THE EMLex DICTIONARY OF LEXICOGRAPHY
(EMLexDictoL)

Abstract The EMLex Dictionary of Lexicography (= EMLexDictoL) is a plurilingual subject field dictionary (in German, English, Afrikaans, Galician, Italian, Polish and Spanish) that contains the basic subject field terminology of lexicography and dictionary research, in which the dictionary article texts are presented in a sophisticated but comprehensible form. The articles are supplemented by a complex cross-referencing system and the current subject field literature of the respective national languages. Following the lemma position, the dictionary articles contain items regarding morphology, synonymy, the position of the definiens, additional explanations, the cross-reference position, the position for literature, the equivalent terms in the other six languages of the dictionary as well as the names of the authors.

Keywords Special field lexicography; multilingual dictionary; EMLex

1. Introduction

In lexicography and dictionary research the possibilities to find special field terminology of a reliable quality are restricted. Although the “Wörterbuch zur Lexikographie und Wörterbuchforschung/Dictionary of Lexicography and Dictionary Research” (2010–2020)\(^1\) is a comprehensive terminologized und multilingual special field dictionary, its intended users are primarily experts in the subject field, lecturers, practical lexicographers and to a lesser extent students of lexicography, linguistics or translation studies. Other special field dictionaries of lexicography are limited with regard to their extent or to a single language.\(^2\) Only a few of these special field dictionaries contain a didactic component directed at students of the subject field of lexicography whose first language is not the language of teaching used in their linguistic or lexicographic training. There is a lack of a didactically compiled plurilingual special field dictionary that could be of significant assistance to students with different mother-language backgrounds, and also to lecturers that have to teach in different languages. Although monolingual special field dictionaries of linguistics might be available for terminological questions from the special field of lexicography, they do not only display an insufficient lemma coverage regarding linguistics,\(^3\) but omit the special field terminology of lexicography and dictionary research, or only treat it inadequately.\(^4\)

The conception of the EMLex Dictionary of Lexicography is the initiative of Monika Bielinska (University of Silesia, Poland) and was then executed in collaboration with lecturers in the programme “European Master in Lexicography” that work in Germany, Italy, Spain and South Africa as dictionary researchers and lexicographers. It is a special field dictionary that

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\(^1\) Wiegand et al. (2010–2020).


\(^3\) See Kreuder (2003) and Schierholz/Wiegand (2004) for the situation regarding German.

\(^4\) For German Bußmann (2008) and Glück/Rödel (2016) among others should be mentioned.
contains the basic special field vocabulary of lexicography and dictionary research, and the dictionary article texts are presented in both a sophisticated specialised and comprehensible way.

2. The dictionary type

The EMLex Dictionary of Lexicography is a plurilingual\(^5\) didactic, terminologized special field dictionary for laypeople with a basic knowledge of linguistics, semi-experts and experts. It has a poly-alphabetical macrostructure and contains dictionary articles in German, English, Polish, Italian, Afrikaans, Spanish and Galician, presenting two languages (Galician and Polish) not included in the WLWF, where, besides German and English, the lemmata were translated into Afrikaans, Bulgarian, French, Italian, Portuguese, Russian (partially), Spanish and Hungarian.

EMLexDictoL has been conceptualized as an extension dictionary and should be produced as both an online and a printed dictionary. The complete dictionary consists of seven separate special field dictionaries in the above-mentioned languages. Hereby the lexicographic terminology is captured and treated in different languages and a contribution is made to the expansion and standardization of the most important lexicographic terms, so that the teaching of subject field communication and the dictionary culture can be promoted.

The article texts in EMLexDictoL are not translations but rather adaptations of the German version, so that examples, dictionary excerpts and illustrations as often as possible come from the specific language. Articles are supplemented by a complex cross-reference system and the relevant subject field literature from the specific national languages.

