

INTRODUCTION

The present volume comprises papers which deal with different aspects of English lexicology and, most notably, with issues referring to the nature of lexical meaning and its reflection in structure. The idea of the book arose in connection with a lexicographic project which I started thinking of about some time ago and which was stimulated by my theoretical work in semantics and pragmatics of natural language, and my observation concerning problems with finding a proper verbal concept or form which Polish students of English have in their language practice. As a consequence, an idea arose of setting up a project of a thesaurus/dictionary of verbal concept which could be used both as a monolingual and bilingual (English - Polish and Polish - English) aid and which could serve both as a decoding dictionary for Polish and English users, as generative-encoding dictionary for more advanced speakers, as well as for those who want to learn about the structure of conceptual fields expressed by verbal concepts across these two languages. To achieve this end, the lexicographic data must be stored and retrieved in computerized form. Samples of the conceptual analysis as well as the verbal semantic-syntactic frames are given in the present volume. The first paper sets up a wider perspective towards the lexicon, by taking as a point of reference theoretical issues connected with lexical semantics and verbal concepts. Next five papers deal with the analysis of selected conceptual fields. The last contribution shows the isomorphic correspondences between meaning and structure of English verbs.

I hope that this volume will start a more regular series of publications produced by the staff and collaborators of the Department of English Language at the University of Łódź, which take as the center of their concern lexicon and its nature.

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