

CHAPTER 11: THE STRUCTURE OF THE LEXICON

1. When we talk about the structure of the lexicon, what are we referring to (semantic structure)?
2. A fruitful notion in investigating lexical structure is the semantic or lexical field. How can we define this notion (semantic or lexical field)?
3. To what extent is it possible to assign all the lexemes in English to a semantic field in an unambiguous way and why is this task so difficult?
4. How are semantic fields structured? We have two main dimensions: horizontal and vertical.
5. When we say “you must know a word by the company it keeps”, what do we mean? /what is a collocation?
6. What is an idiom? What are the main features which identify an idiom?
7. What are lexical phrases/what types of lexical phrases do you know?
8. What is a synonym?
9. What is an antonym?
10. What is a hyponym/hypernym?