Lexicography is theory and practice of compiling dictionaries. Lexicology is the study of the meaning and uses of words. These two terms both study words and their features; thus, they are closely related to each other. However, they differ from one another in many respects. As for terminology and terminography, they deal with special words and expressions concerning a particular subject. Lexicography and terminography both refer to compiling words; yet, they vary from each other. In this review article, lexicography and lexicology are searched in general and specific sources and discussed in detail. Other two terms, terminology and terminography are also reviewed. In addition, lexicography is compared to and contrasted with lexicology and terminography.

**Key Words:** Lexicography, Lexicology, Terminology, Terminography

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**LEKSİKOGRAFI ve İLGİLİ TERİMLER**


**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Leksikografi, Leksikoloji, Terminoloji, Terminografi

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1 Arş. Gör., Atatürk Üniversitesi, Edibiyat Fakültesi, İngiliz Dili ve Edebiyatı Bölümü, cansu.gur@atauni.edu.tr
1. LEXICOGRAPHY

1.1. Definitions in General and Specific Sources

Lexicography is derived from ‘lexico’, that is, ‘speech’ or ‘word’ and ‘graph’, that is, ‘writing’ (Lecture 1). Defining the scientific field of lexicography is diverse from one dictionary to another, and definitions are much shorter in general dictionaries as compared with specialized dictionaries. To compare and contrast different definitions of lexicography in general and specific sources, there is a compilation of several definitions from English monolingual dictionaries and dictionaries of lexicography and linguistics in the following:

Definition 1
The theory and practice of writing dictionaries (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary)

Definition 2
The activity or job of writing dictionaries (Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary)

Definition 3
The skill, practice, or profession of writing dictionaries (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English)

These three definitions are inadequate to describe lexicography which is one of the critical areas in linguistics. They are poor explanations because they do not clarify lexicography in theoretical and practical sense.

Definition 4
The act of compiling or writing a dictionary; the occupation of composing dictionaries (the new Grolier Webster International Dictionary of the English Language)

Although this dictionary is an encyclopaedia, it also defines lexicography in a very general way.

Definition 5
Lexicography is divided into two related disciplines:

- Practical lexicography is the art or craft of compiling, writing and editing dictionaries.

- Theoretical lexicography is the scholarly discipline of analysing and describing the semantic, syntagmatic and paradigmatic relationships within the lexicon (vocabulary) of a language, developing theories of dictionary components and structures linking the data in dictionaries, the needs for information by users in specific types of situation, and how users may best access the data incorporated in printed and electronic dictionaries. This is sometimes referred to as ‘metalexicography’. (Wikipedia).

This explanation of lexicography is retrieved from Wikipedia as a result of google search. It is much elaborated than monolingual English dictionaries; however, it is inappropriate due to the fact that Wikipedia is an unreliable reference.

In dictionaries of linguistics, Bussmann (1998:682) defines lexicography in Dictionary of Language and Linguistics as “theory and practice of compiling dictionaries” and continues
“lexicography provides the principles necessary for documenting the vocabulary of a language, a dialect or a profession by drawing on lexicology with its theoretical bases and materials for lexicographic codification and by taking practical concerns such as marketability, user-friendliness, etc. into consideration”. In another dictionary of linguistics, *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics* (Crystal 2008:278), lexicography is regarded as “the art and science of dictionary-making” and “a branch of applied linguistics”. In some other dictionaries of linguistics, there are no entries about lexicography. It is seemingly that definitions and explanations about lexicography in dictionaries of linguistics are not detailed enough.

Dictionaries of lexicography are the most descriptive references which give information about the field of lexicography. In *Dictionary of Lexicography* by Hartmann and James (1998:85), the definition of lexicography is as follows:

The professional activity and academic field concerned with DICTIONARIES and other REFERENCE WORKS. It has two basic divisions: lexicographic practice, or DICTIONARY-MAKING, and lexicographic theory, or DICTIONARY RESEARCH. The former is often associated with commercial book publishing, the latter with scholarly studies in such disciplines as LINGUISTICS (especially LEXICOLOGY)...

Hartmann and James (1998:85-86) divided lexicography into 29 branches each of which has its own practices and theories such as author lexicography, biographical lexicography, computational lexicography, pedagogical lexicography, rhyme lexicography, terminological lexicography and so on. Furthermore, they drew a chart of lexicography in terms of theory and practice (1998:86):

![Figure 2.1. Lexicography: Theory and Practice](image)

As for *Lexicography: A Dictionary of Basic Terminology* (Burkhanov 1998:135), the primary issues of lexicography are “its disciplinary status, its correlation with other linguistic and non-linguistic disciplines, the scope of lexicographic description, methodology of lexicographic investigation, typology of reference works produced within the framework of lexicography, techniques of lexicographic presentation and so on”. According to Burkhanov 1998:135, “lexicography is regarded as a domain of applied linguistics (...), a branch of information science (...), a province of philological and historical study (...), and, most often, a subject field whose theoretical aspect falls within the realm of theoretical linguistics, whereas its practice pertains to the sphere of applied linguistics (...”). Burkhanov (1998) enlightens the
Lexicography and Related Terms

theory and practice of lexicography, that is, dictionary research and making dictionary and also discusses branches of lexicography in his elaborative definition of lexicography.

