

Syrian Arab Republic

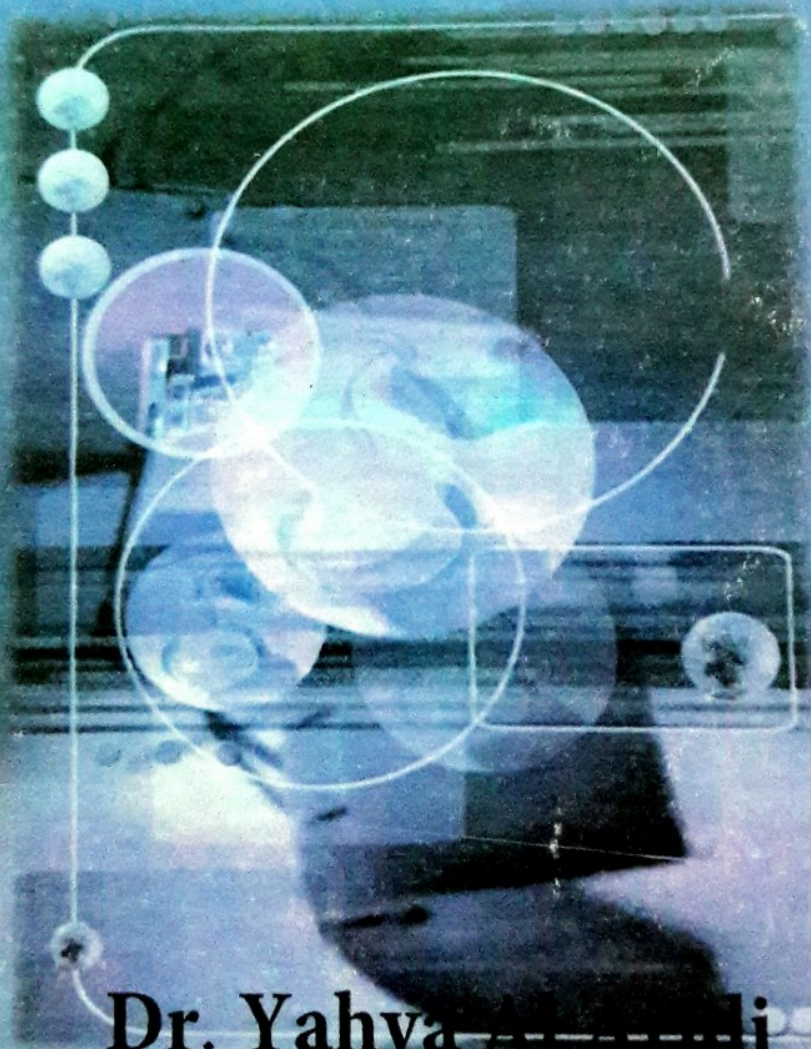
Damascus University Publications

Open - Learning Center

The Department Of Translation



# Dictionaries and Translation



**Dr. Yahya Al Hindi**

**Dr. Ramez Al Bainy**

Damascus University



## Chapter One

### By way of introduction

The term "dictionary" came into the English language from the Latin word "dictionarium" whose origin in Latin is "diction" which means "a saying" from Latin "dicere" which in turn means to speak.

دِي شَيْئِي

Noah Webster defined the term dictionary as "a book containing the words of a language arranged in alphabetical order, with definitions, etymologies, pronunciations and other information". Webster added that in bilingual dictionaries the equivalent could be in another language. It could also be used in any science, art or other branches of knowledge or work or by any class of people.

American <sup>صهيبي أمريكي</sup>  
Lexicographer

Lexicography  
الصناعة المعجمية

Etymology  
علم أصول الكلام

A dictionary, according to the Franklin electronic Encyclopedia, is a published list, in alphabetical order, of the words of a language, explaining and defining them, or, in the case of a bilingual dictionary, translating them into another languages.



Hyphen  
وصلة فاصلة للوصل بين

مرادفات  
نظائر بالاصلة

at is  
er  
ish (-)  
re m  
h

Modern dictionaries also provide hyphenation, synonyms, derived forms, and etymology. The modern dictionary is often prescriptive, attempting to establish certain forms as preferable.

ried of  
ime  
of number  
pres

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century American dictionary makers began to adopt criteria of use rather than of etymological purity, somewhat in advance of similar developments in linguistics.

Dictionaries were produced in China, Greece, the Islamic world and other complex early cultures. The first modern examples of lexicography, however, are thought to be the Nathan Bailey's Universal Etymological English Dictionary (1721) and his larger Dictionarium Britannicum (1730) which served Samuel Johnson in preparing his Dictionary of the English Language (1755) which is considered to be the first dictionary standard work in English.

The next great lexicographer was an American, Noah Webster, whose immensely popular Spelling Book, first appeared in 1783, followed by his Compendious Dictionary

مستقر



of the English Language (1806). Webster's American Dictionary of the English Language (1828) has been skillfully <sup>نقح</sup> revised and <sup>أختصر</sup> abridged over the year, thereby retaining its popularity. A six-volume American Encyclopedic dictionary, The Century Dictionary, was completed in 1891.

British lexicographers from the 19<sup>th</sup> century on began to collect and organize examples of usage. In 1857, the philological society began collecting dated examples of usage, <sup>تلاخيص</sup> culminating in the <sup>الاصحاح</sup> publication of the unrivaled <sup>موسم</sup> lexicon known as the New English Dictionary, the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), or Murray's Dictionary (for sir James A. H. Murry, one of the editors (1928) and a second edition 1989 of such a dictionary, two major shorter editions exist: "The Concise <sup>مختصر</sup> Oxford Dictionary of current English, and the shorter Oxford English Dictionary.

