Using Monolingual and Bilingual Corpora in Lexicography

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ABSTRACT

Constructing and exploiting different types of corpora are among computer applications exposed to the researchers in different branches of science including lexicography. In lexicography, different types of corpora may be of great help in finding the most appropriate uses of words and expressions by referring to numerous examples and citations. This article looks at some problems in lexicography that can be easily solved using monolingual and bilingual corpora. The main concern here is to show the advantages of monolingual target corpora as well as bilingual parallel corpora in finding the most precise and complete range of equivalents for dictionary entries. Here, it has been tried to compare the unstructured but complete information available in parallel corpora with the structured but incomplete information from the existing bilingual dictionaries.

Keywords: Bilingual dictionary, lexicography, monolingual corpora, monolingual dictionary, parallel corpora

1. INTRODUCTION

We live in the world of technology and computers with their numerous application areas are increasingly coming over our private as well as business lives. In recent years computers are increasingly finding their ways into different branches of sciences including humanities. Language studies are not exceptions in this respect. Constructing as well as exploiting different types of corpora are among computer applications exposed to the researchers in the field of language learning and teaching, translation studies, cross-language information retrieval and the like. Recently, large monolingual, comparable and parallel corpora have played a very crucial role in solving various problems of computational linguistics such as part of speech tagging (Brill 1995),