

**Introduction to
L2 Vocabulary Acquisition
& Learning:
Lecture 03**

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REVIEW

- (): "laugh", "make", "box", "window"
– cannot be further divided
- ():
– : 're-' + 'make' = 're-make'
– : 'laugh' + '-ter' = 'laughter'
- ():
– *make-believe, window-shopping, jack-in-the-box*

REVIEW

- (**roots**): "laugh", "make", "box", "window"
– cannot be further divided
- (**derived words**):
– **prefixes**: 're-' + 'make' = 're-make'
– **suffixes**: 'laugh' + '-ter' = 'laughter'
- (**compound words**):
– *make-believe, window-shopping, jack-in-the-box*

() of meaning

- Even quite transparent phrases are often fixed in the syntax:
- e.g. talk
– to talk turkey ()
 (= talk seriously about details esp. in business)
- to talk shop ()
 (= talk about your job in the way people find boring)
- to talk business
- to talk politics ()

↑ ↓

Opacity of meaning

- Even quite transparent phrases are often fixed in the syntax:
- e.g. talk
– to talk turkey (opaque)
 (= talk seriously about details esp. in business)
- to talk shop (transparent)
 (= talk about your job in the way people find boring)
- to talk business
- to talk politics

↑ ↓

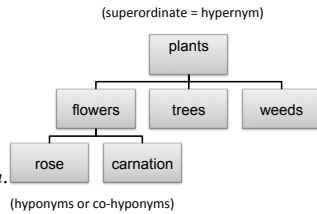
Review

The plan application scheme proposal was rejected approved submitted accepted by the committee.

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HYPONYMY

- *Hyponymy* is a sense relation between lexemes such that the meaning of one lexeme is included in the meaning of the other.
- Hyponymy is a relationship of *inclusion*.



“Rose” and “carnation” are *hyponyms* of “flowers.”
 “Flower” is a *hypernym* of “rose” or “carnation.”
 “Rose” and “carnation” are *co-hyponyms*.

Pedagogical values

- Hyponymy offers another organizing principles for vocabulary teaching and learning.
- Most language coursebooks use this feature of organization implicitly or explicitly, in grouping names of flowers together, or garments, or articles of furniture.
- Taxonomies will often overlap with those of the learner’s L1, but there may be misalignments, too, of which teachers and material writers would need to be aware.

TASK

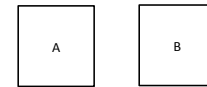
- Construct hyponymy-trees like “plants.” What are the most general words that you have included? What are the most specific? Are there any problems in constructing one?
- Share your idea with others.

Another way to look at it...

- Congruence Relations

– 4 basic relations between classes

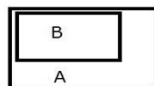
- Identity
- Inclusion
- Overlap
- Disjunction



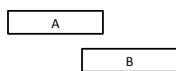
Congruence Relations



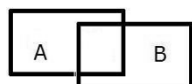
Identity = Synonymy



Inclusion = Hyponymy



Disjunction = Incompatibility



Overlap = Compatibility

Compatibility

- Overlap = *compatibility*
- Disjunction = *incompatibility*
- A pair of compatibles must have a common superordinate.
- The two words have no element in common.

e.g. this is a dog./
 this is a pet.
 (superordinate = animal)

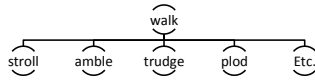


e.g. this is a dog. /
 this is a pencil.
 morning - afternoon

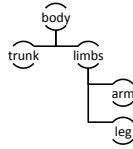


Other taxonomies

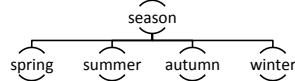
• ways of doing x



• metonymy



• an ordered series



Semantic Fields

- 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.
 - *Semantic fields* = abstract notion; concepts
 - *Lexical fields* = real words
1. Of colours: *blue, red, yellow, black*, etc.
 2. Of kinship terms: *mother, father, brother, cousin*, etc.
 3. Of pleasurable emotions: *joy, happiness, gaiety, enjoyment*, etc.

Homonymy

- **Homonymy** is a lexical relation where 'one form (written or spoken) has two or more unrelated meanings'. Words of this type are called **homonyms**. For example,
 - *bank (of a river) – bank (financial institution)*
 - *bat (flying creature) – bat (used in sports)*
 - *race (contest of speed) – race (ethnic group)*

- **Homonyms are words that have separate histories and meanings, but have accidentally come to have exactly the same form.**

Homophony

- Homophony is a lexical relation where 'two or more different (written) forms have the same pronunciation'.

meat/meet, flour/flower,
right/write, to/too/two, leek/leak.