فقه اللغة  
Philologic

Other advances in lexicography are reflected in the frequently revised Collegiate or Desk dictionary, an up-to-date abridgement of a larger work, such as the Webster's



New Collegiate Dictionary, based on Webster's 3<sup>rd</sup> New International Dictionary 1966.

The major concern of a dictionary is to give the meaning(s) of the entries it includes. If a dictionary is bilingual those meanings are to be given in the target language taking into consideration linguistic and cultural aspects of meaning.

This is a painful process on the part of a dictionary maker: especially if the use of language in linguistic and non-linguistic environments and in real life situations are to be taken into consideration.

If, for instance, a particular entry belongs to more than one part of speech, its occurrence in all these cases has to be explained and exemplified.

Some dictionaries indicate the field or discipline to which a particular entry belongs to: science, medicine, law, religion, literature, etc. Dictionaries might also indicate the origin of entries. If the language in question is English, a dictionary



might specify that such a word is an Anglo-Saxon, Greek, Latin or Arabic origin.

As far as the specific meaning of a word is concerned, a dictionary mono- or bilingual could give a list of possible meanings. The number of meanings of a particular entry depends on the different <sup>السياقات</sup> contexts it can be used or it can occur in. A dictionary compiler has to investigate all the possible <sup>حالات</sup> instances in which a particular entry has or had occurred and then list all these possible meanings. The compiler of a bilingual dictionary is usually expected to <sup>مؤلف</sup> exert a double effort. If he <sup>يقتصر / يحد</sup> restricts himself to a translation of the meaning(s) given to a particular entry on their face value without an investigation of the samples, examples, cases, occasions or contexts these entries were used in, the exact meaning is not easily transferable to the target language. *cultural specific*

Due to cultural and historical developmental difference between any two languages (e.g. English and Arabic) giving the exact meaning of a particular entry cannot always be perfect. The context in which a particular entry is



used sheds light and conveys its exact meaning. That is why stating examples from different sources and different contexts in which a particular entry is used will relay the safest, closest and most natural and dynamic equivalence of a particular entry into another language.

تخترق / يتسلل

Since language penetrates into every aspect of human life, these different aspects have their own worlds or fields of words. Economics, politics, law, medicine, health, science with its fields, humanities with all the fields and sub-fields comprising them have specific terminology. A compiler of a dictionary is not expected to be an expert in all disciplines and worlds of academia. In his compiling of a dictionary, he usually resorts to dictionaries compiled for each field i.e. "specialized dictionaries".

There are for instance dictionaries for medical, economic, diplomatic, artistic, literary, political and other academic, practical intellectual terms, fields and activities in human life.

مصطلح فكري

terminology  
مصطلح



A dictionary compiler is expected to include such classification and specification of the entries used in his or her work.

No single dictionary can be so rich and comprehensive to include in between its covers all the terms, or entries making up the field and sub-fields of knowledge mentioned above.

Based on that a translator frequently finds himself resorting to specialized dictionaries in order to arrive at the closest natural dynamic and exact meaning of a particular entry.

Dictionaries are always arranged alphabetically; some dictionaries, however, classify their entries into families of words or according to the subject matter at hand. These families include synonyms and related antonyms. Such dictionaries are called thesaurus. Ordinary dictionaries may have some of the features characterizing a thesaurus when they classify entries into families, groups or classes giving symbols to each group or class. Such a process is a painful one. It might be considered many dictionaries in one.



- Dictionaries included thousands of words. All of which are known to some speakers of the language. But no dictionary can list all possible words since it is possible to add to the vocabulary of a language in many ways. There are always gaps in the lexicon- these are words that are not in the dictionary but that can be added. Some of the gaps as Frankin and Rodman 1998 said is due to the fact that a permissible sound sequence has no meaning attached to it like: "blick" slarm or "krobe". There are words that come into a particular language because of certain cultural events, states or technical developments, "intifadah" "modem" "sim". Such terms take time to get into a dictionary- if they have a chance.

Lexicon  
we borrow

Dictionaries have also to be distinguished from lexicons. It is well-known that the meaning of a word is inherent in it in a subtle way that is difficult to specify. However, the use of a word is a matter of record; it exists in sentences that have been uttered. Modern dictionaries, as stated earlier, do not restrict their job to listing words and their meanings adjacent to them; they simply indicate the ways in which words are used. Modern editors of dictionaries generally do

inherent  
كسبي، متأصل

فصيح

مجاور



not sit down, select a word, and ask what it means. Instead, they <sup>لنظروا</sup> glean sentences in which that word occurs from the literature of the language, sort the sentences into groups in which the word appears to be used in the same way, and select the best <sup>شرح النص</sup> paraphrases to characterize each usage. From sentences of record, some sort of intended meaning is <sup>استدل</sup> inferred, and this meaning is further described through <sup>وذكرنا</sup> paraphrases. Thus, a good dictionary will give at least one example of each "meaning" of a word; the chosen example was actually used (among many others) to establish that "meaning".

If we consider the sample dictionary entries <sup>المنوعه</sup> cited in this book, we would find that in addition to examples of usage, entries provide other helpful information, such as <sup>تقاطع</sup> syllabication, pronunciation, part of speech, and, sometimes, linguistic history, colloquial usage and synonyms.

Dictionaries, then, provide not only semantic information about entries but phonological morpho-syntactic and socio-linguistic information.

Syllabify

Phonology

دلالة اللفظ

تشكيل نحوي

اجتماع لغوي



Linguists deal with the lexicon. Much of the above information is incorporated by them in the lexicon, which is a specialized dictionary.