The conceptualization as extension dictionary pursues two distinct objectives: a) The complete dictionary with its seven separate special field dictionaries in the above-mentioned languages could have further languages added to extend its scope. b) The lemma candidate list can be extended if it is determined that the terms collected for the first phase are insufficient to present the basic vocabulary of lexicography and dictionary research.

3. Target users and functions of the EMLexDictoL

The genuine purpose of the EMLexDictoL is to be a reference work in the teaching of lexicography that can be used by students and lecturers. Therefore, the primary target users of the EMLexDictoL are students in the field of lexicography as well as students that need basic knowledge of lexicography in their studies or want to look it up. These students might often be studying linguistics but also within their training in another subject they might have to deal with lexicography or special field lexicography when having to plan or compile a special field dictionary or glossary in that study field. Due to the plurilingualism of EMLexDictoL its target user group is relatively big; not only because this specialised dictionary can be used in different countries but also because it can be employed in specialised translation situations. The EMLexDictoL should therefore support translation, text reception, text pro-

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\(^5\) Here the expression “plurilingual” is used as a subject field term which indicates that the complete special field dictionary “EMLexDictoL” consists of different partial subject field dictionaries with one of the seven languages allocated to each one, but individually remain multilingual because they contain translations of the lemmata in the other languages.
duction as well as systematic specialised research, and in addition also supports the lexicographic process.

The complete structure of the EMLexDictoL has the function to support standardisation with a focus on the current basic vocabulary in different languages.

4. The dictionary basis and the lemma selection

The German version, of which 90 lemmata are currently being treated, will serve as basis. Each separate dictionary in the other languages will contain the equivalents of the German lemmata. The compilation of the first list of lemma candidates was done with the expertise of the editorial team but it is not yet complete.

The basis for the lemma selection is in the first instance the teaching experience in the international programme, the “European Master in Lexicography” (EMLex) that has English and German as languages of instruction. In this regard it reflects the central terms in lexicography and dictionary research that are required in the teaching, or those that students frequently use incorrectly. Secondly the basis for the lemma selection is the available introductory textbooks in the subject field, but also the bilingual systematic introduction in the WLWF and basic works that are used during the EMLex training.

In the lemma selection care was taken to consider different fields of lexicography (for example dictionary typology, structures, use and compilation) in a balanced way.

The printed version does have some length restrictions, because the presumed 900 pages for the complete dictionary will allow only 150 pages for each separate dictionary, for as long as, as is planned in the first phase, only a single volume specialised dictionary is envisaged. Further development of the dictionary to include additional languages or more dictionary articles could lead to the production of multi-volume editions.

5. The text compound structure

The text compound structure of the EMLexDictoL is the textual structure of the text constituents included in this dictionary. Because the EMLexDictoL consists of seven special field dictionaries it displays a primary and a secondary text compound structure.

The primary text compound structure consists of the primary front matter, seven special field dictionaries and the primary back matter. The primary front matter contains the front cover, the title pages in seven languages (“EMLex-Wörterbuch zur Lexikographie / EMLex Dictionary of Lexicography / EMLex Leksikografiewoordeboek / EMLex Diccionario de lexicografía / EMLex Dizionario di lessicografia / EMLex Słownik leksykografii / EMLex Dicionário de lexicografia”), the preface in seven languages and the table of contents in seven languages. Then the seven special field dictionaries follow, each with its secondary text

6 Engelberg/Lemnitzer (2009).
7 Wiegand et al. (2010, pp. 1–242).
8 See among others the HSK volumes.
9 For “text compound structure” the term “macrostructure” is also used. See among Engelberg/Lemnitzer (2001, pp. 116 ff.)
compound structure, and then the primary back matter that contains the complete literature list, the complete list of dictionary titles, and the list of abbreviations.

The complete literature list contains all bibliographic references of all seven special field dictionaries. In this list of references the shortened forms given in the respective literature positions will appear with their full forms. The complete list of dictionary titles contains all dictionary titles occurring in the seven special field dictionaries. Titles of both general language dictionaries and special field dictionaries are given.