1.2. Academic Discussions

Lexicography is not a science, a craft, part of linguistics, applied lexicology but a checkable, analysable, calculable, manageable, testable and teachable practical process on the purpose of producing dictionaries to fulfil the reference needs of their users (Hartmann 1999b:156). Lexicography is the empirical object of dictionary research, or vice versa, dictionary research is the scientific metafield of lexicography (Hartmann 1999b:156).

The art of lexicography is as ancient as linguistics; historically, it has become one of the fields of linguistic research both practically and theoretically (Dash n.d.).

Theory of lexicography is a controversial issue in academic publications about lexicography. Atkins and Rundell (2008:4) believe that theoretical lexicography does not exist. Bejoint also disagrees that there is a theory of lexicography; still, he is doubtful about the possibility of its existence (Bejoint 2010:381 cited in Bergenholtz and Gouws 2012:36).

Wiegand (n.d.:13) claims that lexicography is not a science in the following sentences:

*Lexicography was never a science, it is not a science, and it will probably not become a science. Scientific activities as a whole are aimed at producing theories, and precisely this is not true of lexicographical activities. We must bear in mind that writing on lexicography is part of metalexicography and that the theory of lexicography is not part of lexicography.*

According to him, lexicography is not a branch of applied linguistics. He contrasts lexicography with applied linguistics as follows:

*Lexicography is not a branch of so-called applied linguistics. Quite apart from the fact that it is not at all clear what exactly is to be understood by applied linguistics, lexicography is, at all events, more than the application of linguistic theories and methods or the utilization of linguistic and philological findings. In a frequency dictionary, for example, the methods of statistics play the major role, and just imagine if linguistic knowledge alone were taken into account in a technical medical dictionary!*

Furthermore, he declares that lexicography is not a branch of lexicology in the following:

*Lexicography is not a branch of lexicology, and lexicography is by no means theoretically determined by lexicology alone. Lexicology hardly features, for example, in the production of dictionaries of pronunciation or gestures, and in valency dictionaries grammar is at least as important as lexicology. General lexicology and the lexicology of a particular language are especially important for certain dictionary types only, such as the monolingual defining dictionary.*

As it is understood, Wiegand (n.d.:15) believes that a general theory of lexicography exists as a subcategory of metalexicography. He also gathers lexicographic activities into three fields: the dictionary plan, the lexicographical file and the dictionary (n.d.:14).

To the question what lexicography means, Bergenholtz and Gouws (2012:39) answers in this simple sentence: “Lexicography is the discipline dealing with theories about recently completed and also older existing dictionaries but also about future dictionaries as planned and produced by lexicographers”.

Kirkness (2004) defines lexicography in a narrow and wider sense. In a narrow sense, lexicography is “the art and craft of writing a dictionary”; in a wider sense, lexicography is “a profession and a hobby, a scholarly and commercial enterprise, and an academic discipline” as well as “a longstanding cultural practice and an integral part of the intellectual tradition in literate societies” (Kirkness 2004:58). According to Hartmann and James (1998:VI), lexicography, in a general sense, is the theory and practice of dictionary-making; in its broadest sense, lexicography is “a branch of linguistics” and “a field whose endeavours are informed by the theories and practices of information science, literature, publishing, philosophy, and historical, comparative and applied linguistics”.

Tarp divides lexicographic theory into contemplative and transformative. The contemplative theory results from the examination of current existent dictionaries and their use (Tarp 2004:224). The aim of the transformative theory of lexicography is to regulate the lexicographic practice through suggestions and guidelines for future dictionary compiling (Tarp 2004:224).

Lexicography, the theory and practice of compiling dictionaries, is a significant part of applied linguistics (Житникова 2004:2). Further, lexicography is considered as a part of lexicology and sometimes viewed as applied lexicology (Federova 2002:255). Some regards lexicography as a branch of applied linguistics or a subdiscipline of linguistics whereas others refer to it as an independent field of study. Lexicographers are linguists to some while they are experts from different subject fields to others.