24/5  
The basic differences between dictionaries and the lexicons are as follows: dictionaries tend to provide a linguistic history of the word, synonyms, and examples of sentences in which the word is used. Furthermore, they sometimes distinguish among standard, colloquial, archaic and other usages of a word. Lexicons on the other hand are arranged according to semantic content or phonological content rather than spelling. Lexicons may also provide information about the possible logical relations assumed by an item. For example, the verb "BUY" assumes four nouns related to it: a buyer, a seller, some goods that are bought, and the money used to obtain the goods. Finally most of the time, we notice that lexicons listing units, other than words, namely affixes and idioms, some of which may be listed in dictionaries.

Items or entries in a dictionary are listed and arranged alphabetically. In a lexicon, however, the question is how



items are stored. One, however, should be cautious when using the metaphor of physical storage in describing the lexicon; how lexical items are actually stored in the mind is a major issue in psycholinguistics.

علم اللفظة النفسي

Lexical items might be organized in two major ways:

- according to their phonological content or

المحتوى الصوتي

- according to their semantic content.

المحتوى الدلالي

As an example of the first method, consider the noun BANK. It is possible to list at least three basic definitions for this term, as follows:

بنك BANK1: a place of storage for money or other valuables

ضفة BANK2: land that rises from the edge of a body of water

صف BANK3: a row of objects

The lexicon might list all three of these definitions under the form bæn̩k. This scheme is an oversimplified approximation of the method employed by traditional dictionaries, which would group the three definitions under a single form spelled b-a-n-k. Lexical items may also be



grouped according to their semantic, rather than their phonological similarity. BANK1 would then be grouped with such items as SAFE and VAVLT because all three terms have similar meanings.

Another problem in lexical representation is the multiplicity of meanings of certain common words such as GOOD and EAT. "Eat" is cited as an example in the next chapter however one could add to that "eat his heart out" <sup>تعدد</sup> يموت غيظاً <sup>من</sup> "eat his words" يتلعثم . As for "Good", for instance, we notice that in expressions like "good government" <sup>من</sup> حكومة جيدة <sup>مازى</sup> "good apples" تفاح طيب, "good times" <sup>من</sup> أوقات سعيدة <sup>لغة</sup> and "good upbringing" <sup>من</sup> تربية صالحة, the meaning of "good" varies with the noun it modifies.

All what is said about dictionaries in this book takes into consideration a translator and the process of translation in general.

Those who compile dictionaries do not always have in mind translators or interpreters. This is the case of mono-lingual dictionary compilers even bilingual dictionary compilers do



not always have the translator in mind. Both have in mind a target audience, namely somebody developing knowledge about a language or two languages not necessarily for the purpose of translation.

In this academic field "translation" dictionaries are studied with translations and the translation process in mind. It has to be said, however, that the moment a translator can do without a dictionary is a great moment of perfect bilingualism. Unfortunately this is not attainable; that is where there have to be dictionaries mono-and bilingual; and there have to be books on dictionaries. And that is why there is such a book.

This book is made up of two parts: the first one includes two chapters. One presents introductory remarks on dictionaries, their definition concern and kinds. The second looks into the knowledge of words a dictionary is supposed to reflect. Such knowledge includes phonological, morpho-syntactic and semantic.

The second part of the book has six chapters.



## Chapter Two

### Knowledge of Words (Dictionary word information)

The best dictionary is one that reflects a native speaker's knowledge of his or her words phonetically, orthographically, morpho-syntactically, semantically and stylistically. This is supposedly the case of mono-lingual dictionaries and when it comes to bilingual dictionaries, this knowledge has to be doubled. In addition to all the branches of knowledge, that have to be activated in compiling a mono- or bilingual dictionary, the cultural dimension of language in general and use of words in particular is quite essential.

صوتياً  
لغوياً

املائي  
أسلوبياً

الثقافي  
البيئي



علم الاطلاق      القاطع

1. Orthography and Syllabication

A dictionary includes the spelling of every entry in a particular language. Some dictionaries provide the spelling of derived items from the base entries comprising the crux of a dictionary. If there are different spellings of a particular entry, as is the case in some American and British spelling of certain words, a dictionary is expected to point that out.

Examples:

American English	British English
Labor	Labour
Color	colour
Behavior	behaviour
Center	centre
Neighbor	neighbour
Program	programme
Honor	honour

There are certain dictionaries interested in language's historical dimension. Such dictionaries would provide the original spelling of a particular entry. And they would indicate the original spelling: Old English, Middle English,



or even Latin, Greek or French spelling if the word has its origin in such languages.

syllables  
مقطع لفظي

As for syllabication, some dictionaries tend to parse a word or divide it into the basic syllables it is made up of if it is multi-syllabic. Such examples can be seen in some of the samples copied from dictionaries that implement such a pattern.

Such a process would simplify and clarify another phonological process, namely stress placement on words. Dictionary editors or compilers vary in their approaches to syllabication and stress placement of multi-syllabic words. Some provide spaces in between the syllables a multi-syllabic word is made up of, and they assign different degrees of stress to each word. Others do not subject a word to syllabication, but assign a primary stress on the major syllable of a word.

In English, for instance, there are four degrees of stress: primary, tertiary, secondary and weak (or no stress).

ابتداء

بعد الثالثي  
(القطاع الثالث)

ثالث



Dictionary editors make use of the first one to mark the major accent or stress of a multi-syllabic word. Others use two degrees, primary and secondary. The symbols used vary from a dictionary to another but the most common is | | others would use something like a comma | ' |. The comma or | ' | in bold type mark the primary stress when they are light the stress is tertiary or secondary.

You can check the samples copied from various dictionaries.



1 f. 0 n I: m /  
phoneme

2. النسخ الصوتي  
Phonetic Transcription

A good dictionary, mono- or bilingual, is expected to provide a guide for pronouncing words in addition to a phonemic or even phonetic transcription of the entries included. The transcription is usually provided for the base or root of an entry not for the derived items unless a change in spelling or stress placement takes place: appear/  
apparent, example/ exemplify.