The complete list of abbreviations contains all abbreviations occurring in the seven special field dictionaries along with their respective full forms.

The secondary text compound structure occurs seven times and consists in each special field dictionary of the secondary front matter, the word list and the secondary back matter. The secondary front matter of the German special field dictionary that precedes the English special field dictionary “EMLex Dictionary of Lexicography” contains the title page (“EMLex-Wörterbuch zur Lexikographie”), the table of contents of the “EMLex-Wörterbuch zur Lexikographie” in German and the user guide, also in German. This is followed by the word list with German subject field terms as lemmata and then the secondary back matter, which contains the list of abbreviations in German. This is attached to the second secondary text compound structure.

6. Dictionary articles

Each single dictionary of EMLexDictoL contains both basic dictionary articles and cross-reference articles. The individual article positions of a basic dictionary article are now illustrated by means of the article of the monosemous term *Benutzer/Benutzerin*.10

All basic articles have a similar article structure. In the specific article positions the items are formulated as explicitly as possible and item texts are used extensively in order to avoid textual condensation as far as possible.

The “lemma position” is only populated by a single lemma. This could be a simplex (e.g., *definition, lemma*) or a compound (e.g., the German *Lemmaliste* (lemma list), *Textverbundstruktur* (text compound structure)). When a lemma designates a person (e.g., the German *Benutzer* (user)) the lemma with the gender suffix is given and separated by a slash from the first form in the lemma position (*Benutzer/Benutzerin*). The lemma sign could be a single word term or a multiword term (e.g., *bilingual dictionary*). For those terms that might have pronunciation problems an item giving the pronunciation is given.

The position for “Items regarding morphology” firstly contains an item regarding the use of the article and then – following a semicolon as structural indicator – the abbreviation “Pt” (for plural) in italics, the item regarding the number (for the lemma *definition definitions* are given). When the lemma with the gender suffix is given in the lemma position, the item regarding the use of articles contains the lemma with the gender suffix after a slash (“/”) (der *Benutzer/die Benutzerin*) and in the item regarding the number the plural form is given (*Benutzer/Benutzerinnen*).

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10 See Figure 1.
The position for synonyms can accommodate at the most three synonyms that are separated by semicolons and appear in alphabetical order. The position for synonyms is introduced by the “also” so that an identifying item for this position exists. For each item giving a synonym there only is one cross-reference article in which the synonym is indicated by the lemma so that the cross-reference is of a bidirectional type. A synonym relation can also be indicated for the long or short form of a term presented as lemma. In the example article in Figure 1 (see there) the long form der Wörterbuchbenutzer/die Wörterbuchbenutzerin (dictionary user) is given as synonym for the lemma Benutzer/Benutzerin (user).

Because EMLexDictoL is a special field dictionary the definitions of the terms in the lemma position are formulated to convey subject field constituting meaning knowledge to the users. This is never a sentence nor a sequence of sentences, but a phrase. Likewise, more than one sentence will not appear in the position for the definition and no abbreviations will be used.

By means of the article texts in the “Position for further explanations” the subject matter constituting meaning knowledge regarding the term should be deepened and expanded. All forms of images, e.g., scanned photographs, pictures of manuscripts, technical diagrams, tree diagrams, language maps, tables and dictionary articles may be used. Where complete dictionary articles or fragments are inserted, the typography in the dictionary articles should resemble the original as close as possible. Each figure or table has a caption or heading.

Metalexicographic references to the object language in the running text are highlighted by means of italics (e.g., “the term Lemma sign is [...]”). Italics are not used to give special emphasis to a term. Quotation marks are only used for citations.

Dictionary articles inserted as examples are treated as figures and have their own caption in which the source of the article is also given as precisely as possible.

In the running text an arrow that points upwards (“↑”) is used when reference is made to another term that occurs in EMLexDictoL as lemma (“↑lexikalisches Informationssystem” in Fig. 1).