2. Lexicology

2.1. Definitions in General and Specific Sources

Lexicology originates from ‘lexico’ i.e. ‘speech’ or ‘word’ and ‘logos’ i.e. ‘learning’ or ‘science’ (Lecture 1). The definition of lexicography hardly exists in general sources like monolingual dictionaries. One of these dictionaries defines lexicology “the study of the meaning and uses of words” (Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture). According to Wikipedia, “lexicology is the part of linguistics which studies words, their nature and meaning, words’ elements relations between words (semantic relations), word groups and the whole lexicon”. It is obvious that these three definitions are unsatisfactory in the matter of understanding lexicology.

In Dictionary of Language and Linguistics (Bussmann1998:683), lexicology is defined “subdiscipline of linguistics or, more specifically, semantic that investigates and describes the structure of the vocabulary of a language. It also studies ‘linguistic expressions for their internal semantic structure and the relationships between individual words or lexical units’” (Bussmann1998:683). In A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics, Crystal (2008:278) describes lexicology as “a term used in semantics for the overall study of a language’s vocabulary (including its history)”. It is an unaccountable finding that in several researched dictionaries of linguistics there are no entries about lexicology.

Dictionaries of lexicography are of detailed clarification under the entry of lexicology. They argue the scope of lexicology as well as the relationship between lexicology and lexicography. To start with Dictionary of Lexicography (Hartmann and James), lexicology is stated in the following sentences:
A branch of LINGUISTICS concerned with the study of the basic units of vocabulary (LEXEMES), their formation, structure and meaning. Lexicology is relevant to DICTIONARY-MAKING in a number of respects as it can clarify how words and phrases are created, combined, modified and defined, and how USAGE varies within a language according to such parameters as dialect, formality and technicality. (1998:86)

In Lexicography: A Dictionary of Basic Terminology, Burkhanov (1998) discusses the field of lexicology in an elaborative way. According to him, “lexicology is usually defined as a branch of linguistics dealing with the theoretical study of lexical items including their origin and historical development, as well as their compositional structure and correlation in both paradigmatic and syntagmatic aspects” (1998:139). Lexicology has two main branches: morphology, the study of word parts and the process of word formation; and semantics, the study of linguistic meaning and also involves etymology, the study of the origin and history of words (Ullmann 1962 cited in Burkhanov 1998:139).

2.2. Lexicology versus Lexicography

Lexicography and lexicology are closely related to one another in that the study subjects of both areas are words and their features. Both words which are lexicology meaning ‘science of words’ and lexicography meaning ‘writing of words’ stem from Greek “lexikos” which means “word” or speech” (Dash n.d.). However, it is natural that these two related fields, lexicology and lexicography differ from each other in many aspects although they both study words and their properties.

Lexicology studies a word as a grammatical, phonological and semantic unit as well as its contextual behaviour and also explores the phrasal, idiomatic and proverbial functions of the word because a word does not appear in isolation (Dash n.d.). Lexicology is “the discipline aimed at describing the functioning of the lexicon, as well as foreseeing the formation of new lexical units following the systematic and structural criteria of the language” (Motos 2011:8). Lexicology investigates lexicon i.e. vocabulary both diachronically and synchronically. Diachronically, it examines “the origin and development of the form and meaning of lexical units in a particular language across the time scale” while synchronically, it deals with “various aspects of the vocabulary of a language at a particular point of time” (Dash n.d.). The domain of lexicology functionally meets the demands of various branches of applied linguistics such as lexicography, stylistics and so on (Dash n.d.).

Lexicography is the art and science of compiling a dictionary; therefore, it is obvious that it explores lexicon as lexicology does, but from different perspective. Words are regarded as elements of a system in the field of lexicology whereas they are individual units in terms of their meaning and usage in the field of lexicography (Dash n.d.). For a better understanding the area of lexicography, dictionaries are the optimum instances because they are the results of practical lexicography. For example, dictionaries are consulted so as to learn an unknown word or to check the spelling or pronunciation of a word.

In essence, lexicology presents a theoretical basis to lexicography; in other words, lexicology is theoretical while lexicography is practical (Dash n.d.). The relationship between lexicology and lexicography is not composed of “theory versus practice: lexicography is not merely ‘applied lexicology’, but an autonomous field with its own premises (DICTIONARY RESEARCH), utilising and adapting the findings of other disciplines to its own ends”
In addition, lexicology studies universal features of words; still, lexicography is language specific to a certain extent (Dash n.d.). According to Житникова (2004:3), the primary difference between lexicology and lexicography exists in the degree of systematization and completeness. Lexicography focuses on “systematization revealing characteristic features of words; however, lexicology displays that “the vocabulary of every particular language is not a chaos of diversified phenomena but a homogeneous whole, a system constituted by independent elements related in certain specific ways” (Житникова 2004:3).

3. Terminus and Terminography

Terminology is “the set of technical words or expressions used in a particular subject” (Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary). In Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, terminology is defined “special words or expressions used in relation to a particular subject or activity”. Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English describes terminology as the technical words or expressions that are used in a particular subject. These definitions remain incapable of enlightening adequately the field of terminology in that they are too superficial to comprehend the area of terminology.