It is well known that there is no one to one relationship between the letters comprising or making up a word and the sounds through which it is produced. English is a language where such a situation is quite apparent; this is the language we are exemplifying here.

This lack of matching is so frequent in the case of vowels. A vowel letter in spelling may be pronounced in many ways.

The vowel letter (a) may have a number of different vowel sounds:

The "a" of "fat" is pronounced /æ/



The "a" of "fate" is pronounced /ei/

The "a" of "far" is pronounced /a:/

The "a" of "fall" is pronounced /ɔ:/

The opposite is true; i.e. a vowel sound may have a number of vowel letters. The vowel sound / i:/ could be orthographically "ea" as in "eat" or "eo" as in "people", "ei" as in deceive or "ie" as in "believe", etc.

(the role for the order of i + e in English is:

i before e when the pronunciation is i: except after c. the only exception is the word seize). Examples:

ceiling, receive, conceive, deceit, conceit,

field, believe, relieve,

الابجدية الصوتية الدولية

The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) has an inventory of symbols that can stand for any sound in language. Even sounds that are not part of the sound inventory of a particular language, can be found in the (IPA). There are variations among users of such symbols.



A dictionary editor can use whichever combination he/she likes or sees fit on condition that he/she would remain <sup>متناسق</sup> consistent throughout the whole work.

A good dictionary is one that provides whatever phonetic or orthographic information needed or required, so that any user would benefit from such information, especially when language is a relationship between sounds/ letters and meanings.



Morphology  
علم التعليل

Syntax  
بنى الجملة

Morphemes:  
meaningful morphological  
unit of a language that  
cannot be divided  
ex: (in, come, -ing)  
forming incoming

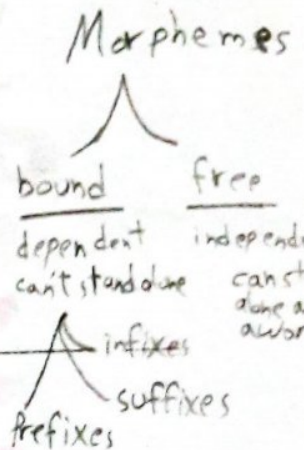
معلومات  
تعليل

### 3. Morpho- syntactic information

A dictionary is expected to provide the necessary morpho-syntactic information about an entry.

فيما يتعلق  
علم الحرف  
With regard to morphological information, a dictionary user is not expected to be an expert on morphology which is the study of morphemes or words which are the meaning-bearing units in language. Basics, however, are a must.

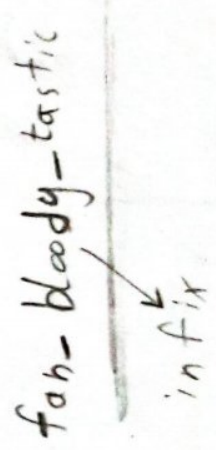
الصرفية  
تابع  
Morphemes are divided into two types, bound and free. The first is a dependent element that cannot stand alone and the latter is independent which can also be called a word.



اللاحقات  
بادئات  
**Bound morphemes** are the **affixes** (prefixes, infixes and

لواحق  
اشتقاق  
تصريف  
suffixes) added to free morphemes for inflection or derivation. Inflectional morphemes are the affixes that may

or may not change the part of speech of a word. They indicate certain grammatical properties associated with nouns, verbs and adjectives such as gender (hero, heroin), number (boy, boys), case (he, him) and tense (shave, shaves, shaved)



Those that do not change the part of speech in English are:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> person /s/ on verbs: write, write(s)



- /s/ on the plural of nouns: cat, cat(s)
- ed of the verb past or past participle forms: walk, walk(ed)
- ing, the verb progressive marker: ... is walk(ing).

There are suffixes, however, that change the part of speech;

these are called **derivational suffixes**: *الوحدات الاشتقاقية*

- tion	<i>تردد، هسي، شك</i>	hesitate (v)	hesitation (n)
- dom		free (adj)	freedom (n)
- ness		happy (adj)	happiness (n)

Prefixes can also be classified as derivational morphemes:

<i>طموع</i>	Ambitious	<i>عكس</i>	unambitious
<i>يحدد، يقرر</i>	Determines	<i>قد سبق</i>	predetermines

(see the chapter on word formation processes).

In the above two examples the part of speech classification has not changed. However, the meaning has changed in a significant way. In contrast, <sup>في المقابل</sup> the addition of -ness to happy or -tion to hesitate, although has changed the part of speech classification, it has little effect on the meanings of the words they are attached to.



المعلومات الدلالية

4. Semantic information

The main concern of a dictionary is to supply the semantic information about words. This information is of two types: word properties and word relations. Properties have to do with the sense, reference or use of a particular entry, through a process of explaining, defining or exemplifying. Word relations and word meanings can be stated in terms of their association with each other.

ارتباطها

معنى



## Properties:

The head of a native speaker of a particular language is filled with words and their meanings. The knowledge of the meanings of words <sup>تتم الوضوح</sup> permits a native speaker to use words appropriately in sentences and to understand them when heard without stopping and asking oneself what a certain word like "mean" means.

Permit  
نصرته ، إذن

In general, a word will have at least one special semantic "defining" property. The word "mare" for example has all the semantic properties of "horse" [horseness, four-legged, an animal and so on] + the meaning [female]. Some semantic properties are common to many words; [female as a scientific property or feature is not just a part of the meaning of [mare] but of "doe", "ewe", "vixen", "woman", "bitch", "girl", "maiden", "witch", "spinster" and so on.

كلمة  
موصوف

Some of the mentioned words have the semantic feature or property [human] along with words like "boy", "man", "professor", "waiter" etc. The latter words have the feature [male]. All the examples mentioned so far have the feature or semantic property [animate]. Words like "freedom", "rock", "book", "street", "tree" do not have such a feature.