In the additional explanations the effort is still made to ensure, by means of didactic-pedagogical text formulation, a high degree of comprehension for those people who receive training. Potential mistakes are also indicated to assist with the prevention of mistakes, cf. the section in the article of the lemma Benutzer/Benutzerin (Fig. 1):

In German specialised literature the form ‘Nutzer’ is often used. However, this should be avoided because a ‘Nutzer’ is a person that uses or applies a specific offer. In the field of dictionary research, the term ‘Benutzer’ is correct. ‘Nutzer’ should also not be confused with ‘↑addressee’. Addressees are persons at whom a dictionary is directed and for whom the dictionary was compiled because of a specific interest. They are not necessarily the users but potential users.

The cross-reference position is introduced by an arrow that points upwards (“↑”). It is followed by terms, in alphabetical order, that are included in EMLexDictoL as lemmata of articles with a basic article structure. Here terms are given that do not appear in the running text of the additional explanation and that contribute to the expansion of knowledge of the lemma sign.

It is followed by two positions for literature: the position for dictionaries mentioned in the article text or as source of the examples being used starts at the beginning of the line with
the identifying indicator realised by the iconic sign “” that presents an open book (in Fig. 1 this position is empty). Only the dictionary title is given, followed by the date of publication. When more items occur in this position for literature they are ordered alphabetically.

The second position for literature contains subject field literature used in the composition of the specific article as well as recommended additional subject field literature. It is introduced by the iconic sign with two open books (“”). An item giving a reference to literature is entered as a shortened item (in Fig. 1 e.g. “Tarp (2009)”) that contains the full surname of the author, in round brackets the year of publication followed by a colon and the page number(s) referred to in the article text. In both the literature positions shortened items are always used in order to limit the size of the dictionary article. At the end of EMLexDictoL an alphabetical list is given with the shortened items and the full items giving the literature of all items giving literature in all seven special field dictionaries.

The position for equivalent terms is introduced at the beginning of the line with an upright diamond (“”) that serves as identifying indicator for this position. The equivalent position is populated by the equivalents of the other six languages of the subject field dictionary. A maximum of three equivalents are allowed for each language and they are presented in alphabetical order and separated by a semicolon. The name or names of the author or authors appears at the end of the dictionary article text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>lemma position</th>
<th>Benutzer/ Benutzerin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>position for morphology</td>
<td>der Benutzer/die Benutzerin; Pl. Benutzer/ Benutzerinnen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>position for synonymy</td>
<td>auch: der Wörterbuchbenutzer/die Wörterbuchbenutzerin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>definition</td>
<td>Person, die ein Wörterbuch oder ein lexikalisches Informationssystem zum Nachschlagen, Überprüfen oder Üben verwendet.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Abb. 1: Typen von erfahrenen Benutzern
Nimmt man die Benutzungshandlung und die Benutzerforschung in den Fokus, so ist es möglich, zwischen potentiellem Benutzer (Person, die vielleicht ein Wörterbuch benutzen wird), Benutzer in-actu (Person, die gerade dabei ist, ein Wörterbuch zu benutzen), Benutzer ex-actu (Person, die ein Wörterbuch benutzen kann, es aber im Moment nicht tut) und Benutzer post-actu (Person, die an einem Text arbeitet und dafür zuvor ein Wörterbuch benutzt hat) zu differenzieren (Wiegand 1998, S. 501).


Eine Erforschung des Benutzers ist wichtig, damit sie Lexikographen und die lexikographische Produktion gezielt an den Benutzungsbedürfnissen, den konkreten Benutzungshandlungen und ihrer Benutzungssituation und ihrem Benutzungskontext, sowie der Benutzungskompetenz und an eventuellen Benutzerfehlern orientieren und ihre Wörterbücher bzw. lexikalischen Informationssysteme benutzerfreundlicher gestalten können.