Searching terminology in dictionaries of linguistics is another way out for a better understanding. Terminology is “the special lexical items which occur in a particular discipline or subject matter. For example clause, conjunction, and aspect are part of the terminology of grammar” (Richards and Schmidt 2010). In Dictionary of Language and Linguistics (Bussmann 1998:1186), terminology means “the collection of defined technical terms within a scientific system, which differs from everyday usage in that the terms are defined exactly within a specific system”. Moreover, Bussmann (1998:1186) remarks that one of the techniques used in building terminology is limited definitions of terms.

In Hartmann and James’s Dictionary of Lexicography (1998:140), terminology is “a field concerned with the theory and practice of coining, documenting and explaining technical terms in general and their use in particular fields of specialisation”. They discuss the stage of development in the following words (1998:140):

Since the 1930s, terminologists have focused on the improvement of interdisciplinary and interlingual communication by means of systematic CONCEPT formation and agreed definitions of the vocabulary of various TECHNICAL LANGUAGES. Interestingly, these efforts have been associated more often with engineers, translators and computer specialists than, say, linguists and lexicographers, and there is no unanimity concerning the underlying principles.

As for Burkhanov’s Lexicography: A Dictionary of Basic Terminology (1998), there are two definitions of terminology, the second one of which is more appropriate owing to its relation to lexicography. He explains terminology as “…an interdisciplinary subject field concerned with activities intended at the systematization and representation of scientific, technical and other kinds of expert concepts, or at the presentation of terminologies of particular subject fields on the basis of established principles and methods” (1998:241). The theoretical concepts and descriptive methods of terminology are emerged from various branches of knowledge such as theoretical and applied linguistics and lexicography. At this point, Burkhanov (1998:241) suggests seeing terminological lexicography, in other words, terminography.
Terminography is a blending word which refers to terminological lexicography. According to Burkhanov (1998:241), “terminological lexicography is a branch of lexicography, particularly actual dictionary-making, dealing with the production (planning, design and compilation) of terminological dictionaries of various kinds”. Terminography, i.e. terminological lexicography underlines that the task of lexicography is the description of general vocabulary; however, terminography deals with specialized terminology (Burkhanov 1998:241).

3.1. Terminography versus Lexicography

The professions of lexicography and terminography both deal with compiling words; nevertheless, it is natural that they have comparable and contrastive peculiarities due to their own identities. Lexicography collects data about the lexicon of a language with the aim of providing an information service to language users whereas terminography deals with a technical vocabulary of a subject area (Alberts 2001:72). The design, compilation, use and evaluation of terminological dictionaries are the activities with which terminology deals (Hartmann and James 1998:139). The following figure compares terminological lexicography, i.e. terminography with general lexicography (Hartmann and James 1998:139).

![Figure 2.2. Terminological versus General Lexicography](image)

It is possible that the area of terminology and terminography is a subdiscipline of lexicography. According to Alberts (2001:73), same basic principles and procedures are used to document words and terms in both professions of lexicography and terminography. The difference is the fact that the lexicographer records the vocabulary of general language while the terminographer records the terminology of specific subject fields and domains (Alberts 2001:72).
Lexicography is compiling a dictionary of the general vocabulary of a language; and its starting point is from the word to its meaning. As for terminography, its practice is compiling the terminology of a field; in addition, its starting point is from the concept to naming the concept. Ciobanu (2003:60) compares lexicography and terminography in terms of their relation with words and subject fields as follow:

While lexicography is interested in all the words used by general language users, related to different subjects, practically unlimited, terminographers have to first of all establish and classify knowledge according to subject fields and sub-fields in order to make knowledge accessible and comprehensible within the range of human understanding; that is, provide, by subject field classification ...

Some practical reasons for distinction between lexicography and terminography, examine the following table (Antia n.d.:1):

Table 2.1. Differences between Terminography and Lexicography

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEXICOGRAPHY</th>
<th>TERMINOGRAPHY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>words as formal units of general language form</td>
<td>terms as formal units of specialist language form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the vocabulary of a language</td>
<td>the terminology of a field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the science of lexicology</td>
<td>the science of terminology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lexicographer</td>
<td>Terminographer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>word meaning</td>
<td>referents (objects/concepts)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>semasiological, meaning that they start from a lexeme</td>
<td>onomasiological, meaning that they start from an analysis of concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>looking for all the senses of that lexeme, then enter these senses in the entry for that lexeme</td>
<td>looking for terms that are assigned to that concept, then enter these terms in the entry for that concept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alphabetical, meaning that they represent entries according to the sequence of the alphabet.</td>
<td>systematic, meaning that they represent entries according to theme/some previously developed classification.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REFERENCES