Not only nouns have semantic features but verbs as well. Verbs like "beautify", "kill", "lengthen", have the semantic feature "cause".

Semantic properties are not independent of each other. Certain pairs of semantic properties are mutually exclusive. If the word has the feature [male], it is automatically not female. The same thing can be said about [abstract] and [concrete]. Some semantic properties are predictable given the presence of other semantic properties. For instance, if a word has the feature [human], it is automatically [animate]; it is redundant to add to it the latter feature.

صفات دلالية

عشري تبادل

مجرد / نظري

مادي / غير

قابلة للتنبؤ

وجود

يشكل متوقع

حي

زائدة



## B. Relations

The meanings of words can also be seen through an understanding of their relations to each other.

### (1) **homonymy and polysemy:** <sup>تعريف المعاني</sup>

When different words are pronounced the same but have different meanings, we have a case of <sup>تجانس</sup> homonymy. A word like "bear" refers to an animal and it also means "to tolerate".

<sup>تشابه</sup>  
تسامح، تساهل

The case of polysemy is even more complicated; the literal meaning of a word like "eat" in a dictionary is "taking food", other meanings for such a term may be provided:

<sup>تشابه</sup> "use up", <sup>تأكل، صيد</sup> "corrode", i.e. three different meanings. We can also distinguish between "eating soup" and "eating meat".

We can also talk about "drinking soup" as well as eating it.

In one of its senses, then, "eat" corresponds to "drink".

<sup>توافق، تطابق</sup>

A word like "flight" is treated by a dictionary as a single polysemic word with at least five homonyms each with a different meaning.

Flight:

- Passing through the air



- Power of flying
- Air journey
- Unit of the air force
- Volley
- Digression الاستطراد
- Series of steps.

A dictionary-maker has to decide to treat terms like "flight", "lead", "bank", "bear" each as one entry with many meanings or as separate entries. There are also cases under this heading where we have two words with the same pronunciation, different spellings and different meanings; (sight, site), (sun, son), (ate, eight), (night, knight)

Even we may find three or four words in certain cases; (rite, write, right).

بیانی Bear: "an animal", and Bear: "to tolerate" are considered homophonic and homographic homonyms but sight and site are just homonyms.

Finally, a word which is polysemic will naturally have a variety of synonyms each corresponding to one of its



meanings. It will often have a set of antonyms. A word like "fair" would be used with hair, skin, weather, sky, and judgment. The antonyms would be dark hair, dark skin, foul weather, cloudy sky, and unfair judgment.

homonymy → same pronunciation  
different meanings

ex: - bear → an animal  
to tolerate ) same spelling

(sight: عَيْش  
site: عَيْش ) different spellings

homophonic → same pronunciation  
same spelling  
different meanings



### (3) Synonymy

المترادفات

This is a relationship of sameness or similarity in meaning. Although dictionaries seldom rely on synonymy but on descriptive explanatory and defining details the synonymy semantic relations among words are essential for understanding word meaning when it is available.

It is well known that English is a hybrid language. That made it rich in synonyms for certain historical reasons related to the impact other languages had on it. At different historical eras there was a huge influx of Greek, Latin, and French vocabulary into English. For such reasons sometimes you find not only two but three or four words referring to the same thing. Look at these pairs of words:

- |             |           |         |
|-------------|-----------|---------|
| - Brotherly | fraternal | الأخوية |
| - buy       | purchase  | الشراء  |
| - world     | universe  |         |
| - wide      | broad     |         |

Sometimes there are triples: ثلاثة

Kingly, royal, regal



It is said, however, that there are no perfect synonyms in a language. There are many ways in which synonyms might differ:

- some sets of synonyms belong to different dialects of a language:

fall : American English

Autumn: British English.

Elevator: American English

Lift: British English

\*One can find hundreds of examples like this [see Bilingual Dictionaries Chapter]

\*[try to find examples from Arabic]

- Variation because of stylistic reasons

“gentleman” and “chap”

“pass away”, “die”, “kick the bucket” and “pop off”

- Words may differ in their emotive or evaluative meanings:

“politician”

“statesman”

“hide”

“conceal”

“liberty”

“freedom”

Each implying approval or disapproval.

- Some words are collocationally restricted



Two words may be perfect synonyms except for the company they keep: We can say “deep well” but not “profound well”

- Many words are close in meaning i.e. their meanings overlap. In them there is a loose sense of synonymy. This is the kind of synonymy exploited by dictionary makers.

The possible synonyms for a word like (mature) are “adult”, “ripe”, “perfect” and “due”

The possible synonyms for a word like (govern) are “direct”, “control”, “determine”, and “require”.

“loose” would even have a larger set:

“inexact”, “free”, “relaxed”, “vague”, “lax”, “unbound”, “inattentive”.

If each of the possible synonyms given is to be checked, we will have a further set for each getting further and further away from the meaning of the original word.

Dictionaries, except large professional ones, tell us little about the precise connections between words and their defining synonyms or between/ among synonyms themselves.

# العكوس

## 4. Antonyms:

The term refers to oppositeness of meaning. It is a regular and natural feature of language. Dictionaries, however, do not give a proper place for antonyms. They are of different types:

- grading, as in age and size

(big x small) → bigger x smaller

(old x young) → older x younger

- complementary, this deals with incompatible terms:

male x female

married x single

dead x alive

Some pairs of antonyms are not symmetrically reversible.

The more and less relationship does not apply to them.

"stupid" is an antonym of "brilliant" but "less stupid" does not mean "brilliant"

→ Relational opposites

These are words like

Buy x sell

Lend x borrow

Give x receive



Husband x wife

Parent x child

Debtor x creditor

Among special opposites, one may mention:

Above x below

Come x go

Kinship terms can be considered also under the umbrella of

relational opposites:

Father x mother

Son x daughter

Uncle x aunt

Brother x sister

Learning a word by a dictionary user involves learning the set of relationships into which it enters with other words in the language such as the relations mentioned above.