Manchmal wird in der deutschen Fachliteratur auch von Nutzer gesprochen. Dies sollte jedoch vermieden werden, denn ein Nutzer ist eine Person, die ein bestimmtes Angebot nutzt oder anwendet. Im Bereich der Wörterbuchforschung sind die Termini Benutzer und Benutzerin korrekt. Benutzer sollte außerdem nicht mit ↑Adressat verwechselt werden. Adressaten sind Personen, an die sich ein Wörterbuch wendet und für die das Wörterbuch aufgrund eines spezifischen Interesses erstellt wurde. Sie sind nicht unbedingt die Benutzer, sondern potentielle Benutzer.

| reference position | ↑Nachschlagewerk, Wörterbuch, Wörterbuchbenutzung, Wörterbuchbenutzungsforschung |
| position for dictionaries | 📚 |
| position for equivalents | 📚 afr gebruiker en user es usuario gal utente it utenten pl użytkownik |
| position of the author’s name | Martina Nied Curcio |

**Fig. 1:** Example of a dictionary article
7. **The mediostructure**

Mediostructural elements often occur in EMLexDictoL because conceptual scientific knowledge is coherent knowledge that cannot be portrayed by the alphabetical macrostructure of the subject field dictionary. For the active user the knowledge coherence that has been neglected by the dictionary-internal data distribution can be reconstructed by the observance of the cross-reference offer. “Reconstructed” means that it must have been constructed before. For this purpose, a complex mediostructure was devised in the conception of EMLexDictoL. It has always been populated with contents by the authors of the dictionary article texts, by entering the relevant content-related and additional connections on the basis of the different cross-reference type options. Thereby a mediostructural selection will take place because not all cross-references but only the function-relevant cross-references are given, and because each of the single dictionary functions will require a different mediostructural selection. This means that EMLexDictoL in which the text reception function precedes the specialised information function, can be used successfully.\(^{11}\)

By means of the positional structuring of the articles of the subject field dictionary the text reception function can already be achieved when an active user, due to a knowledge gap regarding a searched term, finds the lemma in EMLexDictoL and reads and understands the specialised definition, so that the knowledge gap can be closed. The active user can deepen his knowledge when he also reads and understands the additional explanation in the respective dictionary article. He can recognise content-related terms when following the cross-references in the additional explanation or the cross-references in the cross-reference position, so that the consultation executed to fill the knowledge gap becomes a specialised enquiry.

In addition, the active user is supported by the article-internal cross-reference to the literature position that guides him to specialised literature found in abbreviated form in the literature position. The items giving the shortened forms are unidirectionally connected to the complete reference list in which the solution to the shortened forms is given so that all the items giving the literature can be found there.

In the same way, the abbreviations of dictionary titles and author names in the article text or the literature position are unidirectionally connected to the complete list of dictionary titles and of author names respectively.

The equivalent terms ordered according to languages in the equivalent position are the carriers of cross-reference addresses, guiding the user from the article to the other seven subject field dictionaries in EMLexDictoL. There the given terms are included as lemmata of a full subject field dictionary article or cross-reference article in the target language.

8. **The actual standing of the work on the EMLexDictoL**

The project is still in its initial phase. After a comprehensive planning the first test articles were compiled in 2021. In the first phase about 90 lemmata, selected with the expertise of the team of editors, were treated. The work should be concluded during 2023. The online version is in its preparatory phase and will be produced parallel to the printed version. The authors are aware of the recent research situation where in most cases only online dictionaries are of interest for lexicography and dictionary research. But being involved in the

\(^{11}\) Regarding the mediostructure, see among others Wiegand (2002 [2003], pp. 216–222).
recent education process of young lexicographers in the EMLex programme, being confronted with the problems young semi experts in lexicography experience when using metalexicographical terminology, and being familiar with education problems in third world countries, we regard the production of print dictionaries and the further theoretical development of structures for print dictionaries as important as the development of online dictionaries which are available on computers, tablets and smartphones.

References


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