- Homophones usually 'have unrelated meanings and different spellings but have the same pronunciation'.

Homography

- Homography is a lexical relation where words are 'pronounced differently but spelt the same'.
- For example, a **live** concert, but where do you **live**?; a **lead** pipe, but a **lead** singer.
- These are called **homographs** (literally 'same writing').

Polysemy

- Unlike word of the 'homonymy' relationship, some words with the same form do have related meanings, and these words are very common in English.
- **Polysemy** can be defined as **one form** (written or spoken) having **multiple meanings** that are all related by extension.
- **head**, i) of your body, ii) person at the top of a company or department
- **foot** i) of person, ii) of bed, iii) of mountain).
- **run** i) person does, ii) water does.

TASK

- Consider the following English words and decide whether they are best thought of in terms of homonymy or polysemy, and why. Try translating them into any other language you know; are there several possible translation equivalents or will one word do for the different meanings the English word has?

cap face club way bed match

Prototype

- The concept of a 'prototype' is usually interpreted as the 'clearest example', or 'exemplar' of certain words.
- English native speakers might wonder if ostrich and penguin should be hyponyms of bird, but have no trouble with pigeon.
- Reem , Amana (kind of bus) , Sardi (all cold drinks)

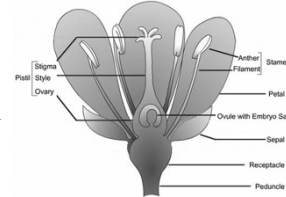
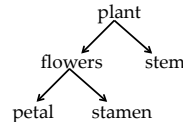
Meronymy

- A meronymy is a type of hierarchy that deals with **part-whole relationships**.
- It can be 'based on a **container-contents** relation (bottle/water, can/juice), a **whole-part** relation (car/wheels, house/roof) or a **representative-symbol** relationship (king/crown, the President/the White House → This last case is especially called "metonymy").
- Unlike 'hyponymy'**, which is a 'kind of' relation, 'meronymy' is a 'part of' relation.

Metonymy

- This 'part of' relation can also be represented by a hierarchy of super-ordinate and subordinate (*meronym*) terms. (X is a *meronym* of Y if X is a part of Y.)

For example:



Metaphor

Metaphor (from the Greek: *metapherein*) is language that directly compares seemingly **unrelated subjects**. More generally, a metaphor describes a first subject as being or equal to a second subject in some way.

- Metaphors usually allow people to understand one thing as another, without getting confused
Time is money *Life is a journey*
- A metaphor is usually contrasted with a 'simile'. A **simile** (直喩) is a comparison of two unlike things, typically marked by use of 'like', 'as', 'than'...
The fog was as thick as pea soup *Madder than a bull*

TASK

- The metaphor ARGUMENT IS WAR has produced several conventional phrases in English (e.g. I fell prey to his persuasiveness.) What words/phrases do you associate with these metaphors in English? How about in Japanese?
- LIFE IS A JOURNEY
- EMOTION IS A PHYSICAL EXPERIENCE

LIFE IS A JOURNEY

- I don't know where I'm heading. My life has no direction at the moment.
 - You can't just go through life with your eyes closed.
 - After university I was at a crossroads, and I didn't know which way to go.
 - The baby arrived at 6 o'clock this morning!
-

EMOTION IS A PHYSICAL EXPERIENCE

- I vividly remember having a *heated* debate with my boss.
 - Heat → anger ; lust
 - She was very *cold* toward me.
 - Cold → unfriendliness
 - Please give a *warm* welcome to our special guest.
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Metaphor & metonymy

- "to fish pearls" → *metonymy*
 - Drawing from "fishing" the idea of taking things from the ocean. What is carried across from "fishing fish" to "fishing pearls" is the domain of *metonymy*.
 - "to fish for information" → *metaphor*
 - Transferring the concept of fishing into a new domain.
 - Metaphor works by presenting a target set of meanings and using them to suggest a similarity between items, actions or events in two domains, whereas metonymy calls up or references a specific domain (here, removing items from the sea).
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Anomaly

- Anomaly means irregularity. It is a concept that has been used in many other disciplines, such as astronomy, geophysics, medicine, and religion.
 - It is also used in linguistics (particularly in semantics) referring to '**meaninglessness**'.
 - **Anomaly** is a 'deviation from normal semantic rules to create 'nonsense' of something irregular, contradictory.
 - A famous example of anomaly (**meaninglessness**) is '**Colorless green ideas sleep furiously**' by Noam Chomsky.
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