Finally, dictionaries provide a user basically with phonological, morphological syntactic and semantic information. Stylistic cultural and historical information about words is rarely obtainable from ordinary dictionaries.

Dictionaries <sup>has</sup> solely based on use and the use of language are the ones specialized in these things. Such information is obtainable more from reading books on a particular culture.



v.v.v.important

390

**Chapter Three**  
*as said, = WE*  
**Word Formation processes**

Since English is the language of this book and from which and into which translation-in our case - takes place, it is worth knowing that this language is a hybrid language. Almost all world languages contributed to the make up of its bank of vocabulary.

The English words of Anglo-Saxon origin do not constitute more than twenty to thirty percent of today's English. The rest are borrowed from other languages. Borrowed words are not the concern of this section. What is of concern here is a specific process of word formation in English, namely affixation. *26/4/11*

This process of word formation does not just involve adding a suffix to an already existing word so that a noun, an adjective, a verb or an adverb is derived. English borrowed and used suffixes and bases from both Latin and Greek to generate tens of thousands of words that constitute over fifty percent of English word today.

Following is a list of the suffixes from Latin origin together with the meaning they give to the term they are attached to :

- 2013 • (( -able, -ible, -ile )) "be able to" or able to be
- 2012 • (( -acious, -id, -itious, -ive, -ory, -ulous, -vous)) "tending to"
- 2013 2014 • 2015 (( -ory, -orium )) "place for"
- 2014 • (( -acity )) "quality of being inclined to"
- (( -acy )) "quality of being or having"
- 2014 • (( -(u)lence, -(o)lence )) "state or quality of being full of"
- 2013 • (( -ial, -eal, -ane, -an, -ar, -ary, -ic, -tic, -ile, -il, -ine)) "pertaining to"
- (( -ance, -ancy, -ence, -ency, -itude, -ity, -ety, -ty, -(i)mony, -y)) "quality of..."
- 2015 2013 2011 2015 • (( -ate)) "possessing"
- 2015 (( -cule, -cle, -el, -il, -ole, -ule, -le)) "little"
- (( -esce)) "to begin"
- 2014 • (( -(i)fic, -fy, -igate, -egate)) "making, to make"



2011	(( -ion))	"act of"
2012 2014 2015	(( -men, -ment))	"result of"
2014 2013 2011	(( -or))	"one who does"
2014 2012	(( -or,(our) ))	"state of"
	(( -ose, -iose, -eous, -ous))	"full of"

17

- Exercise

Find word that end with such suffixes and translate them into Arabic.

You will not only find a real difference sometimes between the root or base term and the derived term by the suffix, but most of the time you might need more than one word to give the meaning of the derived term .

If you dig down deep into Arabic, you will definitely find one term for each entry.



Now if we look at the list of bases English got from Latin, we will realize how much Latin had influence on English vocabulary wise. Each one of the following bases has tens or hundreds of elements attached to it so that words had been generated .

The bases from Latin are listed along with the basic meaning of each base:

<u>acr-</u> , ac(u)	: sharp
ag-, ig-, act-	: to do, to drive
<u>am-</u>	:to love <i>amorous</i> حب
anim-	:mind, feeling, life
<u>ann(u)-</u> , enni-	:year <i>annuat</i> "سنة"
<u>aqu(a)-</u>	:water <i>aquarlient</i> ماء
art-	:art, skill
<u>aud-</u> , audit-	:to hear <i>audio</i>
<u>bell-</u>	:war <i>belligerent</i> حارب/حرب
<u>bene-</u>	:well, good <i>benefactor</i> منيع
Benign-	:kind
bi-, bin-	:two, twice
cad-, cid-, cas-	:to fall, to befall
calc-	:limestone

<u>cap-, cip-, capt-, cept-, ceiv-</u>	<u>:to take, to seize</u>	captivet
<u>capit-, cipit-,</u>	<u>:head</u>	decapitate
<u>carn-</u>	<u>:flesh</u>	carnivores
<u>ced-, cess-</u>	<u>:to go, to yield</u>	
<u>celer-</u>	<u>:swift</u>	celerity
<u>cent-</u>	<u>:hundred</u>	century
<u>cem-, cret-</u>	<u>:to separate, to distinguish</u>	
<u>cid-, cis-</u>	<u>to kill, to cut</u>	homocide
<u>clud-, clus, clos-</u>	<u>:to shut</u>	incision
<u>cord-</u>	<u>:heart</u>	cardial
<u>corpor-, corp, corpus-</u>	<u>:body</u>	corpse
<u>cre-, cresc-, cret-</u>	<u>:to grow</u>	
<u>cred-, credit</u>	<u>:to believe</u>	incredible
<u>cruc-</u>	<u>:across</u>	
<u>culp-</u>	<u>:blame, fault</u>	culpable
<u>cumb-, cub-</u>	<u>:to lie down</u>	succumb
<u>cur(r)-, curs-, cours-</u>	<u>:to run, to go</u>	
<u>de-, div-</u>	<u>:a god</u>	
<u>deci, decim-</u>	<u>:tenth</u>	
<u>dic-, dict-</u>	<u>:to say</u>	dictation - dictator
<u>doc-, doct-</u>	<u>:to teach</u>	doctrine
<u>du-</u>	<u>:two</u>	dual



duc-, duct-	:to lead		
<u>equi-</u>	:equal	equibalance	التوازن
err-	:to wander		
<u>fa-, fat-</u>	:to speak		
fac-, (fic-), fact-, fect -	:to do, to make		
<u>fall-, fals-</u>	:to deceive		
<u>fer-</u>	:to bear, to carry	fertile	خصب
fid-	:faith		
fin-	:end, limit		
firm-	:firm, strong		
flect-, flex-	:to bend		
flor-	:flower		
<u>flu-, flux-</u>	:to flow	influx	صوب
<u>fortit-</u>	:strong	fortit	صلب
frang-, fring-, fract-	:to break		
fund-, fus-	:to pour, to melt		
gen-, genit-	:to produce, to give birth to		
gener-, gen-	:race, kind		
ger-, gest-	:to carry, to produce		
grad, gress-	:to step, to go		
grand-	:great		
grat-	:pleasing, grateful		

