;
3. **addendum** (usually contains a key to pronunciation, the list of abbreviations, geographical and personal names, etc.)

## Steps in producing a dictionary:

- Collect words
- Fill out each entry
- Define each word
- Edit each entry for publication
- Prepare the front and back matter

# The big picture

- When we look at a dictionary entry, we see that lexicography integrates the branches of linguistics.



## American Heritage Dictionary entry for 'gaze' (slightly modified)

**gaze** (gāz) *vi.* **gazed, gazing, gazes.** To look intently or with fixed attention; to stare. *n.* A steady, fixed look. Gaze usually refers to prolonged and studied looking, often indicative of wonder, fascination, awe, or admiration. cf. gape, glare, peer, ogle. [Middle English *gazen*, probably from Scandanavian, akin to Swedish dialectal *gasa*.]

*gazer n.*

# Orthography

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# Phonology/Phonetics

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# Semantics

**gaze** (gāz) *vi.* **gazed, gazing, gazes.** **To look intently or with fixed attention; to stare.** *n.* **A steady, fixed look.** Gaze usually refers to prolonged and studied looking, often indicative of wonder, fascination, awe, or admiration. cf. gape, glare, peer, ogle. [Middle English *gazen*, probably from Scandanavian, akin to Swedish dialectal *gasa*.]

**gazer** *n.*

# Historical linguistics

**gaze** (gāz) *vi.* **gazed, gazing, gazes.** To look intently or with fixed attention; to stare. *n.* A steady, fixed look. Gaze usually refers to prolonged and studied looking, often indicative of wonder, fascination, awe, or admiration. cf. gape, glare, peer, ogle. [Middle English *gazen*, probably from Scandanavian, akin to Swedish dialectal *gasa*.]

*gazer n.*



[https://vk.com/doc130317084\\_443374934?hash=715dbc\\_b30b0d7bfc67](https://vk.com/doc130317084_443374934?hash=715dbc_b30b0d7bfc67) – прочитать рассказ Contents of the Dead Man's rockets и ответить на вопросы

### Exploring Ideas and Questions for Discussion

1. Think about the most frequent word in the text of the story. What words and ideas is it associated with? What is the main topic of the story?
2. The idea of climbing to the top makes Tom choose first between his wife and his work, second between staying in the warm room and going out into the cold night for the yellow sheet. Investigate the semantics of the antonymous pairs warm — chill, warm — cold for the evaluative connotations. What does the contrast of the antonyms imply concerning the main topic?
3. One of the subtopics of the story is the topic of fear. What synonyms does the author use to develop the topic? In what order are they used? How are they different? How is the growth of fear shown?
4. How do the verbs denoting the process of trembling add to the topic of fear?
5. What hyponyms are used in the text of the story? What is their semantic function?
6. What is the contrast in the last part of the story? What topical words is it expressed with?
7. What way do topics of the story follow each other? What is the author's message to the reader?