<u>grav-</u>	:heavy
<u>greg-</u>	:flock, herd
her-, hes-	:to stick
i-, it-	:to go
jac-, ject-	:to throw
join-, junct-	:to join
judic-	:judgment
jur-	:to swear
lat-	:to bear, to carry
later-	:side
leg-, lig-, lect--	:to choose, to pick out, to read
lev-	:light
line-	:line
liter-	:letter, literature
loc-	:place
loqu-, locut-	:to speak
luc-	:light, to shine
lud-, lus-	:to play, to mock
lumin-	:light
magn-	:great
<u>mal(E)-, malign-</u>	:bad malignant عيب
<u>man(u)-</u>	:hand manually عرس



matr-, matern-

:mother maternity الأمومة

medi-

:middle

milit-

:soldier militare عسكري

mill-

:thousand

minor-, minus, minut-

:small, smaller

misc-

:to mix miscellaneous متنوع/متعدد

mit-

:mild, soft

mit(t)-, mis(s)-

:to send, to let go

moll-

:mild, soft

mon-, monit-

:to warn, to advise

mort-

:death mortal - immortal  
موت / مآل

mov-, mot-

:to move

mult-

:many

mut-

:to change

nasc-, nat-

:to be born

neg-

:to deny negate نفي / neglect إهمال

nomen-, nomin-

:name, noun nominal شكري / منزه

(نظ) nul(l) -

:nothing null

nunci-(-nounce)

:to announce

oct-

:eight octagon  
ثمان

octav-

:eighth octave

omn-

:all omnibus شئ جامع

<u>ordin-</u>	:order
<u>part-</u>	:part
<u>patern, patr-</u>	: <u>father</u> patriarch
<u>pati-, pass-</u>	:to endure, to suffer
<u>ped-</u>	: <u>foot</u> pedestrian
<u>pel-, puls-</u>	:to drive, to push
<u>pend-, pens-</u>	:to hang, to weigh, to pay
<u>pet-, petit-</u>	<sup>اب</sup> : <u>to seek</u> petition
<u>plac-</u>	:to please, to appease
<u>ple-, plet-</u>	:to fill
<u>plen-</u>	:full
<u>plic-, plicit, plex-, ply-</u>	:to fold, to interweave
<u>pon-, posit-, (pound-), (pase)</u>	:to place, to put
<u>port-</u>	: <u>to carry</u>
<u>pot-</u>	:to have power
<u>press-</u>	:to press
<u>prim-</u>	:first
<u>propri-</u>	: <u>one's own, fitting</u> proprietor
<u>quadr(u) -</u>	: <u>four</u> quadrant
<u>quart-</u>	: <u>fourth</u> quarter
<u>quint-</u>	: <u>fifth</u> quintuplet / quintuple
<u>quir-, quist-, quest-</u>	: <u>to ask, to seek</u>



<u>radic-</u>	:root	radically	جذري
rect-	:right, straight		
rect-, reg-, rig-		:to straighten, to rule	
rog-		:to ask	
<u>rupt-</u>		:to break	
sar-(secr-)		:sacred	
<u>sanct-</u>		:holy	sanctuary المقدسات
sati(s) -		:enough	
<u>sci-</u>		:to know	scientific
scrib-, script-		:to write	
sec-, (seg-), sect-		:to cut	
sed-, sid-, sess-		:to sit, to settle	
<u>semi-</u>		:half, partly	semicircle
sen-		:old	
sens-, sent-		:to feel, to think	
sept-, septem-		:seven	
sequ-, secut-		:to follow	
serv-		:to serve, to save	
sext-		:sixth, six	
simil-, simul-		:like	
sol-		:alone	
solv, solut-		:to loosen, to free	

Next there are lists of suffixes and bases of Greek origin. If they are put together with the Latin bases and affixes, one would understand the huge influx of Greek and Latin terms into the English vocabulary which constitutes as we said earlier over fifty percent of the total English bank of vocabulary

That is to say a Latin suffix could be attached to a Greek base and vice versa and the result would be a huge number of words.

Make such combinations and see what words you may come up with. Then translate these words into Arabic.

### List of suffixes and combining forms (Greek)

Suffix	meaning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ (-al, -an, -ian, -ic, -ac, -tic)</li> </ul>	:pertaining to, like
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ having the character of,</li> <li>concerned with</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <u>(-arch)</u></li> </ul>	:one who rules <sup>سلطان</sup> monarch
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <u>(-archy, -cracy)</u></li> </ul>	:rule by democracy



- (-arium, -arion) :little
- (-ast, st) :one who does
- (-crat) :one who advocates rule by الاستبداد
- (-ectomy) :surgical removal of appendectomy
- (-emia) :condition of the blood Leukemia
- (-gram) :thing written
- (-graph, graphy) :writing
- (-iasis) :diseased condition
- (-ician) :specialist in
- (-ics, -tics) :art, science, study of
- (-idium, -ion, -ium, -isk, -iscus) :little
- (-in, -ine) :chemical substance
- (-ism) :belief in
- (-ist) :one who believes in naturalist التيارة الطبيعية
- (-ite) :one connected with
- (-logy, -nomy) :science of psychology
- (-ma, -m, -me) :result of التيارة في السرعة
- (-mania) :madness about kleptomania (مرض)
- (-meter) :measure قياس
- (-metry) :science of measuring geometry علم الهندسة
- (-oma) :tumor أورام carcinoma سرطان

- (-osis :diseased condition of
- (-ous, ious :full of, pertaining to, like
- (-pathy :disease of
- (-phobe :one who fears or hates
- (-phobia الخوف من الأشياء aranchophobia :abnormal fear of islamo-phob.
- (-scope :instrument for viewing telescope
- (-sis, -se, -sia, -sy :act of
- (-t, -te :he who
- (-therapy :treatment of
- (-tomy :surgical operation on
- (-y, -ia :quality of

الخوف من الآخر  
xenophobia



### List of bases (Greek)

Base	meaning	Example
acou- acu "parcusia"	to hear.	"acoustic",
acr-	highest	"acrobat"
actin-	ray, radiating, structure	actinobiology
aden-	gland	adenoid
aesthe-, esthe-	to feel, to perceive	anesthetic
agon-	struggle, contest	protagonist
alg-	pain	neuralgia
all-	other	parallel
andr-	man, male	androgenous
angle-	messenger, message	angelic
<u>anthrop-</u>	<u>human being, man</u>	<u>anthropology</u> کفورا پلستان
<u>archa(e)-</u>	ancient	<u>archaeology</u> علم آثار
aut-	self	automatic,
automobile		
bar-	weight, pressure	barometer
<u>bi-</u>	<u>life</u>	<u>biology, biography</u>
brady-	slow	bradycardia
cac-	bad	cacogenics
cal(l)-, kal(l)	beauty	calisthenics

canon-	a rule	
<u>cardi-</u>	<u>heart</u>	<u>cardiology</u> <span style="float: right;">انقسام قلب</span>
cau-, caus-	to burn	cauterize
centr-	center	
cephal	head	mesocephalic
chir-, cheir	hand	chiropractor
<u>chlor-</u>	<u>green, chlorine</u>	<u>chlorophyll</u> <span style="float: right;">البنفسور</span>
chore-	dance	chorus
chron-	time	chronic, chronicles
cla-	to break	iconoclast
clys-	to wash	
cosm-	universe, order	cosmic, cosmetic
cra-	to mix	
cri-	to judge, to decide	criterion, criticism
cycli-	circle, wheel	cyclic
Dec(A)	ten	decaliter
<u>derm-, dermat-</u>	<u>skin</u> <span style="float: right;">بشرة</span>	<u>dermatologist</u> <span style="float: right;">انقسام جلدية</span>
deuter-	second	
di-	twice	
didactic	to teach	didactic
do-	to give	dose
dox-, dog-	opinion, teaching	dogma, orthodox



dyn-, dynam- dynamic	force, power	dynasty,	
enter- archenterons	intestine	dysentery,	
er-, erot-	love	erotic	
erg-, urg-	work	energy	
<u>ethn-</u>	<u>race</u>	<u>ethnography</u>	
<u>gram-</u>	<u>marriage</u>	<u>polygamy</u>	متعدد الزوجات
<u>gastr</u>	<u>stomach</u>	<u>gastric</u>	المعدة
<u>ge-</u>	<u>earth</u>	<u>geography</u>	
gen(e)-, gon- hydrogen	to be produced		
	to originate	genesis	
gen(e)- geneology	kind, race	genocide,	
ger-, geront-	old age, old people	gerontocracy	
gloss-	tongue	glossary	
gno-	to know	agnostic, diagnosis	
<u>gyn(e)</u> gynecology	<u>woman, female</u>	<u>gynarchy,</u>	طبيعية نسائية
hect-	a hundred	hectometer	
hegemon-	leader	hegemony	

<u>heli-</u>	sun	helium
<u>hem-</u>	<u>blood</u>	<u>hemotecrete,</u>
<u>hemoglobin</u>		
<u>hemi-</u>	<u>half</u>	<u>hemisphere</u> نصف الكرة

The rest of the bases will be just cited and students or readers are advised to provide examples and translate them into Arabic.

<u>hepat-</u>	<u>liver</u> كبد	
<u>hept-</u>	seven	
<u>heter-</u>	<u>other, different</u>	
<u>hex-</u>	six	
<u>hipp-</u>	horse	
<u>hol-</u>	whole	
<u>hom-</u>	<u>same</u> homophone	أماثلة
<u>hydr-</u>	<u>water</u> hydraulic	هيدروليكي
<u>hygr-</u>	wet	
<u>iatr-</u>	physician, medicine	
<u>icon-</u>	image	
<u>ide-</u>	idea, thought	
<u>idi-</u>	one's own, peculiar	
<u>is-</u>	equal	



kilo-	one thousand	
lab-, lep-	to take, to seize	
lat(e)r-	to worship	
leuc-, leuk	white	
* lip-	fat	liposuction ليدوسكشن
lith-, lite	stone	
log-, logue	speech, word	
log(ue, lect	to speak, to choose	
marc-	large	
man-, mant	to divide by means of	
mast-, maz-	breast	
mega-, megal-	large, a million	
melan-	black, dark	
mer-	part	
mes-	middle	
micr-	small	
mim-	to imitate	
mis-	hatred	
mon-	one	
morph-	form, shape	
naut-	sailor	
ne-	new	

النحو

necrology  
necrophilia  
البيولوجيا

<u>necr</u>	<u>the dead</u>
nes-	island
neur-	nerve
oct(a)-	eight
od-	song, poem
od-, hod-	way, road
olig-	few
oo-	egg
op-, opt	eye, to see
ora-	to see
orth-	straight, correct
ot-	ear
pan-, pant-	all, every
path-	to feel, to suffer, disease
part-	family, father, clan
ped-	child
pent-	five
pha-	to show, to appear
phag-	to eat
phil-	to love
phon-	sound, voice
phot-	light